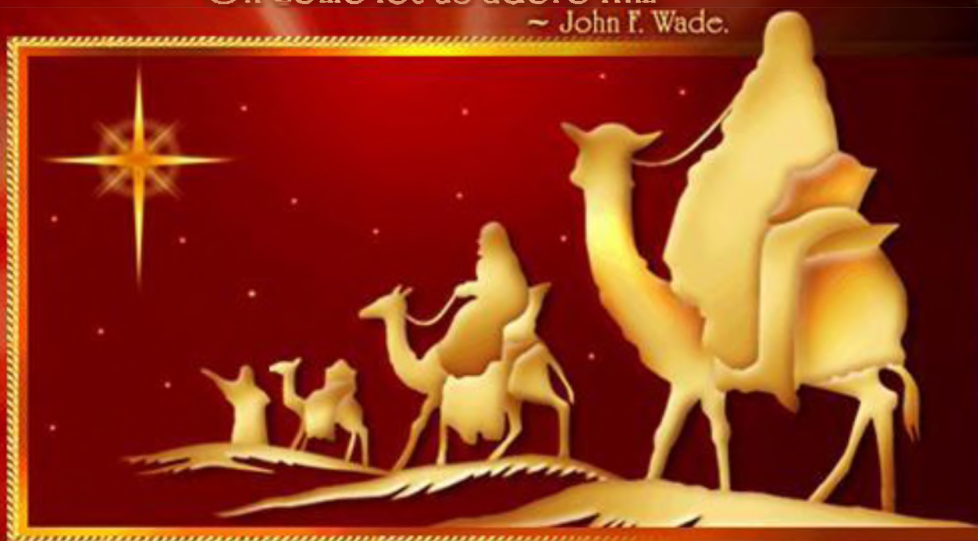




# *Focus*

"Oh come let us adore Him"

~ John F. Wade.



May the miracle of the first Christmas  
fill your heart with joy. Merry Christmas!

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## *December 2017* <sup>33</sup>

*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](mailto: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

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56 Stamperland Drive, Clarkston G76 8HF  
Telephone 0141 586 0955

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,**

I have greatly enjoyed the privilege of serving as a Locum Minister at Stamperland during these past three and a half years. I had just finished a similar appointment at Broomhill Church, found that experience rewarding and helpful, and was happy to fill the same duties at Stamperland.

I am fortunate to still be enjoying good health and after the busy life of being a parish minister, might well have been wondering what to do with my time.

You, the members of Stamperland Parish Church, have helped me to adjust to part-time service. I realised immediately that I was amidst a very friendly, caring and supportive congregation led by capable and committed office-bearers.

Particular tribute should be paid to the Interim Moderator. The Rev. Gray Fletcher, and to your Session Clerk, Norrie Bolton, Gray Fletcher, in addition to his work at Carmunnock Parish Church, has chaired regular meetings of the Kirk Session, and numerous other meetings which have enabled the congregation to move on to a new chapter in its history, linking with Netherlee in 2018. Norrie Bolton has spent many hours, quietly and conscientiously fulfilling his duties as Session Clerk—duties which are bound to have increased during the vacancy.

Now the congregation can look ahead expectantly to the new ministry of the Rev. Scott Blythe. The overwhelming vote of support and confidence which he received from Stamperland and Netherlee members after he preached as Sole Nominee will be a great encouragement to him.

Sharing a minister with a neighbouring congregation is a relatively new experience for the churches in the greater Glasgow area. This experience may become the norm for most Church of Scotland congregations. This new arrangement will inevitably involve adjustment and change, but I am sure you will be sensitive to any changes and the extra responsibility placed on Scott Blythe as the minister of two linked congregations.

Scott Blythe comes with his own God given abilities and gifts. He won't just step into George Mackay's shoes or Jack Drummond's shoes. He brings his own shoes with him!

Thank you for these past three and half years of friendship and fellowship together, much appreciated by myself and Barbara, who is heavily involved each Sunday in the life of Croftfoot Parish Church.

