

# East End Episcopal Churches

(Incorporating St John's Baillieston, St Kentigern's Dennistoun and St Serf's Shettleston)

## Glasgow



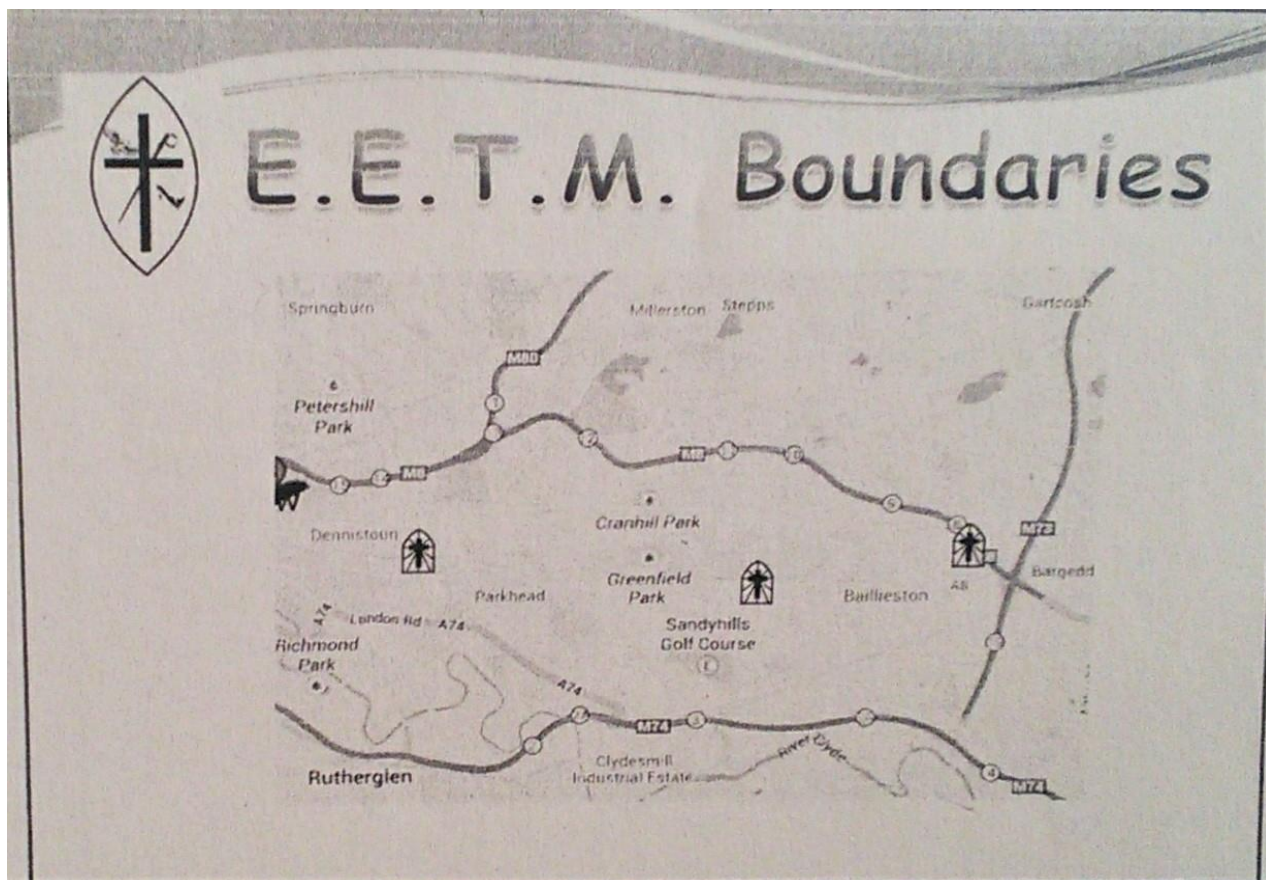
## Who are the East End Episcopal Churches?

When the churches in the East End of Glasgow all had a vacancy the Bishop, after many discussions, put forward the unique solution to create one Team with one stipendiary minister, one vestry and one set of finances to support the SEC in the East End.

As a result, St John's Baillieston, St Kentigern's Dennistoun and St Serf's Shettleston joined together and the East End Team Ministry was established in 1995.

Subsequently due to a change a review of our constitution was undertaken and it was agreed to change our name to the East End Episcopal Churches (EEEC)

The EEEC boundaries begin at High Street in the west to Baillieston in the east with Easterhouse in the north and Cambuslang in the south.



