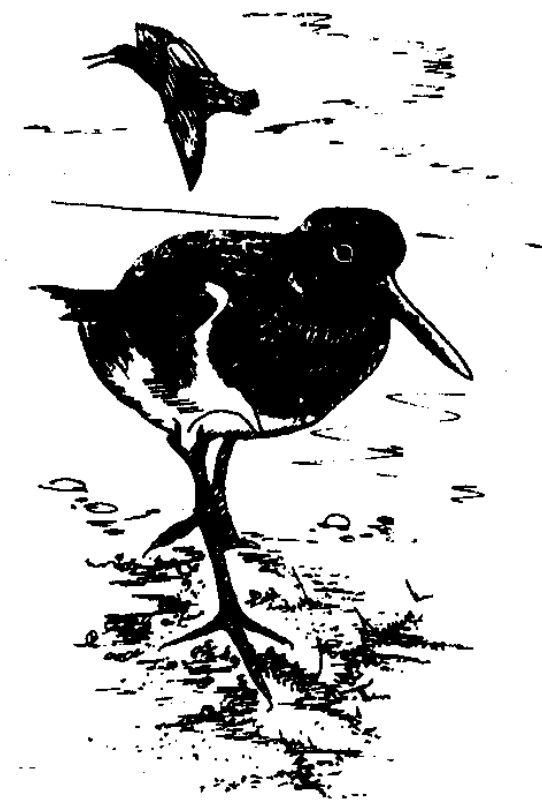


THE OYSTERCATCHER



THE MAGAZINE OF ST BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

KELVINSIDE, GLASGOW

NUMBER 238 OCTOBER 2008

The Scottish Episcopal Church
Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway
ST BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
KELVINSIDE, GLASGOW

Clergy: **Rector:**
 (Vacant)

Non-Stipendiary Priest:
 The Revd Sydney Maitland
 1B 14 Kersland Street, Glasgow, G12 8BL.
 Telephone: 0141 339 4573

People's Warden: Mr Richard Smith
Rector's Warden: Vacant
Lay Representative: Miss Mary Sillitto
Pastoral Assistants: Dr Jack Brand, Mrs Alison Gifford,
 Mr Eddie Minnis, Mr Roy Parkin

VESTRY

Chairman: The Revd Sydney Maitland

Mr Christopher Black	Mr Roy Parkin
Mrs Alison Gifford	Miss Mary Sillitto
Mr Andrew Lockyer	Mr Richard Smith
Mr John Marks	

Secretary: Mr Jonathan Lord
Treasurer: (Vacant)

St Bride's is a Church in the Catholic tradition. The main act of worship on Sundays is the Sung Eucharist at 10.30 a.m., which is followed by coffee and fellowship in the Crypt.

On weekdays the services are as follows:

Mon: Evensong 5.30 p.m.	The Eucharist 6.00 p.m.
Wed: Evensong 5.30 p.m.	The Eucharist 6.00 p.m.
Thur: Mattins 9.30 a.m.	The Eucharist 10.00 a.m.

Confessions by appointment.

Website:

www.stbride.org.uk

Sunday School:

Contact Elizabeth Briggs (0141 334 6045)

Child Protection Co-ordinator:

Anne Blackwood (0141 337 6685)

Organist and Choirmaster:

David Spottiswoode

Assistant Organist and Choirmaster:

Dr Stuart Campbell

Choral Scholars:

Christine Anderson, Cailean Gallagher

FR SYDNEY WRITES ...

There is something wholly beguiling about our desire to better ourselves. It certainly gives us an aim in life, and the sense of improvement is easily measured against the relative success of others. It is entirely natural to strive to improve things for ourselves and those closest to us, especially those who depend on us. To do otherwise is to tend to idleness and to sponge off others.

But there is another aspect which is less appealing. If the striving is not just to improve our lot, but to be better than the next person, then the aim is more predatory. It is about gaining mastery, and winning at all costs. It is the satisfaction not only of winning but of seeing the other person losing. These are deep motivations and in proper order, are an essential part of our economic survival in the world, and of our ordering of our society. But taken out of order and given licence without responsibility, then power and wealth and control become aims in their own right, and I wonder how far these motives underlie the present banking crisis. The possible gains in making the next, the more marginal and the less predictable deal become goals in themselves, with the means subsuming the ends. The potential profits may be huge – for the winner, but what when it goes sour? Who pays then? Who will take responsibility and who will carry the burden?