"May the Lord himself, who is our source of peace, give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with you all"

Yours in Christ's service,

**Jack Drummond**

### Funerals

**Mrs Nan McLeod**

**827 Clarkston Road**

**Mr David MacDonald**

**32 Allison PI, Newton Mearns**  
(formerly of The Oval)

### Changes to the Roll

New Members: "Welcome !" to:-

		
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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: Nov 19 / Jan 21 / Mar 4**

Members Leaving: *Sorry you have gone, but you take our best wishes with you.*

## Stepping Stones

Karen Cramb



Since starting back in September we have been busy working on creating a picture board to be displayed in the vestibule in the shape of a mobile phone with the theme "I" for example I pray, I love, I share.

All children were asked to come up with their own idea and they all rose to the challenge and hopefully their creations will be displayed in the very near future.

We have also been learning about the War leading up to Remembrance Day with stories lead by Colin and having fun making poppies to be displayed in the church and making poppy biscuits to enjoy. The Leaders had a relaxing soup and sandwich lunch preparing this years Nativity Play and this will be our focus from now until nativity Sunday on Christmas Eve. Hopefully the children will have as much fun performing it as we had creating it.



We have a great bunch of children attending Stepping Stones each Sunday and would make anyone who would like to join us on a Sunday most welcome.

## **Giffnock South Parish Church**

2 Greenhill Ave, Giffnock Tel 0141 638 2599

### **New Community initiative! 'Sing Well'**

Scientific evidence tells us that singing is good for our health, if you would like to come and join us for a wee sing, whether you can sing or not you are invited to come and sing some old songs and share a cuppa with friends.



The first 'Sing Well' of the gathering it's at 1.45pm in the small hall of Giffnock South on Wednesday 25th October. If you know anyone who might like to come along, please spread the word.

**WEDNESDAYS at 1.45pm from October to May 2018;**

**20th December, 31st November, 28th February, 28th March, 18th April, 23rd May**



## **231<sup>st</sup> Glasgow Company Boys' Brigade – Junior Section and Sparks**

Mobile: 07917801622    E-mail: [scottrussell87@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:scottrussell87@hotmail.co.uk)    Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/231stBB](https://www.facebook.com/groups/231stBB)



On the last week of October we had a fancy dress party where the Boys were allowed to bring a friend. This was a successful night and the Boys enjoyed a disco, dooking for apples (which became chocolate apples shortly after), playing the mummy game and making Halloween crafts. Many Boys brought friends and we had over 50 Boys in the hall.

The start of November has seen the Boys learning about Guy Fawkes night and Remembrance. During Guy Fawkes activities lots of colourful fireworks were created and during Remembrance activities the Junior Section and Sparks made poppies in different ways. On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November the Boys paraded to the church, many of them wearing the poppies that they had created. All the Boys looked very smart and we thank them for their attendance on a special Sunday in the church calendar.

Throughout the month Wednesday Night Football training continues to be popular with around 10 – 15 Junior Section and Sparks attending each week. I would like to thank our BB elder Mr Raymond Russell who has been coming along to help us with football training recently to give me an extra pair of hands on a Wednesday Evening. Saturday Morning games is also continuing to be popular with the Boys who enjoy coming to play football, dodgeball, skittles and jumping on the Bouncy Castle.

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November parents got together to discuss plans for our Christmas Coffee Morning. It will be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 10am – 1pm. At the Fair tea, coffee and cakes will be served and everyone will also have the option of buying items from the stalls, coming to see the trains, bouncing on the Bouncy castle, buying some toys, having a turn of the tombola or having a chance to win a Christmas Hamper. We hope you might come along to support the event which is a joint fundraising event between the Junior and Company Sections.

Our Christmas Party will be held in the church halls on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December starting at 6.30pm. The Boys will have an evening of fun and games and it is also traditional that we buy dinner for Boys and Staff before a visit from a man in a red suit! This will be a casual evening for all boys and staff. The agenda for the evening will be as follows:

**6.30pm – Boys arrive**



## Gift Service



A Gift Service is planned for Sunday 10th December 2017. You may remember we held a similar one last year and had a very good response.

This year we are requesting a slight change in the gifts. With your help we would like to have donations of A Selection Box, or Box of Chocolates, or Box of Biscuits. If possible, we would like the gifts wrapped and labelled.

These gifts will go to the Foodbank which we support, and given to needy families at the Christmas period.

However, if you prefer, we would also appreciate any gifts of toys, again wrapped and labelled Boy/Girl and the age for which the gift is suitable.

