

ST ANNE'S PARISH CHURCH

CORSTORPHINE

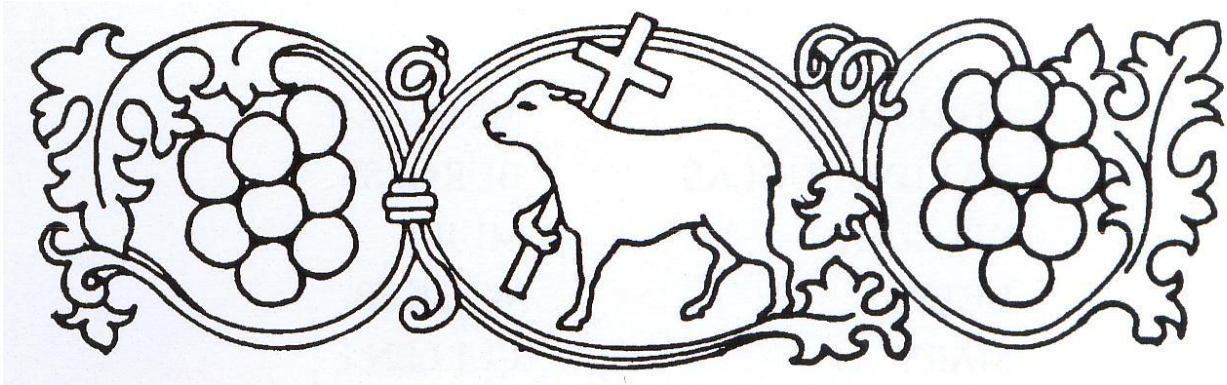
Minister: Rev. James J Griggs, BD (Hons), MTh, ALCM

Telephone Manse: 0131 447-7063

Church: 0131 316-4740

Church Web Site: <http://www.stannescorstorphine.org.uk>

Scottish Charity Number: SC006300



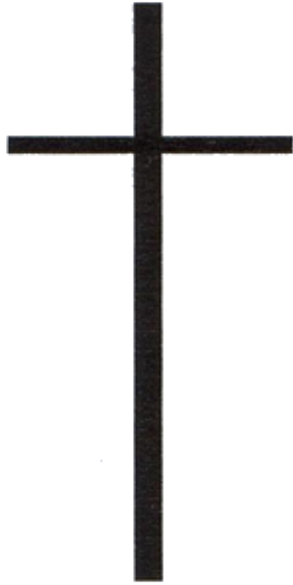
ANNUAL REPORT

and

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR 2023

With the Compliments of the Kirk Session



IN MEMORIAM

2023

"The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance"

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Thomas | Reddie |
| Elizabeth | Wilson |
| Elinor | Mitchell |
| Doreen | Will |
| Ronald | McColl |
| Mary | Patterson |
| Ian | Scott |
| Eric | Dawson |
| Alexander | Maltman |
| William | Lornie |
| Eric | Davidson |

THE KIRK SESSION

Rev. J.J. GRIGGS, BD(Hons), MTh, ALCM Moderator

L. CHALMERS and N. PROVEN (to 31/12/2023) Joint Session Clerks

L. CHALMERS and R. MACLEAN, K. RITCHIE (from 31/01/2024) Session Clerk Team

| | | Tel. No. |
|------|---|--------------------|
| 1975 | LYALL, John, 251c St. John's Road, EH12 7XD | 334 5068 |
| 1978 | PROVEN, Neil, 143 The Moorings, Dalgety Bay, Dunfermline KY11 9GP | 0138 382 4035 |
| | WHIGHAM, Derek, 28 Saughtonhall Avenue, EH12 5RN | 337 6820 |
| 1980 | TENNANT, Frances, 101 St. John's Road, EH12 6NN | 334 2039 |
| 1982 | MORISON, Anne, 11 Corstorphine Bank Avenue, EH12 8SB | 334 2191 |
| 1988 | HICKS, Nigel, 77 Balgreen Road. EH12 5UA | 337 4439 |
| 1990 | CLARK, William, 18 Lampacre Road, EH12 7HX | 334 1651 |
| | GIBSON, Muriel, 16 West Craigs Avenue, EH12 8LZ | 317 1335 |
| | RITCHIE, Kenneth, 12/10 Wallace Gardens, EH12 6HT | 337 6405 |
| 1993 | DUFF, Doris, 24 Belmont Gardens, EH12 6JH | 337 7765 |
| | PALMER, Kath, 2 Tyler's Acre Road, EH12 7HZ | 334 8572 |
| | PROVEN, Noël, Flat 4, 2 Pinkhill Park, EH12 7FA | 334 3499 |
| 1998 | PATTERSON, Mary | d. 22/05/2023..... |
| 2001 | CHALMERS, Lyn, 28 Saughtonhall Drive, EH12 5TN | 337 2839 |
| | HICKS, Janet, 77 Balgreen Road, EH12 5UA | 337 4439 |
| | MENZIES, Elizabeth, 76/3 South Gyle Wynd, EH12 9HJ | 334 4377 |
| 2004 | RITCHIE, Anne, 12/10 Wallace Gardens, EH12 6HT | 337 6405 |
| | ROBERTSON, Carol, 4 Gylemuir Lane, EH12 7FE | 563 8563 |
| 2007 | McLEAN, Graham, 13/3 Meadowhouse Road, EH12 7HW | 334 8255 |
| | TURNER, Myrtle, 10 Hillview Drive, EH12 8QW | 334 5966 |
| 2008 | SHANKS, Malcolm, 31 Beechmount Park, EH12 5YT | 337 9582 |
| | YELLAND, Philip, 83 Camus Avenue, EH10 6QY | 445 1010 |
| 2010 | BISHOP, Ellison, Flat 2, 235 Corstorphine Road, EH12 7AR | 334 8296 |
| | MENZIES, Margaret, 3 Parliament Way, Kirkliston, EH29 9GY | 374 4737 |
| 2013 | GIBSON, Rosalind, 14 Corstorphine Hill Gardens, EH12 6LA | 334 5268 |
| | McCOLL, Andrew, 42 Ravelston Garden, EH4 3LF | 07731 797 051 |
| 2015 | GRANT, Maxine | |
| | MURRAY, Iain, 14 Old Kirk Road, EH12 6JX | 467 2468 |
| | MACLEAN, Ruth, 2 Hampton Terrace, EH12 5BD | 337 7062 |
| 2017 | CAMERON, Ann, 20 Traquair Park East, EH12 7AW | 334 2236 |
| | WATSON, Tom, 18 Belgrave Road, EH12 6NF | 334 4176 |
| | WATSON, Lisa, 18 Belgrave Road, EH12 6NF | 334 4176 |
| 2023 | BARRIE, Yvonne, 19 Orchardfield Avenue, EH12 7SX | 07791 442 695 |
| | BULLAMORE, Tim, 3 Traquair Park East, EH12 7AP | 07836 617 030 |
| | THOMSON, Ethel, 40 Glendevon Road, EH12 5XG | 337 5366 |

