

# THE STEEPLE

Craiglockhart Church

March 2026



**Christ makes  
all things  
new at Easter**

## **What's Inside:**

Our Easter Services  
What's on this Spring  
Tearfund team in  
Burundi



**The  
Steeple**

Newsletter of Craiglockhart Parish Church

## A new Easter



Do you have traditions for Easter time? Do you have an easter egg hunt in the garden for the children or grandchildren (or the grown-up children who don't want to grow up!) Do you have the family round for a meal or have a day trip on Easter Monday. Has Easter become familiar, comfortable like an old chair or old clothes.

Christ is making all things new at Easter.

The two great Easter events, the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross and the resurrection of the body of Christ from the grave, together they form the turning point of all creation. Now that Christ has died and is risen nothing is the same, everything is made new.

Christ is King. The word 'christ' represents anointing, the one who is King. At Easter Jesus of Nazareth, the eternal Son of the everlasting Father is displayed before all creation as the anointed one, the King in God's Kingdom. All the old kingdoms, all our previous ways of trying to satisfy ourselves or make ourselves right with God have passed away, they are no more. There is a new King in a new Kingdom.

The good news of this new Easter is that you are invited, you are included. King Jesus knows you and loves you and will welcome you into his new Kingdom.

The shame of your rebellion against God is replaced by reconciliation with your Father. The burden of guilt from your self-centred living is made new in the freedom of gracious service of others. The despair of an empty life is renewed by stepping out from the old life into the new life of God's Kingdom.

Christ is making all things new at Easter.

The all things include – the renewal of creation, the arrival of God's Kingdom, the work of generous grace. The all things include you. You are made new by the death of Christ on the cross. You are made new by the resurrection of Christ from the grave. God has turned the world upside down for you. Christ died and conquered death for you. The Holy Spirit of God is poured out for you.

Take one step. Just one step towards Jesus this Easter and see how he will make you brand new.

May God bless you this Easter time.

**Gordon Kennedy, Minister**

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Just add your e mail address to the subscribe button on our website Homepage.**

# Tearfund Visit to Burundi



Tearfund team visiting work supported by Tearfund in Burundi. Burundi is a landlocked country, about 27,800 square kilometres with a population of about 14 million. In contrast Scotland is about 78,800 square kilometres with a population of about 5.5 million.

Tearfund works in Burundi through partnerships with local churches. The development programme Church and Community Transformation (CCT) brings together local churches who are trained to serve their local communities for renewal and transformation.

I visited one village where the local church had used its resources to build four shops, including a small grocer shop and a barber shop to serve the village. The church then purchased a sewing machine and set up a tailoring business and now have three sewing machines giving employment and services to the community.

Following times of community violence CCT works to bring peace into communities, reconciliation into families. Local churches are trained to bring healing and renewal to victims

# tearfund

*Following Jesus where the need is greatest*

of Gender Based Violence which is sadly rife in Burundi.

There are many more testimonies to transformation I heard in Burundi. At the church we are planning a Saturday coffee morning at which I will show slides and share more news of my visit to Burundi. At time of writing a date for this has not been fixed. Please watch out for news of this.





# Welcome to Craiglockhart Parish Church

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## Listen to our services – just head to our website [www.craiglockhartchurch.org](http://www.craiglockhartchurch.org)

All of our services are available via our website, [www.craiglockhartchurch.org](http://www.craiglockhartchurch.org). On the homepage you will find two buttons (see below). The first will take you to our YouTube channel where recent services can be viewed. If you would like to see any of our services from previous weeks please get in touch at [office@craiglockhartchurch.org](mailto:office@craiglockhartchurch.org) and we will be happy to send them to you.

The second button takes you to a website that hosts the audio of sermons from our services. You can listen on the site or download them, and the website provides a transcript. There is also a link to the bible passage which opens up at [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com).

We also have a growing archive of sermons from previous years which we are adding to all the time. If you have any questions, please contact [office@craiglockhartchurch.org](mailto:office@craiglockhartchurch.org).