Which brings me back to matters of faith, for Jesus assumed not just the humility of the working man, but the humiliation of the prisoner and the degradation of the condemned. He could have claimed His rights before God, but refused (how many legions of angels on stand-by?). He could have talked His way out of it, but left the outcome wholly in the hands of Pilate and His accusers. Even on the cross, He was tempted to come down, and to prove His powers: instead, He forgave His executioners, and comforted His mother and the fellow condemned man who appealed to Him.

And this is what draws us into the mystery. It is not just that in our worship we would offer the very best of what we have and what we are. It is more that in our worship, we would offer all that we are, including sins confessed, weaknesses and doubts acknowledged, needs laid bare. For God does not just seek the best that we can offer: rather He looks for all our efforts to be dedicated to Him and to be sanctified by Him. We do not abandon our efforts to wait on Him so much as wait on Him from within our efforts and the constraints that define them. Hence, if our efforts are dedicated to Him, they will glorify Him, and they will employ His methods for His glory.

Perhaps the climax is that we dedicate all that we have and are to the glory of God, yielding all to His providence – to give or withhold as He sees fit. To accept the reverses of life as part of that will for us, even when we understand nothing of it.

It is that total dependence on God, without bargain or restraint, in which we worship Him. In that sense, it is not the grandeur or the height of the pillar or tower, made of human hands, that is our measure: it is the height of the sky, made by God.

Sydney Maitland

DOORS OPEN DAY 2008

On 20 and 21 September we once again opened the church for Doors Open Day(s). The Glasgow event started in 1990 as part of the City of Culture celebrations but over the years it has grown and spread across Scotland. This year more than 800 buildings opened, allowing the public to see otherwise hidden architectural gems all over the country and there are similar events in the rest of the UK and, indeed, all over Europe. St Bride's may not seem 'hidden' to us but, unless you come to a service or a concert, it is not easy to get inside and many people are put off by the forbidding-looking main doors. That is borne out every year by the number of visitors who say "I've lived just round the corner for years but I've never been inside!" Fortunately, they always seem to be impressed by what they find.

We manage to put on a bit of a show but it is a team effort. David Spottiswoode and Henry Russell both played the organ. Anne Blackwood provided refreshments and brought in the mannequins on which Richard Smith arranged a selection of vestments. I do not like to ask how Anne has access to four showroom dummies but they do come in handy. If anyone would like to volunteer to be a live model next year do get in touch!

The weekend is worth the effort as a few people who have visited us on past Doors Open Days have subsequently joined the congregation. This year, someone who popped in on Saturday came to the Sunday morning service. Another visitor asked whether the lease on the lower crypt was still available so who knows what that might lead to? Thanks to all who did a stint on the door and made our visitors welcome.

Andrew Lockyer

AN EXCEPTIONAL ARTIST IN A REMOTE PLACE

Lotte Glob – what a name to conjure with! Was this a member of SMERSH, the Russian secret police, who escaped from the pages of an Ian Fleming novel? Well, no! Lotte Glob is the name of a Danish ceramic artist who lives near Durness in the far north of Scotland and makes, to my mind, the most exciting and inspirational work, using clay, earth, rocks, stones and glazes.

I had known for some time of these ceramics, so when I read recently about an exhibition in a gallery in Perthshire, I decided to make a pilgrimage to go to see it – and what I found thrilled me. It has, of course, a very particular character which wouldn't appeal to everyone, but it is my kind of thing, not only in the physical presence that emanates from the work, but in the experimental ideas that lie behind what she makes in her remote studio.

The inspiration behind all of Lotte's work is her love of the land. She calls it "an intense relationship with the landscape and wilderness of the Scottish Highlands". She makes long expeditions into the mountains to bring back rocks and sediments and, combining these raw materials with different types of clay, she makes sculptures and sculptural forms reminiscent of birds and figures, bowls and large plates, mountains, floating stones and even books. Many of the works are fired to 1300°C, to a white heat which creates conditions similar to the land's volcanic origins and causes a transformation of the materials – what she calls "a metamorphosis".

