



GREYFRIARS COMMUNITY NEWS

Keeping you up to date with what's going on in and around Greyfriars Kirk

The **Minister**, Richard Frazer, the **Associate Minister**, Ruth Halley, or the **Parish Associate**, Gillian Couper, 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
- Ruth on 07530 307 413 or by email at associate.minister@greyfriarskirk.com, or
- Gillian on 07808 472 464 or by email at parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com.

THIS SUNDAY: 27 FEBRUARY 2022

11.00 am Holy Communion - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

12.30 pm Gaelic Service - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

NEXT SUNDAY, FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: 6 MARCH 2022

9.30 am Holy Communion - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

11.00 am Holy Communion with our local ecumenical partner churches Augustine United and St Columba's by the Castle - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

12.30 pm Gaelic Service - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

Midweek Prayers

Join us in-person each Thursday in the sanctuary from 1:10 - 1:30 pm for this special time of prayer and reflection.

Giving to the Kirk

We remain totally dependent on the generous financial support of our members, regular attenders, online visitors and friends. As we cannot circulate the usual offering plate as widely, the online alternative is through this link: <https://bit.ly/greyfriarsdonate>. Although headings on that page refer to Greyfriars Outreach, all donations will be used for the same general Greyfriars Kirk purposes as regular offerings: ministry, the Kirk building and staff. Many thanks.

If you are shopping on-line with AMAZON, please can you pay via AMAZON SMILE? This is their way of giving a proportion of your purchase amount right back to Greyfriars Kirk. Again, you can help the Kirk in this way without any monetary impact at all on your bank balance! All that you need to do is quote Greyfriars Kirk's Charity number, which is SC003761.

Greyfriars Lunchtime Concerts

The popular Greyfriars lunchtime concerts at 12 noon on Thursdays continue on Thursday 24 February with a piano recital by John Longley. Admission is free.

Study Service: Sundays at 7.00 pm

There is usually a Study Service on the first Sunday of each month, and a Bible Study on the third Sunday.

If you are interested in joining this special Zoom gathering, please get in touch to find out more: www.greyfriarskirk.com/get-in-touch or visit the [Study Service](#) page on our website.

Grassmarket Community Project - Activities to Join in, and other news

The GCP has resumed running a wide variety of activities at Augustine United and Coffee Saints while the Centre is closed for the duration of the building project for the Pavilion in the courtyard. These activities are a great opportunity to socialise with others in the Greyfriars and Grassmarket communities, learn something interesting, or have a bit of fun! Online there is Scottish History, Guitar, Yoga, a book group, mindfulness and more. There are also coffee break sessions, at which it's always particularly nice to see some new face, and good for those that just want to drop in for a bit. In person activities include Art, Reading and Writing, Tartan Skills and IT where people are gaining skills to go online as well as many other useful tips.

Check all these out here: [Plan C - Grassmarket Community Project](#). You are very warmly welcome to join in! If you'd like any more information, to receive the regular community bulletin saying what's on, or to speak to someone at the GCP, you can call 0131 225 3626 or email info@grassmarket.org.

The new build of the Pavilion in the courtyard is well underway, and we hope to regain entry in mid-April. Our members' classes and café will then restart in mid-May, if there are no delays to the build! (fingers crossed!)

From 1 March onwards, Grassmarket Tartans will be housed at 58 Candlemaker Row. This will predominantly be a workshop, however we do plan to open this up to a retail shop in the summer, selling all of our beautiful Greyfriars Tartan Products.

Greyfriars Kirkyard

On 21 February, **THE TIMES** carried an interesting story about the work of Edinburgh World Heritage in the Kirkyard – with the news that it is the third most popular free tourist attraction in Edinburgh, after the National Museum of Scotland and the Royal Botanic Garden! We hope to include a link to this article in next week's newsletter.

CHANGE IN A TIME OF CHAOS

A Series of Science & Faith webinars with St Columbas-by-the-Castle



Tues 1st March at 19:30

What did the Neanderthals ever do for us? Lessons in resilience and survival from deep history.