### Listen to our services

All our services are recorded and you can access them using the buttons below. The latest service livestream can be found on our YouTube channel, our other livestreamed services can be accessed by emailing [office@craiglockhartchurch.org](mailto:office@craiglockhartchurch.org). You can also find our sermon archive here containing sermon series from this year and previous years.

[Link to latest service on YouTube](#)

[Link to sermon audio](#)



## Share the Easter story with your loved ones this Easter

Why not gift an Easter Egg with a Mission this year. Not for sale in supermarkets but you can order online at [www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk) or by calling their order line on 01925 877004.

## What's happening at Craiglockhart

Save the date – bring Family and Friends, all very welcome



### Talking Jesus

Talking Jesus is a six week course which helps us confidently share our faith.

**We start on Wednesday 22nd April at 7.30pm**

The course consists of short films and time to chat, ask questions and share experiences.

It's for everyone who feels that they need a bit of help with this important part of our Christian life.

Here is how the organisers describe the course.

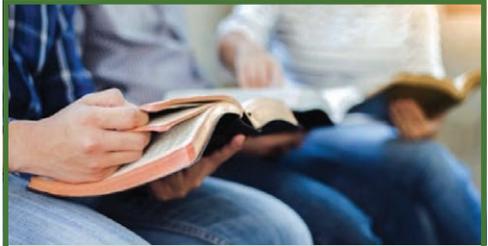
#### Talking Jesus

*Research and resources to encourage and equip you to be Talking Jesus*

*Don't go into faith conversations blind. Discover research into the state of faith in the UK, and evangelism tools and resources based on the findings, to effectively reach people for Jesus in today's cultural context.*

#### Talking Jesus

If you have any questions or for more information contact Gordon McBurnie, [gordon@craiglockhartchurch.org](mailto:gordon@craiglockhartchurch.org)



### Thursday Morning Bible Study 10.30 to 11.30 – all welcome

Reading the Bible on your own can be daunting as questions form in your mind. Why not join the Thursday morning Bible study group? We do not have all the answers but sharing our thoughts often opens our minds to hear God's word for us today. Want to give it a try? Here are the dates of the next meetings and what we will be looking at.

9 April Revelations 17

23 April Revelations 18

14 May Revelation 19

28 May Revelation 20

11 June Revelation 21

25 June Revelation 22

*All welcome at any or all sessions*

# *Easter Services*

## **Palm Sunday Service**

**29th March 10.30am**

Join us for the start of Holy Week as we welcome Jesus as the crowds welcomed him on his entry to Jerusalem

## **Palm Sunday Readings and music from the Choir**

**6.30pm**

In this service we will share readings from the Old and New Testament that led towards the events of Holy Week. Our choir will perform some pieces and lead us in worship

## **Maundy Thursday Service**

**2nd April 7pm**

This service will include communion and will reflect on the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples.

## **Good Friday**

**3rd April 2pm (Afternoon Tea and Service)**

Join us for some refreshments which will be followed by a service thinking about Jesus saving death on the cross and how it leads us to the hope and joy of the resurrection.

## **Easter Sunday**

**5th April Early Morning Service 8am**

A short service to welcome Easter Sunday and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Followed by tea/coffee and croissants

## **Easter Sunday Service**

**5th April 10.30am**

We join together to give thanks for the glorious resurrection of Jesus.

# **HOLIDAY CLUB**

**POLWARTH CHURCH**

**7TH - 10TH APRIL 2026**

**10-12.30**

Join us for 4 days of fun with games, crafts, bible stories, chat, snacks, messy games and lots more

The cost will be £10 for four days

To book use the QR code or this link

<https://form.jotform.com/253015162036344>

Booking now open

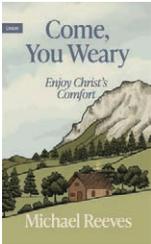


For more information or if you have any questions email  
[polwartholidayclub@gmail.com](mailto:polwartholidayclub@gmail.com)



## Book Group

Our book group are meeting on **Monday 11th May** starting at 7.30pm, and this time we are going to look at two short books. We have copies of both books available and if you would like to get copies, see Gordon McBirnie



The first is **Come you weary by Michael Reeves**. Are you weary? Does the Christian life feel like drudgery? What can lift you up, cure your cold and flattened heart, and fill you with deep and lasting joy?

