



# *Focus*



## *September 2017*

*Available for distribution on the last Sunday of the preceding month*

*<http://www.stamperlandchurch.btck.co.uk/home>*

*Registered Charity No SC003155*



# **The Church of Scotland Stamperland Parish Church; Clarkston**

Registered Charity SC003155

**Stamperland Gardens, Clarkston, Glasgow, G76 8LJ  
Church Telephone 0141 637 4999 (Answering Service)**

**(Interim Moderator) Gray Fletcher Telephone 0141 644 1578  
grayfletcher@virgin.net**

**Locum Minister Jack Drummond 0141 571 6002**

**Session Clerk: Norman Bolton  
3 Paidmyre Crescent, Newton Mearns, G77 5AQ  
Telephone 0141 638 3502**

**Treasurer: Kay Bolton  
3 Paidmyre Crescent, Newton Mearns, G77 5AQ  
Telephone 0141 638 3502**

**Roll Keeper: William Paterson  
1 Orchy Avenue, Clarkston, G76 8LS  
Telephone 0141 571 8652**

**Life & Work & Focus Editing & Distribution: Fraser Neilson  
56 Stamperland Drive, Clarkston G76 8HF  
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**Gift Aid Convenor: Norman Walker  
66 The Oval, Clarkston, G76**

**Weekly Freewill Offering Convenor: Anne MacKenzie  
76 Randolph Drive, Clarkston, G76 8AP  
Telephone 0141 637 5576**

**Halls Lets and Usage; Connell Cranston  
64 Riverside Park, Netherlee G44 3PG  
Telephone 07847588702**

**Flower Calendar: Mrs May Paterson  
1 Orchy Avenue, Clarkston, G76 8LS**



**Dear Friends,**

One of the best known stories in the Old Testament is the story of God speaking to Moses from the burning bush. As Moses stared at the bush and realised that he was in the presence of God, he was astonished to see that, although the bush was on fire, it was not burning up. In the dry heat of the Middle East it was not surprising that a bush should catch fire. That the bush should keep on burning was unusual. That's what Moses found so strange.

Back in 1691 the burning bush first appeared as the emblem of the Church of Scotland. There is no record indicating that any General Assembly of the Church gave its approval for the use of the burning bush as the Kirk's official emblem, but it was a wise choice.

The logo, familiar today on many Church notice boards, certificates, and official documents, was designed in 1930 by a prominent Glasgow artist, Sir David Cameron. Around his design of the logo three Latin words were inscribed. These three words mean ;  
"It is not consumed".

In spite of falling Communion Rolls, less people attending Sunday worship, and the present shortage of ordained ministers, the ever burning bush which was not consumed should reassure us all that the Church will remain in Scotland for as long as the world continues.

From the bush, God called Moses to take a new direction in his life, and to take on extra responsibility at an age when most men would be looking forward to an early retirement! Moses immediate reaction was typical. He made excuses. Surely it wasn't a good idea for him to return to Egypt to lead his people to their own land.

However, that was God's plan, and not Moses' plan. One by one the difficulties and hurdles were overcome and under God, the Israelites eventually settled in their own land promised to them by God. God's plan and purpose was fulfilled.

I'm writing about this old story because Stamperland Parish Church has come through a time of uncertainty. Whereas the Israelites had forty years to wait for God's plan to be accomplished, you have only had to wait less than four years!.

Go forward confidently on to the next chapter in the life of the congregation.

Yours in Christ's service,

*Jack Drummond*

## Baptisms

27th August      Lucy Elizabeth Dale      90 The Oval.

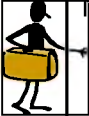
## Funerals

Mrs Joyce Denovan      Parkhouse Manor Care Home

Mrs Maureen Nugent      26 Strathview Park

## Communion Roll Changes

Change of Address: *We hope you are happy in your new abode.*

		From:	To:	
	Mrs. Janet Scott	17 Linnpark Court	Parkhouse Manor Care Home	

## Musical Minds

The Musical Minds Singing Group performs on the first Tuesday of each month from 10.00am to 12.00 noon in Clarkston House, 57 Stamperland Hill.

Anyone living with early stage dementia, and their family members, will be made welcome to join the singing group and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and a scone, priced £2.