Within the boundaries there is a diverse range of communities

## MISSION STATEMENT

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit we, in the Glasgow East End Episcopal Churches, seek to create an atmosphere of welcome and acceptance where individuals are given the encouragement to grow in faith and love, to develop their personal gifts, and to share with others in a life of worship, prayer and action We are committed to the developing life of the Team. We will continue to be witnesses for the Gospel within our churches and in the communities in which we live and work

## OUR VALUES AND VISION

### Our Vision

To be a church for all in the community, to grow in the life of prayer as disciples of Jesus Christ.

### Our Values

Open-minded    Inclusive

Embracing      Nurturing

Caring           Supporting

Awareness      Other groups, the community and our profile

### Aims

We aim to be a church that welcomes and nourishes those who come to us.

To be loyal to one another through any challenges we face.

To be aware of other churches and groups in our areas.

# CHURCH LIFE

## Our Spiritual life

Our spiritual life is centred on our weekly services whether it is a Eucharist or Service of the Word. It finds expression in a variety of ways; for some people it is through the liturgy and the lectionary; for some through prayer; for some it is through the musical traditions that we have.

We aim to provide a place where anyone can come to discover or reaffirm their faith in Jesus Christ whether long or short term.

## Worship and Services

Our style of worship is Eucharistic in all three churches. Although we are a Team each congregation has maintained their individuality when it comes to liturgy.

St Kentigern's main Sunday service is at 9:00am using the 1970 liturgy and this service is now held within the St Serf's building.

Both St Serf's and St John's use the more modern 1982 liturgy for their main Sunday services which are held at 10:00am and 11:30 am respectively. Both churches are currently alternating between a sung Eucharist and Service of the Word.

There is also a midweek service which is open to all at 10:00am

As a Team on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of a month we get together for a sung Eucharist at 10:30am

We also come together for special services during Holy Week, Easter and Christmas.

## Music

We have dedicated organists and whenever necessary pre-recorded CDs are utilised. For Sunday services we use various hymn books mainly Mission Praise and the Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New.

## Our Congregations

Some members of our congregations have long established family connections to the churches, while others have said they settled in the East End Episcopal Churches because they found it welcoming but not overwhelming, which allowed them time and space to explore their faith.

We come from various Christian traditions Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Episcopalian and Anglican. We respect and appreciate each other in the body of Christ.

Glasgow is well known for its sectarian divide represented and perpetuated by many supporters of the two main football teams. While we as a church abhor sectarianism, we find ourselves as the common ground enabling for example couples who don't want to upset either side when getting married.

The congregational role for the EEEC is approximately 60 with the majority in their senior years. They live in a wide area around the east end with some who have moved out of the immediate area choosing to remain members of the EEEC family.

The average attendance within the team is 25 and there are 5 on the sick and housebound list.

## Lay Involvement

Lay members of the congregation are involved in various spiritual activities including:

Leading Service of the Word

Scripture Reading

Intercessions

Altar Servers

Home Communion / Visiting the sick,

North East Regional Council (Lay)

In addition to this they are also involved in;

Flower rota, Welcomers, General maintenance, General Sacristan duties

## Coping with the Pandemic

During lockdown we had an online service of Morning Prayer Monday to Thursday using the Daily Prayer book via our Facebook page. Our Sunday services were maintained by live streaming via Facebook. This was initially from the Rector's home and then when the clergy were allowed to go in to the buildings, from the church.

For those who could not access the live streamed services the liturgy and the sermon were sent out by post, ensuring everyone was kept informed and in touch.

As we would normally have had tea and coffee after the services, in order to maintain this social side, we opted for a weekly Zoom coffee morning.

The Sunday services are still being live streamed for those members who are unable to come to church.

## The Vestry

The Vestry for the EEEC is made up of members from each congregation. It is a focused group which meets on the third Wednesday of every month to oversee our finances and the fabric of the churches and grounds (with the exception of July and August). The Vestry meetings were maintained throughout lockdown via Zoom. We have now resumed face to face meetings.

## Our Ministry Team.

Our ministry team consists of a Rector, Assistant Priest the Rev Lucy Ireland (non-stipendiary), Pastoral Assistant, Worship Leaders and Altar Servers

To help maintain links home communion is available for sick and housebound members,

The EEEC recognises the ministry of women. In 2017 following consultation with the congregations the vestry voted in favour of same-sex marriages in the EEEC.

# Communication

Our communication is addressed through:

our weekly pew-sheet which provides the Sunday readings plus a note of the daily readings for the upcoming week

via our website [www.eastendepiscopal.org.uk](http://www.eastendepiscopal.org.uk)

via our Facebook page East End Team Ministry.

We also have a quarterly magazine The Koin which is edited by one of St Serf's congregation.

We also enjoy a chat over tea and coffee after the services.

