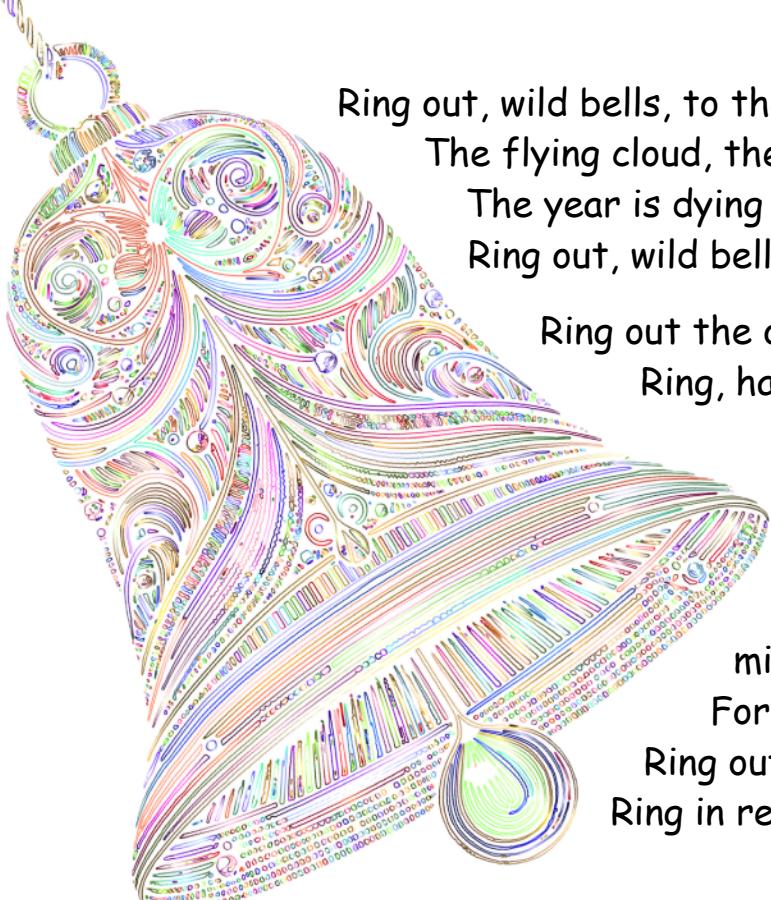


# Glasgow Unitarians

## News & Views January



Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The flying cloud, the frosty light:  
The year is dying in the night;  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the  
mind  
For those that here we see no more;  
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in redress to all mankind

Ring out a slowly dying cause,  
And ancient forms of party strife;  
Ring in the nobler modes of life,  
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,  
The faithless coldness of the times;  
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes  
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and  
blood  
The civic slander and the spite;  
Ring in the love of truth and right,

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the  
valiant man and free,  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land.

# Programme & Notices

All Sunday morning services will start at 11 am. The services will be available to view on Zoom. Unitarian House will also be open for those able to join in person. A link will be sent to before each service.

## January 2026

Sunday 4 January - 11am Live streaming from Kensington Unitarians

7.00pm on Zoom led by Rev Tony McNeile

Sunday 11 January - 11.00am Roddy Macpherson

Sunday 18 January - 11.00am - Mehdi Saki "Reflections on a Life" in conversation with Alison Spurway

Sunday 25 January - 11.00am Alastair Moodie: The tragic state of the Holy Land"

## February 2026

Sunday 1 February - 11.00am - Live streaming from Edinburgh Unitarians

Sunday 1 February - 7.00pm led by Ali Briggs

Other Events:

**Tuesday Morning at 11am on Zoom** — Barry Bell will host the usual Coffee Mornings all are welcome to join.

**Wednesday at 7pm on Zoom** - The Wednesday Group will continue to meet to discuss interesting topics.

**Saturday 17th January at 2pm**

On Zoom and in person - The induction of the new minister in Edinburgh.  
Reverend Janine Sim. (See invitation on page 3)





**You** are warmly invited to St. Mark's to celebrate the Induction of **Rev. Janine Sim** as the new Minister of St. Mark's Unitarians in Edinburgh on **Saturday 17th January 2026 at 2pm.**

If you can attend, please reply as soon as possible, using the Eventbrite RSVP link below the invitation and for catering purposes, please let us know if you will be attending in person or online.

If you are unable to reply via Eventbrite and would like to attend, please tell someone on Council, the Ministry Team or Rev. Janine Sim and we'll add you to the guest list.

Please let us know on the day, if you would prefer not to be in photographs, which may later be used in our social media.

