



The Chaplaincy Newsletter - January 2023



**Praying for a
Happy & Peaceful
World in 2023**

January Services

Traditionally there are no services on the 1st Sunday in January

Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin.

3rd Sunday – 15th Jan – 10.30am lay led service

Monastere du Carmel, Rue du Denacre, Saint Martin Boulogne.

3rd Sunday – 15th Jan – 10.30am Lay led service in the chapel.

Oratory of Notre Dame de la Misericorde, rue Gaillard, Calais.

3rd Sunday – 15th Jan - 10.30am Lay led service

30th January Eucharist Service to be celebrated by Sara McVane at 11.00am Venue TBA

ZOOM services every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 10.30am- link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81308857876?pwd=ektZUy9RcGZ6dTdxdjBSMWE5K3V0QT09>

Wednesday Compline at 9 pm (Linda says, come along earlier if you wish to chat) link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87872685714?pwd=UIFNVURPb2NWL2UxUXpkc09ZR2wydz09>

Week of Christian Unity

21st January 17.00 hrs Eglise Baptiste in Samer.

There will be a Joint Service with Baptists, Adventistes, Eglise Reformee and Eglise Catholique

Monday 23rd January 18.30hrs, Ecumenical service at the Temple, Calais.

Organised by the 'Association Oecumenique du Littoral' - Led by Pere Pierre Arlain, the new priest in charge for Calais.

Chaplaincy News

The Chaplaincy Council has been meeting regularly every two weeks to finalise the many documents required for the house for duty application. So far, a vision statement, a role specification and a person specification have been written and sent to the Archdeacon for feedback. The content of all three was based on the input from congregation members who replied to previous surveys and questionnaires. The Council is currently working on the Chaplaincy profile and would welcome any suggestions from the congregations, especially any input regarding what makes our location and churches attractive for potential candidates!

Linda Pilliere, Chaplaincy President.

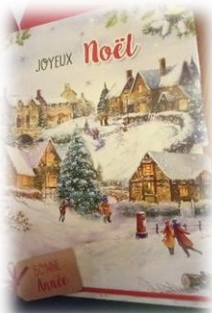


Christmas Gifts for 'Maria Skobtsova House' from the congregation in Boulogne - organised by Pauline and Liz

Thierry, Director of L'Arche, and Joseph who works with the refugees in Calais and is a member of the Calais congregation- were both able to be with us at the Boulogne Carol Service despite the ice and high winds on the A16.

Joseph reassured us, he could handle the bad weather in Calais - his home State in the U.S. is prone to deep snow all winter.

Christmas Gifts for Ten Brave Young Asylum Seekers in Beaurainville.



*With Very Best Wishes
From the
Anglican Church in Hesdin*

Thank you to Hesdin congregation who donated money to buy a selection of much appreciated toiletries, for seven young men and a young mother of two little boys aged five and three. Toys and chocolate were given to the children. Mince pies and chocs were also gratefully received by the amazing staff who work for the FIAC charity association and are taking care of them all. *Marilyn/editor*



Vacancy for Hesdin's Secretarial Role

As you may know, our former secretary Joyce Bosworth, can no longer continue in this role due to ill health and Daphne Power has kindly stepped up to support the church temporarily.

If you are interested in taking on this important role, please attend Hesdin's meeting in January where you can be co-opted into the post.

If you wish to know more about the duties of the church secretary please contact Daphne, who has had a lot of experience in this role.

Firstly, we would like to thank Joyce for her diligence as secretary; for her planning and for efficiently keeping us informed about services and events. She and John went above and beyond their roles to prepare the church for our services, and were always the first to arrive and the last to leave. Primarily, on behalf of Hesdin Congregation, we wish Joyce well in her recuperation and pray for her and John at this difficult time.

Walking Together in Faith - Registration opens soon for diocese's lay training course

Potential applicants are being urged to consider signing up for the diocese's lay training course, 'Walking Together in Faith', which will be launched in late September. The course is open to all lay members of the Church – from people simply looking to learn more about the Christian faith to individuals exploring the possibility of formal lay ministry.

The multi-media course has been designed to be very flexible and will be accessed via the online platform Moodle. Participants are encouraged to join a local group, but for those for whom that is not possible there will be online options. They can also choose their level of engagement – applicants can opt to use the course as a free study guide but, for a small fee, can also register, submit work for assessment and be awarded a Bishop's Certificate in recognition of their achievements. More details on the Diocesan website <https://europe.anglican.org/main/latest-news/post/1835-registration-opens-soon-for-dioceseas-lay-training-course>

Safeguarding

Special Recruitment

The Chaplaincy requires a Deputy Safeguarding Officer to support the Safeguarding Officer (*Daphne Power*) in her role.

