

Community Notes and News

Saturday 27 June 2020



The **Minister**, Richard Frazer, or **Associate Minister**, Ken Luscombe, are happy to speak to anyone to discuss any matter, whether you are a member or not, please contact either:

- Richard on 07715 069 041 or by email at minister@greyfriarskirk.com, or
- Ken on 07488 258 875 or by email at associateminister@greyfriarskirk.com.

Sunday Worship, 28 June, 11am

This week's services will be available once again on the Kirk's online services website page:

[www://greyfriarskirk.com/online-services/](http://www.greyfriarskirk.com/online-services/)

If you would like to join our weekly gatherings for conversation over a cup of tea after the service, please email Richard or get in touch: www.greyfriarskirk.com/get-in-touch/

Introducing: The "Lockdown Bobby" Project! Learn to sculpt, with Mark Coreth

This project is inspired by a new friendship struck up online, a scenario with which many of us are becoming familiar, between Greyfriars' Richard Frazer and renowned sculptor, Mark Coreth. Richard and Mark are excited about the project and invite you all to join in!

As we know well, the story of Greyfriars Bobby is loved the world over and the Kirk receives thousands of visitors (in normal times) to visit Bobby's sculpture and gave. Mark notes "The story is about loyalty, courage, dedication, respect, selflessness and kindness. It is a story not just of a small dog, but also of a community of people who came together around those lessons through compassion and sympathy for the animal."

Art, including sculpture, is something that we can enjoy by ourselves, but it also helps us communicate with each other and come together as a community, uniting around a common theme. Richard and Mark hope many of us can come together to enjoy this project, have some fun learning to sculpt, and raise awareness of the importance of inclusive communities that create equal opportunities for access to the arts and much more. One way we do that here, is through the Grassmarket Community Project. This art project is timely as the GCP celebrates a fantastic 10 YEARS since it first became a registered charity. So what better time to come together to have some fun.

Three short "learn to sculpt" tutorial webcasts will be available on the Kirk's website and YouTube channel from 2pm on Mondays 6, 13 and 20 July. Mark insists that almost everybody can give it a go and have fun! He has lots of experience helping people learn to sculpt: young and old, in different countries and circumstances. Whether you've never done anything like this before (Richard and GCP's CEO Jonny will be joining in!) or regularly enjoy artistic activities, please do consider having a go.

Materials are designed to be affordable (around £15 plus postage) and easily accessible online. The welcome letter at the end of this news provides a bit more information, with links to suggested material to make it easy!

We will put on an exhibition in the Kirk next year, as part of the Kirk's re-planned 400 year celebrations. So, please help us spread the word – friends, families, social groups, children, adults of all ages, whoever and wherever! Everyone is very warmly invited to join in, have some fun and help make it a success.

More about Mark Coreth: www.sladmoredcontemporary.com/mark-coreth

Find out more: www.greyfriarskirk.com/lockdown-bobby-project/



Study Service, Sunday at 7pm

The topic for the Study Service Zoom meeting is: BODY, SOUL AND SPIRIT IN THE BIBLE.

Historically, there have been very different views on the relation between body, soul and spirit. In the Old Testament the word translated as "soul" in English is "nephesh". In the Christian tradition, the soul is commonly thought of as different from the body and as surviving death. Yet in the Old Testament "nephesh" is not immortal and dies with the body. For Luther, the body dies and the soul sleeps while it waits for the body to be raised, whereas for Calvin the soul goes immediately to be with Christ while it too waits. What view best fits all that the bible says as a whole? In particular, what do we make of 2 Corinthians 4.16-5.4, where Paul's Greek says that our outward man is wasting away while our inner man is being renewed?

If you are interested in joining the study service, please get in touch to find out more: www.greyfriarskirk.com/get-in-touch/

Donations

With the church building closed to outside activity we are totally dependent on the generous financial support of our members, regular attenders, online visitors and friends.

As we cannot circulate the usual offering plate, the online alternative is through this link: www.paypal.me/greyfriars400. Although headings refer to Greyfriars 400 and Outreach, donations will be used for the same general Greyfriars Kirk purposes as regular offerings; ministry, the Kirk building and staff. Many thanks.