St Serf's has Fairtrade status.

## Church Buildings

We have two main buildings in St John's and St Serf's and both buildings are in a state of good repair. The latest Quinquennial Surveys being carried out in April 2021 and the concerns listed have all been addressed. Neither church has separate hall space but the seating areas have modern moveable chairs which allow us to have fundraising events

### St John's



### St Serf's

Each church has disabled access with St Serf's also having a disabled toilet. They both have toilet and kitchen facilities available for use by user groups and St Serf's also has an upstairs area and back rooms for meetings. This is also where the Team offices are sited; one for the Rector and one for the Team Administrator. St John's has a lych-gate leading into their graveyard.

## Community

Living in the East End.

Given the size of the area covered in the church's boundary the communities are quite diverse. In the Dennistoun area we have Victorian houses and tenements with new housing just being built and a sheltered complex. There are a couple of non-denominational primary schools and a Roman Catholic primary school in the area and one non-denominational and one Roman Catholic secondary school. There are also local restaurants and supermarkets. It is also handy to access the city centre for bars, restaurants and museums

Following a straight line from Dennistoun takes you into the Shettleston area which has several primary and secondary schools. Housing in this area is again tenements and individual houses.

Between these two areas is the Forge shopping centre and retail park which caters for most of your shopping needs from shopping for food and clothes to DIY and pets.

Continuing in that straight line you come to the eastern boundary at Baillieston and this area still retains its old village feel without the Victorian tenements. There are several schools in this part of the city and a major supermarket is nearby.

There are also several gyms and community halls within the boundaries.

A list of amenities can be found on Appendix A.



## User Groups

Prior to lockdown one of the church premises was used by Tic-Tacs an afterschool care group, Al-Anon and Cocaine Anon groups. The Indian Orthodox Church used St John's church on a Saturday for their services.

We also had open quiet days and we as part of our Mission Action Plan placed prayer trees in the churches for all who wished to write a message and hang it on the tree. These were collected on All Souls Day and a special prayer was said over them. To maintain our presence during lockdown we placed wooden Easter crosses and Christmas trees outside the buildings for prayers and messages to be posted by anyone in the community.

Since we have re-opened, The Indian Orthodox Church have advised that they have found other premises. We are in negotiation with the after-school group who we know wish to return but are dealing with a drop in the number of children they have due to lockdown and their financial situation. We have since welcomed back Al-Anon to St Serf's and at St John's BSL classes have started.

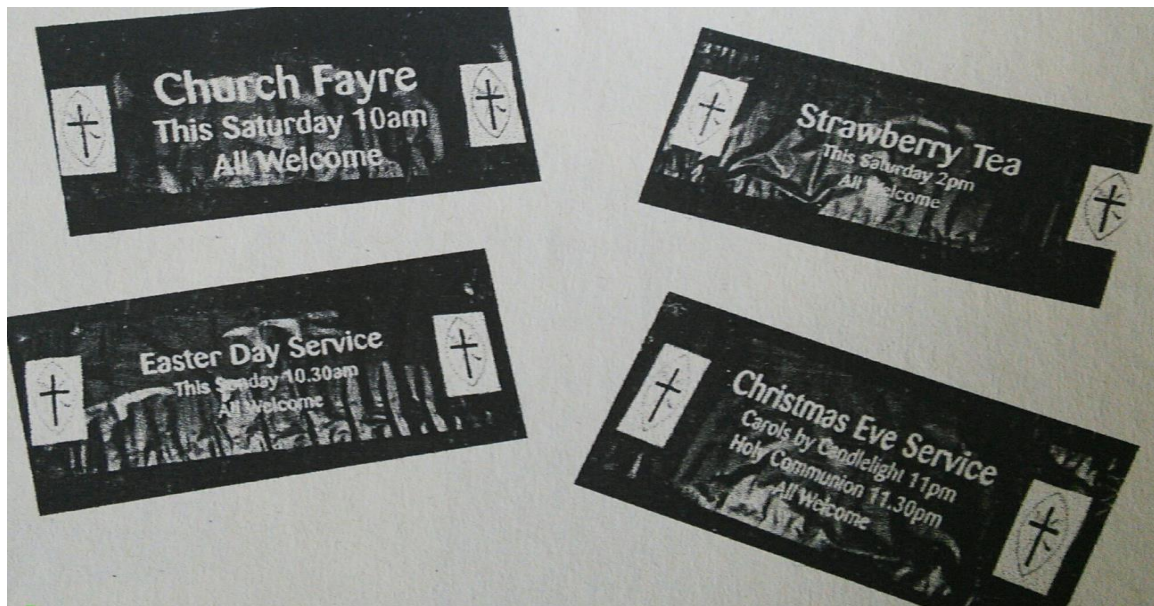
We continue to support, as one of our chosen charities, our local foodbank with our harvest appeal. We also continue to support the Bishop's Lent Appeal.