**LIFE  
AND  
WORK**

THE MAGAZINE OF THE  
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

## REV SCOTT BLYTHE - OUR MINISTER ELECT



I am delighted to write that the Rev Scott Blythe, BSc, BD, MBA, will be our new minister. Scott preached as sole nominee on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at services in Netherlee and Stamperland Churches. After each service, members and adherents of both congregations voted on whether or not they wished to call Scott to be the new minister of Stamperland Church and, on the retirement of Rev Tom Nelson, the minister of the

linked congregations of Netherlee and Stamperland. The result of the ballot was announced by Reverend Gray Fletcher, our Interim Moderator, at a meeting of both congregations held in Stamperland Church on the Sunday afternoon. The votes cast were **“For 367”** and **“Against 3”**.

Both congregations will now arrange for members and adherents to “Sign the Call” inviting Scott to be our new minister. The “Call” can be signed by all members and adherents - not just those who heard Scott preach - as well as leaders and members of church organisations and organisations using the church. Arrangements will be made to enable members unable to attend church, for example those housebound or in hospital, to add their signatures.

Glasgow Presbytery will organise Scott’s induction service at Stamperland. This is likely to be towards the end of November or beginning of December.

At present, Scott Blythe is minister at the Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains in New Jersey, USA. Scott moved to America in 2008 having spent time as minister of Tron Kirk, Moredun in Edinburgh and as University Chaplain at Robert Gordon’s University in Aberdeen. For a period of four years he served as a police officer and a detective in the Essex Constabulary.

Although currently working in America, Scott was brought up in East Kilbride and gained a BSc degree at Strathclyde University. He subsequently studied for his BD degree at the University of Glasgow and MBA at Robert Gordon’s University. Scott is married to Liz who is a pastor in the Presbyterian Church of America. Scott and Liz have two young children – Duncan aged four and Eilidh aged two.

We look forward to welcoming the Blythe family to Stamperland Church and to having Scott as our minister.

## VACANCIES IN THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

There are more than 125 vacant charges in the Church of Scotland. With many of the vacant charges comprising several churches and parishes the total number of congregations seeking a new minister is well over 250. How good it feels to be moving to the end of our vacancy!

### 70 YEARS AGO IN OUR CHURCH

In 1947 one of the jobs of the Church Officer was to wash and dry the crockery used at church meetings. The amount he was paid depended on the number of people at the meeting. For doing the "washing-up" for up to 20 persons he received 12.5 pence; for between 20 and 50 people he received an additional 25p; for between 50 and 100 people he received a further 37.5p. For a gathering of 100 people he would receive a total of 75p. *Now, thankfully, volunteers do this free of charge (and can use the dishwasher)!*

A new Fund-raising idea – a Military Whist Drive - was proposed. The idea was that a member would invite three friends to the Whist Drive and charge each one 12.5p. The member would provide catering for all four at the table. The idea proved a great success and the first event raised £50. If the 12.5p per guest had been the only source of income then that would imply over 500 people were present at more than 133 tables. Somehow, I believe there must have been other sources of income.

The number of people who had church keys was an issue. It was resolved that only the minister, session clerk, treasurer, church officer and Mr McKirdy would have keys. Mr McKirdy was the owner of a newsagents shop across from the church. *Does anyone know if the arrangement with Mr McKirdy was that if people wanted into the church they could go to McKirdy's shop and ask for the key?*

**Norrie Bolton, Session Clerk**

### \*\*\*\*\* *The New Minister*

The new minister stood at the church door greeting the members as they left the Sunday morning service. Most of the people were very generous telling the new minister how much they liked his message, except for one man who said, "That was a very dull and boring sermon, pastor."

A few minutes later, the same man again appeared in line and said, "I don't think you did much preparation for your message."

Once again, the man appeared, this time muttering, "You really blew it. You didn't have a thing to say, pastor."

Finally, the minister could stand it no longer. He went to one of the deacons and inquired about the man.

"Oh, don't let that guy bother you," said the deacon. "He's a little slow. All he does is go around repeating whatever he hears other people saying."



## The Guild



It is hard to believe that our break from Easter to October is coming to an end and that we are now thinking about our winter syllabus. Unfortunately we haven't seen much warm sunny summer weather but we have lots to look forward to in the coming months in the Guild syllabus. Here is a preview of what we have in store from October to December.

Oct 3	Theme, Dedication & Communion	Rev Jack Drummond
Oct 10	Art & BBC's The Big Painting Challenge	James Mackellar
Oct 17	Blythswood Christmas Shoe Box Appeal (filling boxes)	
Oct 24	Richmond's Hope	Val Scholfield
Oct 31	Halloween & Fish Suppers	
Nov 7	Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)	George MacRitchie
Nov 14	Street Pastors PROJECT	
Nov 21	Outing to the Strathaven Gift & Coffee Shop	
Nov 26 (Sunday)	Soup, bread & cheese lunch	
Nov 28	Musical Evening with Jill Leavy & her accompanist Rachael	
Dec 5	Glasgow's Hidden Treasures (part 1)	David Walker
Dec 12	Christmas Party	

You will see that we are filling boxes for Blythswood Christmas Shoe Box Appeal on the 17<sup>th</sup> October. If anyone from the congregation would like to donate items that would fit into a shoe box it would be appreciated. We are filling boxes for women. Please see the separate article in this months Focus giving details of the items required.