The invitation card is split into two columns. The left column features the St. Mark's Unitarians in Edinburgh logo (a purple chalice with a multi-colored flame) and text regarding RSVP instructions, including a link and contact information. The right column contains the main invitation details: the title 'INVITATION', the purpose 'TO CELEBRATE THE INDUCTION OF OUR NEW MINISTER', the name 'REVEREND JANINE SIM', the date and time '2PM, 17TH JANUARY 2026', and the location 'ST MARK'S UNITARIAN CHURCH, 7 CASTLE TERRACE, EDINBURGH, EH1 2DP, IN PERSON AND ON ZOOM'. The card has a light purple background and a decorative border on the right side.

 **St Mark's  
Unitarians  
in Edinburgh**

Please RSVP using the link below or by emailing Unitarians in Edinburgh, and let us know of any accessibility or dietary needs.

If you will be joining us online, please RSVP as well.

With love and thanks,  
All at St Mark's

[RSVP LINK](#)

**INVITATION**

TO CELEBRATE THE INDUCTION OF  
OUR NEW MINISTER

**REVEREND  
JANINE SIM**

2PM, 17TH JANUARY 2026

ST MARK'S UNITARIAN CHURCH  
7 CASTLE TERRACE  
EDINBURGH  
EH1 2DP  
IN PERSON AND ON ZOOM

The invitations has also be sent to you by email to enable you to use the links.

# Thank you | Tapadh leibh

A message of thanks from Trees for Life.

2025 has been a year of progress, action, and hope. A milestone year for rewilding in the Scottish Highlands.

**Trees for Life are taking** bold steps to restore nature at a landscape scale, bring back Scotland's missing species, and reconnect people with wild nature. Together, with supporters and volunteers they're shaping a wilder, nature-rich Scotland for generations to come.

They've continued their work collecting tree seed, growing and planting trees, and supporting natural regeneration to expand the native woodlands.

In October, trees for Life celebrated the historic return of beavers to Glen Affric, 400 years after their extinction in Scotland.

More people than ever connected with nature at Dundreggan Rewilding Centre, the first visitor attraction of its kind in the world, welcoming tens of thousands of visitors to experience rewilding in action.

## Progress in 2025

### Rewilding Landscapes

Breathing life back into our landscapes

- Completed our 1000th collection as part of the Tree Seed Collection Project and collected over 480kg or 2.7 million seeds this year which will enable about 1.8 million trees to be grown!
- Celebrated our unique Highland juniper and silver birch forest as part of the special European designation in a UK-first.
- Grew 30 different tree species at our nursery and produced 92,000+ trees for planting this year.
- Celebrated Rewilding Affric Highlands launching as its own charity - Britain's largest rewilding landscape.



## Missing Species

Returning Scotland's lost keystone species

- Released beavers in Glen Affric 400 years after extinction in Scotland, and engaged with communities to explore the potential return of beavers to Loch Ness area.



- Found that red squirrel range in Highlands has increased by over 25% following our major reintroduction project.

- Published a major report relating to potential reintroduction of lynx to Scottish Highlands.

## Rewilding People

Reconnecting people with wild nature

- Hosted 200+ volunteers on 23 Rewilding Weeks.
- Connected 60,000+ visitors from 53+ different countries with nature and rewilding at Dundreggan.

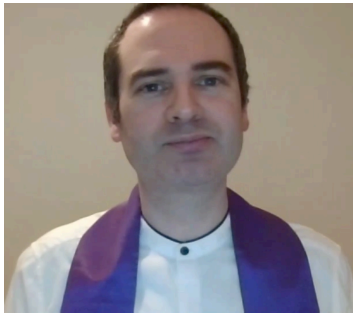


- Engaged with 22,000+ young people for Protecting our Planet Day 2025.

- Celebrated wins for people-led rewilding: MSPs voted to create a new hutting law and a new law requiring owners of large landholdings to set out biodiversity plans - a big step towards a Rewilding Nation.



# Recent Services in Glasgow Unitarian Church (November & December 2025)



Stephen Lingwood  
(the Advent of Hope)



Barry Bell (The most dangerous book ever written)



Stephanie Little (How can I keep from singing) & Margaret Macintyre McClymont



Charlie Dand (reflections on a Life) with Margaret Macintyre McClymont



Ruth Gregory (From Magic to Science)



Jim Millar



Ali Briggs (Day of the Dead)

# Glasgow Unitarians Christmas Service Sunday 21st December 2025

George, Charlie, Tom, Margaret P, with Margaret MM behind, Alison, Neil, John & Tris, on Zoom - Sheena, Keir, Stephanie & Ali.