With Rebecca Wragg Sykes
& Mhairi Davies



St Columbas-by-the-Castle Episcopal Church, Edinburgh

SCO16571



What did the Neanderthals ever do for us? Lessons in resilience and survival from deep history. With Rebecca Wragg Sykes of Liverpool University and Mhairi Davies of Historic Environment Scotland.

Our speakers will be in conversation about the relationship between hominin activity and environmental change - the lessons we might take from the deep time of the Neanderthals and later prehistory about resilience and survival, to help us meet the challenges of Climate Change now. The conversation will be chaired by Professor Judith George, classicist and Late Antique historian.

Dr Rebecca Wragg Sykes is an archaeologist, author and Honorary Fellow in the School of Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology at the University of Liverpool. Her critically acclaimed and bestselling first book [KINDRED: Neanderthal Life, Love, Death and Art](#) is a deep dive into the 21st century science and understanding of these ancient relatives. Winner of the 2021 PEN Hessel-Tiltman prize for history; awarded Book of the Year by *Current Archaeology*; selected as one of 2021's 100 Notable Books by *The New York Times*. Alongside her academic expertise and consultancy work, Rebecca has earned a reputation for exceptional public communication, and is a popular speaker, appearing on a variety of programmes for BBC Radio 3 and 4 such as *Front Row*, *Start The Week*, *The Infinite Monkey Cage* and *Free Thinking* as well as numerous other radio and podcasts.

Dr Mairi Davies is Climate Change Policy Manager at Historic Environment Scotland (HES), leading the development of climate change, sustainability and environmental plans and policies and overseeing delivery of the [HES Climate Action Plan 2020-2025](#). Previously an Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Mairi has worked for HES and its predecessor organisation Historic Scotland for many years. An archaeologist, she is a graduate of Edinburgh and Durham Universities with a specialism in the later prehistory of Eastern Scotland. She has a particular interest in the relationship between human activity and environmental change and how our understanding of the past might help us meet the challenges presented by the Climate Emergency.

The speaker discussion will be followed by questions from the audience, moderated by Professor Judith George. This webinar will be on Zoom, please register here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iilOafF3RrSswlaF7HLOHw

Study events at Augustine United

Ignatian Spirituality for Lent

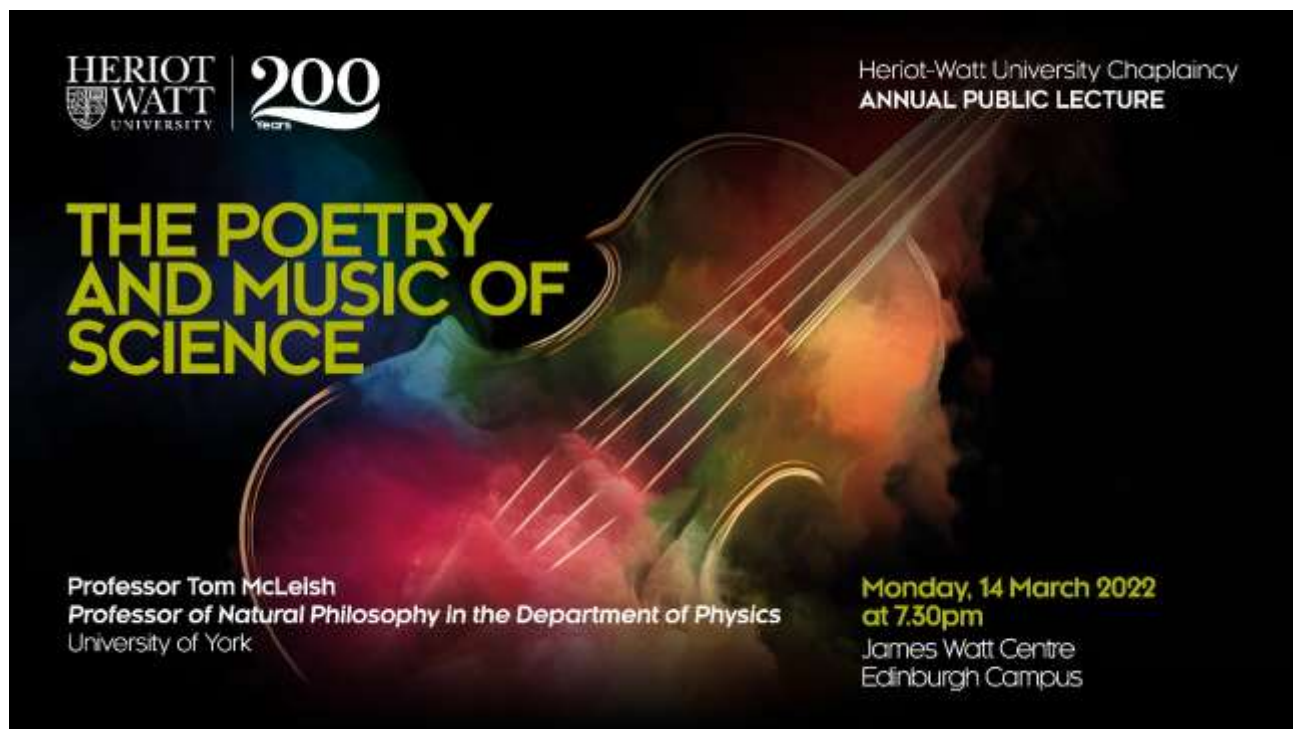
David Townsend of AUC is offering to run an online Lent Group using the free material produced by the [Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow](#). David has done their training and would offer a weekly online group through Lent (probably early on Sunday evenings, starting on 6 March) to share insights from the daily reflections, which are all available online. Contact him direct at david.townsend@augustine.org.uk if you are interested.