ELDERS EMERITUS

| | | |
|------|--|--------------------|
| 1969 | GOULD, John | d. 22/02/2024..... |
| 1972 | SCOTT, Ian | d. 13/06/2023..... |
| 1982 | GAY, Jim, 74 Corstorphine Road, EH12 6JQ | 337 4005 |
| | SIMPSON, May, Rm25, Ashley Court Nursing Home, 33 Craighouse Terrace, EH10 5LH | 447 2345 |
| 1990 | ROBERTSON, Craig, 4 Gylemuir Lane, EH12 7FE | 563 8563 |
| 1993 | PATERSON, Glenda, Flat 1 Belgrave House, 26b St John's Road, EH12 6NZ | 334 1364 |
| 2001 | ADAMS, Ord, 4 Belmont Terrace, EH12 6JF | 337 9426 |
| 2007 | FLEMING, Rose, Carberry Residential Home, Carberry, Musselburgh, EH21 8PY..... | 665 2882 |
| 2008 | HENDERSON, Yvette, 8 West Craigs Crescent, EH12 8LY | 339 3181 |
| | SHANKS, Heather, 31 Beechmount Park, EH12 5YT | 337 9582 |
| 2013 | BARR, Bill, 20 Kaimes Road, EH12 6JS | 334 3005 |
| 2017 | BROWN, Bob, 32 Carrick Knowe Hill, EH12 7BR | 539 2431 |

MINISTER'S LETTER

Each year, as I read through the draft Annual Report, I am amazed at how much goes on in St Anne's – all of it with little fuss, and generally with good humour. The dedication of all who give so generously of their time and talents, in so many ways, is a reminder of what is good in our world – a welcome one at that. This year, I think we are all glad that the long shadow of Covid seems to be fading, and it has been so pleasing to see our facilities being well-used by such a variety of groups.

I am grateful to all who have put so much time and effort into the running of St Anne's over the year: to the Session Clerks, Lyn Chalmers and Neil Proven, and to those now part of our Session Clerk Team – Lyn Chalmers, Ruth Maclean and Ken Ritchie, and to all who serve on our Kirk Session: to all the Team Leaders, and those willing to serve on our Teams: to those who welcome folk to services – and fill the water jug for the Minister!: to those who organise rotas and serve at Communion: to those who organise events and activities: to those who contribute to the Magazine, and to the Editor: to all who contribute to music: to those who decorate our Sanctuary: to those who support our youth activities: to those who keep our Tech in order: to Mel in the Office – endlessly patient and good-humoured: to all who come to join in: THANK YOU!

But – even as I say thank you, I can't help noticing that some of our groups are asking for more volunteers: as you read through this report, please reflect for a moment, and ask yourself if you might have time to offer. There is a hymn that comes to mind:

*I am the Church! You are the Church!
We are the Church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world,
yes, we're the Church together.*

- 1 The Church is not a building, the Church is not a steeple.
The Church is not a resting-place, the Church is a people !
- 2 We're many kinds of people with many kinds of faces :
all colours and all ages, too, from all times and places.
- 3 And when the people gather there's singing and there's praying,
there's laughing and there's crying sometimes, all of it saying :
- 4 At Pentecost some people received the Holy Spirit
and told the good news through the world to all who would hear it.
- 5 I count if I am ninety, or nine, or just a baby ;
there's one thing I am sure about and I don't mean maybe :

Richard Kinsey Avery (b.1934) and Donald Stuart Marsh (b.1923)

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In the now 11 years that I have been privileged to be Minister of St Anne's, the sentiment of that hymn has been at the heart of what and who we are, and what we do: it is the sentiment which inspired those of our community who have been gathered into God's nearer presence over this past year, and whom we miss: it is the sentiment which unites us. With God's grace, and by His blessing, may we continue to be Church together.

Rev Jamie Griggs
Minister

KIRK SESSION

2023 did feel a bit more like a 'normal' year if there is such a thing these days. The various groups are back in full swing and hall bookings are increasing thanks to great work by Mel, our very efficient office administrator.

The numbers attending Sunday worship are encouraging and we continue to live-stream the services for those who are unable to attend. We regularly have 35 or more residents watching the service from local Care Homes.

We are fortunate to have the happy presence of a group of young teenagers who help with various duties on Sunday mornings, either handing out Orders of Service, manning the Sound and Video Desk or serving at coffee time. Some of them are doing this as the voluntary commitment for their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

There is nothing concrete to report on the proposed 3-way union of St Anne's with St Ninian's and St Andrew's. A small group from each of the three churches meet monthly working on the way forward. Things are progressing but with both St Ninian's and St Anne's having the services of a minister on unrestricted tenure this is at present a deferred union. There are joint Easter Services and other events planned for 2024 and we will continue to work together where possible.

Several changes have been introduced on the Kirk Session. You will note this year that we have designated the list of Kirk Session Elders and other Elders in a different format. This is so that we are in line with the Church of Scotland ruling that only actively serving Elders should be on the Kirk Session and thereby serve as Trustees. Elders who, for whatever reason, find that they cannot continue as serving Elders have been listed under Elders Emeritus. Another change is that we now have a Session Clerk Team. Neil Proven, who was sworn in as Joint Session Clerk in February 2023, agreeing to do this for a period of six months, stepped down at the end of 2023 after serving for eleven months. It was discussed and agreed by Session that we should form a Session Clerk Team, sharing out duties and thus ensuring that more than one person is aware of the tasks involved. Ruth Maclean and Ken Ritchie agreed to become part of the Team and were duly sworn in. We thank Neil for his valued contribution and welcome Ruth and Ken to the Team.

We have sadly lost three of our Elders. In May 2023 Mary Patterson, a very energetic elder involved in many aspects of church life passed away. She is greatly missed by all her friends and colleagues. In June Ian Scott, one of our more senior and long-serving Elders also died. He had stepped back from active duties due to illness but was very involved prior to that. We have also recently lost our most senior and longest serving Elder, John Gould, who passed away in February 2024. John was a well-known figure at St Anne's and still attending church every week until shortly before his death.

As always thanks are due to the Administrative Teams for keeping all aspects of life in St Anne's fully functioning. We are indebted to Jamie for his continued dedication and commitment to St Anne's.

We now look forward to a prosperous and exciting year ahead.

Lyn Chalmers
Session Clerk Team

TEAMS

1. **Management Team**

Membership

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Rev. Jamie Griggs | Lyn Chalmers | Janet Hicks | Andrew McColl |
| Ruth Maclean | Margaret Menzies | Noel Proven | Martyn Quinn |
| Anne Ritchie | Ken Ritchie | | |

Remit and Responsibilities

- Co-ordinate the business of the Kirk Session and its committees
- Prepare business for Session meetings
- Prepare for Stated Annual Meeting (and other congregational meetings)
- Monitor the work of committees and ensure regular reporting to Session
- Act as 'nomination committee' for the Session

Report to Kirk Session

As required

2. **Fabric Team**

Membership

Andrew J McColl (Convener) Malcolm Shanks

Remit and Responsibilities

Maintenance and repair of all Church property.