Please come along to any of our evenings that would be of interest to you. We will be very pleased to see you.

**Evelyn Graham, Guild Secretary**

## Thoughts

If walking is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.

A rabbit runs, and hops, and only lives 15 years, while a tortoise doesn't run, and does mostly nothing, yet it lives for 150 years. And they tell us to exercise? I don't think so.



# 231st Glasgow Boys' Brigade Company Stamperland Church



Friday evenings from the first Friday in September until  
May

**Anchor Boys (P1-3) 6:30pm—8:00pm**

**Junior Section (P4-6) 6:30pm—8:30pm**

For more information contact Scott Russell on 07917801622 or



At 231stBB Junior Section and Sparks

**Company Section (P7+) 8:00pm—10:30pm**

For more information contact Peter Dale on 07506681531 or



At 231st BB Company Section

**THE BOYS'  
BRIGADE**  
>the adventure begins here





## Flower Calendar

September /October 2017

Contact May Paterson 0141 571 8652

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sept</b>	<b>Mrs. J. Coid</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	<b>Mrs. R. Cooper</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	<b>Miss. J. Barr</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	<b>Mr. B. Phillips</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Oct</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	<b>Mrs. S Neil</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	<b>Mrs. E Graham</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Oct</b>	<b>Mrs. C Ferguson</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	<b>Miss. O Greer</b>



## Good Money Week



Good Money Week, previously known as National Ethical Investment Week, takes place each October, aiming to raise awareness of sustainable, responsible and ethical finance. It involves a range of financial advisers, faith groups and charities.

Eastwood Churches Peace and Justice Group have arranged a Good Money Week meeting open to all on Monday October 2nd in Giffnock United Reformed Church on Fenwick Rd. This will be an opportunity to find out what ethical banking and investment means, how decisions on such financial activity are made, and how your investments can best be used in ways that benefit society and the environment.....making your money make a difference.

The evening starts from 7pm with relevant stalls and information available. There are three speakers from 7.30 to 9pm with plenty opportunity for questions. Representatives of Scotwest Credit Union and Kames Capital will discuss banking and investment issues. Shared Hope is an international charity started by Howard Peebles from Waterfoot who will explain how philanthropic activity can change lives around the world and challenge us about our own attitude to our money. Finally, there will be the opportunity for informal discussion with refreshments.

All are welcome to come to this informative evening.

## Pastoral Care

**Your Pastoral Care Team are here for you. If you need ;**

- **Transport to Church**
- **Doctors Appointment**
- **Could do with a chat**
- **Hospital**
- **Shopping**
- **Have a prayer request**

**Please contact Grace Scott, 0141 637 2226**

A few months ago we introduced a Library service to you, and this month would like to commend this to you again. Kay is able and willing to exchange your library book, assist you with future choices of your favourite authors, or like authors. Additionally she can provide listening books and large print books. If you are not already a member of the library Kay will happily see to this for you. With winter coming in, why not make use of this great service? We hope you will.

Remember that we are only a phone call away to help you with shopping, getting to Church, hospital and doctor's appointments and any other assistance that we can help you with.



[brucedmarshall@sky.com](mailto:brucedmarshall@sky.com)

## Focus Collection & Distribution Arrangements



Another year begins and I detail below the arrangements for the Focus between September and January for the benefit of all.

Any changes to the distribution should be advised to the Editor at the earliest opportunity so that changes can be made prior to distribution.

Distribution for September was delayed until 10th to enable everyone to learn the outcome of our voting on the service by our sole nominee Reverend Scott Blythe, BSc, BD, MBA.

Whilst the intention is to continue distributing the magazine on the last Sunday of the preceding month this will become effective from November as the delay in distribution in September has caused a knock on effect from the gathering of material for October.

Material for the magazine can be e mailed/posted/ handed over at any time for inclusion in the next available publication. There is no need to wait for any announcements or reminders before doing so.

