



# ***CROSSTALK***

***The Newsletter of  
South East Edinburgh Churches Acting Together***

Issue 5 February 2015

## ***CAROL SINGING AT CAMERON TOLL AND MORRISONS***

The carol singing was good fun at both venues and people were very appreciative that we simply wanted to wish them a happy Christmas, and not to collect money from them! Morrisons Manager was very appreciative too! Christmas Service leaflets were handed out, and we rarely get feedback, but this year two people said that they had come along to one of our churches because of this leaflet—who knows how many more? We can be seen below up on the balcony at Cameron Toll with our banner in full view. **Come and join us next year!**

## ***WHO'S WHO IN SEECAT?***

Our Business Secretary, Moira Cocksedge (right) is from Liberton Kirk. She does the agenda and the minutes for our meetings, and the church service leaflets.



Our Treasurer is Clare Roller (left) and she also represents us on the Steering Group for the Cameron Toll Chaplaincy. She served as Chaplain there herself for several years. She belongs to St. Catherine's.



## **HOLY WEEK**

**Monday 30th March**—Passover Meal at St. John Vianney's. Tickets will soon be on sale in the churches, price £5. Numbers are restricted and you must have a ticket. (If you can't use your ticket please let someone know so that somebody else can have it.)

**Wednesday 1st April**—Ecumenical Stations of the Cross Service at St. Catherine's, starting at 7.30pm. All welcome.

**Good Friday 3rd April**—

**Prayer Walk** from individual churches starting at 10 or 10.15 (see poster) and meeting up at Morrisons, Gilmerton Road, at 11am for an **Open Air Service**.

**Joint Service** in Gracemount High School at 3pm. A very special service when we remember what Jesus' death on the cross means for each one of us.

If you have not been to any of these events and services before, you are missing out on something special! The Passover Meal, the Stations of the Cross Service, the afternoon service on Good Friday are all very moving for Christians of any denomination. Good Friday morning is our chance to witness together in our communities to our common faith in the Saviour of the world. **Why don't you come and join us?**

## **ISLAND RETREAT**

Rev. David Dixon (St. Barnabas') is organising another retreat—this year to the Cathedral of the Isles on the Island of Great Cumbrae (near Largs). The dates are Thursday 25th June to Saturday 27th June, and the cost will be £120, including transport and ferry. Anyone interested should contact David on 01875 812985.

## **HUSTINGS**

You may have heard that there is a General Election coming up on 7th May! Yes, we do hope to have a Hustings Evening at the Hub but we can't give you details at the moment. We need to identify declared candidates, decide on panel size, and find a suitable date. Watch out for information in your church notices and newsletters.

## **CASTLE COMMUNITY BANK**

This up-to-date version of a Credit Union will be launched very soon—we just wish we had a date! Several people from our different churches are giving a hand with the administration to get this off the ground. Jacqui Sanger and the SEECAT team are convinced it will be a good thing for Edinburgh (the whole EH postcode area in fact) and can hardly wait for something definite to tell everybody.

## **WE'VE NEVER BEEN SO POPULAR!**

Liberton Hospital Carol Service was packed out—the wheelchairs kept rolling in, pushed by our own helpers, by ward staff, and by relatives. Margaret Ellison lost count as the numbers kept increasing even when the service was starting! It was a lovely afternoon, with favourite carols and well-known readings and a Christmas message. Mince pies and tea to follow were provided by Liberton Hospital.

## **THE GRASSMARKET AND MUIRHOUSE . . .**

are the subject of the next Justice and Peace Group meeting which will be held on Wednesday 13th May, starting at 7pm, at St. John Vianney's church hall. The speaker will tell us about the Grassmarket Project and about Muirhouse Youth Adventure, both of which are helping people in our city who are disadvantaged.

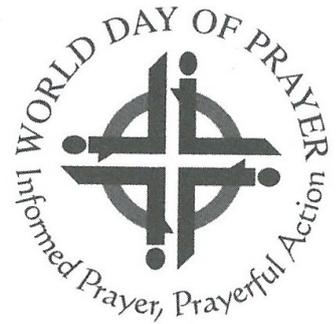
Tickets will be available in churches after Easter, or just come along on the evening. Teas will be served and there will be stalls.

## **TEENAGE SLEEPOVER**

Rev. David Dixon is hoping to organise an overnight stay in the Borders for youngsters aged 10-18 on Friday 29th May. Anyone interested should 'phone David on 01875 812985.

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Every year on the first Friday of March all over the world Christians of



all denominations gather to pray using the same basic form of worship written by women of a different country each year. This year Christian women in the Bahamas have written the material and it will be used at our local service at St. John Vianney's Church, Fernieside Gardens, 2pm on Friday 6th March.

Jesus said to the disciples after washing their feet "Do you know what I have done to you?" and in the service we think about serving one another. The subjects for prayer this year are those struggling with poverty, victims of domestic violence, those diagnosed with cancer, those living in fear and uncertainty, teenage pregnancies, those living with HIV or AIDS, as well as local concerns.

Please come and join with all the denominations in this corner of Edinburgh (men and women) in this worldwide wave of prayer. There will be a cup of tea afterwards and a chance for a friendly chat.

## **WELCOME!**

...to Douglas Robertson, who is the new church leader at KLM from Sunday 15th February.



Douglas was raised in Lenzie and with a degree in electrical and electronic engineering, worked in I.T. for several years in Scotland and (for 2 years) in Monaco. In 2004 he left his management post with Optical Express and went back to study at the International Christian College. He was awarded a B.A.Th.(hons) and an M.Th. in Biblical Interpretation by Aberdeen University.

In November 2009 Douglas was employed by the Church of Scotland and seconded to Robroyston Church, where he ministered on a five-year fixed-term contract. We wish him every blessing at KLM and look forward to welcoming him to SEECAT events.

## **PRAYERS NEEDED . . .**

- for Liberton Northfield church as they continue to search for a new leader, that they would be able to make an appointment soon.
- for all our churches across the country, struggling to find church leaders and needing to find new patterns of leadership and new ways to use the talents of lay people.
- for our witness to the communities of South East Edinburgh in our Good Friday Walk and Open Air Service, that those who see and hear us would be reminded of what the day means, and be inspired by our unity.
- for service leaflets handed out on Good Friday, that they would bring people back to church at Easter.
- for the Castle Community Bank, that a launch date would be confirmed soon.

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This newsletter is also on our website. The next issue will be in May, and suggestions are welcome—please contact any of the SEECAT representatives in your church or speak to Ruth.

**CROSSTALK** is the Newsletter of SEECAT and is published by Ruth Davies, Liberton Kirk Centre, 28 Kirkgate, Edinburgh EH16 6RY.

The churches in SEECAT are Liberton Kirk, Liberton Northfield, KLM, Tron Kirk (Gilmerton and Moredun), St. Barnabas', St. Catherine's, St. John Vianney's and St. Gregory's. Our website at [www.seecat.org](http://www.seecat.org) has links to individual churches.