- All church buildings including Church, Halls, support accommodation and manse.
- Grounds of Church/hall
 - Furniture, furnishings, silver, brass, organ and all other items or property of any kind owned by or in the care of the congregation.
 - External and internal fabric.
 - Heating, Plumbing, Drainage and Electrical services
 - Building life systems. Fire extinguishers, Fire and smoke alarms.
 - Soft and hardlandscaping.
- Health & Safety and Fire Safety.
- Upkeep, updating and annual submission of Property Register for Church and Manse
- Undertaking regular and annual inspection of properties
- Ensuring and maintaining compliance with any legal and statutory obligations.
- Ensuring (in conjunction with the Treasurer) that all Church property and other items as above are fully insured.
- Ensuring that any other duties of the Kirk session under the committee or the laws/regulation of the Church of Scotland relating to property/fabric are observed including the relevant Disability Discrimination legislation.
- Fabric Convener is a registered landlord for the renting of the Manse.
- Fabric Convener, in consultation with the Committee is authorised for expenditure up to and including £1,000.00 per item without the prior approval of the Kirk Session. Expenditure over this threshold requires prior approval of Kirk Session on recommendation from the Committee.

Report to Kirk Session

March and September

The Fabric Team ensure that the fabric and fittings are maintained and undertake regular checks to ensure the buildings are comfortable and a safe working environment. There is a maintenance schedule to keep the

buildings wind and weathertight. In the event of reactive or emergency works we have a database of contractors to call upon.

We follow current presbytery guidelines to restrict expenditure for maintaining, repairing and wind and weather tightness. Regular and planned maintenance continues: the grounds are maintained; Pat tests and EICR tests undertaken, Life systems tested and maintained; sanctuary roof, kitchen roof and rainwater goods have been repaired and cleared by a specialist roofing access company; sound and network system have been updated.

The Manse continues to be managed and maintained by Umeqa. The current tenancy is progressing well with regular maintenance and repair being undertaken.

In 2023 we have enjoyed seeing the expansion of our buildings being used for worship, church organisations and the community.

Andrew J McColl

Fabric Convener

3. Fellowship Team

Membership

Anne Ritchie (Convener)

Doris Duff

Carol Robertson

Lisa Watson

Bill Barr

Anne Morison

Frances Tennant

Yvonne Barrie

Mary Patterson

Myrtle Turner

Remit and Responsibilities

- Pastoral Care
- Roll up-dating
- Oversight of: Social Committee, Guild, Walking Group, Flower Committee, Sunday Coffee, and the Fair Committee

Report to Kirk Session

January and June

Mary Patterson's death in May left a huge void in the Fellowship Team. She was a very conscientious visiting elder and extremely supportive as a Team member. We record our grateful thanks for all she did. Yvonne Barrie has kindly agreed to take over her District. We also thank Bob Brown for his years of service as a visiting elder. Sadly, he has retired on health grounds. We wish him well. Ethel Thomson has kindly agreed to take over his district.

Currently we have 27 visiting elders, and I would like to thank them and our pastoral carers for their commitment.

Socially we had a successful Scottish Evening in December, attended by all ages. We were entertained by Bernie Hewitt on his accordion, as well as Finlay on bagpipes, Skye demonstrating her dancing skills and singing led by Ellen. Thanks are due to all helpers and those who donated 'goodies' for the supper. The flowers in the church are always a pleasure to see and appreciated by recipients when distributed. The display at Christmas was gorgeous.

The Sunday Coffee and the Guild are both well attended, and we are grateful to the girls who help for their Duke of Edinburgh.

Anne Ritchie

Fellowship Team Convener

4. Parish Mission Team

Membership

Noel Proven (Joint Convener)
Liz Menzies

Lyn Chalmers (Joint Convener)
Kath Palmer

Tim Bullamore
Ethel Thomson

Remit and Responsibilities

- Annual report
- Magazine / Newsletter
- Christmas / Easter cards and Autumn leaflet Parish delivery
- Welcome / New home / Congregational leaflet
- Caring & Sharing group / FAN club
- Uniformed organisations
- Bethany Christian Trust
- North West Foodbank

Report to Kirk Session

March and September

We have had another busy year with the excellent team of six very hard-working Members.

We have been collecting for the Food Bank regularly on the fourth Sunday of the Month and have been delighted with the amount of goods that the congregation has so generously given. Each month when the goods are delivered to the foodbank, they weigh it and then give us the details. The amount collected for the year was 965.1Kg of food and toiletries, with children's treats at Christmas and Easter, as well as donations totalling £165.

We were again privileged to be able to cook, deliver and serve two meals, for over 50 homeless people in March and again in November on behalf of the Bethany Trust. Our thanks are due to the many kind volunteers from the congregation who come and help on these evenings and to the members who give so generously to cover the costs for the meal.

The Annual Report is being prepared in the office and will be checked and edited by the team and others. This will be printed by Copymade and will be delivered by the Elders to their districts.

The beautiful Christmas and Easter cards were chosen, printed, and delivered to members, and half page articles were submitted to the Corstorphine Grapevine Magazine with details of our services. This way we hope that the whole Parish will have received seasonal greetings from St Anne's with information about the special services.

The uniformed organisations are very busy and have excellent numbers of young people attending. The Rainbows, Brownies and Guides all meet on Fridays in the Kaimes Road Hall.

The Caring & Sharing @StAnne's group is very well attended and meets fortnightly, with alternate café style and speaker led mornings, which the members appreciate so much.

The FAN club have approximately 60 members attending regularly on Friday mornings, who come and enjoy delicious home baking and hear excellent speakers.

We would like to end this report with thanks to all the team for their hard work throughout the year. Thank you also to the Minister for his support and encouragement and to Mel for her excellent I.T. skills and patience.

Noel Proven & Lyn Chalmers
Joint Conveners

5. Finance team

Membership

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Janet Hicks (convener) | Nigel Hicks | Ian Murray |
| Ken Ritchie | Tom Watson | Derek Whigham |

Remit and Responsibilities

- Monitoring the finances of the Church and making recommendations to the Kirk Session
- Accounts
- Gift Aid
- Insurances
- Wedding charges
- The Committee has delegated powers to negotiate and agree normal/routine contracts
- Freewill offering
- Stewardship
- Hall letting and charges

Report to Kirk Session

June and November

For the second year in succession, the congregation's General Fund was in surplus. During the year the core income of the congregation from Offerings and the associated Gift Aid was virtually the same as the previous year. We are grateful to those members who responded to a request to review their regular offerings though, sadly, we lost some members. During the year we received some legacies from former members. Our interest and dividends from our investments benefitted from a general increase in rates plus a more aggressive investment policy.

We had a full year of letting out the halls to commercial groups in 2023 resulting in a £8,500 increase in receipts over 2022. Though the Session has agreed that the use of our halls for the promotion of our mission should take precedence over commercial hirers, we have benefitted from many individual hires both recurring and one-off and our thanks goes to the office secretary who has managed the hall letting diary with great assurance.

Our expenditure follows previous years. Our main expense is to the Church of Scotland's "Giving to Grow" initiative which replaced the Ministries and Mission charge of previous years. This was slightly higher than in previous years and in future years the discounts made available during the pandemic period will no longer be available. The charge covers the cost of our local ministry as well as making a significant contribution to the wider work of the church.

A building like ours requires regular maintenance to ensure it is suitable for its patrons. The charge would have been much higher were it not for the generous contribution of one of our members, who supplied the materials to repair the driveway at the west corner of the building. "Other building costs" covers the insurance, heating and cleaning costs of our buildings. With increased hall lets there was a need to increase the level and frequency of cleaning activity: church building insurances have seen an increase in premiums: and now that the contracts for Gas and Electricity are ending, 2024 will see an increase in annual costs of around £7,000.