Service led by Barbara Clifford



Tris, John, Barbara, Donald & Tom

## Reflections on the life.....so far..... of Charlie Dand.

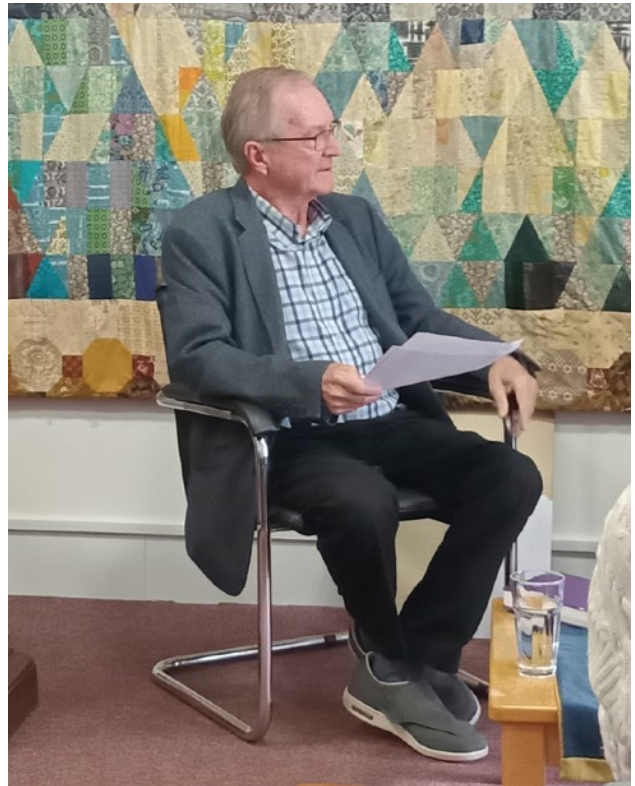
It was a pleasure to speak with Charlie last month. Charlie came from a Unitarian family, both parents being life long members of St. Vincent Street Church. Both he and his older sister Ann attended the Sunday School, their mother being one of the Sunday School Teachers. The family moved to Inverness, where his Accountant father was employed by North British Hotels.

Charlie recalled his mother coming to see the Head Teacher of his new school, Crown Street Primary, to state that Charlie should be excluded from religious prayers. Charlie said he didn't mind this. exclusion and probably occupied himself with reading or some other pursuit.

The family returned to Glasgow, because of his father's new employment opportunity.

Charlie became a Secondary School pupil at Jordanhill College School. He was very keen on sports, competing for the school in Rugby, Swimming and Tennis. He did well with his academic studies and decided to study Architecture at Jordanstone College of Art in Dundee, a long seven years ahead of him.

Charlie shared a flat, two stairs up, in a tenement building in Dundee. The accommodation was very basic, a shared toilet on the landing, cold water and no bath. Charlie went to the Wash House for a bath. He explained there were three classes of Wash House; his was third class, where the hot and cold taps were on the outside of the door and you had to shout to



get them turned off. First class had a shower and a bath with taps on the inside, but he couldn't afford such luxury.

Charlie continued playing Rugby while he was at the Art School. On one occasion he was knocked out, injured badly and required to be hospitalised. Once recovered, it was back to playing Rugby, a sport he follows to this day.

Charlie's sister Ann trained as a Midwife in Glasgow and not long after, emigrated to Australia, settling in Darwin. She continued her Midwifery working with the Aborigine people. Charlie and his wife Hilda have visited Ann on several occasions.

Charlie's father was a member of the Scottish Community Drama Association, presenting and appearing with the Glasgow Unitarian Players. Charlie brought along a photo of his father dressed in costume for some production and very dashing he looked. All this rubbed off on Charlie and he too became involved in theatrical pursuits and being responsible for stage settings.

In 1972 Charlie and Hilda were married. They have two daughters and one son, who now lives in Singapore. A grandson was welcomed into the family 12 years ago.

Charlie and Hilda have holidayed in numerous countries, the overall favourite being Egypt.

Charlie and his father were instrumental in the purchase of 72 Berkeley Street when Glasgow Unitarians needed a new home. Originally, Services were held on the top floor of the Berkeley Street building. The Trustees eventually agreed that moving to the ground floor would be more advantageous in making our presence felt and hopefully make it easier to welcome new members.

Charlie was responsible for drawing up the plans to create the new Worship Room which has proved to be a well loved space for many. new Worship Room, the design of which proved most successful. We are very fortunate in having Charlie as our present Treasurer and, as Property Manager, looking after Unitarian House most efficiently.