The first things I saw in the gallery were wall pieces called Fragments. They were like slices of land made of layers, clay and sediments, and were pitted and scored with fissures and cracks which had opened in the heat: combined with areas of vivid blue and green glaze they were very exciting. Then there was a large composite wall piece made up of 24 separate squares, each about 10" square and glazed in intense blues and turquoises and mossy browns, incorporating quartz and other stones, and all fusing together. There were large sculpted boulders holding glazes in their hollows, as a rock on the moorland will hold water in its hollow and reflect the sky and clouds, and large plates, many made for hanging and decorated with her favourite subject, two of the great mountains of Assynt, Suilven and Stac Poly. There were strange cormorant-like birds and floating stones which she carries into the moors and floats on the lochans (though you can buy them and float them on your garden pond), and tall thin sculptures made of fired clay shapes, fragments again, glazed and textured, which are fitted around a long iron pole which can be stuck in the ground and arranged either singly or in groups.

Recently Lotte has been giving work back to the land, a gesture of gratitude for its resources. She makes a sculpture and, carrying it in her rucksack, sets off for a

day's trek to find somewhere remote and secret for it to stand. There she photographs and sketches it and writes in her sketch book about the journey, the weather, the peace and the wilderness. There are now about fifty of these sculptures hidden in the glens and mountains of Caithness, each left to its solitary existence, changes only by wind, rain and the passage of time.

All the work of this artist is inspired by the land. This is not Lucy Rie's refinement of balance in porcelain clay. It is layered, textured and rough like the land itself and the colours are brown, black, cream, green, pink, deep blues and turquoise and sometimes reds and yellows. Often it is not beautiful; in fact it can be quite ugly and have a brooding presence. Lotte pushes the "boundaries" in her work, taking risks with materials and heat to fine the transformations that she hopes for. But through it, she touches something profound and elemental, and her work is evidence of a remarkable artist's abiding relationship with the forces of nature and love of the Scottish Highlands.

Lotte Glob's work can be seen at www.lotteglob.co.uk. The gallery was The Watermill, Aberfeldy, most attractive with a bookshop and small restaurant – www.aberfeldywatermill.com

Veronica Matthew

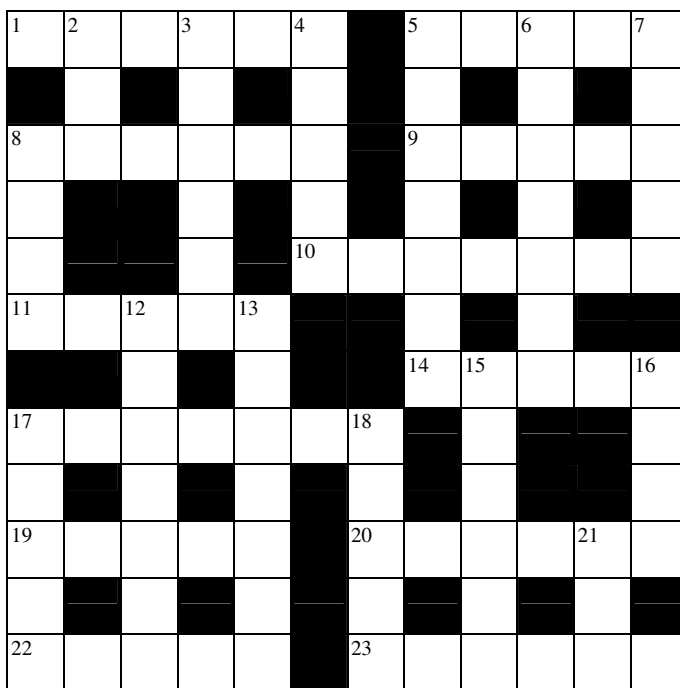
CHURCH FLOWERS

Flowers in September were donated by the Russian Orthodox Church, the families of those who were ordained at the end of the month and everyone who made contributions towards Doors Open Day and Harvest. There is still some money left for the Harvest decorations.