Our total expenditure rose therefore, by around £13,000 leaving an increase in the Legacy Fund and a surplus on the General Fund of around £5,200. Finally, the revised market value of our investments yielded a "paper profit" of £6,339. We are following a policy of not redeeming any investments so that future dividends can be maximised.

Our congregation has continued to meet its day-to-day costs for which the Session and the treasurers are very grateful. We commend you to review your offerings and if possible, participate in the Give Aid scheme if it is appropriate to you. Thank you for your support over the past year and we look forward to it continuing in 2024.

We extend our thanks as always to the members of the Finance team for their ongoing support.

Nigel & Janet Hicks (Joint Treasurers)

| | Unrestricted Funds 2023 £ | Restricted Funds 2023 £ | Endowment Funds 2023 £ | Total 2023 £ | Total 2022 £ |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Income | | | | | |
| Donations and Legacies | | | | | |
| Offerings | 83,659 | - | - | 83,659 | 83,133 |
| Tax recovered on Gift Aid | 17,069 | - | - | 17,069 | 17,391 |
| Legacies | 34,530 | - | - | 34,530 | 10,000 |
| Other | 4,323 | 543 | - | 4,866 | 4,835 |
| | <u>139,581</u> | <u>543</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>140,124</u> | <u>115,359</u> |
| Church Activities | 9,321 | - | - | 9,321 | 6,838 |
| Use of Premises | 28,323 | - | - | 28,323 | 19,731 |
| Investment income | 12,677 | 220 | 2,662 | 15,559 | 12,414 |
| | <u>189,902</u> | <u>763</u> | <u>2,662</u> | <u>193,327</u> | <u>154,342</u> |
| Expenditure on | | | | | |
| Raising funds | <u>81</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>81</u> | <u>114</u> |
| Charitable Activities | | | | | |
| Giving to Grow Allocation | 65,640 | - | - | 65,640 | 62,363 |
| Presbytery Dues | 1,160 | - | - | 1,160 | 2,005 |
| Minister's Expenses | 1,524 | - | - | 1,524 | 1,394 |
| Pulpit Supply | 120 | - | - | 120 | 420 |
| Other salary costs | 13,704 | - | - | 13,704 | 11,883 |
| Fabric repairs & maintenance | 8,563 | - | 2,666 | 11,229 | 7,068 |
| Council Tax | 2,275 | - | - | 2,275 | 2,185 |
| Other building costs | 30,554 | - | - | 30,554 | 27,766 |
| Church office expenses | 3,595 | - | - | 3,595 | 4,151 |
| Organ & Music | 1,442 | - | - | 1,442 | 1,455 |
| Organisation activity costs | 6,003 | - | - | 6,003 | 4,655 |
| Miscellaneous expenses | 1,002 | 162 | - | 1,164 | 516 |
| Development costs | - | - | - | - | (3,189) |
| Purchase of Equipment | - | - | - | - | 3,547 |
| Donations to other Charities | 1,831 | - | - | 1,831 | 783 |
| | <u>137,413</u> | <u>162</u> | <u>2,666</u> | <u>140,241</u> | <u>127,002</u> |
| Total expenditure | <u>137,494</u> | <u>162</u> | <u>2,666</u> | <u>140,322</u> | <u>127,116</u> |
| Net income/(expenditure) | <u>52,408</u> | <u>601</u> | <u>(4)</u> | <u>53,005</u> | <u>27,226</u> |
| Net gains/(losses) on investments | <u>6,339</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>6,339</u> | <u>(27,512)</u> |

| Movements in Funds | 1 January 2023 | Incoming Resources | Outgoing Resources | Unrealised Gains | Transfers | 31 December 2023 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | | £ | £ |
| Endowment Fund | | | | | | |
| The Dey Legacy | 38,775 | 2,662 | (2,666) | - | 4 | 38,775 |
| | <u>38,775</u> | <u>2,662</u> | <u>(2,666)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>38,775</u> |
| Restricted Funds | | | | | | |
| Other Funds | 655 | 543 | (162) | - | 300 | 1,336 |
| Fabric (Organ) Fund | 11,402 | 220 | - | - | - | 11,622 |
| Kaimes Rd Dev't | 1,873 | - | - | - | - | 1,873 |
| | <u>13,930</u> | <u>763</u> | <u>(162)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>300</u> | <u>14,831</u> |
| Designated Funds | | | | | | |
| Capital reserve | 600,000 | - | - | - | - | 600,000 |
| Revaluation | 58,424 | - | - | 6,339 | - | 64,763 |
| Belgrave Halls | | | | | | |
| Proceeds Fund | 10,795 | 488 | - | - | - | 11,283 |
| Guild | 2,841 | 2,723 | (2,057) | - | (1,000) | 2,507 |
| Sunday Club | 1,201 | 14 | (120) | - | - | 1,095 |
| Sunday Coffee | 1,495 | 1,643 | (1,673) | - | - | 1,465 |
| Social Committee | 140 | - | - | - | - | 140 |
| Jack & Jill Club | 89 | 950 | (487) | - | - | 552 |
| Lunch Club | 409 | 1,413 | (1,488) | - | - | 334 |
| Carers' Support | | | | | | |
| Group | 1,863 | 573 | (392) | - | (300) | 1,744 |
| Film Club | 196 | 567 | (186) | - | - | 577 |
| Fair Trade | 657 | - | - | - | - | 657 |
| FAN Club | 3,344 | 2,155 | (765) | - | (500) | 4,234 |
| Flower Fund | 793 | 410 | (637) | - | - | 566 |
| Badminton | 232 | 847 | (237) | - | (600) | 242 |
| | <u>682,479</u> | <u>11,783</u> | <u>(8,042)</u> | <u>6,339</u> | <u>(2,400)</u> | <u>690,159</u> |
| Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | |
| General | (41,974) | 124,390 | (121,302) | - | 2,100 | (36,786) |
| Fabric | 3,636 | 7,148 | (8,150) | - | (4) | 2,630 |
| Legacy | 266,691 | 46,310 | - | - | - | 313,001 |
| Development | 5,919 | 271 | - | - | - | 6,190 |
| | <u>234,272</u> | <u>178,119</u> | <u>(129,452)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>2,096</u> | <u>285,035</u> |
| Total Funds | <u>969,456</u> | <u>193,327</u> | <u>(140,322)</u> | <u>6,339</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,028,800</u> |

These summarised extracts are derived from the statutory financial statements. The statutory financial statements have been independently examined and the independent examiner's report is unqualified. Statutory financial statements are available on the church's website.

The statutory financial statements were approved by the Trustees at their meeting on 20 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by Lyn Chalmers, Joint Session Clerk and Nigel Hicks, Joint Treasurer.

6. World Issues Team

Membership

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Martyn Quinn (Convener) | Ann Cameron (Minute Secretary) | William Clark |
| Graham McLean | Kira Mourao | Iain Murray |

Remit and Responsibilities

- Educate and inform
- Environmental issues - Eco church
- Fairtrade
- Twinning
- Christian Aid
- World Mission Council

Reports to Kirk Session

June and November

The Team

Bob Brown, a long-standing and valued member of the team, has resigned from the WIT for personal reasons. We thank Bob for his work with the team particularly as Christian Aid representative and application of his knowledge of Eco Church accreditation matters.