The donations can be brought to Church any time before or on the 10th December. Thanking you in anticipation,

## The Worship Committee

1st Stamperland Brownies would like to wish everybody a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year. We look forward to telling you all about our weekly activities in the New year.



Girlguiding

+



Girlguiding



## The Guild



It is hard to believe that we are approaching the half way point in our winter programme. We had a very successful month in November and thank everyone who supported our soup, bread and cheese lunch. The outing to Strathaven Gift & Coffee Shop was also a very enjoyable evening when we were joined by members of the congregation and other friends.

### The syllabus for December and January is as follows:

Dec	5	Glasgow's Hidden Treasures Pt 1	David Walker
Dec	12	Christmas Party	
Jan	9	New Year with Andre Rieu	
Jan	16	Dr Graham's Homes	
Jan	23	Burns Evening	Linda Biggar & Duncan McClure
Jan	30	Iona Community	Duncan McIntyre

For those of you who like to know in advance what the Guild programme is here is our syllabus for the remainder of our session:

Feb	6	Malawi Fruits	
Feb	13	Feed the Minds PROJECT	Rev George Lind
Feb	20	History of the Grand Central Hotel	Jill Scott & Bill Hicks
Feb	27	Outing	
Mar	2 (Friday)	World Day of Prayer Netherlee Church	
Mar	6	Daffodil Tea entertainment by Margaret Weldon – Music of 50's, 60's & 70's	
Mar	13	Optical Confusion	Rev John Martindale
Mar	20	AGM & Memory Boxes	
Mar	27	HOLY WEEK	

We do hope that some of the items will appeal to you. Please come along to the Session Room on a Tuesday evening at 7.30pm, we will be very pleased to see you.

The ladies of the Guild wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





## Flower Calendar

December/January/February 2017  
Contact May Paterson 0141 571 8652



<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Mrs N Fisher</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Mrs C Anderson</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Mrs J Silcock</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Miss H Dunbar</b>
<b>31<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Mrs G Marshall</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Mrs A Charlton</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Mr W Anderson</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Mrs E Moseley</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Mrs A Martin</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Mrs J Marshall</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Mrs M Allan</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Miss J Stewart and Mrs E Macpherson</b>

## Giffnock South Parish Church

2 Greenhill Ave, Giffnock Tel 0141 638 2599

### New Community initiative! 'Sing Well'



Scientific evidence tells us that singing is good for our health, if you would like to come and join us for a wee sing, whether you can sing or not you are invited to come and sing some old songs and share a cuppa with friends.

The first 'Sing Well' of the gathering it's at 1.45pm in the small hall of Giffnock South on Wednesday 25th October. If you know anyone who might like to come along, please spread the word.

**WEDNESDAYS at 1.45pm from October to May 2018;**  
**20th December, 31st November, 28th February, 28th March, 18th April, 23rd May**



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

## **231<sup>st</sup> Glasgow Company Boys' Brigade**

### **– Junior Section and Sparks continued from Page 6**

The final Trip of the calendar year we will be attending the Pantomime at the Kings Theatre on Friday 29th December. All Boys will meet at 5:45pm and the bus will leave at 6pm sharp. All the Boys will be given a small bag of sweets and a bottle of juice for them to enjoy during the performance. Boys will receive ice cream as part of our ticket deal which will be served at the interval.

All that remains for me to say is a thank you in advance to everyone who supports our Christmas Fair this year and to wish everyone in Stamperland Church a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year when it comes. I hope everyone knows the Joy and Peace that Christmas time brings and looks forward to a positive 2018!

**Scott Rus-**  
**in Charge**



**sell, Officer**

The month of November saw an increase in activity with regards to the various activities that the Boys are involved in.

November also saw the annual Armistice parade on the 12<sup>th</sup>. As usual, the 231<sup>st</sup> Boys were exemplary in their appearance and the new uniform was commented on by a number in the congregation - special mention must also go to **Pte Connor Black** who performed the "Flowers of the Forest" to conclude the 2 minute silence.

At the time of writing the Boys are also practicing for the Battalion Drill Competition scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> November. – Look out for the results in the next edition.