We shall be decorating the church for Harvest on Saturday 11 October from 10.30 a.m. Please come and help. No skill required.

Eileen Maitland

ST BRIDE'S CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Bell ringer (6)
 5 Caper to go over again (5)
 8 Fat goat (6)
 9 Purse (anagram) (5)
 10 Is she big trouble? (7)
 11 Possibly "Clydesdale" (5)
 14 Goat, but couldn't be an 8 across (5)
 17 Upside down in poetry (7)
 29 Type of Greek architecture (5)
 20 A cooling post (6)
 22 "Silly" birds (5)
 23 River of China (6)

Down

- 2 Flightless bird (3)
 3 Names of bird man (6)
 4 Opera by Bellini (5)
 5 Nationality (7)
 6 In a pact (anagram) (7)
 7 Danger of ripe fifty (5)
 8 HBOS in trouble – nonsense! (4)
 12 Income about meeting place (7)
 13 Are each possibly painful (7)
 15 Cunning (6)
 16 "My ... is easy and my burden is light" (Matthew 11.30)
 17 The best bit "on the cake" (5)
 28 Dark wood (5)
 21 Dove sound (3)

Compiled by Lily Bland
Solution next month

THE EDITOR WRITES ...

Space limitations prevent us from printing the Bishop's report to the Diocesan Council on the recent Lambeth Conference in this month's magazine. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact me. The report can be e-mailed to you as a PDF file or we can produce a hard copy if you prefer.

This is the time of year when we are looking for volunteers to join the counting rota. This is not an onerous task: counting the collection takes about ten minutes in the Sacristy after the Sunday service, and the servers always provide convivial company. The quicker you count, the better is the chance of there being some coffee and biscuits left downstairs afterwards. The more people who volunteer, the fewer are the number of occasions each person will be called upon throughout the year. Please let me know if you can help.

My thanks to everyone who has written for this month's *Oystercatcher*, especially our less-frequent contributors Andrew and Veronica. I would welcome contributions from any of the newer members of our congregation: handwritten copy is quite acceptable, though contributions on disk or by e-mail are even better, as they save re-typing which minimises the risk of errors.

At the end of this year we shall (DV) be celebrating twenty years of unbroken monthly publication of *The Oystercatcher*. It is good to welcome Lily Bland back as our crossword compiler after a period of illness, and we look forward to her contributions continuing into our third – and Lily's tenth! - decade.

And, with another hat on, my thanks to everyone who has helped in the production of the papers for the Annual Congregational Meeting. In particular, St Bride's is indebted to Helen Purchase, who succumbed to my advances, and those of one or two others, and agreed to be our Treasurer for two years. During those two years, and despite heavy professional and family commitments, Helen has devoted more time to our financial affairs than most of us fully appreciate. She has never missed a deadline for *The Oystercatcher* and has provided much-needed coffee and carrot cake to accompany cheque-signing and budgetary sessions. Thank you, Helen, for all your help.

As you will read elsewhere in this month's *Oystercatcher*, Choral Evensong will be sung in St Bride's on Sunday 26 October at 6.00 p.m. Please do support this service if you can. The choir is keen to make Choral Evensong a regular feature on the St Bride's calendar, but we need the support of the congregation to make this worthwhile.

Jonathan Lord

Music List - October 2008			
5	SUNDAY The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST <i>Leighton Communion Service in D</i> Psalm 19 <i>Bruckner Locust iste</i> Hymns 408, 86, 292, 486
12	SUNDAY Harvest Festival The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST <i>Batten Short Communion Service</i> Psalm 23 <i>Greene Thou Visitest the Earth</i> Hymns 259, 262, 300, 413
19	SUNDAY The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity	10.30	SUNG EUCHARIST <i>Cabena Mass in the Dorian Mode</i> Psalm 99 <i>Mendelssohn Above all praise</i> Hymns 52, 388, 313, 443
26	SUNDAY The Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity	10.30 18.00	SUNG EUCHARIST <i>Darke Communion Service in E</i> Psalm 90, vv 1-6, 13-17 <i>Duruflé Ubi caritas</i> Hymns 377, 431, 302, 467 CHORAL EVENSONG <i>Sumsion in A</i> <i>Howells Like as the Hart</i>