Educate and inform

No articles were published by the team in 2023. With a new look magazine and new editor the team will be submitting articles to the magazine over the coming year.

Environmental Issues - Eco Church

No further progress has been made regarding Eco Church accreditation due mainly to delays following the Covid pandemic. We intend to progress this in the coming year. Iain Murray has continued to forward on communications from Eco-Church to rest of the team.

Fairtrade

Following requests from members of the Congregation, the team ran its first Fair Trade stall since the Covid Pandemic taking place during coffee after the service on a Sunday before Christmas. The stall proved very popular, and we intend to run further stalls through the coming year.

Twinning

After 10 years of fellowship our twinning arrangement with St Andrews Lusaka has now come to an end. We continue to send and receive messages on an occasional basis. The team now had the opportunity to look at other activities in which we could become engaged. The team invited Carol Finlay (Congregational Support) to guide our discussions on which directions we should follow.

Rather than going down the twinning route, the team considered other possible projects. These ranged from supporting people made homeless due to earthquakes in Lebanon and Syria and Cyclone Freddie in Malawi. Assisting seasonal migrant workers in Italy exploited in the agricultural sector through buying their products. Communicating to the congregation, through guest speakers and articles, issues that affect us all.

While considering potential projects, the team was approached by Margaret Campbell, a member of St Anne's, no longer living in Edinburgh, who is also a member of the Malawi Association for Christian Support (MACS). Malawi is one of the ten poorest countries in the world and since 1993, MACS has been working alongside people in its rural areas by responding to specific requests for support. Following discussion within the team and Session approval, we decided we would like to support the work of this charity. Involvement in this project will enable us to engage with St Anne's congregation through several different themes – faith in action, the environment, Fairtrade and increasing awareness of global issues. Fund raising will form part of how we support this project.

Christian Aid

We currently do not have a Christian Aid representative at St Anne's.

World Mission Council

The World Mission Council has now merged with Church and Society bringing together International and National activities into one grouping – the 'Faith Impact Forum'. Information to St Anne's is disseminated via email to William Clark and our Session Clerk; it is also accessible on the Faith Impact Forum website.

Martyn Quinn

World Issues Team Convener

7. Worship Team

Membership

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Rev Jamie Griggs (Convener) | Maxine Grant | Anne Ritchie |
| Craig Robertson | Christine Shuttleworth | David Stewart |

Remit and Responsibilities

- Worship Planning
- Readers
- Communion Duties
- Sunday Club
- Care Homes

Report to Kirk Session

January and September

2023 found us finally 'back to normal' for worship at St Anne's, with the covid restrictions an increasingly distant memory, even if occasional infections have had individual impact. We are very pleased that so many continue to support Sunday worship, in person and on-line, and our 'special services' have continued to be well-supported, too. Christingle was particularly busy this year, as was Watchnight, and we were glad to welcome so many to our celebrations.

We continue to offer services for four Care Homes, with a particular presence at Murrayside and Belgrave Lodge. At present, the minister is leading these alone, but we hope that, in due course, we may be able to develop a team who can provide these well-received services.

At Easter, we said farewell to our Organist Christopher Black, and, following a number of months when we were very well supported by visiting Organists, we were delighted to formally welcome Marion Lees McPherson as our new Organist and Choir Leader. Marion brings a wealth of experience and expertise, and enthusiasm for worship.

Thanks, must, as ever, be given to all who support worship at St Anne's, in every way. To our Choir; our Communion Elders; our Readers, and their co-ordinator, Mrs Anne Ritchie; and to all who support our Sunday Club and Creche. Thanks also to those who ensure our 'tech' functions well, and that our services are broadcast weekly.

Rev. Jamie Griggs

Worship Team Convener

8. Education Team

Membership

Margaret Menzies (Convener)
Ruth McLean

Yvonne Barrie
Margaret Grant

Maxine Grant

Remit and responsibilities

- Training for adults
- Safeguarding Training
- Adult Christian Education
- Promotion of Corstorphine Churches Together education events
- Communication- Access for all
- Sunday Club/ Young people

Report to Kirk Session

January and September

The Education Team has had several meetings during the year, with the main focus on providing activities and materials for Sunday Club, coordinating the rota of Sunday Club volunteers, and opportunities for bible study at Lent and Advent. The Education Team arranged the annual Advent Sweetie making and Christingle making sessions for St Anne's families and friends, and Bible Studies were held during Lent and Advent. Colour-ins, worksheets, and a selection of toys and games were provided in the Youth Chapel during the Easter and summer holidays for families to use during morning service when Sunday Club was on holiday. Thanks are due to all the volunteers who so ably assist the Education Team to run Sunday Club and to everyone who supports the Education Team events and activities throughout the year.

Mags Menzies

Convener

SUNDAY DUTY TEAMS

The Sunday Duty Teams are an essential part of life in St Anne's. Made up of elders and members, they welcome worshippers, prepare the Sanctuary for Worship, set up and serve after service coffee and generally play a major part in making everyone feel welcome.

If you are interested in joining a team, please speak to a Session Clerk.

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1st Sunday | Derek Whigham (TL) | William Clark (TL) | Lyn Chalmers | Doris Duff | Muriel Gibson | Chris Hunt |
| | Ken Ritchie | Myrtle Turner | Marjory Whigham | | | |
| 2nd Sunday | Phil Yelland (TL) | Iain Murray (TL) | Ord Adams | Ellison Bishop | Eleanor Kerse | Liz Menzies |
| | Margaret Neil | Elizabeth Robertson | | | | |
| 3rd Sunday | Margaret Menzies (TL) | Yvonne Barrie (TL) | Bill Barr | Janet Hicks | Nigel Hicks | Carol Robertson |
| | Craig Robertson | Christine Shuttleworth | Frances Tennant | Lisa Watson | Tom Watson | |
| 4th Sunday | Noel Proven (TL) | Graham McLean (TL) | Neil Proven (DTL) | Tim Bullamore | Alison Benham | Claire Grant |
| | Ruth Johnstone | Kath Palmer | Ethel Thompson | Susan Melrose | | |
| 5th Sunday | Ruth Maclean (TL) | Ann Cameron (TL) | Ros Gibson | Maxine Grant | Eleanor Kerse | John Lyall |
| | Amanda Liddell | Anne Morison | Anne Ritchie | Heather Shanks | Malcolm Shanks | |

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Number of Members on the Roll as of 31 December 2022 **339**

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Additions during 2023 by: | Profession of Faith | Nil |
| | Certificate of Transference | Nil |
| | Resolution of the Kirk Session | <u>1</u> |
| | | 1 |

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Removals in 2023 by: | Death | 14 |
| | Certificate of Transference | 2 |
| | Otherwise | <u>Nil</u> |
| | | 16 |

Number of Members on the Roll as of 31 December 2023 **324**

Malcolm Shanks
Roll Keeper

MEETINGS OF THE KIRK SESSION IN 2024

Wednesday 31st January
Wednesday 2nd October

Wednesday 20th March
Wednesday 27th November

Wednesday 5th June

Items for the Agenda for these meetings should be notified to the Session Clerk two weeks before the meeting date. Reports should be submitted to the Session Clerk two weeks prior to Session meetings.