**Margaret Macintyre McClymont.**

## Women worth Talking About!

Lizzie Magie (Elizabeth J. Magie, American **game designer**, writer, feminist, and **Georgist**). In 1880s Lizzie Magie, worked as a **stenographer** and typist. She was also a short story writer, poetry writer, comedian, stage actress, feminist, and engineer. At 26, Magie received her first patent for an invention to improve the paper feed on typewriters.

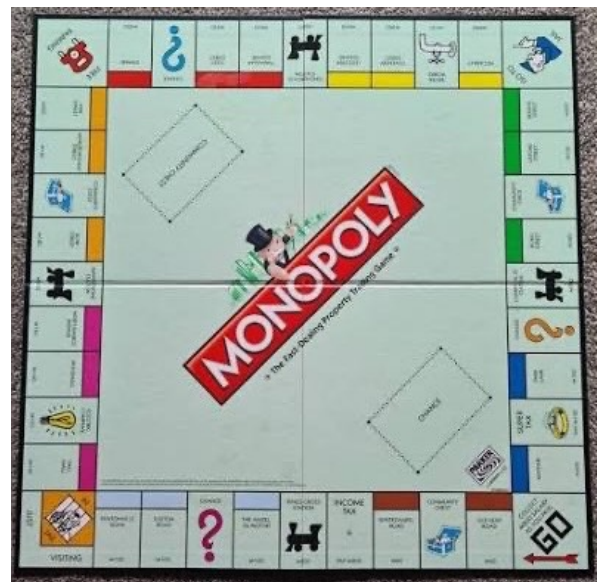
She was a champion of equality for all. To highlight the fact that only white men were truly free, (Who would have thought it?) she advertised in the local paper, to auction herself off as a "young woman American slave" looking for a husband to own her.



In 1904, Magie was granted a patent on a board game she invented. 'The Landlord's Game'

The game became increasingly popular with students at Harvard, Columbia, and University of Pennsylvania. Left-leaning middle-class families, and Quakers were all playing her board game).

Three decades after The Landlord's Game was invented, Parker Brothers published a modified version, known as "Monopoly". However, a man by the name of Charles Darrow claimed that he had invented it.



Although Parker Brothers were made aware of the deceit, they didn't give her credit for her idea, they compensated her by agreeing to publish two more of her games. Darrow was known as the inventor of Monopoly until the creator of the Anti-Monopoly game, discovered the truth.

Unfortunately, it was only after her death that the impact Magie had on many aspects of American culture and life, began to be appreciated.

Magie helped to popularise the circular board game. She contributed to the women's movement and black people's rights. She was educating others about her beliefs and understanding at a time when the contributions of women were largely disregarded. She published political material in newspapers to speak out against the oppression of women and black communities in the United States.

Excerpt from a 1906 National Tribune interview "Rebellion Against Condition,"

"I offered to sell myself to the highest bidder for the purpose of meeting some person who could place me where I belong in the ranks of the world's workers," she said with an angry gesture.

"What had my appearance to do with that?"

I don't want a husband. I don't want a person who will interest himself in me for personal reasons. I admit I seek an 'angel,' but I seek a financial one. I ask nothing more than a fair chance. I get \$10 a week as a stenographer now. That is no pay for a woman of ambition. I wish to be constructive, not a mere mechanical tool for transmitting a man's spoken thoughts to letter paper."



## REMINDER!

*Hi Folks - If you ever wonder why your monthly bulletin is late, it's usually because I don't have enough content and it takes time to fill 12 pages. This also impacts on interest and relevance, because while it's interesting to me, you may not feel the same. Articles can be about anything that interests you, something you heard in a service, something you've read, or just something you find interesting. pictures are welcome, too! Please also remember copyright rules, if in doubt ask, or just avoid content you're not sure about. Thanks Ali*

# Agape Lunch 28 December 2025

*Agape: the highest form of love as a choice, not out of attraction or obligation.*



Agape Originates from a Greek word meaning love or affection. Often used to describe unconditional or self-sacrificial love. Unitarians respond to it because it does not promise the impossible but simply reminds us of our responsibility for each other.

In his book "Religion for Atheists", Alain de Botton commends the practice of eating together. He regrets that secular societies have lost this tradition which assists in the forging of personal bonds and creates community.

Working with Margaret (Macintyre McClymont) to draw up the preaching schedule has been an act of love for this church and for each other.



We are both caring for rather frail husbands and this is our bond. In Africa the word Ubuntu is used for the kind of love which the Greeks called Agape. It is fundamental to a way of living encapsulated simply by saying: I am because we are. - Alison Spurway



Thanks to Kyle Cat and Rabat for sharing their hopes for 2026 and beyond. May all their hopes become their realities.