Telling a Better Story: Why Faith and Science Belong Together

The Faraday Institute free online course takes place this week: 29 June to 3 July: www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/event/telling-a-better-story-why-faith-and-science-belong-together/

We look to reschedule our own Festival of Science, Wisdom and Faith next year. If anyone registers for this event, it will be great to hear what you think. We may organise a similar style event, or incorporate online attendance in some future events. Please get in touch with Gillian: coordinator@greyfriarskirk.com.

Pastoral Care at Greyfriars Kirk

The Kirk has an active group of volunteers, helping us to stay connected. If you would like to help out in this group, know someone that needs help, or would like a chat yourself please contact Associate Minister, Ken Luscombe (contact details at the top of this newsletter). Ken will enjoy hearing from you and can put you in touch with others too.

Future Services

Each week Greyfriars Kirk will continue to provide services online, shortly in advance, for many of us to come together in worship at the usual times:

- Main Service, 11am.
- Mid-week Prayers & Reflection, Thursdays 1pm.

Kirk Closure

The Kirk team is closely monitoring changes and plans announced by Scottish Government each week, as well as engaging with Presbytery and other groups to discuss options and guidance as these develop. At present there is no update, and the Kirk **remains closed**. We will provide updates on the situation if that changes, as soon as we are able.

On the next page, find out how to join in The “Lockdown Bobby” Project!



A warm welcome to the Lockdown Bobby Project,

We are delighted you are joining us to have some fun and raise awareness of a great cause!

Sculptor Mark Coreth will be teaching us to sculpt in a series of short webcasts, available from 2pm on **Mondays 6, 13 and 20 July**. Each webcast will provide demonstrations, explanations and helpful tips to start you sculpting.

This letter explains **suggested materials to buy** so you can join in. The sculptures are designed to be made using affordable, accessible materials and we hope you will enjoy working with them! You can choose whether to have a go making one, or all three. Skills will be built up each week.

We really hope you will enjoy taking part, and we would love to see some photos of your creations and the fun you have making these.

from everyone at,

Greyfriars Kirk & Grassmarket Community Project

Suggested materials:

To make all 3 sculptures, Mark suggests the following from his suppliers:

4 packs (a little extra!) of Newplast (£2.84 per pack, plus postage)
www.industrialplasters.com/prod/modelling-materials/newplast-white

2 Meters of 3mm sectioned aluminium wire (around £2.50, plus postage)
<https://www.industrialplasters.com/prod/armature-wire-wire-netting/armature-wire-1>

Plus some garden wire, and the cutting tools described below.

The following provides more information on options on materials and what Mark will cover each week:

Week One Webcast: MODELLING IN CLAY

Available from 2pm, Monday 6 July

For the first week, select a clay and colour you would like to use from the varieties widely available online from local art shops or market-platforms like Amazon and Ebay.

Mark suggests around **500g of Plasticine**, or other modelling clay such as Fimo, Das, Milliput or Newplast (see pictures below). Roughly the right amount to fill a half pint jug!

Week Two Webcast: MAKING A SIMPLE ARMATURE

Available from 2pm, Monday 13 July

This week, Mark recommends using **500g of Newplast** and 2 meters of **garden wire**, or similar fairly stiff wire, with pliers to help you cut this into sections for the simple armature (framework).

Week Three Webcast: A MORE ADVANCED ARMATURE

Available from 2pm, Monday 20 July

In this last "learn to sculpt" webcast, Mark will demonstrate making an armature using square sectioned wire, in this case 2 meters of **3mm sectioned aluminium wire**. For this, pliers are recommended for cutting. Plus, of course, around **500g of Newplast!**



While you are here...can you help others enjoy arts and activities too?

The **Grassmarket Community Project** runs a wide variety of free activities every week, which creates opportunities for learning, social engagement and fun, for many of Edinburgh's most vulnerable people. Activities include *practical* (IT, gardening, cooking), *physical* (walking, table tennis, yoga), *creative* (arts, choir, drama, creative writing) and *wellbeing* (mindfulness, retreats & more).

If you can, please consider making a small donation as you enjoy this project, to help others access opportunities for fun, creativity and learning new skills.

JustGiving™

www.justgiving.com/grassmarketcommunityproject