STATED ANNUAL MEETING

The Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held in the Kaimes Hall after morning worship on **Sunday 12th May 2024** (with coffee).

The Accounts detailed within will be reported to the Congregation. It is hoped that members will make a special effort to be present and an especially warm welcome is extended to new members.

Session Clerk

THE SUNDAY CLUB

The Sunday Club is now run with a band of merry helpers who work from a rota-based system which runs reasonably well, with two volunteers running Sunday Club each week except for the Easter, Summer, October, and Christmas holidays. These times are covered by Maragaret Grant who puts out a variety of activities for children all ages to enjoy whilst the service is in full swing. Sunday Club has recently signed up to Roots on the Web which provides a selection of materials that can be used to lead the Sunday Club activities or can be adapted and changed to suit the style of the volunteers running the session. There is a good number of children attending Sunday Club over the year and a variety of age ranges.

In an ideal world we would like it if every member on the rota could do four shifts a year which works out at one per term, as we do not wish to over burden anyone. Unfortunately, there are not enough volunteers for this to be implemented. This year we recruited several members of the congregation who have agreed to do one Sunday Club per year as a helper to try and take the pressure off the regular contributors. So, a really big thank you to Ethel Thomson, Anne Morison, Amanda Liddell, Liz Menzies, Roz Gibson, Frances Tennant and Alison Duncan-Young for stepping in to help out. If anyone else would consider taking on one shift in the year, please let me know. A big thank you to Anne Ritchie who has given so much of her time to help Sunday Club over these trying times but has now taken a step back to concentrate on all her other duties.

Our teenagers continue to be actively involved in St Anne's: helping out with the Tech Team, the Duty Teams and Sunday Coffee. Holly and Matthew have been an integral part of the Tech Team, and this year Emily joined the team to get some volunteering experience and Lauren as part of her Bronze @Duke of Edinburgh. Emilia, Eva, and Eilidh are helping the Duty Teams to hand out orders of service and helping with Sunday Coffee as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze. Sophie and Amy continued to help and have now completed their Duke of Edinburgh Silver award.

Christmas is always a great time for seeing our younger members in and around St Anne's. The lighting of the Advent Candle is a great start to the build-up to Christmas, quickly followed by the traditional Sweetie Making which everyone enjoyed, and children went home with several boxes of delights. This was quickly followed by the pop-up nativity which was a great success amidst all the chaos! A beautiful Mary and a real baby in the manger – Thank you so much to Caroline for stepping in at the last minute to be a very active Mary and to Kelby for playing the most important role! Thank you to everyone for being such great sports – having a real-live baby in the manger just made the nativity this year – no doll required!

The Christingle making was a little bit more hectic this year as it took place during the Sunday Service. But with an amazing team of helpers, 150 Christingles were produced in record time. And as always the Christingle service was delightful. Thank you to Emily, Charlotte, Iain and Adam for helping to light the Christingles and for handing out the glow bracelets at the end of service.

The Sunday Club would like to record their thanks to Jamie for his unending support and enthusiasm. Thank you to Noel for her constant support for our young people. Thank you to the Education Team for their unwavering support and of course thank you to all the Sunday Club parents, children, teenagers, supporters and helpers who keep St Anne's young and vibrant.

Maxine Grant

THE GUILD

The Guild meets every second Tuesday from September to March. A syllabus is available. Men and women of all ages will be warmly welcomed as members or occasional visitors.

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| President | Kath Palmer | kmpedinburgh@gmail.com | 0131 334 8572 |
| Minute Secretary | Ethel Thomson | ethelalex@hotmail.com | 0131 337 5366 |
| Treasurer | Janet Hicks | janetphicks@hotmail.com | 0131 337 4439 |
| Representative Elder | Anne Ritchie | anneken.ritchie@sky.com | 0131 337 6405 |

2023 has been a busy, but happy and informative year with a thriving membership. Over the year we have listened to some inspiring speakers on a great variety of subjects, among them being Kazunzu, Village of Hope, The Heroines of the Special Operations Executive of WW2, an Antarctic Expedition and The Naming of Streets. Following the AGM in March we held a potluck supper which proved very popular, and another drop in coffee morning to give members an opportunity to meet up over the summer break. We also revived our annual coffee morning in March and had a successful Afternoon Tea on the theme of Races Day, a new venture for us. Who could forget those lovely hats?

The new session of the Guild started in September with the new theme of "New Wine, New Wineskins". This is our third and last theme of the Strategy "Look Forward in Faith". We continued to have our meetings twice a month, once in the afternoon at 2.30pm and once in the evening at 7.30pm to enable as many people as possible to attend. We have learned about Unida – "Hear my Voice", Pioneers UK – "Chocolate Heaven", Colinton Tunnel and Matthew Bicket's travels in India. In November we were the guests of St Ninian's Guild, enjoying an afternoon of fellowship with our neighbouring church. We held a tasty Christmas lunch in the Kaimies Road Hall and tried a true /false quiz and some carol singing as our after-dinner entertainment.

Members of St Anne's Guild have attended the Edinburgh Guilds Together meetings over the year, the Big Sing and the Annual Gathering, both held in person in the Assembly Hall on the Mound where again we have been privileged to hear some excellent speakers.

We have continued to support our ongoing projects during this past year-sending money to Cunningham House to be used for treats for the residents, knitting hats for the Mission to Seafarers Scotland, and squares to make up into blankets, saving milk tops and cutting round stamps. We have donated to the Trussell Trust Foodbank and collected bras and pants to send to Malawi in the hope that women and girls there will be less likely to suffer rape and sexual abuse.

As a Guild we are indebted to so many people who ensure its smooth running. My thanks go to our splendid committee who always work so hard, our meeting leaders' team who have organised and taken meetings, to all those who have provided flowers, set up the hall for meetings, made us refreshments, cleared up the hall and kitchen, who have made phone calls and emailed when necessary and assisted with printing and IT. Finally, I would like to thank the membership who are always so supportive of the Guild and what we try to do.

Let us "Look Forward in Faith" in these times of great change and remember we are always keen to welcome new people, so if you would like to join us, if only for the occasional meeting, please get in touch.

Kath Palmer
Guild President

THE FAN CLUB

Team

Chairman: Evelyn Conner evconner@hotmail.co.uk 0131 334 8157
Secretary: Eleanor Kerse eleanor.kerse@gmail.com 0131 334 5667

The Fan Club meets on alternate Fridays between September and May. We start at 10.30am with tea, coffee, home baked scones, pancakes cakes and tray bakes. Time to chat before we have a speaker at 11am. So far this session we have had some wonderful talks and still more to come. Our membership continues to grow but still room for more so why not join us, we would love to see you.

Evelyn Conner
Chairman

CARING&SHARING @ ST ANNE'S

Team members

Ellison Bishop Ann Cameron Lyn Chalmers Muriel Gibson Angela McKenzie
Isabel Whitelaw

2023 proved to be another successful year and we are delighted to have the constant support of around twenty people at our regular meetings. There is, of course, always room for more and we would be very glad to welcome everyone who would wish to join us on alternate Friday mornings in the Belgrave Room. You don't have to be a carer to attend.

