

# ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH NEWS

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

## Lockdown News



Last week, you may recall, members of the congregation invited you to respond to five questions (anonymously if you prefer) about your experience of lockdown. We will print responses each week. First up, **Gill Lanyon:**

*1. Have you developed a new or existing hobby?*

I've used the months of lockdown to do my husband Dave's family tree, it's been an amazing journey and great fun and has filled many days. 6

*2. Have you a special appreciation for a thing/person(s) that/who made your time in lockdown easier?*

I'm lucky to be married to someone who is fun to be with even in the most difficult of times and being at home for many weeks with him has been a pleasure. Zoom and FaceTime have also made keeping in touch easy.

*3. What are you looking forward to doing as the lockdown eases?*

I would love to go swimming again in a warm pool, the sea is too cold for me.

*4. Have you felt God's presence more strongly/less strongly over the weeks?*

I have felt God's presence more; as your physical life shrinks your spiritual life grows.

*5. Is there anything you wish to carry on doing as lockdown eases?*

I'm going to spend far more time enjoying nature and listening to the birds. A new appreciation of the beauty of the island.

[Thanks Gill, that was great. Others feel free to send in your answers. Ed.]

## Blair Country

**Sam Blair writes,** Dear All, I have not ventured very far afield over the last week but I have gone a little bit further than outside my kitchen window which is where this photo was taken! My late father gave me these flowers



well over ten years ago and they faithfully reappear year after year in all their splendour. They are such a wonderful colour – I think of them as my 'happy flowers' because they make me smile. Until next week. Sam x

## Competition News

Great answers again to last week's "20 Questions." Largest animal in the wild on the Channel Islands? The humble rabbit.

Which city is the furthest west out of Bristol - on the west coast - or Edinburgh - on the east coast of the UK? The answer is strangely Edinburgh. There was only 100% correct entry this week. Congratulations to our esteemed Session Clerk!

Answers: 1. Irn Bru, 2. Rabbit, 3. India Pale Ale, 4. Peso, 5. Erinsborough, 6. Beach Boys, 7. Berlin, 8. Holland, 9. Ready to Wear [Eat. Ed.], 10. Edinburgh, 11. Norwegian, 12. Arkwright, 13. Gunther, 14. 6, 15. Mercury, 16. Leaf, 17. Wobbles, 18. West Virginia, 19. Shadows, 20. Van Gogh.

## This Week's Competition

Multiple choice this week:

1. Channel Island closest to France?  
A. Jersey, B. Brecqhou, C. Sark, D. Alderney
2. Julius Caesar said "the die is cast" after crossing which river?  
A. Danube, B. Rubicon, C. Thames, D. Tiber
3. What is the planet's lowest country?  
A. Mauritius, B. Holland, C. Maldives, D. Switzerland
4. What continent covers the largest area?  
A. Asia, B. North America, C. Africa, D. South America
5. What is the only metal that is liquid at normal room temperature?  
A. Lead, B. Reinforced steel, C. Uranium, D. Mercury
6. What is the loudest animal on earth?  
A. Elephant, B. Blue whale, C. Lion, D. Ladybird
7. First person to reach space?  
A. Tereshkova, B. Gagarin, C. Shepard, D. Livingstone
7. Can you hear sounds in space?

A. *Yes*, B. *No*, C. *Depends on weather*, D. *Sometimes*

8. Name the country where no snakes exist?

A. *Ireland*, B. *India*, C. *Iraq*, D. *Italy*

9. Other than eggs, main ingredient in Eggs Florentine?

A. *Ham*, B. *Salmon*, C. *Spinach*, D. *Baked Beans*

10. Which of these chess figures is closely related to "Bohemian Rhapsody"?

A. *King*, B. *Pawn*, C. *Queen*, D. *Bishop*

## **Sinclair Calling...**

**Musings from home by Jim Sinclair**, Well, I think I can dispense with the week count now as our internment - there are worse places to be interned by the way - draws to a close. Some reasons to celebrate, communal and personal. Firstly, reduced timetable off island travel is available from 1st July and I have availed myself of this restored freedom by booking a boys' trip to London on 6th July for 2 nights. Secondly, and this is very personal, on the first of July 1995 James Benson Sinclair, only son of James and Matilda Sinclair of Coatbridge and Christel Frances Henderson, elder daughter of Clarence and Thelma Henderson of Jersey were married by the Reverend Robert Nicol in St Columba's Church of Scotland, St Helier. So it was our Silver Wedding on Wednesday past. And the doomsayers said it wouldn't or couldn't last! Including me by the way. Some may think that strange but I didn't think Christel would put up with me. Robert said he put his 'sign' on the wedding so we would be alright. And we have. We have supported each other through bad times and good. Many loved ones who were there have since cast off the raiment of existence. You realise that when you look at the wedding album. Many laughs, a few tears. When we were 'winching strong' we went to New York for a long weekend. We attended the massive (and wealthy) Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church and signed the visitors' book. Blow me down, the week after, Sheila Cruickshank attended the same church and saw our names in the book. Just proves there are no secrets anywhere in the world - not that it was a secret of course but you get my drift.

## **Classifieds**

**Congratulations!**- to Christel and Jim Sinclair on your Silver Wedding Anniversary! Love from all your friends at St Columba's.

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