Deputy Safeguarding Officer is an important role in working to ensure that the chaplaincy is a safer place in which to worship and to socialise.

This post is open to applicants from all three churches.

If you are interested in this important and worthy role, with an awareness of the safety of those attending our churches, and a wish to support the Chaplaincy in this work, further information, in the form of a Job Description, Personal Specification and Code of Conduct, can be obtained from Daphne by email at safeguardingPDC@hotmail.com

All applicants should hold, or be willing to undertake an enhanced DBS (*Disclosure and Barring Service*) and complete safeguarding training to the highest level required for the post.

Most of the training can be done virtually online, with a specific 'Leaders Course' spread over two half-days.

The applicant is required to provide two, character references, (*not by a relative or friend*).

In the absence of a Chaplain: appointments will be made by the Safeguarding Officer and the



THE SCOT'S KIRK IN PARIS

an article by Roderick Hutch

On 11 November my wife Gillian and I attended a Remembrance service in the Scot's Church in Rue Bayard, Paris. We were very fortunate to have the Rev. Sarah MacVane with us. She had for a long time wished to go to the Kirk, but felt with Scots on-hand, that this would be a fine opportunity. Sarah very kindly met us at Gare du Nord and guided us through the metro system. *Easy when you know how!*

The Scots Kirk is a Presbyterian Protestant Church.

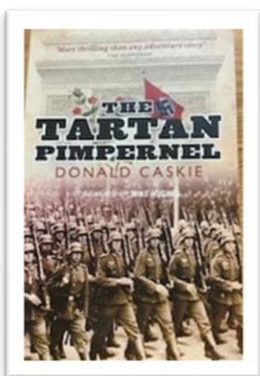
The Paris Congregation of the Scots Kirk was established in 1858; from then until the early 1880s services were held within the Oratoires du Louvre. Around 1883, the search began to look for a church building which might serve the Scots Kirk for generations to come. In 1885, the congregation moved its place of worship to the former American Episcopal church in rue Bayard. Then, as now, this was considered an ideal location, situated in the heart of Paris and a stone's throw from Champs-Élysées.

From its beginnings in the 1850s, the Church of Scotland form of worship and other opportunities for fellowship and friendship have attracted many to rue Bayard. Some famous people have worshipped here. They include American President Woodrow Wilson, British Prime Minister David Lloyd George and Eric Liddell (right), the famous Scottish Olympic athlete (who preferred to preach in the Scots Kirk rather than race on a Sunday during the 1924 Paris Games). His life, missionary work and tragic death are recounted in the book and film "Chariots of Fire".



ERIC LIDDELL – 1902-45

1940



In 1940, following the forced closure of the church due to the German occupation of Paris, Scots Kirk minister Donald Caskie moved to Marseille where he held services in the Seamen's Mission. He became a member of the French Resistance and a vital link in helping allied soldiers and airmen to safety in neutral Spain. Betrayed, arrested and sentenced to death by the Gestapo, his life was saved by a German pastor. His fascinating story is told in the book *The Tartan Pimpernel* and this link is one of which the Kirk is particularly proud. [Find out more about Donald Caskie, the Tartan Pimpernel.](#)

1950s

The original building was replaced by a new church in the late 1950s. Unfortunately, it was beset by serious structural problems from an early date and by the 1980s it was obvious that it would require major repair or replacement.

In 1995 the Church of Scotland Board of World Mission decided to "sell" the site to a developer. They gave the developer the right to construct private apartments in return for demolishing the old church and providing the empty shell of the new. The daunting task of raising over £320,000 to transform this into a furnished and well-equipped church complex fell upon the congregation.

Thanks to the support of members and friends throughout the world, the Development Appeal had raised over £250,000 by late 2002. The gap was bridged and final contractual bills settled by means of a loan from World Mission. The interest charges on the loan and repayment of the capital sum were a considerable financial challenge for the congregation but the loan was repaid in full in 2014.

