

Rainy



Dayze

CHRISTMAS 2010



'he was in
the world'
edition

On Being: Madonna and Child...

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As ever, your input/ ideas gratefully received!



Luke 2: 6-7 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

So young,
so young to bear the One
to bear the weight
of all the world
inside your womb
and yet,
to bear that weight
has always been
a woman's fate
her lot.

So small,
so small first-born for all
who bears the weight
of pain and weeps
and heals the wounds
and yet,
who bears that weight
as Son of Man
for pure love's-sake,
as God.

painting:

'Rosenberg Nativity'

by Sieger Köder

Getting to know you... Fran Henderson



When I started my candidate's training back in 2001, it was not part of my game plan still to be at New College 10 years later. After all, almost all my fellow trainees have been in their own charges for fully five years now. Let mine be a cautionary tale! Or something like that.

The working out of a call is a very curious thing. I was adamant all the way through my BD that it was parish ministry for me. So when two of my lecturers suggested a PhD, I refuted the very idea! It was only when a third said the same thing that it dawned on me that someone

might be trying to tell me something.

As a result, I have given up trying to second-guess God, because he will always pull something unexpected out of the hat. So here I am, privileged to know you all as you work out your own callings. Who knows where God will take you? That's for him to know, and you to find out!

Happy Christmas to you all.
Fran

Fran Henderson, an ordained minister in the Church of Scotland, is Assistant Principle of New College. She has recently completed her PhD in Systematic Theology.



mission shaped ministry

Over 40 people met at the start of September to begin a learning journey together, a journey that will see us venture far from the fixed, solid shores of the established church. It marked the start of *mission shaped ministry*, a course in planting and sustaining new expressions of church (www.missionshapedministry.org).

Participants came from a wide variety of places: some serving ministers, some in training, some practitioners in new forms of mission and church from around Scotland. Many had a Church of Scotland background, but we also had participants from the Salvation Army, URC, Methodist and RC churches. Some of the discussions were fascinating, and I'm looking forward to many more!

Over the year ahead we'll be considering topics such as mission, culture, evangelism and leadership, assisted by local and national teachers including John and Olive Drane, Steve Hollinghurst and Peter Neilson. We'll learn from each other and through different learning styles, some presentation, film clips, activities, reflection, etc.

This course follows other Scottish courses that have run in Inverness and in Glasgow, with around 50 people taking part. Across the UK, there are more than 30 centres, with more than 1500 people enrolled, and a course has just started in Canada also. *mission shaped ministry* is a nationally recognised course and, while not

presently university-accredited in Scotland, offers the chance to catch the wider vision of what God is doing across Edinburgh and Scotland. Plans are being put together for future courses, so if you are interested in attending a *mission shaped ministry* course, please get in touch.

mission shaped ministry is not the only training in pioneer ministry available in Scotland. The *Invest* course has been running for some time and deals with the material in greater depth, and in a more tailored context. *Invest* includes some assignments and a placement, which can be conflated with a "121" placement, and also includes a fantastic personal development track. A week-long course, *Invest Intense* is also available in February 2011. For more information about these courses, see www.investscotland.org

Fiona Tweedie
fitweedie@yahoo.co.uk

Fiona Tweedie is almost an auxiliary minister, has two daughters, and in her spare time(!) co-hosts the Edinburgh mission-shaped ministry course with the Rev David E. P. Currie.



News from PRAXIS...

Praxis is the New College student volunteering society. Our mission is to see and serve Christ in others, particularly those in need, in our own local context and further afield.

In the past year we've been expanding our activities from the normal 'Monday night soup kitchen' at the Grassmarket Mission, to running cooking lessons and a music and drama group for service users. We've also expanded further afield, sending some Praxis members to India to volunteer in a school, one to Palestine as a peace witness, and helped another fund a trip to volunteer with an American organisation.

In the academic year 2010-11, we're hoping to expand even further, widening our volunteer base and offering a greater diversity of projects to work on. Early contenders include singing in elderly care homes, and working with Fresh Start to decorate homes for recently rehoused ex-homeless people.