Our **Queens Men** continue to make good progress towards their award and they will be busy over the festive period gaining the relevant experience towards their goal. Similarly, our **Presidents Men** are all lined up to complete their course in January.

Looking forward, the Company is on as usual throughout the month of December with the 15<sup>th</sup> being a games night with fish suppers for dinner.



# 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 **01324 718674**



## Fabric



As we strive to maintain the church in a proper state of repair a busy month has produced the following results.

The external brickwork which was giving some concern had now been fully restored to almost its original state. At the same time the emergency exit door was replaced complete with new hardware. A nice new coat of paint completed the task.

New lighting was fitted at the entrance to the halls, with similar unit to be sited at back donor. Both in the interests of safety and security. Painting of the ceilings in the halls will be completed by the time we go to press. We employed the same decorator as we had for the refurbishment of the manse.

On the subject of the manse, we have been advised by our letting agents that they have a new tenant due to take up residence prior to the end of the month.

New LED lighting similar to the installation in the church has been commissioned and is being fitted to both halls to replace the existing fluorescent tubes . This will increase the visibility and is also environmentally friendly and cost saving to run.

Some small repairs to the woodwork in the kitchen area is ongoing and will be complete by month end.

We are due to have a 5 yearly inspection of our electrical installation, this has been organised and will take place shortly.

The property committee are in the process of preparing a schedule of various projects for next year to keep us wind and watertight .

**Roy Allan Fabric Committee**



+++++

***Netherlee Carol Singing for Shelter Scotland***

*On Tuesday 12th December you are invited come and join the Carol Singing in*



## 79<sup>th</sup> Glasgow (Stamperland) Scout Group



### Beavers

**Leaving us** - 7 Beavers moved up to Cubs in November. We will miss Logan, Rory, Ryan, Aaron, Paul, Michael & Gavin and wish them well in Cubs & hope that they enjoyed their time with us.

**Badgetastic** - But before they left us, all the Beavers went to Badgetastic at Auchengillan. This was an event organised by Clyde Region for Beavers across the whole region and was a great day with a special Beaver programme for the day.

Beavers had the chance to do their Adventure Challenge badge which was fun for all they did, including Archery, Boulderling, Grass Sledges & Pedal Karts. Other badges and activities that were tried included cycling, cooking, health & fitness, faith, global issues, animal friend & much more. Most of the Beavers took part in a lot of the Badge Activities. We arrived at 10am & left at 4.30pm & the sun was out all day. The Beavers all enjoyed themselves, so a great day was had by all.

Claire and I would like to thank the parents that came along to make sure the Beavers could take part in as many events as usual.

We would also like to thank the 91<sup>st</sup> Netherlee Beavers who asked us to share their bus which made transport that bit easier.

**Panto** - The Group are all going to the panto at Eastwood theatre for the last night to see Snow White & the Seven Wee Muppets. I hope it will be a good night for all.

As we are at the end of the year, we wish you all a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year from all the Beavers & Leaders of 79th Beaver Scouts.

**Alison Macfarlane – Assistant Beaver Leader, Tel: 0141 644 2712**



### Cub Pack

**Welcome** - As mentioned in the Beaver article the Cubs have just welcomed up 7 new members who have made their Promise to move up to Cubs.

On the same night we officially welcomed James, Saul, Raymond and Ciaran who have recently joined from our waiting list into the Pack.

**Goodbye** – At the same time the Cubs see 6 of our older members moving up to Scouts. Ashton, Chandresh, Coll, Harry, Sam and Ross have, we hope, enjoyed their time in Cubs and we wish them well for Scouts.

**Silver Chief Scouts Challenge** – I am delighted to say that all 6 of the boys moving up to Scouts have gained their Silver Chief Scouts Challenge badge (the highest badge in Cubs). This reflects their participation in a number of our activities over the years as well as completing some tasks and challenges outside of Cubs.

**Sixers & Seconders** – with the older boys moving to Scouts, and welcoming in a number of new faces, we have had a re-shuffle of our Sixes to even out the numbers. This has meant we could select some new sixers and seconders. Well done to Jamie, Rafa, Ethan and Finn who became Sixers and Callum, Daniel, Jack and Matthew who became seconders.

