



St Margaret's Chapel Guild Newsletter

June 2016, issue 30

Convenor's Report

Dear Members

The time has come once again for our Newsletter to be sent to all our Members of the Guild and to the Members of the Fellowship Guild who are on email. I hope you have all been enjoying the recent spell of sunshine and I do hope it will continue.

The Guild has been quite active in the past few months and I would like to tell you of some of the events.

Sadly, I must start by telling you of the deaths of three of our Members, Margaret Collett, Dr Margaret Oliver and Margaret Kinnear. We did have a notice on the Website. These ladies were long-standing members of the Guild, and were all active in the work of the Guild. They will be sadly missed by us all. We send our condolences to their families and friends.

During April, Margaret Ann Crawford and I attended the Scottish Churches Gathering in St Mary's Catholic Metropolitan Cathedral in Edinburgh. HRH, The Princess Royal is the Patron of the Scottish Churches Trust and addressed the Gathering. During her address The Princess commented on the Scottish Pilgrim Walks that the Trust has established. So it was quite appropriate that Margaret Ann was able to tell her, when we met her, that she had been one of the Guild Members who walked St Margaret's Pilgrim Walk last year. The Princess was very interested to know how our Members crossed the Firth of Forth. When we told her the group hired a ferry to take them across, she was most impressed and her comment was 'how wonderful, that Ferry should never have been discontinued'. This was a lovely event and Margaret Ann and I felt very privileged to represent the Guild.

In order to keep up with modern technology, the Guild is now on Facebook as well as Twitter. Margaret Milne has kindly agreed to operate this for us and we are grateful to her for taking on this task. Margaret has requested that if you are sending anything to Sarah James to go on Twitter, could you please copy it to her – she is dying to put photographs of Chapel Flowers etc on Facebook.



You may have noticed on Twitter that our President, Rev. Neil Gardner, celebrated the 25th Anniversary of his ordination to the Ministry on Sunday 29th May, 2016.

We sent congratulations and best wishes to him from the Guild Members for this special event.

It will soon be time to start the preparations for St Margaret's Day, and I hope to see as many of you as possible then.

Yours in friendship

Margaret Lindsell
Convenor

Fellowship Focus



The morning of 22nd April found Margaret Banks and I on the Castle esplanade. Expectations were high.

Margaret is a Fellowship member from Australia who had planned a 5 week visit to Scotland with her lovely husband John. Top of Margaret's 'wish list' was to arrange the flowers in the Chapel. Margaret Mackay, the April flower convenor made this happen, and I was on hand to provide 'guidance' and to negotiate the narrow stone-wall bounded road to the chapel. This ensured their hire-car did not receive any souvenirs of their visit. Margaret had an armful of beautiful flowers which picked up the colours of the new altar cloth beautifully, and included some Scottish 'thistles'. You can see the results of her efforts in the photo. She also

managed to join Margarets in The Dome for coffee and enjoyed chatting to members about her trip to Scotland.

Hazel M Dunn, Fellowship Secretary

Report on the Mass at Westminster Cathedral for the Return of Relics of Thomas Beckett

For the first time in 800 years, a sacred relic of St Thomas Becket was reverently returned on a visit to England from Hungary. He was Archbishop of Canterbury, and a Twelfth Century saint and martyr. Hungary has revered Thomas Becket for more than eight centuries and his relic has been guarded in the Cathedral of Esztergom in Hungary where it was the centrepiece of a lively cult of the English saint throughout Hungary and across much of Europe during this period.



The reunited relics of Thomas Beckett were paraded during a week-long Pilgrimage around London and Canterbury. During the Pilgrimage, the relics were blessed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster. The occasion had an ecumenical significance and was a symbol to focus reconciliation between Anglicans and Roman Catholics in Modern Europe.

His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster and His Eminence Cardinal Peter Erdo, Archbishop of Hungary con-celebrated Mass at Westminster Cathedral to commence the pilgrimage to honour the Relic of St Thomas. Rev. Neil Gardner, our President was unable to attend on behalf of St Margaret's Chapel Guild, so Margaret and Paul Lynch represented the Guild. They were joined by Sheila M MacTaggart a member of the Guild who lives in London and her friend Anne Barton. The occasion was honoured by the presence of the President of Hungary and the Hungarian Ambassador to the UK. It was a memorable occasion since we were ushered to the front seats in the Cathedral! The Mass was attended by 3 Cardinals, 10 Bishops and 60 priests, 10 ministers of other faiths and a packed church of worshippers. Afterwards, we attended a reception in the Cathedral Hall where we were delighted to meet dignitaries from Hungary and many guests. This visit was a joint Catholic and Church of England initiative as a gesture of solidarity between the Churches.

Margaret Lynch, Newsletter Secretary

The Guild Brooches and Earrings



Daisy brooches are available to the Guild members only from the Treasurer Maggie Wheeler. Email: maggieandphilw@btinternet.com or phone: 0131 334 4235.

