

SCOTTISH BAPTIST LAY PREACHERS' ASSOCIATION



RETREAT 2016

**GARTMORE HOUSE,
ABERFOYLE**

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

We're delighted that you are coming to the retreat of the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association at Gartmore House, nestling in the tranquillity of the Trossachs, from Friday 9th September to Saturday 10th September 2016.

As a network of lay preachers, with an unashamed commitment to being 'intentionally relational', our being at Gartmore is a perfect opportunity for us to gather for fellowship, mutual support and to unpack the hugely relevant theme of 'Listening to God'.



We live in an instant world! Instant news, instant coffee, instant messaging, and therefore it can be difficult to engage in a healthy process of 'just listening' to God'. We want during our retreat to

intentionally engage in a time of 'just listening' which we will do through sung worship, through opening up God's Word together and through inviting the Holy Spirit to come as we wait on Him.

Let's as we look forward to, and gather at Gartmore, come expectant of the Holy Spirit to work and be open to 'just listening' to God and free to share what He may lay on our heart. Let's pray that our time together as family would be really enriching and refreshing.

If you haven't already paid (£70 if you're in a single room and £60 if you're not), can you please do so as soon as possible. You can either pay at the weekend itself, or in advance - cheques to be made payable to the '*Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association*' and sent to Mark Donaldson (our Treasurer) - Mark's address is Balmoor House, Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, AB42 3BN.

Our bank details should you wish to effect a BACS transfer is

Account Name - Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association
Sort Code - 80-13-13
Account Number - 00828381

Looking forward to seeing you at Gartmore for a great weekend together!

GLEN CARTWRIGHT

DIRECTIONS TO GARTMORE HOUSE

Gartmore House is easily accessible from whichever direction you are travelling.



By road from the south, take the A81 from the city centre and travel via Milngavie and Strathblane towards Aberfoyle. Continue past the signs for Gartmore Village and Gartmore House is well signposted on the left after a gentle bend in the road.

By road from the north or east, travel towards Stirling on the M9 and leave at Junction 10, marked for Stirling. Follow the A84, signposted for Callander. Just beyond the safari park, take the A873 for Aberfoyle. As you approach Aberfoyle, at the T junction opposite the Rob Roy Hotel, bear left on the A81 to Glasgow. After a mile you will see Gartmore House signposted on your right.

The address of Gartmore House is:-

Gartmore House
Gartmore
Stirlingshire
FK8 3RS

Tel: (01877) 382991 www.gartmorehouse.com

THE WEEKEND PROGRAMME

We have given prayerful and careful discernment to the programme, so that we maximise the time we have to get to know each other better, relax together and of course enjoy the spectacular countryside surrounding Gartmore, as well as just listening to God - as is our theme.

All meals and refreshments will be provided by Gartmore over the course of our stay, as will all bed linen and towels.

Bring whatever else you would for a weekend away though!



Our sessions will all be held in the Taylor Room which is behind the main reception area, opposite the foot of the stairs.

FRIDAY

- 6:00** - **Welcome & Registration**
- 6:30** - **Evening Meal**
- 7:30** - **Coffee & Chat with Elaine**
An opportunity to meet our guest facilitator as Glen engages Elaine in a light-hearted conversation over coffee
- 8:00** - **Listening to God through Worship**
Elaine will help us think about worship in its widest sense and how the power of music and worship can engage heart and mind as we listen to God through our worshipping of Him. This session will include sung worship. Come prepared to share about a worship song, a hymn, a 'traditional' prayer or a blessing that has been particularly meaningful to you.
- 9:30** - **Supper**
- 10:00** - **Free Time**
An opportunity to relax and chat over coffee in the comfort of Gartmore House in front of the fire or to go for a late evening walk!

SATURDAY

- 8:30** - **Breakfast**
- 9:30** - **Listening to God through His Word**
Elaine will help us think about and engage in listening to God through His Word. The session will involve different methods of Bible engagement, as well as approaches that can be used in services to keep people's appetite for listening to God through Scripture fresh.
- 10:45** - **Coffee Break**
- 11:15** - **Listening to God through His Word**
Building on our earlier session, Elaine will unpack further how we can truly listen to, and for God, through His Word.
- 12:30** - **Lunch**



- 1:30** - **Free Time**
An opportunity to enjoy the tranquil surroundings of Gartmore, to perhaps go walk or take a trip into nearby Aberfoyle
- 2:30** - **Listening to God through Waiting -**
Come prepared in advance to share of a time or times in your life when you waited on God and He spoke and guided in a specific way. This session will be built around a mini-silent-retreat, using the silence and solitude of Gartmore to listen for God and to what He might be saying. Space will be created for you to share what you've heard God say, which might well be a prophetic word.
- 4:00** - **Coffee**
- 4:30** - **Depart Gartmore**

OUR FACILITATOR

We are delighted that Elaine Duncan, Chief Executive of the Scottish Bible Society, and a good friend of the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association, will be joining us and facilitating our times of listening to God together. Elaine is really looking forward to being with us and helping us unpack our theme.



Elaine has a real and tangible passion for the Bible. Born and bred in Cumbria, Elaine has served in a number of ministries 'north of the border'.

Prior to taking up her role with the Scottish Bible Society, Elaine was Regional Activities Director for Scripture Union Scotland - engaging young people in schools and camps throughout Scotland - with the Bible. Before working with SU, she held a number of posts with the Universities & Colleges Christian Fellowship, both in Scotland and England. Elaine is an active member of her local church.

Pray for Elaine as she prepares for Gartmore and comes to share with us.

GARTMORE BEDROOM ALLOCATIONS

We will be on the 1st floor and 2nd floor at Gartmore House - both of which can be reached by a gentle staircase, as well as a lift.

Everyone will have access to en-suite facilities and those who asked for a single room have been allocated one.



ROOM NUMBER	ALLOCATED TO
204	David Andrew
205	Douglas Inglis
206	Riaz Mohammed Ian Stephen
207	Jonathan Bismark Glen Cartwright
208	Fiona Merriweather
209	John Bingham George Hunter
210	Elaine Duncan
211	Alastair Crockett Brian Crockett

212	Hosana Bankhead
301	Phil March
303	Andrew Chalkley Jim Ewing
304	Mark Donaldson Hugh Tannock
305	Lyn Thomson George Thomson
307	Jim Ewen
309	Graham Brown

Elizabeth Shively (St Andrews) will be joining us on Saturday morning for the day.

GARTMORE BEDROOM LAYOUT

Rooms 201-213 (en suite are on the 1st floor) and rooms 301-310 (en suite also) are on the 2nd floor.