With a speaker at alternate meetings, there is always coffee, cake, and conversation to be enjoyed. During the year, we heard from speakers on topics as diverse as Bethany Christian Trust and Cycling without Age. We celebrated the 90th birthday of one of our team members and besides cafes celebrating Easter and Christmas, we were able to celebrate the King's forthcoming coronation at our meeting on Friday 5th May.

In keeping with previous years, we donated the proceeds of the Summer Café, held every Friday from June to September, and amounting to £300, to help with the cost of repairing the chairs in the Youth Chapel. We continue to be grateful to all who attend our meetings and thank them for their kind and generous support.

Ellison Bishop
Organiser

MUSIC IN ST ANNE'S

I came to St Anne's after 27 years as Director of Music at Stockbridge Parish Church, where I had first met Jamie when he was in his first training placement in 2008 with Revd Dr Anne T. Logan. Jamie asked me to deputise for Easter 2023 as the post of organist was vacant and although I was enjoying a few free weekends the wonderful organ persuaded me to stay from September. Unfortunately, a bout of covid put me out of action around Christmas and I was very grateful for those who deputised at short notice, chiefly of course the former organist David Stewart. I would like to thank the choir for their warm welcome and continuous hard work. We rehearse on the first Thursday of the month with extra rehearsals on the third Thursday if needed and 10.00 Sunday morning. Newcomers of any age who enjoy singing are most welcome and the ability to read music, while desirable, is not essential.

Marion Lees McPherson

BOOK GROUP

The book club meets every six weeks on a Wednesday evening in the Belgrave Room at 7.30pm. The actual dates are on the Church notice board, and anyone is welcome to come along and join us.

We always begin with a cup of tea or coffee and a tasty nibble and then settle down to a discussion about the book from the list, which we have all read. This often develops into a lively conversation and interesting ideas about the author and the story. There are also a variety of different views expressed in discussion.

We are so very grateful to our dear friend the late Mary Patterson for starting and running the Book Group so efficiently and with such humour for so many years. We felt that no one would be able to follow her amazing lead, so this year, we have decided to have a different person leading each meeting. Everyone in the group was asked to suggest a book that they have read and enjoyed so we have a wide variety of books to read and discuss. The book group often makes us read books we would not have chosen if we were left to our own ideas.

For example, "The Children Act," a novel by English writer Ian McEwan dealt with the act of 1989 and is based on a true story to ensure that every child is kept safe and protected from harm. A very interesting read.

Then we had a couple of fictional books one set in Australia and one in Sweden. Following this we read the award-winning "Midnight Library" by Matt Haig about the life of Nora who, between life and death, can try alternate versions of her life.

We have read a thriller and a murder mystery and "The Dressmakers Gift" by Fiona Valpy, a historical fictional story set in France. The latter was enjoyed very much by all the group.

Kath Palmer and Noel Proven

334 8572

334 3499

CHURCH FLOWERS

Team

Claire Grant (convenor) Christine Shuttleworth (treasurer) Mae Barr

Ros Gibson Margaret Thomson Myrtle Turner

2023 has not been the easiest year for the flower team. We really need to recruit more volunteers but sadly all efforts to that end have been fruitless - we live in hope!

There have been fresh flowers at the side door and in the Sanctuary every week throughout the year (Except during Lent) and these flowers have been distributed to members of the congregation after the Sunday service.

The price of fresh flowers - like everything else - has increased - but thanks to the generous donations from the congregation the flower fund remains solvent at present.

Claire Grant

Flower Committee Convener

THE BADMINTON CLUB

The senior section (16+) meets on Monday evenings in the Kaimes Road Hall at 7:30pm. We currently have 10 members, with an average attendance of between four and eight, so plenty of games.

We are a social club (no leagues or serious matches) and are always looking for new members. All standards welcome. If you are interested, please contact the secretary. At present there is no junior section.

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Organiser | Graham McLean | grmmclean@googlemail.com | 0131 334 8255 |
| Secretary | Lyn Chalmers | lyn.chalmers@blueyonder.co.uk | 0131 337 2839 |
| Treasurer | Jack Mitchell | | 0131 334 4811 |
| Representative Elder | Graham McLean | | |

Lyn Chalmers

Secretary

THE TUESDAY EVENING SUMMER WALKING GROUP

The Tuesday Walking Group had a good session last year with walks including Dalmeny, Bo'ness to Blackness, Flotterstone, Portobello Promenade, Threipmuir/Harlaw, Abercorn to Hopetoun and Cramond Island which would have been a lot better if it had not poured with rain from the minute, we got on the Island till we got back to Cramond. We were like drowned rats.

We also had a few day outings to the Kelpies, Pittenweem Art Festival and Kailzie Gardens. We finished with a nice meal in the Torphin and enjoyed it so much we went back for the Christmas meal in December.

Muriel Gibson

Walking Group Organiser

JACK AND JILL CLUB

Organiser: Elaine Bissett

Treasurer: Rachel Dimarco

Representative Elder: Roz Gibson

Wednesday mornings are great fun and very busy! Playgroup starts at 9.30am and the children have a variety of toys and activities to choose from until 11.15am, when we start our sing song.

There are now 25 adults registered for the group, comprising Mums, Dads, Grannies, and childminders, with an average attendance of 20 per week.

We had a summer Pirate party and a fantastic Christmas party, and thankfully, Santa was able to squeeze in a visit too.

The grown-ups can grab a few minutes peace with a cuppa on the stage, and the quietest time of the morning is when the young ones gather for their snack – the noise level quickly increases again post calories injection.

New members are always welcome into this very active and sociable group.

Elaine Bissett

Jack & Jill Club Organiser

embissett@aol.com

LUNCH CLUB

Launched in November 2022 as part of the “winter warmth” initiative and sponsored by The Jack and Jill playgroup, we have been offering lunch, some activities and companionship every Wednesday between 12 and 3pm.

As with all things new, it has been a slow start, but our numbers have been slowly increasing and I’m sure this will continue in the New Year.

There is no formal charge, but donations are always welcome – whether items that can be used for cooking or the odd £1 coin (or 2)!

For further info:

Elaine Bissett

embissett@aol.com

ST ANNE'S GIRLGUIDING UNITS

Representative Elder Liz Menzies

All joining enquiries, either for girls or volunteers: www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved

Girlguiding 183rd St Anne's: Annual Report 2023

183A Rainbows

The 183A Rainbows have had another year of fun, laughter, learning and growing!

We currently have 18 Rainbows in our Unit with the leader team Dyanne, Claire, and Abigail. We've had fab support from our two Young Leaders, Rose, and Miriam.

We have continued to welcome 4-year-old Rainbows into our Unit and have been proud to see some of our girls move up to Brownies. Our Unit also celebrated its 30th Birthday by having a big party with the 183 Brownies and 183 Guides hosted by Kidz Rock and Chief Radio. This was an amazing night seeing girls past and present all mixing together and having so much fun.

Over the year the Rainbows have been working on lots of interest badges, two of our girls have now completed all the interest badges in the book! We also had the pleasure of awarding 2 Bronze Awards and 1 Silver Award.

