



**Holiday Discovery .....**

**From our Congregational Committee Secretary**

**Remembering Robert Cyril Porter**

The stained glass window at the back of the church is our 1914 – 1918 Great War Memorial and contains the names of 14 men from our congregation that died during the “Great War”.

In June 2023 I was working in Greece and Lorraine was able to come out to join me so that after the week long meeting we could go bird watching in the part of northern Greece known Macedonia. We also took the opportunity to visit the final resting place of the two young men named on the window who died in Greece.

Robert Cyril Porter was a private in the 7<sup>th</sup> battalion of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Born in Clontarf he lived at 10 Vernon Parade with his parents George Francis Lambert and Alice Porter.

The Royal Dublin Fusiliers formed part of the British Salonika Forces fighting with French forces against Bulgarian forces looking to sweep south across neutral Greece. From October 1915 to the end of November 1918, the British Salonika Force suffered some 2,800 deaths in action, 1,400 from wounds and 4,200 from sickness. The campaign afforded few successes for the Allies, and none of any importance until October and November 1918. The action of the Commonwealth force was hampered throughout by widespread and unavoidable sickness as on one front there was a wide malarial river valley and by continual diplomatic and personal differences with neutrals or Allies.

On the 8 December 1915 Robert was killed in action in at the age of 21. Robert was not the only son of George and Alice that died in the war – an elder brother George Francis Lambert Porter was killed in Belgium two years later.

His body was never identified and Robert is named and remembered with 2173 other soldiers on the Dorian Memorial which is situated in the north of Greece close to the Macedonia border and near the south-east shore of Lake Doiran. The Memorial stands on what was called Colonial Hill, can be seen from a distance and is a prominent landmark.

It was a warm morning when in solitude we stood in front of the panel inscribed with his name, listened to the bees humming, prayed and remembered Robert Cyril Porter.

ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS		
16425	SERGEANT	P O'NEILL
12918		T OWENS
14368		F PHILLIPS
13470		G STEENSON
13853	CORPORAL	A MOORE
13413	LANCE CPL	A ALLERTON
18420		H BOYLAN
22064		H MC AULEY
14295		A PAYNE
13433		R C WRIGHT
17986	PRIVATE	J BARRY
27811		C H BEANE
24003		A BEEDEN
15248		C BELCHER
16157		A M BLOUNT
17186		M BRADY
21975		P BURNS
24742		J CARCARRY
21979		P CARSON
12934		J CASSELLS
13404		C CLEGG
20418		R CONROY
8380		J CULLEN
13032		J CULLEN
21997		J CUMMINS
22006		C DOHERTY
16402		E DOOLEY
23679		P DOYLE
11853		T DOYLE
15204		J E GRIFFIN
28483		J HARRIS
22239		M HIGGINS
24378		L HILL
17214		W R JOHN
24356		P LEWIS
11960		P MATTHEWS
10035		T MINTON
11967		J MORRISSEY
11973		T NEE
8712		W OGRADY
24368		E PAPSONS
13849		R C PORTER
11951		J PURTELL
16139		C RAWL
14139		G E RONALDSON
24185		H R STALLARD

*Robert's name on a memorial panel.*



*The Dorian Memorial*



*View from the Memorial across Lake Dorian to the Voras Mountain Range*



## IN LOVING MEMORY .....

**Keith Lewis**

**28 March 2023**



Sadly, Keith Lewis passed away after a short illness on the 28th March with his family at his bedside in Beaumont Hospital.

Keith grew up in Clontarf with his brother Eric and lived most of his life in the house in Blackheath Gardens. Both attended the school on Howth Road and were christened in the church.

He loved nothing more than a sunny day, watching whatever team was playing in the cricket club on Castle Avenue. He would greet you with a firm handshake and a welcoming smile.

Keith loved travelling, a bug he caught at an early age thanks to the many camps he organised with the Boys Brigade. Australia was one of his favourite destinations where he would spend a number of weeks over Christmas catching up with his cousins and their families. He made many friends and loved attending the test on New Years Day in Sydney.

After retiring from playing hockey, Keith took up umpiring and would travel all over Dublin on a Saturday. Sundays were always reserved for attending church where we know he got a lot of comfort.

Our favourite treat of the week was being brought out to breakfast after the service, when we would all catch up with what we were doing.

As a small family, we are very grateful to the congregation and Lorraine for looking out for Keith over the last couple of years. He will be missed by so many, especially us and his grand niece and nephews.

The world is definitely a smaller place without him!

Eric, Joan, Kingsley, Jenny; and Jacqui





**Inez O'Leary,,  
(née Cuthbert) –  
30th March 2023,**

Inez passed peacefully, he wonderful care of the staff of St. Gabriel's Nursing Home, surrounded by her loving family.

Born in Scotland, lost her mom at an early age and was brought up by her father. Inez feisty and independent personality started early, she was always involved in sports but had a particular love of the sea, which she passed to her children and grandchildren.