## Social Activities

Out with the pandemic we ran a varied social calendar from April to November. The activities include Games night, Beetle drive, Mock auction, Strawberry tea, Cheese and wine, Quiz night and culminating in our Christmas fayre.

We hope to re-establish these in the coming year.

We have banners to advertise special services and events.



## Jive Night



## Community Barbeque



## Christmas Fayre Tombola



## Christmas Fayre Stalls

## FINANCES

The EEEEC finances depends on the generosity of the congregations through their weekly envelopes, open plate standing order and gift days all of which we can claim gift aid on. The other source of income is from our investment portfolio.

The treasurer manages the finances throughout the year in consultation with the vestry with two signatories required on each cheque drawn. A balance sheet is presented to the vestry at the monthly meeting and an independent examiner checks the end of year accounts in September. These are then presented to the vestry and congregation at the annual general meeting. They are also submitted to the Diocesan Treasurer.

As the EEEEC is a registered charity (SCO01473) our accounts are submitted to The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR). [www.oscr.org.uk](http://www.oscr.org.uk)

We have a stable bank balance and investments and we can provide a full stipend for 3 years.

## THE FUTURE

We are looking for a period of stability following a few years of significant changes. We are currently settling into a post pandemic structure which we hope to build on to encourage those who are still nervous about coming to church to come back.

We recognise that there is a need to continue with the innovations of our on-line services to ensure those, who for whatever reason, cannot attend in person ensuring that they remain an integral part of church life.

We hope to continue to provide a “safe haven” for those affected by sectarian divisions and for those who are still searching for their spiritual home.

We will continue to maintain the open, welcoming and non-judgemental atmosphere within our churches which we find that people coming for the first time appreciate.

We aim to maintain an Episcopal presence in the East End and to re-establish ecumenical links with other churches.

Being aware of the example of the past we may be encouraged to face the future with renewed trust in God.

# CHALLENGES

In terms of a SWOT analysis the EEECs are

## Strengths

- Dedicated congregations
- Inclusive and welcoming
- Friendships

## Weaknesses

- Ageing congregations
- Lack of presence in some areas

## Opportunities

- To expand on our digital presence
- Develop further use of our buildings

## Threats

- Lack of young people
- Loss of presence in some areas

# APPENDIX A

Welcome to the East End.

## Schools

### Non-Denominational

#### Primary

Garrowhill  
Swinton  
Caledonia  
Eastbank  
Mount Vernon  
Golfhill  
Alexandra Parade

### Roman Catholic

#### Primary

St Bridget's  
St Anne's  
St Denis's

### Non-Denominational

#### Secondary

Eastbank  
Bannerman  
Whitehill

### Roman Catholic

#### Secondary

St Ambrose  
St Andrew's  
St Mungo's

## Shopping Centres

The Forge and The Fort

## Parks

Hogganfield Loch- gateway to the Seven Lochs  
Glasgow Green  
Alexandra Park  
Tollcross Park  
Drumpellier Country Park

## Care Homes

Golfhill  
Greenfield Park  
Springboig  
Eastbank  
Swinton Hill

# The East End Episcopal Churches

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## Rector Profile

We are seeking a Rector who is warm, inclusive and welcoming. He or she will help us build on our achievements, guide us as we develop a vision for the future and help guide us in worship, ministry and outreach.

### Key Responsibilities

- ✝ To be responsible for liturgical duties, worship on Sundays and weekdays, other sacraments and occasional offices.
- ✝ To continue to guide and support the Team's planning and vision for the future.
- ✝ To visit the elderly, sick, housebound, bereaved and all who need help giving spiritual and moral support.
- ✝ To offer pastoral support to all members of the congregations, whether situated within or beyond the bounds of the Team.
- ✝ To encourage and support the participation of the congregations in worship and in study activity and interest groups
- ✝ To develop and maintain the relationships with other churches.

We would like our new Rector to have the following skills and experience

- ✝ An experienced person with strong leadership skills.
- ✝ A people person who is approachable, warm openminded and compassionate.
- ✝ Have good listening skills and be able to relate to and communicate with people.
- ✝ Be respectful of the traditions of the Episcopal Church but also bring energy and new ideas.
- ✝ Suitably versed with Zoom and streaming services to further develop our on-line offerings.
- ✝ Experience in bringing people together and growing congregations both numerically and spiritually
- ✝ A good sense of humour and the ability to laugh with us and at us.
- ✝ A driving licence is essential.