

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH NEWS

The church that welcomes one and all with closed doors (temporarily)

Blair Country

Sam Blair writes, I captured this view of Giffard Bay looking towards the Governor's Fort whilst Lauren and I were out for a ramble. The sea was the most unbelievable shade of blue – I am quite sure that Sheila would have been in there in a trice given half a chance! Even for a non-sea swimmer such as myself I was sorely tempted!

It never ceases to amaze me what a spectacular coastline we have – how lucky are we that only a short hop from our front doors we have such captivating scenery. I do hope that some of you are now able to get out and about a little bit more to see things for yourselves. Until next week – Sam x



Sinclair Calling...

Musings from home by Jim Sinclair, Unlucky for some 13 as they say in Bingo or as my old Maw used to call it Housey Housey. Thirteen weeks not out then but the news just keeps getting better. It was inch by inch, now it's foot by foot we are advancing back to normality. I was out last week for the first time, outside in Colomberie having a Thai meal and suitable refreshments accompanied by two Scots and an Ulsterman. You can imagine how the world was put to rights. It was a joy. One of the guys had been stranded in Coatbrig for eleven, yes eleven, weeks with the pubs shut. Everything was shut, he has never walked or cycled as much using the new walk and cycleway built alongside the reopened Airdrie to Bathgate railway which closed in 1956. According to him the lockdown was much more severe in Scotland than we have had to endure. On another happy note we have had the weans in our house which is the first time since March. They were overjoyed to be with us, as we were so they were here, they very chatty and one of them very noisy. We very much noticed the quietness in the house during the last three months. Now life returns in all its fullness, well nearly all its fullness, still no cuddles. Plenty smiles though.

[Will we get a photo of the cuddles when they come? Ed.]

Classifieds

Columba Kids! - A new twenty-minute online church for children starting this week. Contact our minister for how to join!

Jackie, Gill and Caroline News

Hurrah! For the first time ever, the quiz master has won. We had a record number of entries to our "Guess the Landmark" quiz, but no one got all the correct answers.

We only had one correct entry (Caroline) to this question: "It's been known as an entertainment venue for 350 years and one of the buildings on its perimeter has over 1,600 seats. It is mentioned in the song "Its a long way to Tipperary" and on the Monopoly board it is yellow. The nearest tube station is Leicester Square.'

The answer was: Leicester Square [Groan. Ed.]

We only had two correct entries (Gill and Alan) to this question: "It's in the middle of an ocean but you can get there by motorbike - with no need for lights half the time. GMT? BST? It really could be any time there."

The answer was: the North Pole [Question could have been phrased better. Ed.]

Answers: 1. Corbiere Lighthouse, 2. Leicester Square, 3. Everest, 4. Mount Rushmore, 5. Sydney Opera House, 6. North Pole, 7. Springfield Stadium, 8. Empire State Building , 9. Lake Victoria, 10. Louvre

This Week's Competition

Given we are a church magazine, it seems appropriate to finally have a quiz about churches. So, simply find the answers to the ten clues below:

1. Built on an island and founded in 563 by St Columba. It was and remains an influential centre for the spread of Christianity in Scotland. Former Labour leader John Smith is buried in its grounds.
2. Her first classical album, Voice of an Angel, sold millions worldwide. She was twelve at the time. Born in Llandaff.
3. Built on an island and largely complete by 1260. Our Lady is perhaps best known as the setting of a story written by a one-time Jersey resident about a kind-hearted man who was treated as a monster.
4. Surname of youngest ever flight commander whose first names are James Tiberius. Born in Riverside, Iowa on 22 March, 2228 but lived for a time on Tarsus IV.

5. It's on the side of a public square and is regarded as a cultural symbol of a country. The building is shaped like the flame of a bonfire rising into the sky. Ivan the Terrible commissioned it.
6. Winner of Nobel Prize in Literature and a former Liberal Member of Parliament for Dundee. His support for trade unions was described by the Daily Mail as "radicalism of the reddest kind." An accomplished bricklayer, he was a member of the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers until being expelled upon re-joining the Conservative party.
7. Built on an island and over 100,000 people visit it each year. It's roof is corrugated iron and the sanctuary's light holders are corned beef tins. Italian construction and design and yet less than 50 miles north of Caithness.
8. A thoroughfare close to Lord's cricket ground. The recording studio at its south eastern end is now a listed building. Seemingly an easy road to cross.
9. Used as a location for Bergerac. Commissioned as part of a rebuilding programme following a great fire. One wedding there - around the time of Bergerac - was watched by 750 million people.
10. Built on an island with around 25 permanent inhabitants and visited by 3m people each year. It was declared a *monument historique* in 1874 and the angel Michael is on top of its spire.

And finally...

"Thinking of You" - a type of rose spotted by Lynda Lowseck in Howard Davis Park.



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