Issue	All Copy Input on or before	Collection Date for Distribution
September	20th August	10th September
October	17th September	1st October
November	15th October	29th October
December	12th November	26th November
January	No Magazine	

Fraser Neilson 0141 586 0955  
cumbrae14@ntlworld.com

### ***Absence from Church***

*Harry walked over to the Priest after services, "You know Father, I am really stuck in a quandary I would like to attend church next week but I just can't miss the big game next Sunday, it's just out of the question."*

*"Oh Harry, Harry" said the Priest putting his arm around Harry, "don't you know? that's what recorders are for."*

*Harry's face lit up "you mean I could record your sermon?"*





**79th Glasgow  
(Stamperland) Scout Group**

### **2017 Starting Dates**



**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

**Contact: Alison Macfarlane – 644 2628**



**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

**Contact: Philip Moseley – 620 3146**



**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

**Contact: Joe Mailley – 571 0887**



**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

**Contact: Joe Mailley – 571 0887**

**Please note that all sections currently have waiting lists.**

**For more information please get in touch with section  
contact or via our Facebook page:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/Stamperland79th>**

## The Golfer



One day, shortly after joining the PGA tour in 1965, Lee Trevino, a professional golfer and married man, was at his home in Dallas, Texas mowing his front lawn, as he always did.

A lady driving by in a big, shiny Cadillac stopped in front of his house, lowered the window and asked, "Excuse me, do you speak English?"

Lee responded, "Yes Ma'am, I do."

The lady then asked, "What do you charge to do yard work?"

Lee said, "Well, the woman in this house lets me sleep with her."



The lady hurriedly put the car into gear and sped off.

## Ham and Marriage

*A Priest and a Rabbi were eating together when the priest started to tease the Rabbi.*

*"Wow, this ham is really good" he said licking his lips.*

*"I know it's against your religion, but when are you going to break down and finally have some."*

*After a moments thought the Rabbi responded with a smile "at your wedding!"*

**Pest-Master**  
Environmental Services  
[www.pest-master.com](http://www.pest-master.com)

Pest Control • Deep Cleaning • Washroom Services

Glen Burrett  
Area Manager

Telephone: 0141 586 0239  
Mobile: 07949 020598  
Email: [pest-master@bigfoot.com](mailto:pest-master@bigfoot.com)

Unit E  
Duchess Place  
Glasgow G73 1DR

Friends of Glasgow Samaritans

Invite you to an evening with

# FP SWING BAND

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2017

At 7.30 pm

In Mearns Castle School Theatre



Ticket £5.



## The American Dream



An American businessman was standing at the pier of a small coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked. Inside the small boat were several large yellowfin tuna. The American complimented the Mexican on the quality of his fish.

"How long did it take you to catch them?" the American asked.

"Only a little while" the Mexican replied.

"Why don't you stay out longer and catch more fish?" the American then asked.

"I have enough to support my family's immediate needs" the Mexican said.

"But" the American then asked, "What do you do with the rest of your time?"

The Mexican fisherman said: "I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, take a siesta with my wife, Maria, stroll into the village each evening where I sip wine and play guitar with my amigos. I have a full and busy life, señor."

The American scoffed: "I am a Harvard MBA and could help you. You should spend more time fishing and with the proceeds you could buy a bigger boat and, with the proceeds from the bigger boat, you could buy several boats.

Eventually you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman, you would sell directly to the consumers, eventually opening your own can factory. You would control the product, processing and distribution. You would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then LA and eventually NYC where you will run your expanding enterprise."

The Mexican fisherman asked: "But señor, how long will this all take?"

To which the American replied: "15-20 years."

"But what then, señor?"

The American laughed and said: "That's the best part. When the time is right, you would announce an IPO - an Initial Public Offering - and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich. You would make millions."

"Millions, señor? Then what?"

The American said slowly: "Then you would retire. Move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your kids, take a siesta with your wife, stroll to the village in the evenings where you could sip wine and play your guitar with your amigos..."

# GIDEON BIBLES IN HOTELS

Will a Gideon Bible in a hotel, guest house or a B&B become a thing of the past?



It was once considered normal to find a Gideon Bible at the bedside in a hotel, guest house or a B&B. However, times have changed and many establishment owners and managers are questioning if it is appropriate to have Bibles in their rooms. This means that increasingly Gideons are being asked by owners and managers to remove Bibles from their hotels, guest houses and B&B's. Some establishments are choosing to have just a few copies at the reception desk for the use of guests who ask for one and others are declining the offer to have any Bibles at all.