The reality is that we will only be as full as the well we drink from, and many of us drink from very shallow wells indeed. This book is an invitation to every thirsty Christian, however weary and flat you are feeling, however weak and unworthy you consider yourself, to come to the waters and drink deeply. You will do this as you contemplate the sight, the vision, that transforms from glory to glory.



The second book is **Futureproof by Stephen McAlpine**. How the gospel equips Christians to live confidently for Christ in an increasingly secular society, facing the challenges of the future with confidence.

We are living in a time of rapid cultural change, when Christian views are often seen as outdated and even dangerous. This can leave us feeling anxious about how to live out what we believe and uncertain about the future of the church. In this book, Steve explores where things are heading and what we can do about that now, both as individuals and as a church. He examines secular narratives about purpose and authenticity, connectedness and progress, and compares them to the promises made by the Bible. He shows that the Bible offers a more satisfying, more realistic, and more hopeful vision of the future.



**JIGSAW GROUP**

**Craiglockhart**

**Church**

**Weekly on**

**Thursdays**

**All ages,  
all welcome**

**2-4pm**



**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**

**10th-16th MAY**

Christian Aid Week has always been a special time in Craiglockhart Parish and once again we take part with our House to House Collection. Look out for the familiar wee red envelope coming through your door and consider filling in the Gift Aid form too. Please return your envelope to the Church, there is a letterbox on the side door. **You can also use the card reader after our Sunday Morning Service to make your donation.**



## Craiglockhart Church Guild

Our Guild's regular Wednesday meetings finish with our AGM on the 18th March and we are already preparing another interesting and fun programme for next session beginning on 7th October at 2:00.

We have enjoyed a great variety of talks, quizzes, food and worship this year and look forward to our Spring Outing on 13th May. All this whilst learning about and supporting our current Projects. The sum of £143,058.94 has been raised by Guilds throughout Scotland in 2025. More about these Projects can be found on our noticeboard in the Large Hall or The Guild Website.

It was a pleasure to have new members join us over the past months and a warm welcome awaits if you would like to join us when the new session starts on 7th October.

**In the meantime, we look forward to having your company at our Afternoon Teas on the 1st Wednesday of June, July and August from 2:00-4:00 in the Large Hall. All are welcome to come and enjoy good chat and of course some home baking with your cuppa.**



Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer.

### Dates for your Diary:

<b>Wednesday 13th May</b>	<b>Spring Outing</b>
<b>Wednesday 3rd June</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>
<b>Wednesday 1st July</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>
<b>Wednesday 5th August</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>
<b>Wednesday 7th October</b>	<b>Opening Meeting – 2pm</b>



## Spring Strawberry Tea

**Saturday 30 May 2.30 - 4.30 in the Church grounds, weather permitting but inside if not possible.** Various strawberry delights will be served with tea and coffee. No tickets required but please sign up on the sheet on the Stewardship Notice Board if you want to come. Donations can be made on the day.



## Produce Stall

Sunday 7 June & Sunday 6 September



After the service in the large hall. We are looking for the usual donations of home baking, tablet, fudge, lemon curd, marmalade and jams. The latter sell very well! **Please hand donations into the hall before the service but be sure to come for coffee afterwards to make your purchases.**

## Health and Well-Being' Showcase Event

Saturday 11 July, 10.30am - 1.30pm  
*Save the Date*

'Health and Wellbeing' is being organised by Craiglockhart Community Council to be held at the Craiglockhart Church hall on Saturday 11 July 10.30am - 1.30 pm. The event plans to bring together communities and organisations involved in Health and Wellbeing such as local physiotherapists, sport, fitness and leisure centres, as well as organisations promoting outside activities such as walking, talking and cycling.

The main hall will be the venue for the table-top displays where you can talk and chat to the organisations promoting Health and Well-being. Taster sessions in Yoga, Pilates and Meditation will be on offer. And of course there will be some healthy refreshments on offer. The event is still in the planning phase. If you require further information please contact Craiglockhart Community Council at [CraiglockhartCC@gmail.com](mailto:CraiglockhartCC@gmail.com) or through the website [www.craiglockhart.org](http://www.craiglockhart.org).