**Badgetastic** – Elaine and myself helped out at the Beaver Badgetastic event by providing a location for both our Beavers and those from the 91<sup>st</sup> to leave bags, have lunch and come back to for some hot drinks. We enjoyed ourselves and it was great to get to know some of the Beavers a bit more.

**Panto** – The Cubs are joining with the other sections for our trip to the Panto in December for our last night. I am sure we will all have a great time.

On behalf of all the leaders of the Cubs I would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

**Philip Moseley – Cub Scout Leader, Tel: 0141 620 3146**

### **Scout Troop**

**Community Challenge Badge** - As we go into December, the Scouts have been working hard towards the Community Challenge badge by:

- Collecting food to donate to the Glasgow South West food bank
- Taking part in the 2017 Christmas shoe box appeal in conjunction with Blythswood Charities.
- Raising money for the Glasgow City Mission with the individual Scouts taking part in a Troop Bake-off at the going up ceremony which was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> November. All donations on the sale of the cakes going to the





**12<sup>th</sup> October** – The Scouts and leaders had an enjoyable evening at the Play Sport golf range in East Kilbride with an inter-patrol challenge of hitting the target and finishing the night off with juice and crisps.

**26<sup>th</sup> October** (Halloween) – This was a traditional night of Halloween games, ducking for apples, jammie doughnuts, treacle sweets and much more with some party games.

**12<sup>th</sup> November** – Remembrance Sunday parade which was well attended by all sections. I would like to thank the Scouts and their parents for taking the time and effort in participating in the worth while yearly parade for Remembrance.

### Explorers

At present we have six of the older Scouts that have become of age to join the Explorer section. We are in the process of arranging uniforms and trying to start our own unit. We have some willing young leaders, but would always appreciate more assistance. If you, or you know of anyone, who would be willing to assist then please contact me to discuss. We have arranged a programme of activities for the Explorers in the coming months and any assistance would be gratefully appreciated.

**Duke of Edinburgh Award** - I would like to congratulate James, Johnny and Sam in completing their Bronze D of E award. Well done and deserved in all your hard work.

If you would like to discuss any of the above please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the other Leaders on a Thursday night.

Can I take this opportunity on behalf of the boys and Leaders in wishing you and your family a Happy and Peaceful Christmas?

**Joe Mailley - Group Scout Leader, Tel 0141 571 0887**




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### **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.

## 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

## 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.

## Farewell and thanks from the McKee's



One behalf of Lynsey, Finlay and I, we would like to say all the best and thank you for our time at Stamperland Church. I have now formally moved my membership to Mossneuk Parish Church in East Kilbride and Lynsey will do so in due course.

We have enjoyed taking part and organising many of the social activities over the years, not least the David Milligan Quiz and the Day Trip to Troon in 2013. Holy Week was also always a highlight, including the Dawn Service on Easter Sunday. We hope you all gained as much enjoyment from attending these events as we did organising them.

We just feel now is the correct time to move on to pastures new and to attend a Church closer to home, which will also have school friends for Finlay (please note, we would rather our son was known by this name).

Mossneuk, while smaller, is very welcoming and is facing the future with confidence, despite recently losing their minister to a new job at the Church of Scotland HQ in Edinburgh. They run Messy Church as well as Boys and Girls Brigade and are keen to build the Church presence in East Kilbride. They have many exciting plans for the future and I look forward to being part of them, as I will join their Kirk Session this month.

I know everyone is looking forward to the arrival of Rev. Blythe to Stamperland and I look forward to hearing how he settles in from my mum, as well as Scott and Steven who keep me updated on Church matters.

Finally, if any of you are in East Kilbride and wish to pop in to see hello then you can be sure of a warm welcome. Just make sure you like Thomas the Tank Engine, Mr Tumble and the Teletubbies so you can sing along with Finlay! Best wishes,

**David, Lynsey and Finlay McKee**




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## Backpacks for Mary's Meals

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported our recent appeal for backpacks and contents. The response has been magnificent, breaking all previous records by reaching the grand total of 55 filled bags, which were uplifted on 25th October. They were to be loaded into a

# POLETEK

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### Gutter vacuum



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- 40ft pole for the out of reach gutters

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## 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.