Whilst we respect the concerns of those involved in the hospitality industry we are aware that it is very rarely those of other cultures and faiths who are questioning the benefit of the Bibles in hotel rooms. Most often it is those who mistakenly believe that a Bible is something that is no longer relevant in our society and could cause offence. However, in a society where customer satisfaction is paramount there are things you can do to ensure Bibles remain in rooms for those who need them most:

- Ask for a Bible when you book or check into a hotel.
- Compliment the owner or manager in person or through their customer satisfaction survey sheet when a Bible is in your room at your hotel.
- Place a comment on a recent stay on review sites such as "TripAdvisor" sharing your satisfaction that a Bible was available for you.
- Let the Gideons know if a Bible is missing or needs replacing in the room where you stayed. The Gideons International in the British Isles can be contacted at [hq@gideons.org.uk](mailto:hq@gideons.org.uk) or on 01455 554241

Please help to keep a Bible in every room. It could change someone's life!

END

*Mosquitos*

*The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close. Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?*



## Open Door

You will be aware that Stamperland Church sanctuary is open on a Wednesday morning from 10.00 o'clock until 12.00 o'clock for quiet contemplation and personal prayer. Tea, coffee and biscuits are available in the vestibule where fellowship can be enjoyed. It would be encouraging if more of our members were able to come along.



As you will know we are trying to work more closely with Netherlee Church. They also have an Open Door on a Wednesday morning. They have a short Service at 10.00am for approximately 30 minutes. They also have tea, coffee and fellowship after the Service. If anyone from Stamperland Church would like to attend they would be made welcome. This may be of interest to you if you feel you are unable to attend Sunday morning worship at Stamperland. If you require transport to Netherlee their minibus can collect you. Please contact either, Evelyn Graham or Nancy Fisher Tel. 638 3844.

## Parish & Beyond Committee



**Our local one stop shop for DIY and hardware items, with the attraction of advice when needed. Save a drive elsewhere.**



# Free Dementia Friendly Art Group

Stamperland Parish Church  
Stamperland Gardens

Every Friday  
2-4pm



No  
previous art skills  
needed.  
Art Tutors are on  
hand to help!

Pop in for a chat  
Tea and cake provided!

Email [heartfor.art@crossreach.org.uk](mailto:heartfor.art@crossreach.org.uk)  
Facebook [CrossReachHeartForArt](https://www.facebook.com/CrossReachHeartForArt)  
Call 0141 620 3092

## Back Pack Appeal for Mary's Meals

The members of the House Group are again organising the backpack appeal for Mary's Meals. Last year we filled a record number of bags containing items which equipped children for school in countries abroad, where the need is greatest.



If you would like to support this worthy cause, please bring any of the following to church, placing your donations in the boxes provided in the church and halls vestibules ;

Clothing - t-shirts, skirts, trousers, flip -flops,  
plastic cereal bowls, spoons, cups, stationery- notepads, pencils, pens, colouring pencils, felt tips.

Toiletries - soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, face cloths, small towels  
Small balls, backpack or similar sized bag

Our appeal will run until Sunday, 17th September, after which we will fill the bags and arrange for your donations to be uplifted by a volunteer from Mary's Meals.

Thank you.

**Janet Stewart (637 0763)**

## Forgive your Enemies?

Toward the end of the Sunday service, the minister asked "How many of you have forgiven your enemies?"

80% held up their hands. The minister repeated his question.

All responded this time, except one man, an avid golfer named Walter Barnes who attended church only when the weather was bad.

"Mr Barnes, it's obviously not a good morning for golf. It's good to see you here today. Are you not willing to forgive your enemies?"

"I don't have any", he replied gruffly.

"Mr Barnes that's very unusual. How old are you?"

"Ninety-eight" he replied. The congregation stood up and clapped their hands.

"Oh, Mr Barnes, would you please come down to the front and tell us all how a person can live ninety-eight years and not have an enemy in the world?"

The old golfer tottered down the aisle, stopped in front of the pulpit, turned around, faced the congregation, and simply said,

"I outlived them all."





## Stamperland Congregation's own Page for Messages

This is the page for your Good Wishes, Get Well, Happy Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries, A Thank You, or any other message you wish to make.

*We would like to thank Anne MacKenzie for the beautiful flowers. They helped us through a very difficult time with the passing of my mum and Paul, my son's brother in law. Thank you also to Pat McIlwraith for her cheery visit.*  
*Pam & Ted Cochrane*

Many thanks once again to the Church for the use of utensils for our Garden Open Weekend. We would also like to thank our many helpers who turned up for a day, or two, and helped make the weekend the success it was, despite the atrocious conditions on the Saturday afternoon.

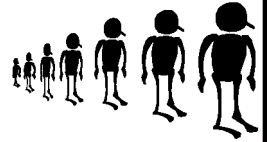
Also grateful thanks to all those who attended, baked, created or donated in any way to help keep the Tearoom going throughout the time it was open and able to cope with the rush on the Sunday.