## Annual Outing Friday 4 September

### Abbotsford

*The home of Sir Walter Scott*



Leaving the church at **10.30** to travel by coach - returning back to the church for **6pm** at the latest

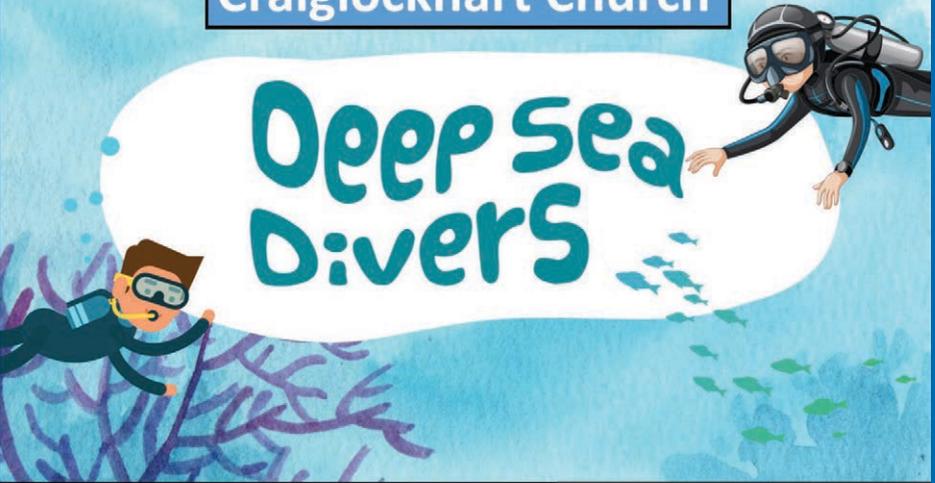
The cost which will be confirmed will include:

- **Coach there and back**
- **Lunch of Soup and sandwiches in Ochiltrees Cafe in the Visitor Centre**
- **Guided Tour of Abbotsford**

We will also have the opportunity to have a wander around the property again, go to the Visitor's Centre, the Gift Shop, explore the gardens and have coffees/ teas in the Cafe.

Craiglockhart Church

# Deep Sea Divers



**27th—31st July**

**10-12.30**

We hope you can join us for our Deep Sea Divers Holiday Club at Craiglockhart Church this summer.

We will have games, crafts, songs, team challenges, and a messy challenge.

We will share some fantastic bible stories and have some great chat.

This holiday club is for anyone who will finish P1 to P7 this year

The cost will be £10 per person for the week and will include a snack

Booking will open on 1st May but please contact, [ourholidayclub01@gmail.com](mailto:ourholidayclub01@gmail.com) to let us know you would like to reserve a space or with any questions.



**Music at  
Craiglockhart  
Saturday October 3**

# **The Sorries Folk Duo**

**The Sorries Folk Duo THE SORRIES are Douglas Kay (vocals, guitar, bodhran, mandolin) and Martin Philip (vocals, guitar, bodhran, tres).**

The duo sing, play and banter their way through a show which features a host of traditional tunes from the much-loved Scottish songbook, as well as some songs gathered from the oral tradition and a few original compositions.

The two formed The Sorries following a conversation during a tour of the Highlands where both Martin and Douglas were performing as part of separate projects. Coming from very different musical backgrounds, Kay and Philip discovered a shared love for the music of The Corries. Over a bottle of whisky they decided that the duo is still an ideal format in which to present so many of the sensational folk songs in which Scotland is so rich.

**Tickets will be available nearer the time but save the date for another great evening of music in the church sanctuary For further details contact [kathleengrandison@gmail.com](mailto:kathleengrandison@gmail.com) or call :07870193721**

## **Keep up with what's going on at Craiglockhart**

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- Insta [craiglockhart\\_parish\\_church](https://www.instagram.com/craiglockhart_parish_church)
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**For all enquiries to the Church or Minister please contact [office@craiglockhartchurch.org](mailto:office@craiglockhartchurch.org) or call 0131-455-8229**