Inez had a very strong faith and believed in living her faith rather than talking about it. She was always happy to do the hard work on a Committee – rather than be Chairman she always seemed to be the Secretary, whether it was with Girl Guides, The Presbyterian Women's Association or any other groups she was involved with.

She was heavily involved with various youth groups and eventually spent a number of years as the Assistant Chief Commissioner of the Girl Guides.

Beloved wife of the late George and loving mother of Jean, Sandra and David. Sadly missed by her daughters and son, daughter-in-law Susan, grandchildren Jennifer and Sarah and her partner Alan, great granddaughter Evie, nieces, nephews, extended family and a wide circle of friends. Predeceased by her son-in-law Tony.



## Wedding Celebrations



**Dave, Elaine  
Adams  
and their  
families.**



## The Bride & Groom



**Congratulations to  
Ken and Lauren  
14 May 2023**

### Cross-Cultural Conversations

We are really delighted to have been welcomed so warmly into the Scots Hall at the church for our regular session on a Monday afternoon. Our group formed in early 2023 to offer a friendly and welcoming learning space for people to practice and improve their English language skills.

The diverse volunteer group consists of Irish nationals, migrants, and International Protection Applicants, who all speak fluent English. Volunteers and learners come from across the world from many places including; Ireland, South Africa, Morocco, France, Algeria, England, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Syria, India, Pakistan, Georgia, Somalia, the Congo and the Ukraine. An urgent need for more available English learning had been identified and a desire to offer friendship and solidarity to new people arriving in the North Inner City has been offered.

Since February the CCC has operated evening sessions in the Emergency accommodation centre in East Wall. In June we started our church hall sessions with a welcome and a summer strawberry afternoon tea. Our approach to learning is informal and friendly and participants can do anything from English alphabet learning to working on CVs and finding out about Irish culture. Not only has there been lots of progress in English language skills, but there has been a rich and positive exchange of stories, jokes and recipes across a wide range of cultures and languages from Gaelic to Xhosa, Pashto, Arabic, Somali, French, Georgian, Spanish and many more.

We also recently managed a great trip to the Botanic Gardens for volunteers and a celebration in Fairview Park on a lovely summer evening for everyone involved.

We are looking forward to continuing our relationship with the Clontarf Presbyterian church and we welcome your members to visit us, spread the word and even get involved.







## General Assembly 2023

The General Assembly is the supreme governing body of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. It represents all individual congregations and oversees the various councils and committees that deal with the day-to-day running of the various aspects of church life.

Ashley O'Neil, our representative Elder and myself joined the business on Thursday morning. We were able to enjoy most of the reports and found it encouraging to see the breadth of issues and ministries the wider church is involved in. Ministries to refugees, homeless, nursing homes, as well as education and social welfare.

The reports from the Global church was both interesting and challenging for those of us who live with such a wealth of resources. We hope to include some of these reports in some of our Sunday morning worship (not in dry report form!).

### For the Diary

#### Children's Ministry

**NO** children's ministry during summer holidays, however there will be clipboards with crayons etc. for the children during the morning services.

#### SUMMER 2023



We will be journeying through the Gospel of Mark over these Summer months.

Please join us, for **Sunday morning worship**.

We will enjoy this extraordinary story together. Find out why St Mark is always depicted with a Lion? Why is the word 'immediately' used over 40 times in 16 chapters? Why did this non-disciple write this story at all?

We will be studying the Gospel of Mark

#### Community Bible Study

7:30 pm to 9 pm

1st Thursday of the month

we meet in The Scots Hall

(on the Howth RD side of the buildings)

**Dates for this Summer: 6 July and 3 August**

[clontarfchurch.ie](http://clontarfchurch.ie)

## Duty Rota

### July 2023

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Keys</u>	<u>FWO</u>	<u>Welcome</u>	<u>Hospitality</u>	
<b>2 July</b>	Alan Bothwell	Samuel Ritchie	Roelien v Molen	Myrtle Bailey	Sylvia Wallace
<b>9 July</b>	Alan Bothwell	Samuel Ritchie	Roelien v Molen		
<b>16 July</b>	Paul Collins	Samuel Ritchie	Carolyn O'Neill	Valerie Hughes	Jenny Collins
<b>23 July</b>	Ashley O'Neill	Samuel Ritchie	Carolyn O'Neill		
<b>30 July</b>	Ashley O'Neill	Samuel Ritchie	Hilary Fairman	Margaret Conologue	Heather Porter

### August 2023

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Keys</u>	<u>FWO</u>	<u>Welcome</u>	<u>Hospitality</u>	
<b>6 August</b>	Robert Grealey	Christiaan Schoombee	Hilary Fairman	Marile Van Eeden	Noelene Brown
<b>13 August</b>	Robert Grealey	Christiaan Schoombee	Leslie Dawkins		
<b>20 August</b>	Ian Jackson	Christiaan Schoombee	Leslie Dawkins	Joy Dolan	Jenny Collins
<b>27 August</b>	Ian Jackson	Christiaan Schoombee	Nadia Van Wyk		