Finally thank you to the Church for the flowers delivered by Anne MacKenzie.

At the time of writing, a total of £1400 was raised for the South Clyde Branch of the RNLI and supporting a student from Woodfarm High School on a trip to Nicaragua to work with children less fortunate than themselves and also to be involved in decorating and repairing buildings for the use of the children.

*The Neilson Family*





## Duty Teams for the coming Months

### May 2017

7<sup>th</sup> TEAM 2  
14<sup>th</sup> TEAM 3  
21<sup>st</sup> TEAM 4  
28<sup>th</sup> TEAM 5

### June 2017

4<sup>th</sup> COMM 1  
11<sup>th</sup> TEAM 6  
18<sup>th</sup> TEAM 1  
25<sup>th</sup> TEAM 2

### July 2017

2<sup>nd</sup> TEAM 3  
9<sup>th</sup> TEAM 4  
16<sup>th</sup> TEAM 5  
23<sup>rd</sup> TEAM 6  
30<sup>th</sup> TEAM 1

### August 2017

6<sup>th</sup> TEAM 2  
13<sup>th</sup> TEAM 3  
20<sup>th</sup> TEAM 4  
27<sup>th</sup> TEAM 5

### September 2017

3<sup>rd</sup> COMM 2  
10<sup>th</sup> TEAM 6  
17<sup>th</sup> TEAM 1  
24<sup>th</sup> TEAM 2

### October 2017

1<sup>st</sup> TEAM 3  
8<sup>th</sup> TEAM 4  
15<sup>th</sup> TEAM 5  
22<sup>nd</sup> TEAM 6  
29<sup>th</sup> TEAM 1

### November 2017

5<sup>th</sup> TEAM 2  
12<sup>th</sup> TEAM 3  
19<sup>th</sup> TEAM 4  
26<sup>th</sup> TEAM 5

### December 2017

3<sup>rd</sup> COMM 1  
10<sup>th</sup> TEAM 6  
17<sup>th</sup> TEAM 1  
24<sup>th</sup> TEAM 2  
31<sup>st</sup> TEAM 3

### January 2018

7<sup>th</sup> TEAM 4  
14<sup>th</sup> TEAM 5  
21<sup>st</sup> TEAM 6  
28<sup>th</sup> TEAM 1

#### TEAM 1

Mr W Paterson (C)  
Mrs M Young  
Miss L Robb  
Miss G Scott  
Mrs D Clark

#### TEAM 2

Mr G Fairweather (C)  
Mr R Russell  
Mrs J Silcock  
Mr S Owens  
Mr R Kirkwood

#### TEAM 3

Mrs A Macfarlane (C)  
Mr A Henderson  
Mrs S Skelton  
Mrs R McNiven  
Miss J Stewart

#### TEAM 4

Mrs N Fisher (C)  
Miss J Barr  
Mrs J Cranston  
Mr G Finlayson

#### TEAM 5

Mr R Allan (C)  
Mrs J Heriot  
Mrs J Curror  
Mr J Curror

#### TEAM 6

Mr A Graham (C)  
Mrs E Graham  
Mr N Walker  
Mrs M Neilson

The applicable month is highlighted.

Any Duty Member who cannot attend on any date allocated should arrange a substitute for that date and inform the Duty Convenor.



We have been continuing to collect food for the Foodbank over the summer months. The total weight uplifted at the end of June was 45kg which feeds four single people for three days. The weight uplifted in the middle of August was 46.4kg. On average the Foodbank serves about 26 people each week. On the day that our last uplift was made they had 16 people in need of food in just one day. If they have several large family requests, the stock very quickly diminishes. Please continue to support this very necessary cause.

If you would prefer to donate any of the

**The food chosen for the month of September is as follows :**

**Dried Pasta  
Pasta Sauces  
Tinned Vegetables  
Tinned Baked Beans – any size  
Tinned Soup  
Tinned Tomatoes  
UHT Milk and Creamed Rice or Custard (Tinned) are acceptable at any time.**



### SHOPPING LIST

Thank you for your support!