We have been having fun in and out with the hall- doing activities such as a scavenger hunt walk and crafts like Shrink art. We have had teams from Bumblebee Sports and The Blue Cross to run sessions with the girls, which they loved.

We are looking forward to all the adventures we can get up to next term!

Abigail Baillie

183rd Brownies

The 183rd Brownie Unit continued to be full with a waiting list through 2023. We were able to support 2 volunteers for Duke of Edinburgh awards, and they will continue to be with the unit in 2024.

We started and ended the year with joint events with the Rainbows and Guides and look forward to more of these in the future.

We welcomed along Corstorphine First Aid and Corstorphine Cougars Ladies Rugby Club to teach us some new skills. This was alongside continuing to work on our Skill Builders, Unit Meeting Activities, and interest badges to gain our Theme awards. We have 2 Brownies going for their Gold Award in 2024.

We have also seen the return of our annual Pack Holiday in 2023 - something we've not been able to do since 2019 due to Covid restrictions. The weekend was action packed with a circus skills workshop, archery session and a walk to the yew tree, along with games, arts, and crafts. The Brownies all did tremendously well. Some had never been for a sleepover away from home before.

Tawny Owl and I were very proud to see the Brownie Unit represented in the Gang Show Junior Gang at the Festival Theatre

We're looking forward to what 2024 will bring.

Cat Buchanan

183rd Guides

Throughout 2023, our numbers have grown steadily, and the company is currently full with a membership of 36 girls. From January 2024 the Guide Unit will be operating a waiting list.

Over the course of the year the Guides enjoyed the Rainbows' 30th birthday party, some Chinese New Year challenges, and tackling the Explore Stage 4 Skills builder.

In February, the Guides participated wholeheartedly in the Tunnock's Tea cake challenge, where teacakes were turned into daleks, spiders and rabbits disappearing into a burrow. Some of the creations made it home, others were promptly demolished. The Guides completed some Guiding traditions challenges to

celebrate Thinking Day and other Interest badge work. We had fun at World of Bowling and ended the term with an Easter theme night.

Our summer term highlights included a visit to Gravity for an hour of bouncing around with the Friday Brownies and further badge work including learning about maps, using contour lines, and navigating their way around a treasure trail set out in the Church grounds.

At our meetings in June, we tackled more Unit Meeting activities and Skills builders, and some preliminary work on essential Guide camping and outdoor skills. The Guides designed their own special wrappers for a bar of chocolate to give on Father's Day.

We finished the summer term with an evening down at Cramond beach – during which we took part in some of the Make A Splash challenges, completed a scavenger hunt, built safe swimming pools for plastic ducks, toasted marshmallows and christened our new Coleman events shelter.

After the summer break, the Guides enjoyed a theme night based on Cluedo, and a wide game where they had to recover hidden "Treasure" without being discovered. Making para cord survival bracelets proved popular, if a little challenging in the knot tying department for some! The increased numbers meant a re-balancing of the numbers in each patrol to make things more equal.

The big event in the autumn term for 13 of the company was the Big Bethany Sleepout with nearly 200 other members of Girlguiding Edinburgh, where the girls slept out in survival bags for the night under the cloister at George Heriot's school on probably the wettest night of the year. The point of the exercise was to raise money through sponsorship to support the Bethany Trust's work with the homeless and to experience in a small way what it would be like to sleep out on the streets. The girls enjoyed hot soup from the care van, took part in a wide game, completed a quiz, joined in a campfire, and built shelters out of cardboard. The girls raised £1500 for their efforts, contributing to the massive total of £21000. Congratulations to Erin, Skye and Isla, Isabella, Indiana and Annie, Vaila, Annie, Qwynn, Maya and Caitlin and to Mags and Liz for seeing this particular challenge through, in less-than-ideal conditions!

Following the October break, we completed more Unit Meeting activities as part of the Skills for My Future theme and Express Myself themes and enjoyed attending the Friday performance of this year's Gang Show to support Erin, Hariot, Jessica, Skye, Indiana, Isabella, and Jenny in the Main Gang. We had a Scottish themed evening, made scratch art Christmas decorations, made home-made sweets and finished off the term with a Silent Disco with the Brownies. "Silent" perhaps was a misnomer - despite wearing headphones the girls singing along to Taylor Swift, Ariana Grande, Sam Ryder, and other Christmas hits (which the leaders remembered first time around) – was very definitely audible!

Thanks, as always go to the 183 Guides leader team: - Mags, Mary, Alison, and Kirsty, and to our Young Leaders, Aine, Erin, Julianne and Hariot for their continued hard work and input with the girls. Thanks also to the Guides who's never ending questions, lively chat, and occasionally questionable wit, allied to huge enthusiasm and humour make it difficult to keep a straight face on most Friday evenings. Thanks also to their hugely supportive Mums and Dads for allowing us the privilege of spending time with their daughters!

Finally, thanks also to all the folk of St Anne's who continue to support Girlguiding in St Anne's and take an interest in our doings.

Liz Menzies

HOLY COMMUNION

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated during Morning Worship on the last Sunday in January, June and October and on Easter Sunday.

A separate service celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be held on the evenings of Ash Wednesday & Maundy Thursday Day at 7.30pm, and on Ascension Day at 10.30am. There will be a family celebration with Holy Communion on Christmas Day.

On the last Sundays of February, March, May, September, and November a short Communion Service is held in the Youth Chapel after Morning Worship.

HOUSE COMMUNION

It is not always possible for people to attend the services of Holy Communion in Church, for health reasons. We would be delighted to arrange a home communion for you. Please contact the Minister or your elder.

VESTRY HOUR

By arrangement. Please contact the Church Office, or the Minister directly, by telephone or email.

Church Office: (0131) 316 4740
office@stannescorstorphine.org.uk
minister@stannescorstorphine.org.uk



THE WEEK IN ST ANNE'S

SUNDAY

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| CHOIR PRACTICE | 10:15am |
| MORNING WORSHIP | 11:00am |
| SUNDAY CLUB | 11:00am |

MONDAY

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| BEAVERS (71 st) | Both are presently suspended due to lack of leaders. |
| CUBS (71 st) | |
| BADMINTON – Senior | 7:30pm |

TUESDAY

| | |
|--|------------------|
| GUILD (Fortnightly)..... | 2.30pm or 7.30pm |
| SUMMER EVENING WALKING GROUP (May to August) | 6:50pm |

WEDNESDAY

| | |
|---|--------|
| MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP (Jack & Jill Club) | 9:30am |
|---|--------|

THURSDAY

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| CHOIR PRACTICE | 7:30pm |
|----------------------|--------|

FRIDAY

| | |
|---|---------|
| FAN CLUB (Fortnightly) | 10:30am |
| CARERS' SUPPORT GROUP (Fortnightly) | 10.30am |
| RAINBOWS (183 rd A) | 5:30pm |
| BROWNIES (183 rd) | 6:45pm |
| GUIDES (183 rd) | 7:45pm |
| SENIOR SECTION (183 rd) | 7:45pm |
| SCOUTS (71 st) (Own hall) | 7.30pm |

OCCASIONAL (days & times may vary)

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| THE BOOK GROUP..... | As arranged |
| WALKING GROUP | Day time |