Acheson House Garden

We now have a key for the Acheson House Garden and are looking for willing helpers, who would be happy to do a bit of weeding and tidying up in the garden. We have two work-parties already and our allocated flower bed is now ready for planting Marguerites. Mondays seem to be the best days for everyone. How about joining us on Monday 4th July at 10am? We really could do with some more help.

The garden is in Bakehouse Close opposite the Canongate Kirk Church just beside Huntly House.

Any member who is interested in helping with the garden should contact Fiona Kidd on email: fionakidd@hotmail.co.uk or by phone: 0131 445 1867

Fiona M Kidd, Flower Supervisor

The Royal Botanic Garden Tour 17th May 2016



Sixteen members of The Guild enjoyed a most interesting and informative tour of the garden on what was a lovely sunny day. Our guide was Pamela Black who conducted us on a walk, which took us from the largest beech tree in the garden to the smallest alpine plant. The rhododendrons and azaleas were at their best. We learned that honey made from certain azaleas can be poisonous, and long ago was given as presents to soldiers on the opposing side before battles! The Alpine Garden was very impressive with vertical instead of horizontal slabs which made for a very interesting planting. A splendid display of meconopsis poppies was just beginning to bloom.

Did you know that jet comes from fossilised Monkey Puzzle tree?

The garden is used as an education centre for many groups of people including students and school children who are given their own plots to plant and learn about growing vegetables and flowers. We also saw the Cottage which has been moved from the original Botanic Garden in Leith and which is going to be used for educational purposes. There had been some publicity about it in the newspapers the week before our visit. Perhaps we returned inspired to take another look at our own gardens! A snack lunch was enjoyed at the end.

Fiona M Kidd, Flower Supervisor

An Invitation to St Margaret of Scotland Pilgrimage, Sunday 12th June 2016



The Pilgrimage in honour of St Margaret fell on Sunday 12th June in Dunfermline. Many of the Pilgrims visited the shrines to St Margaret at the Abbey before walking in procession from the Gates of Pittencrieff Park through the streets of Dunfermline, led by Archbishop Leo Cushley the Catholic Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh, finishing up in St Margaret's Catholic Church for Mass at 4pm. A large crowd attended and the overspill for the Mass was video-linked to the Carnegie Hall. There was heavy rain before the procession began, but the sun came out to the delight of the crowd. It is hoped to make this an annual event, so watch out for the next one in a year's time around mid-June.

Margaret Lynch, Newsletter Secretary

Scottish Gardens Open to the Public

There are many Scottish gardens open to the public during the Summer. We hope you have time to take a trip and enjoy visiting one or two of them. Check out the websites which are full of information; dates and times they are open, and how to get there. www.scotlandsgardens.org and www.gardensvisit.com.

One garden that is well worth visiting is Amisfield Walled Community Garden on the outskirts of Haddington in East Lothian, which has been beautifully restored by a Preservation Trust and a large band of volunteers over the past few years. Check out the website for information. www.amisfield.org.uk. This garden is FREE and open to the public. Summer times of opening are: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday 1pm-4pm, Wednesday 10am – 1pm and Saturday 10am-1pm and during July and August, Sunday 1pm-4pm.

Margaret Lynch, Newsletter Secretary

Twitter and Website

I have set up our Twitter feed linked to the Guild's website, www.stmargaretschapel.com **Members only** can access it by logging in to the website (user name: **margaret** and the password is **10daisy93**). You will find the Twitter feed in the panel on the right hand side to see the Tweets. If you have a photo of flowers you have done in the Chapel or any news of interest to members, please send it to me, (email smcjames@me.com, or margaret@lynchdudes.net for the Website or Margaret Milne for our 'new' Facebook page. margaretmilne@ymail.com. I am willing to help anyone who has problems accessing Twitter. If you would like to Tweet yourself, the Guild name for Twitter is **@stMargaretsCH**. Looking forward to seeing your photos and tweets and facebook messages. My, we are becoming very technical!!!

Sarah M James, Twitter Expert

Don't forget to keep us up-to-date for our Guild Database

It would be very helpful if Margarets could inform Fiona Jordan by email: fiona_jordan@btinternet.com Or by phone: 01506 885330, our Secretary Kathy M Fairweather by email: kathleenfairweather@btinternet.com, or by phone 01620 890853, if any of their details change, so that we can be sure that the database is as accurate as possible, especially for the forthcoming AGM mailings.

*Kathy M Fairweather, Secretary
Fiona Jordan, Database Secretary*

The Dome Coffee Morning

Remember the coffee mornings in The Dome, George Street, Edinburgh are at 10.30 on 16th of each month. Come along and catch up with friends for a coffee and chat. When the 16th of the month lands on a Sunday we meet on Mondays. Put **Wednesday 16th November in your diary for our AGM at the Castle.**

The next Newsletter will be in January 2017! If you have any articles or stories of interest to the Guild, please send them to me. Email: margaret@lynchdudes.net. Don't forget to check out the Members section of the website each month for information of forthcoming events.

Margaret Lynch, Newsletter Secretary and Webpage Secretary