- \* Milk (UHT or powdered)
- \* Sugar (500g)
- \* Fruit Juice (carton)
- \* Pasta Sauces
- \* Tomatoes (Tinned)
- \* Tinned Veg
- \* Cereals
- \* Dried/ Boil in bag Rice
- \* Tinned Meat/Fish
- \* Instant Mash Potato
- \* Sponge Pudding (Tinned)
- \* Rice Pudding or Custard (Tinned)
- \* Tea Bags/Inst coffee
- \* Tinned Fruit
- \* Jam/Spreads
- \* Biscuits or snack bags

### ALSO COLLECTING

- \* Toiletries men and women
- \* Nappies & Baby Food
- \* Treats

East Renfrewshire Foodbank is a project of churches and community working together under charity no: SC029653

other items from the East Renfrewshire List please refer to it opposite. If you are unable to carry heavy items please do not be deterred from donating, there are always lighter options available on the list.

Thank you again for your continued support which is very much appreciated. Again we would ask that items donated are within the **“best before” date**. The Foodbank will not distribute food which is out of date.

**Evelyn Graham on behalf of The Parish & Beyond Committee**



Find and follow us on



**Netherlee Church  
Halls**

An opportunity for busy young families on a Sunday afternoon from 4-6pm to experience Church through games, crafts and activities; as well as something to eat as a family. *OK to drop in at the last minute!* **SAVE THESE PROPOSED DATES: Sep 10 / Nov 19 / Jan 21 / Mar 4**




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### Blythswood Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

The Guild ladies are participating this year in the Blythswood Christmas Shoe Box Appeal.

The boxes are distributed to people in need in Albania, Bulgaria Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Pakistan, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine

If any members of the congregation would like to join with us to collect items for the boxes it would be greatly appreciated. We are collecting items for women. Items must be of a size that can be put into a shoe box.

The items suggested by Blythswood are :

Toothbrush and Toothpaste	Shampoo	Face cloth/Moist wipes
Deodorant	Comb/Brush	Sanitary Products
Soap (not Pears)	Underwear	Socks/Tights
Hat, scarf, gloves	Moisturising Cream	Sewing equipment
Kitchen utensils	New Make-up	

## A Walk Down the Memory Lane of Focus Magazines September 1977



The pen of the Minister, the Reverend David Speed, gave thanks to the congregation for welcoming him and his family into Stamperland as their new Minister from June. This was followed by an extract from a letter from the outgoing Interim Moderator, The Reverend Laurence Whitley who thanked everyone for their generosity and gifts of a Hibs football scarf (I think!) and that of a hilarious poem by Mary McEwan, as well as other tributes.

Here we are in almost the same situation some 40 years later although it is not yet known if Hibs will feature in our future!!

Baptisms, one in June and two in August were Debbie Nicol, Monteith Dr, Sarah Elizabeth Fraser and Karen Todd, both of Moray Dr.

Tributes were paid to the late Bill Jarvies, who had died suddenly following a return from holiday. Bill was a mainstay in the Church as Elder, Presbytery Elder, Dramatic Club, Welcoming Committee Convenor, and could be seen representing us at the General Assembly, or just as easily on the end of brush in the church halls.

The Boys' Brigade reported on their Summer camp to Southport attended by 30 boys and four officers, Messrs Blackwood, Aitken, MacKay and Stewart.

David Waugh and his wife also on holiday in the vicinity, paid a visit and organised a football tournament for the boys.

An article related an incident of a speeding car coming from the Toll, taking the corner into the Gardens too quickly, cutting through the church grounds, displacing 4 kerb stones, demolishing a seat beyond repair, three rowan trees, and ending up hitting another parked car in Stamperland Hill.!!!

There was great concern for the lost seat with an appeal going out for a replacement. It's strange that many years later a seat was placed there, being a donation from British Rail, but it had to be removed and disposed of due to congregating teenagers causing problems for nearby residents.

It seems the trees were never considered for replacement.

There was a Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal in the Spring and it was reported by the Convenor, Bill Coulter that 32 young people in our church, 24 Guides, and 8 BB Junior Section boys collected £50, with the top collector being Christine Liddel with £3.66. Thanks were extended to Mrs C Martin, Guides, S Crabb, BB, Mrs E Marshall, Jim Fraser and Mr Dodd for their assistance.

## **Days of the Week**

### **Monday—Wash Day**

*Lord , help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.*

### **Tuesday—Ironing Day**

*Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through all the years so that I may see the beauty of others.*

### **Wednesday—Mending Day**

*O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.*

### **Thursday—Cleaning Day**

*Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.*

### **Friday—Shopping Day**

*O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all the others in need of love.*

### **Saturday—Cooking Day**

*Help me, my Saviour, to brew a big kettle of brotherly and sisterly love and serve it with the clean, sweet bread of human kindness.*

### **Sunday– The Lord's Day**

*O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please come into my heart as my honoured guest so I may spend the rest of my life in your presence.*




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## **The Birth**

“Just relax”, the hospital staff kept telling Jim, but it was to no avail. Jim’s wife was in labour and Jim was a nervous wreck.