AUC Book Group

Following on from their explorations of Julian of Norwich, the group has discussed exploring "The Divine Dance" by Richard Rohr, beginning those sessions on 16 May and continuing on the first and third Mondays of each month, online from 7 to 9 pm.

As a bridge between these two studies, David is offering a reflection on Rublev's "Icon of The Trinity" on 4 April, online from 7 to 9 pm.

If you are interested in joining the Book Group, or just in attending the evening of reflection on Rublev's icon, please contact David at the email address above.



This year's Heriot-Watt Chaplaincy Lecture takes place on Monday 14 March 2022 at 7.30 pm, and you can attend either in person or online (registration is via Eventbrite, see the links below).

The lecture, on "THE POETRY AND MUSIC OF SCIENCE", is by Professor Tom McLeish FRS, who is Professor of Natural Philosophy in the Department of Physics at the University of York. We are delighted that he has agreed to join us as part of our continuing bicentenary celebrations.

This lecture is free and open to the public and will be interpreted into British Sign Language (BSL). Please register either to [attend in person](#) on our Edinburgh campus, or to receive access details to [attend online](#).

Coffee Saints - Tuesday Afternoon Meet-ups



Grassmarket Community Project have told us about a great new initiative which they have started – it is open to over-60s. And of course part of the joy of a natter, is having someone to natter too – so if you have a spare hour on a Tuesday, and might enjoy a chat for any reason, please do consider going along and joining in. Here's what it is all about:

If you have found that you have lost touch with friends during lockdown, you have become isolated and missing social interaction, or are looking to make new friends and have a good old natter, please come along to our afternoon meet up in Coffee Saints at 1 Little King Street every Tuesday from 2:30 pm to 4 pm. This initiative between St Marys Cathedral and the Grassmarket Community Project is facilitated by Graham Burnett, and the tea, coffee and cake are **free!** If you would like to volunteer to help to facilitate our Tuesday Afternoon Meet-up, please get in touch with Catherine at catherine@grassmarket.org.

Members of Greyfriars are welcome customers any time at Coffee Saints at the above address, and are entitled to 10% off if they mention this at the till before paying.

Pastoral Care and Staying in Touch

The ministry team and pastoral volunteers at the church enjoy staying in touch with folk in the congregation and community. It is great to hear how folk are getting on, share news about what is going on in the life of the community, enjoy friendship and support each other when it is needed. If you would like to chat, or you know someone that might need some help or would simply enjoy hearing from us, please do get in touch with Gillian, Richard, or Ruth, by the contact details at the top of this newsletter.

If you would like to send in any comments, ideas, requests or queries, please email the office at communications@greyfriarskirk.com. Any thoughts, large or small, very welcome.