

# St Cuthbert's Centre

**The United Reformed Church on Holy Island**

**April 2022**

It seems hardly any time since we were putting finger to keyboard to wish our friends Christmas Greetings from the Management Group supporting St Cuthbert's Centre on Holy Island. So much has changed in the world since then and perhaps it is even more important than ever that people are able to visit and spend time in those "thin places" such as Holy Island. As we approach Easter we want to update you on life at St Cuthbert's and tell you about some events coming up in the next few months.

Following Storm Arwen, our insurers agreed the repairs but before our contractors had managed to finish these we sustained a small amount of further damage from Storms Malik and Corrie at the end of January. Fortunately, our contractors were able to deal with these for us and, for now, we are weathertight!

The Management Group has grown in number and we look forward to benefitting from the wider range of skills and experience. Look out for news about our garden and ways in which you can help as we move to complete the plans originally created by Revd. Ruth Crofton. Sadly, Ruth died at the end of January but we intend to complete this work (led by Alison Shiel, one of our new Management Group members) as a tribute to her love for the island and her vision of how our garden can become, in itself, not just a haven where people can rest awhile but also tell something of St Cuthbert's journeying in his lifetime.

We are working to have the Centre open by Easter, for at least a few hours on as many days as we can manage. Due to illness we cannot yet offer the 9 – 6 opening six days a week but we are aiming to get as near to that as possible, as soon as possible. Check our website or Facebook page for up to date information.

Looking ahead we have some exciting events to tell you about, including three separate Artists in Residence events.

## **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June**



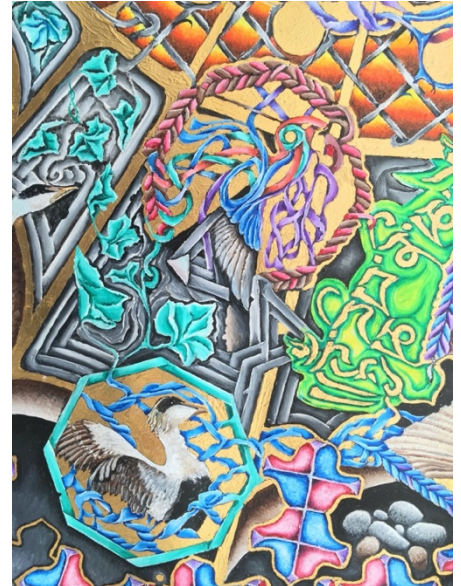
Creative Weaver, **Ruth Sprague**, returns to St Cuthbert's with large floor looms and smaller travel looms to allow visitors to share in creation of a community weave reflecting on the theme of "The Hopes and Fears of all the Years". In this Jubilee year and in the week which concludes with the Queen's Jubilee celebrations, it seems a happy coincidence that Ruth's theme was inspired by words in the Queen's Christmas Message when she quoted from that much-loved Christmas hymn, "O, Little Town of Bethlehem". More information is on the Events page of our website.

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

**Judy Hurst** will be returning after 2 years to exhibit some original vellum paintings with limited edition prints. Her bright and intricate work draws inspiration from the natural world and its relationship with Celtic spirituality. Lindisfarne has always been a focus for this inspiration, and after 2 years without her usual residency, Judy says it is a joy to return!

All work will be for sale, but the most important thing for Judy is meeting the public, and answering questions. So please call in, meet the artist, and enjoy the display.

More information and a few more examples of Judy's work can be found on the events page of our website.



**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August**



Our third Artist in Residence is **Linda Courage** who is looking forward to returning to the island for her first St Cuthbert's event and to being with the island, her people, creatures and visitors. She will put together a piece of felted art in the Centre during the week and hopes people will donate a Cuddy stone or two. Visitors will learn how to make a felted pebble that can become part of the art work that will be left on display in the centre when we all leave. She says, "the island gives us so much - it will be lovely to leave a part of ourselves behind". More information and inspiration is on the Events page of our website

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

After a break due to Covid the Retreats and Pilgrimages Group at Synod is organising a "**Mini-pilgrimage**" on Holy Island starting from St Cuthbert's Centre. Look out for more information nearer the time on the Synod website as well as on our own website and Facebook pages but the team will lead a pilgrimage walk lasting around 3 hours on the afternoon of 3<sup>rd</sup> September and all will be welcome.

#### **And finally...**

We wish you a happy and blessed Easter and look forward to seeing you back at St Cuthbert's Centre and the Holy Island of Lindisfarne before long.

*The Minister and the Management Group for St Cuthbert's Centre*

*(Rev. Rachel Poolman, Jean Barr, Lucy Cooke, Alison Dalton, Sheila Duncan,  
Rev. Dave Herbert, Kay Keen, Patrick Sheard, Alison Shiel, and Ann Tunnard)*

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