*Many thanks to everyone who contributes to "The Sweetie Treat" on a Sunday morning. It is very much appreciated. Happy Christmas to All.*

*The Sweetie Lady*

*Thank you so much for the flowers and get well wishes I have received following my recent surgery, this is much appreciated,  
Gillian Harte.*

*Bill and I would like to thank the Rev Jack Drummond for his uplifting visits, which we very much appreciated. Thank you too to the flower ladies and the Church for the lovely flowers we received.*



Down Memory Lane has had to be shelved for this month due to volume of articles, as have the fun clips. Both items will continue in future. Editor.



## Focus Collection & Distribution Arrangements

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

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.

Norrie Bolton, our Session Clerk, has been able to convert the production copy of the magazine to normal page size (A4) each month and has been putting it on the web site of the Church for all to read. If you are keen to access this you will be able to enjoy all the pages in colour where it exists, and perhaps if you receive your copy through the post from the Church you might like to consider whether you would be happy to read it on line, rather than receive it by post. If anyone does so, please let me know and I will withdraw your postal copy from our mailing list.

To enable events that are date sensitive to reach members of the congregation, it would be helpful, where this is practical, if all those who deliver the magazine can uplift their magazines and deliver them before the start of the month,

I would like to wish everyone who deals with the printing, compilation, and dis-

Issue	All Copy Input on or before	Collection Date for Distribution
January	No Magazine	
February	14th January	28th January
March	11th February	25th February
April	11th March	25th March
May	15th April	29th April
June	13th May	27th May

tribution a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraser Neilson 0141 586 0955

cumbrae14@ntlworld.com

+++++

The food collected at the beginning of November amounted to 43kg. This will feed four single people for three days or two large families. As previously mentioned the increase in clients at the Foodbank has mostly been for large families which has a big impact on the level of their stock. Every donation of food is much appreciated. Please continue to bring much needed stock for the Foodbank. Each food parcel distributed is very carefully calculated for nutritional values.

**The foods chosen for the months of December and January are shown below.**

As this magazine covers two months you may wish to choose other items as detailed in the Foodbank Shopping List as shown separately on this page.

If you would prefer to donate any of the other items from the East Renfrewshire List please refer to the list as shown. 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.

**Tinned Soup**  
**Baked Beans**  
**Packet cuppa soup**  
**Sponge Pudding (tinned)**  
**Dried Pasta**  
**Porridge**  
**Tinned spaghetti/shapes/macaroni**  
**Cooking sauces in jars**  
**Weetabix or similar**  
**Tea bags/Instant Coffee**  
**UHT Milk and Creamed Rice or Custard**



## SHOPPING LIST

Thank you for your support!

- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- Sugar (500g)
- Fruit Juice (carton)
- Pasta Sauces
- Tomatoes (Tinned)
- Tinned Veg
- Cereals
- Dried/ Boll 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 bars

## ALSO COLLECTING

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



## Looking Backwards

By the time Scott Blythe becomes our new minister on 30<sup>th</sup> November we will have been vacant for almost three and three quarter years. During any vacancy or extended period of uncertainty there is a risk that a church will suffer decline with falling attendance, members drifting away and church finances deteriorating. Throughout our long vacancy we have been very fortunate in having Jack Drummond as our Locum Minister and Gray Fletcher as our Interim Moderator. During this time both ministers, along with the congregation and Kirk Session, worked hard to ensure we thrived and maintained a positive, forward-looking attitude. As a congregation we have many people to thank.

### Jack Drummond

I know that many of our congregation wish that Jack could stay on and be our minister for ever.

Jack's style and manner is closely aligned with many members' idea of the ideal minister and his conduct of worship felt very appropriate to Stamperland. Whilst some might say that Jack offers a very traditional style of worship the subject matter has always been relevant, up-to-date and topical. Throughout his time as Locum, we have been introduced to many new hymns and hymn tunes. So, a traditional minister, perhaps, but not at all old-fashioned or stuck in the past. Jack's language is simple and straightforward – not flowery and not complicated. As a result, his message is always clear and inspirational. The ease with which ideas are communicated in prayers and sermons is, almost certainly, the result of lengthy and careful preparation.

Jack enjoyed a great rapport with the children in Stepping Stones. All of us in the congregation enjoyed his interaction with Stepping Stones particularly, initially, with Sophie Brown and, more recently, with Scott.