So...

if you'd like to get involved as a volunteer

if you'd like to suggest volunteer projects we could get involved in

if you have a volunteer project you'd like us to fund

...then get in touch with me (theodora.hawksley@gmail.com) or Ben Williams (b.williams-9@sms.ed.ac.uk)

or visit www.newcollegemissionarysociety.org/

for more information.



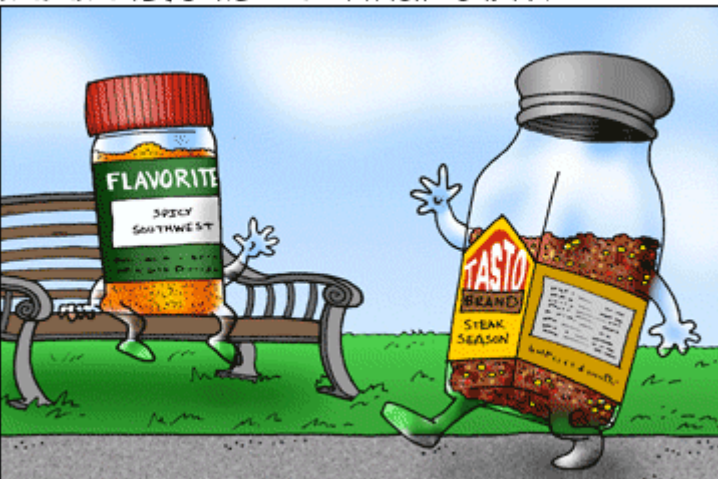
Theo Hawksley

Theo is a 3rd year Theology PhD student. Prior to New College, she was involved as a student chaplain with the Catholic chaplaincy at Durham University.

editor's note: also, why not check out the 'Theopolis' web-site and this article:

<http://www.theopolis.org.uk/praxis-in-action/item/10-new-year-new-horizons-of-opportunity.html>

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Thanks to Mark Highum
SEASON'S GREETINGS

12-19-2005

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Thanks to Keisha Jenkins (See Matthew 2:1-12)
I SURE HOPE MY WIFE LIKES MYRRH

12-22-2006

Blythswood Shoeboxes: an update

A brief update on the recent Blythswood Shoebox Appeal at New College...

New College ministry students, the School Council and Praxis joined forces this year to, once again, support the Blythswood Shoebox Appeal.

Thanks to the New College community for their generous donations of time, gifts and financial contributions—and for the various ‘wrapping elves’ who decorated the shoeboxes. This year we managed 28 boxes, filled with not only the basics required but also some extra treats for

folk. Beyond gifts to put in the shoeboxes, a further £100 was donated from the Praxis and Ministry Student funds and a further £60 was given in cash from students and New College staff.

Thanks everyone for all your support and for putting a smile on someone’s face this Christmas

*Nikki Macdonald
Convenor of the New College
Ministry Students Committee*

SHOE BOX APPEAL 2010
Bring some joy and cheer this Christmas
www.shoeboxappeal.org

Candidate Lite: a ‘social’ Nativity

Friday, March 24th

Archangel Gabriel

Mary, you're going to give birth to the Son of God.

If you haven't seen it yet, this is fab. A modern take on the story of the Nativity.... Click the link/ copy the link and watch this on YouTube. Enjoy—and 'avoid Romans'!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GkHNNPM7pJA>

And, below, a cartoon from Dave Walker, in keeping with the current weather...



Newsletter Notes

The next edition of Rainy Dayze: ‘One more step along the world I go’ focuses on journeys—inner and outer—and will be out early Feb 2011. It will be the last edition produced by the current editor as it’s time to concentrate a little more seriously on the PhD! I leave Rainy Dayze in the capable hands of Maggie Hunt, a 1st year Church of Scotland ministry candidate.

Rainy Dayze comes out twice per semester unless the dark

forces conspire and conquer. If you’d like to write a short article or poem for inclusion; fancy doing the wee prayer/reflection slot for ‘On Being’; have ideas for competitions/ or a wee silly something for ‘Candidate Lite’; or would like to get involved with helping to put together the newsletter... here’s your chance! Talk to Nikki.

Copy for next edition due 21st January.

Articles no longer than 150-250 words.

Email the editor:

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