Hon. Assistant Priest:
Sydney Maitland

Organist & Choirmaster: David Spottiswoode
Assistant Organist & Choirmaster: Dr Stuart Campbell

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2008

			Wednesday 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3	Saturday 4
			17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	10.00 Eucharist		
Sunday 5 <i>Trinity 20</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist	Monday 6 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 7	Wednesday 8 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist 19.30 Vestry meeting	Thursday 9 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 10	Saturday 11
Sunday 12 <i>Harvest</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist 12.00 Lunch	Monday 13 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 14	Wednesday 15 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Thursday 16 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 17	Saturday 18
Sunday 19 <i>Trinity 22</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist	Monday 20 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 21	Wednesday 22 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist 19.00 Vestry meeting	Thursday 23 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 24	Saturday 25 10.00 Cleaning session 12.00 Healing service
Sunday 26 <i>Trinity 23</i> 10.30 Sung Eucharist 18.00 Choral Evensong	Monday 27 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Tuesday 28	Wednesday 29 17.30 Evensong 18.00 Eucharist	Thursday 30 10.00 Eucharist	Friday 31	

ROTAS

Date	Coffee	Counting
5 October	Veronica Matthew Betty Wright	Mary Sillitto Elizabeth Black
12 October	Jeannette Fenyő June Roach	Christopher Black Andrew Lockyer
19 October	Anne Currie David Fergus	Anne Currie Michael Rae
26 October	Jan Carlisle Brian Carlisle	Jonathan Lord Alison Gifford

: READINGS AT THE SUNG EUCHARIST

5 October <i>Trinity 20</i>	Exodus 20, v 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Philippians 3, v 4-14 Matthew 21, v 33-46
12 October <i>Harvest</i> <i>Trinity 21</i>	Exodus 32, v 1-14 Philippians 4, v 1-9 Matthew 22, v 1-14
19 October <i>Trinity 22</i>	Exodus 33, v 12-23 1 Thessalonians 1, v 1-10 Matthew 22, v 15-22
26 October <i>Trinity 23</i>	Deuteronomy 34, v 1-12 1 Thessalonians 2, v 1-8 Matthew 22, v 34-46

THE OYSTERCATCHER

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Publication date is the first Sunday of each month; copy deadline is the last Sunday of the month. The Oystercatcher is the bird traditionally known as "the servant of St Bride". Contributions can be sent to the Editor or left in the folder at the back of the church. As the folder isn't checked every week, post, fax or e-mail are best for urgent contributions.

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

October

1	Wed	Feria	Diocese of Brechin
2	Thur	Feria	Publishers
3	Fri	Feria	ActionAid
4	Sat	Francis of Assisi	Society of St Francis
5	Sun	Trinity 20	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
6	Mon	William Tyndale	Cornerstone Bookshops
7	Tues	Feria	Paramedics
8	Wed	Feria	Victims of human trafficking
9	Thur	Feria	U.N
10	Fri	Feria	Religious
11	Sat	Feria	Prison staff and inmates
12	Sun	Harvest; Trinity 21	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
13	Mon	Feria	Farming industry
14	Tues	Feria	Glasgow colleges
15	Wed	Feria	Lone parents
16	Thur	Feria	Castle Douglas, St Ninian
17	Fri	Ignatius of Antioch	Scottish Bible Society
18	Sat	Luke, Evangelist	Local nursing homes
19	Sun	Trinity 22	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
20	Mon	Feria	The Anglican Communion
21	Tues	Feria	Churches and people of Israel and Palestine
22	Wed	Feria	Shopworkers
23	Thur	Feria	Dumfries, St John
24	Fri	Feria	Hospitals – patients and staff
25	Sat	Feria	Merchant Navy
26	Sun	Trinity 23	Life and Ministry of St Bride's
27	Mon	Feria	USPG
28	Tues	Simon and Jude, Apostles	Churches and people of Iran
29	Wed	Feria	Artists
30	Thur	Feria	The Vestry
31	Fri	Feria	All vacant charges

November

1	Sat	All Saints	Witnesses to Truth
2	Sun	Trinity 24	Life and Ministry of St Bride's