### **Reverend Dr Donald Cassie C of S**

A BIBLE that belonged to a Kirk minister who helped save more than 2,000 allied service personnel during the Second World War has been returned to his former church.

Rev Dr Donald Caskie, who was known as the Tartan Pimpernel, was leading the Scots Kirk in Paris when the Germans invaded France in 1940.

His nephew, Tom Caskie, 76, decided to gift the Gaelic Bible to the congregation which is creating a permanent exhibition in honour of the war hero.

He revealed that his uncle, who used the Bible when he worked in France, often used the language to hide information that he did not want to fall into the hands of the enemy.

Dr Caskie, who was raised on Islay in the Inner Hebrides, denounced the Nazis from his pulpit and when the Germans invaded Paris he had to flee the city.

While in southern France, he refused the chance of safe passage on the last ship bound for the UK and fled to Marseille instead.

There he ran a Seaman's Mission, living a double life and passing the close scrutiny of the Vichy Police, and helped British and Allied soldiers to freedom across mountains into Spain.

He was eventually recruited by British Intelligence officers and was told that his mission was the last link of a chain of safe houses that they had set up, which stretched from the beaches of Dunkirk in northern France to Marseille in the south.

With nothing to trust but his God and his instincts, the crofter's son operated in the Seaman's Mission for many months until he was betrayed by a traitor.

Dr Caskie was eventually arrested by the Vichy Police, interrogated and banished from Marseille. He moved to Grenoble where he continued to arrange for the escape of soldiers, seamen and airmen under the cover of being a university chaplain. Dr Caskie was finally imprisoned by the Gestapo and sentenced to death.

The minister, who was given his nickname by the BBC, had ignored repeated calls from British Intelligence and the Church of Scotland to return home.

His life was only saved through the intervention of a German pastor and he spent the rest of the war in a Prisoner of War camp.

The leather-bound Bible bears Dr Caskie's name and address in Paris in his own handwriting. Mr Caskie, whose father Thomas was the minister's older brother, said: "Donald bequeathed his Bible to his brother Neil with whom he lived in Greenock until his death in 1983 at the age of 81.

"When Neil died about 30 years ago, I was offered a choice of one of his books as part of my inheritance so I chose the Bible.

"It is in good condition and I recognise Donald's distinctive handwriting inside the cover.



When I heard that the Scots Kirk wanted to install a permanent memorial to my uncle, I thought it was more appropriate that the Bible lived there rather than anywhere else."

Mr Caskie, who lived in Auchterarder in Perthshire for many years with his late wife Cairine but now stays in Edinburgh, said his family were immensely proud of the minister, whom he described as one of Scotland's "precious heroes".

"Donald was motivated and sustained by his Christian faith," said the retired civil engineer. "He was a very gentle person and clearly he loved humanity and would help anyone he could. "Donald rejected the chance of personal safety and risked his life time and again to ensure others could be safe and free."

Edinburgh University graduate Dr Caskie, whose first charge was Gretna St Andrew's Church, wrote a book about his war time exploits, entitled the Tartan Pimpernel, and the proceeds helped rebuild the Scots Kirk after the war.

The book, which is still in print today, illustrates the tremendous heights the human spirit can soar to in the face of conflict.

After the war, Dr Caskie returned to the Scots Kirk near the Champs-Elysees in the 8th Arrondissement where he stayed until 1961.

Rev Jan Steyn, 56, the current minister, said he was delighted that the Bible had been gifted to the congregation.

"I gladly accepted it and as the inscription in the front of the Bible indicates, he acquired it while still in Paris," he added.

"Its return marks a homecoming after more than 50 years. "We are not sure if this was the Bible which he used during the war but it is most probable as Gaelic Bibles were not generally available."

Mr Steyn, who led Cupar St John's and Dairsie United in Fife until April this year, said Dr Caskie, who was made an OBE in 1945 and honoured by the French Government, was remembered for his "humble yet joyful nature".

Church records, known as Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae state that he was "engaged in church and patriotic duties in France 1939-44".

The war hero returned to Scotland and became minister of Old Gourrock Church in Inverclyde and later Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay North Church in Ayrshire. He retired and after his death in December 1983 he was laid to rest in the family grave at Bowmore on Islay.

Dr Caskie's medals are on display at nearby Kilarrow Parish Church.

**#DonaldCaskie, #WW2, #Tartan Pimpernel, Scots Kirk Paris**

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# POLETEK



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