Jack is interested in and cares for people. Within weeks of coming to Stamperland, Jack knew the names of most of the congregation. Throughout his time as Locum he has been assiduous in visiting members and parishioners both in their own homes and in hospital. Everyone experienced great support and encouragement from his visits.

Right from the start Jack engaged fully with the life of our congregation – he was never just the "Sunday Locum". He attended Guild meetings; he supported the youth organisations; he worked with Open Door; he established the monthly service at Clarkston Care home; he was, along with Tom Nelson, chaplain to Netherlee Primary School. Jack attended most of our Kirk Ses-

Gardens and so and so on. These events often saw him accompanied by a family member or members. As well as developing a friendship with Jack we were fortunate in getting to know Barbara, his wife. Barbara played piano or organ on many of the occasions when our organist was on holiday.

Jack never took all of his holiday entitlement. In his time as Locum he never had a single day of illness. Knowing that if Jack didn't turn up for a service I would have to step in, I was always relieved to see his little green car parked close to the church. Jack did say that he thought that the little green car would last him throughout his time at Stamperland. Being here somewhat longer than probably at first envisaged, he now drives a newer car - a little blue one this time.

Jack Drummond really has kept our church going over the past three and three quarter years. He has won a place in the hearts of many and we trust that he will think well of us as he moves on to fresh pastures and new challenges.

We wish Jack and Barbara a long and happy retirement.

### **Gray Fletcher**

Gray Fletcher has been our Interim Moderator since March 2014. As Interim Moderator, Gray's focus was more on the administrative rather than the spiritual aspects of church life and much of his involvement will have gone unseen by the majority of members. By the time of Scott's induction, Gray will have moderated more than 40 meetings of Stamperland Kirk Session, 10 meetings held jointly with Netherlee Kirk Session and three Congregational Stated Annual Meetings. Most Kirk Session meetings were preceded by a meeting with either members of the Session Business Committee or the Session Clerk.

Gray has also chaired at least three major meetings of the congregation and conducted five Communion services. In addition, Gray attended a considerable number of meetings with Presbytery officials, with the minister and Session Clerk of Netherlee and with the Nominating Committee of Stamperland and Netherlee as well as meetings associated with our own Local Church Review (LCR) and with the LCR follow-up. All of this activity was undertaken in parallel with his primary role as minister of Carmunnock Parish Church!

As Interim Moderator, Gray led us through testing times both in dealing with presbytery and in unifying diverging views regarding our future within the session and congregation. Gray brought a wealth of relevant experience and insight to the situation and guided us calmly and wisely through the many complex processes which led, ultimately, to the election of Scott as our new minister. We have much for which to thank Gray.

## Tom Nelson

Ever since its establishment in 1940 Stamperland Church has enjoyed a close link with Netherlee Church. In recent times, when Presbytery were seeking a new, close, formal linkage between our two churches, the attitude of the minister at Netherlee was always going to be crucial. Knowing Tom it was entirely in his character to set aside any personal preferences and look for and work towards the outcome which would best suit both churches. Most recently, the gracious decision of Tom and Catherine Nelson to move out of their manse in Ormonde Avenue well before Tom's retirement to enable Scott and Liz Blythe avoid a double house move within just a few months, has been very much appreciated.

## You

As you read this, you might well be thinking, "Why am I being mentioned?". The answer is that, without you – you the "ordinary member" – we wouldn't have a church. Most of you reading this are active in the life of the church to a greater or lesser degree. To those who are really active, those who attend church on a regular basis, those who contribute financially in a meaningful way, those who carry out diverse tasks on a daily, weekly, monthly basis, to you we offer grateful thanks. If you are reading this and feel that it may not apply to you, then you have an ideal opportunity to come along and join us and our new minister and, together, create a new future for your church

## Looking Forwards

The Service of Induction for Scott Blythe takes place on Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00 pm. This service will be followed by a less formal event in which presentations will be made to Gray Fletcher and Jack Drummond and at which we will learn a little bit about Scott from one of his friends, Rev Alan Watt.

We don't know a great deal about Scott other than that he spent most of the last ten years as a pastor in the Presbyterian Church of North America. Prior to moving to America, Scott served as a detective with the Metropolitan Police, as a university chaplain in Aberdeen and as a Church of Scotland minister in Edinburgh. He comes, therefore, with a broad range of experience .

