

St Margaret's Parish Men's Group**Draft Minutes of Meeting – Thursday 9th April 2026 - held in the Crypt at St Margaret's Church**

Present: Tom Scott (Chair) Martin Wilkinson (Minutes), John McIllduff (Treasurer), Bob Creaney, Ken Ritchie, George Connolly, Pete Seath, Steven Downie, Andrew Flynn

Apologies for Absence: Frannie McNicoll

Minutes of the meeting of 4th December 2025 were approved.

Financial. The group's balance is £288.11. Donations of £100 each have been given to the One World Group and to the St. Vincent de Paul Group and £110 has been allocated to the organisation of the Iona trip.

Spiritual Activities

The Group presented Stations of the Cross on Sunday 15th March using the 2026 SCIAF Stations prayers.

Social Activities

- Hogmanay in the crypt was a great success
- The pre-Lent group meal at Namaste Indian restaurant on Thursday 12th February was successful and attended by 12 group members.

Future Activities

- **Post Lent Meal** will be on Tuesday 28th April at Namaste preceded by drinks in the Commercial.
- **Iona visit.** No changes except that there will be a night in Oban before catching the ferry to Mull. A booking has been made for all to go to Staffa.
- **Other future events.** There was discussion on events for this year following a review of last year:
 - **Summary of last year's programme** (i) Stations of the Cross; (ii) six nights out for meals – well attended usually about 10-14; (iii) Lindores Abbey visit – 6 attended; (iv) Theatre trip to *Miss Saigon* followed by meal at *Mamma Roma* – 12 attended; (v) gin tasting in crypt well attended and good feedback; (vi) meal out with partners at Garvock Hotel – 20 attended; (vii) parish golf competition – 12 players; (viii) Hogmanay in the crypt – good feedback; (ix) walking group unusually only went out twice last year.
 - **Walks** could be organised without waiting for Tom Scott to do it. Generally, they avoid too much steep climbing, go up to 5 miles, have a refreshment opportunity, and are open to other parish members. Lochore Meadows is good for this but we appeal to the membership to come forward with new suggested locations. Maybe we could have some walks not after Sunday mass.
 - **The Fight Club** in the St James Centre could be a good social visit.
 - **The Royal Yacht Britannia** and the **Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh** had been previously planned but have not yet happened.
 - **The Japanese Garden** at Dollar was a popular suggestion for Spring.
 - **A Soul Night** like those at Fire Station Creative was a new suggestion for a possible crypt event.
 - **Other regular annual events** will be organised as usual (i) theatre visit (ii) parish golf competition (iii) night out with partners (iv) Hogmanay in the crypt

Next Meeting: Thursday 7th May 2026 in St. Margaret's crypt. (This is election day but it is assumed that all members will vote before coming to the meeting).