2002 - Present Day

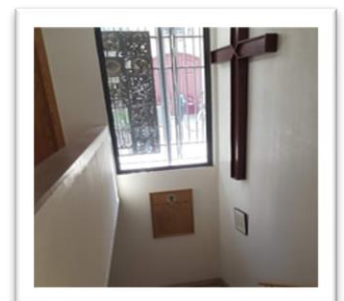


Between autumn 1999 and 2002, services and other activities were held in the Eglise Réformée du Saint Esprit in rue Roquépine. The new Scots Kirk building was opened and dedicated in March 2002 by Rt Rev John Miller, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Its many attractive features reflect the excellent design work of architect Charles

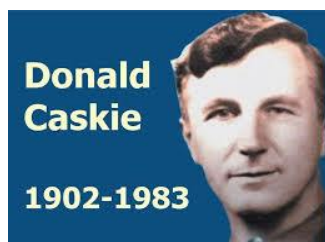
MacCallum. They include the external grill on which is

mounted a Pictish Cross sculpted by Jacqueline Stieger, the Chancel Cross by the same artist, the Communion furniture, fine interior finish and excellent acoustics. The Communion Table and Chairs were funded by the Baird Trust and the Chancel Cross by the Hope Trust and Mr. J McCormack-Turner; the cost of the pulpit was met by the wife and family of the late Rev David McKean, minister in Paris from 1975 - 1982.

This cross was a gift from George Watson's Boys' College in Edinburgh in recognition of the hospitality offered by Donald Caskie to boys from GWBC participating in an annual exchange program with the Lycée Henri IV in Paris. When asked how GWBC could contribute to the new church, the foundation stone of which was laid in 1958, Donald Caskie requested a cross to be hung behind the chancel table. A collection was organized in 1959 and each boy at the school contributed thrupence to fund the purchase of the "Paris Cross"



Donald Caskie



Donald Caskie lived from 22 May 1902 to 27 December 1983. Born and brought up in Bowmore on Islay, he was a church minister who is best remembered as "The Tartan Pimpernel" for his exploits in helping allied sailors, soldiers and airmen escape from occupied France during the second World War. The wider picture in Scotland at the time is set out in our Historical Timeline.

Caskie was the son of a crofter. He was educated at Bowmore School and then Dunoon Grammar School before going on to study arts and divinity at the University of Edinburgh. He was ordained in 1924 and his first charge as a minister in the Church of Scotland was in Gretna. In 1938 he became the minister of the Scots Kirk in Paris.

After the German invasion of France in 1940, Caskie ignored the advice of those he reported to in the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh to return home. He gave up the chance of a passage on a ship bound for Britain from Bayonne, and instead travelled to Marseilles, which was at that time part of Vichy France, governed by the Vichy French regime on behalf of the Germans who occupied the northern half of the country. In Marseilles, Caskie established a refuge for stranded Britons, using his contacts through the local church, the US Consul and British Intelligence to help as many as 500 allied service personnel to escape to Spain, from where they could reach Britain.

The Vichy French authorities arrested Donald Caskie and others after they were betrayed by an informer. A number of those involved in helping allied personnel to escape were subsequently executed, but Caskie's life was spared, apparently because of the lack of hard evidence against him. Instead, he was given a suspended sentence and expelled from Marseilles. He went to Grenoble. There he took up a post as a chaplain at the university. He was later interned, along with other British-born civilians living in the occupied countries, though after being taken to Italy he was able to arrange his own release and the release of others incarcerated with him. By now the Gestapo were taking much more of an interest in Caskie, and in 1943 he was again arrested, before being put on trial at Fresnes Prison south of Paris and sentenced to death. His request to see a pastor led to a meeting with the German army padre Hans Helmut Peters, who successfully appealed to Berlin to spare Caskie's life.

Donald Caskie spent the remainder of the war in a prisoner of war camp. After the war ended, he returned to Paris and resumed his role as minister of the Scots Kirk there. He was awarded an OBE for his wartime role and honoured by the French Government. The Scots Kirk was in a sorry state after the war, and in order to help fund its rebuilding, Caskie wrote an account of his wartime exploits, under the title "The Tartan Pimpernel", which was published in 1957.

Donald Caskie later returned to Scotland, and in 1961 took up a position serving as minister at Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay North Church. He died in Greenock in 1983 and is buried at Bowmore on Islay.

Roderick Hutch

A Nostalgic Visit to Beautiful Clonmacnoise

an article by
Daphne Power



I was recently fortunate to visit Ireland and spent many days visiting historic sites, this was one I have wished to return to for many years as I went there as a child each harvest time.

Clonmacnoise is a ruined monastery situated in County Offaly overlooking the River Shannon South of Athlone, founded in 544 by Saint Ciarán, a young man from Rathcroghan, County Roscommon. Until the 9th century it had close associations with the kings of Connacht.