We do know, however, that Scott and his wife, Liz, are really very excited about their future in Scotland and about Scott's ministry in Stamperland and Netherlee. It is a huge, life-changing decision for Scott and his family to relocate from America to be with us. When they arrive in Scotland, the Blythe family will move into 25 Ormonde Avenue – the former Netherlee Manse.

Initially, Scott will be our minister at Stamperland. When Tom Nelson retires next summer, Scott will become the minister of the linked churches of Netherlee and Stamperland. Before then, we hope that we will have recruited someone to assist Scott. Under the Presbytery Plan Netherlee and Stamperland should have a resource of "1.5 full-time equivalent ministers". So one of the first tasks will be to start the process of finding and recruiting "a 0.5 full-time minister".

*Last month I wrote the following: 'How the future unfolds is largely in our own hands. If Stamperland Church has regular attendances at Sunday services of well over a hundred people and is financially sound then there will be no doubt about our continued future. On the other hand, if only a small number of people were to attend worship on a regular basis and the finances were in a bad way, I'm sure that you can imagine what the future would have to be. The arrival of a new minister always provides the opportunity for fresh starts. If you haven't been coming to church as much as you once did, then the arrival of Scott is an ideal opportunity to make a change. A change for good. A change to ensure your church's long term future.'*

**Going forwards, our future is up to YOU.**

**Norrie Bolton, Session Clerk**



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## Duty Teams for 2018



January 2018			February 2018			March 2018		
7th	TEAM	4	4th	TEAM	2	4th	COMM	2
14th	TEAM	5	11th	TEAM	3	11th	TEAM	6
21st	TEAM	6	18th	TEAM	4	18th	TEAM	1
28th	TEAM	1	25th	TEAM	5	25th	TEAM	2
April 2018			May 2018			June 2018		
1st	TEAM	3	6th	TEAM	2	3rd	COMM	1
8th	TEAM	4	13th	TEAM	3	10th	TEAM	6
15th	TEAM	5	20th	TEAM	4	17th	TEAM	1
22nd	TEAM	6	27th	TEAM	5	24th	TEAM	2
29th	TEAM	1						
July 2018			August 2018			September 2018		
1st	TEAM	3	5th	TEAM	2	2nd	COMM	2
8th	TEAM	4	12th	TEAM	3	9th	TEAM	6
15th	TEAM	5	19th	TEAM	4	16th	TEAM	1
22nd	TEAM	6	26th	TEAM	5	23rd	TEAM	2
29th	TEAM	1				30th	TEAM	3
October 2018			November 2018			December 2018		
7th	TEAM	4	4th	TEAM	2	2nd	COMM	1
14th	TEAM	5	11th	TEAM	3	9th	TEAM	6
21st	TEAM	6	18th	TEAM	4	16th	TEAM	1
28th	TEAM	1	25th	TEAM	5	23rd	TEAM	2
						30th	TEAM	3

TEAM 1	TEAM 2	TEAM 3
Mr W Paterson (C)	Mr G Fairweather (C)	Mrs A Macfarlane (C)
Mrs D Clark	Mr R Kirkwood	Mrs K Cramb
Miss L Robb	Mr S Owens	Mr A Henderson
Miss G Scott	Mr R Russell	Mrs S Skelton
Mrs M Young	Mrs J Silcock	Miss J Stewart
TEAM 4	TEAM 5	TEAM 6
Mrs N Fisher (C)	Mr R Allan (C)	Mr A Graham (C)
Miss J Barr	Mrs J Curror	Mrs K Baird
Mrs K Bolton	Mr J Curror	Mrs E Graham
Mrs J Cranston	Mrs J Herriot	Mrs M Neilson
Mr G Finlayson	Mr S Russell	Mr N Walker

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

# David Milligan Quiz

Why not come along and try your luck?  
You don't need to come with a full team –  
you are always welcome and there will be  
plenty of people you can join in with!

This is a “bring your own bottle event” and  
fish suppers will be available for purchase  
on the night.

BYOB



BYOB

**Tickets on sale January 2018!**

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
6.45pm for a 7pm start in the church hall.