The strategic location of the monastery helped it become a major centre of religion, learning, craftsmanship and trade by the 9th century; and together with Clonard it was one of the most famous places in Ireland, visited by scholars from all over Europe. From the ninth until the eleventh century, it was allied with the kings of Meath. Many of the high kings of Tara and of Connacht were buried here. Clonmacnoise was largely abandoned by the end of the 13th century. Today the site includes nine ruined churches, a castle, two round towers and a large number of carved stone crosses and cross-slabs. The monastic site is a place of pilgrimage by all religions.

Cathedral (Temple McDermot): Building started around 909 by King Flann Sinna and Abbot Colmán mac Ailella. The cathedral is the largest of the churches at Clonmacnoise. Rory O'Connor, the last High King of Ireland, was buried near the altar in 1198, joining his father Turlough.

Temple Kelly: All that remains of this church are the low-lying perimeter stones, which still give a good indication of the church's original size.

Temple Dowling: Originally built in the 10th century, this tiny church is named after Edmund Dowling, who renovated it in 1689, placing a stone carving of his family crest above them door.

Temple Finghín & McCarthy's Tower: 12th century Romanesque church and round tower.

Temple Melaghlin: Built c.1200. Also called the King's Church, due to the fact that at least seven generations of Melaghlin Kings are said to be buried underneath the structure.

Temple Connor: Church used by the Church of Ireland since the 18th century.

Temple Ciarán: At 2.8 by 3.8 metres, the smallest church in Clonmacnoise. Traditionally presented as the grave site of St. Ciarán, excavations of the church unearthed the Clonmacnoise Crozier, but no saintly remains.

Temple Hurpan: Built in the 17th century at the east end of Temple Dowling, this annex had no religious function outside of being a burial ground for some members of the local parish.

North Cross: Oldest of the three extant crosses. Created c.800. Only the limestone shaft and sandstone base survived. The decoration is non-Christian, with an image of Cernunnos, the Celtic God of hunting and fertility, displayed on the east face of the shaft.

South Cross: A 9th-century piece originally situated at the southern end of the site's central hub. It has one Christian scene on its west face, a rough carving of the Crucifixion of Christ. Many believe that the Cross may have been part inspiration for the later Cross of the Scriptures.

Cross of the Scriptures: This 4-metre-high sandstone cross is one of the most skilfully executed of the surviving high crosses in Ireland, and of particular interest for its surviving inscription, which asks a prayer for Flann Sinna, King of Ireland, and Abbot Colmán who commissioned the cross. Both men were also responsible for the building of the cathedral. The surface of the cross is divided into panels, showing scenes including the Crucifixion, the Last Judgement, and Christ in the Tomb.

Most of the churches have recently undergone comprehensive conservation works, mostly re-pointing, and preservation from the elements.

Temple Connor is the one I have most memories of as a child, it is used by the Church of Ireland since the 18th century and is maintained under the auspices of the Athlone Union of Parishes, and each Sunday during the summer a service is held at four o'clock in the afternoon.

One Sunday at harvest time there is an open-air service, bringing people from all over the neighbouring counties to celebrate the thanksgiving service.

As a child I travelled with my parents and siblings to this site, bringing with us rugs to sit on, on the hill overlooking the River Shannon, boxes of ham sandwiches, sponge cakes and apple tarts all washed down with the tea from thermos flasks.

We met many friends there and shared the picnic, what a wonderful day of celebration in such a historic setting.

The opening hymn was always "Shall we gather at the river" The singing rang out all over this historic site. This year this service took place at the end of August and I was lucky enough to secure a copy of service outline. The service always reminded us to thank God for his gifts which were around us daily.

The service was opened with a quote:

"The Heavens are the heavens of the Lord, but the earth he has entrusted to his children for its care"

And closed with the blessing:

"May God the Father, who clothes the lilies of the fields and feeds the birds of the air, provide us with all we need for life in its fullness".

Daphne Power

Wishing all our readers and contributors a very happy, Healthy and peaceful new year!



Some useful links:

Prayer Requests 'in confidence' email: ourprayers4u@mail.com

Newsletter contributions: Please send any items of chaplaincy news, services, meetings, what's on in your area; and forthcoming events to mcatchdossat@gmail.com

Note: Please remember that if you plan on sending photographs, do ask peoples permission first; and be aware that pictures or images may be copyright. Thanks, *mcd*.

This newsletter, together with contact details for our Church Wardens, is also on our website <https://anglicanspdc.org>

Safeguarding Policy <https://europe.anglican.org/safeguarding/policy-and-guidance>

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