

*Stamperland Parish Church Magazine*

# *Focus*



## *February 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](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

Life & Work & Focus Editing & Distribution: Fraser Neilson  
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





**Dear Friends,**

This month Queen Elizabeth II, already our country's longest reigning monarch, will celebrate 65 years as sovereign. At the time she became Queen, I was ill in bed with measles, I can remember my father coming into the bedroom to tell me that the King had died and that the country now had a new Queen. However, no five year old would fully understand the importance of such historic events.

These 65 years of the queen's reign have seen great changes in many aspects of culture and morality. Most of the changes have been definite progress. Living standards have risen significantly, although the gap between the richest and poorest has widened. Medical science has advanced enormously and life expectancy has increased. The status of women has improved dramatically.

However, at the same time, many people would argue that moral standards and values have deteriorated. We live in a country which is obsessed with sexual scandal and gossip. People's private lives are often no longer private. People are encouraged today to make monetary claims for others perceived faults. For many, the love of money reigns as a feeble god. Perhaps this is not surprising, because people earning the minimum wage are surely bound to be discontented to learn that a top football player is paid £200,000 per week.

Through all these changes the country has been blessed with a devout Christian monarch, who often emphasises the importance of her faith. Her life has been grounded in the faith and fear of God and modelled on Jesus' virtues of wisdom, mercy, justice, righteousness and peace. In an age where vows are frequently broken, and not taken seriously, the Queen has faithfully upheld the vows which she took at her coronation. The Queen has risen above the wheeling and dealing of politicians who have had their own agenda of personal fame and grandeur. Even those who would prefer to see the monarchy abolished would have to admit that the Queen has remained true to her Christian beliefs.

Christians should be grateful to the Queen for emphasising her own faith and the importance and significance of Christian festivals. Each significant event and anniversary in the Queen's reign has been marked by her attendance at a Church service.

In her Christian broadcasts to a multi-cultural, and multi-faith United Kingdom, the Queen regularly spoke about her beliefs;

"For me, the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability to God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life"

"For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role model of reconciliation and forgiveness, he stretched out his hands in love, acceptance and healing. Christ's example has taught me to seek, to respect and value all people of whatever faith or none".

Such thoughts should inspire and encourage us as we continue through 2017 and the years ahead.

Yours in Christ's service,

**Jack Drummond**


### Funerals



2nd December Mrs Moyra Johnston, Wellmeadow Lodge Care Home  
 3rd January Mrs May McKenzie, Wellmeadow Lodge Care Home  
 12th January Miss Sally Wood 7 Stamperland Hill.

### COMMUNION ROLL CHANGES

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

		From:	To:
	Mrs Karen Turner Mr Scott Russell Mrs Janet Angus	347 Bonnyton Dr. 31 Randolph Dr 177 Randolph Dr.	64 Hill Dr. Eaglesham 4 Bellcraig Court, Busby Wellmeadow Nursing Home.

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



**Clarkston and District Christian Aid Art  
Exhibition and Sale**



Will take place on Saturday 11th March from 10am to 4pm.

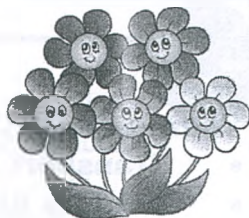
It is being held again in the Carmichael Hall, in Eastwood park, just behind the swimming pool. Tickets are adults £2, Children 50p. Entry includes a catalogue and tea/coffee and biscuits. In addition to the paintings there are also a few stalls including a baking stall.

We hope you can come along, enjoy the paintings and have a coffee and a chat.

Sandra Cowie

# Flower Calendar February 2016

by May Paterson 0141 571 8652



## February

5<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>  
19<sup>th</sup>  
26<sup>th</sup>

Mrs J Marshall  
Mrs M Allan  
Donation  
Miss J Stewart & Mrs E MacPherson

## March

5<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup>  
19<sup>th</sup>  
26<sup>th</sup>

Mrs B Richmond  
Mrs M Neilson & Mrs M Paterson  
Mrs W Paterson  
Mr G Fraser

## Distribution of Focus

A request to contributors to bring forward the electronic input for the magazine to the same day as paper submissions was highly successful and I would like to thank everyone for their co-operation. Electronic input should be Arial size 11 where possible. Please also allow for set margins that the magazine has, when trying to fill an A5 page.



Issue	All Copy Input on or before	Collection Date for Distribution
March	12th February	26th February
April	12th March	26th March
May	16th April	30th April
June	14th May	28th May
September	20th August	3rd September

## Netherlee Church Holiday Club (7th – 13th August 2017)

A meeting is being held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 21st February to chat with anyone who is interested in providing fresh leadership to the Holiday Club.

Without additional volunteers it is unlikely that we will be able to hold our Holiday Club this summer, so if you are able to help we look forward to hearing from you.



Rev Tom Nelson, 0141 585 7502, [TNelson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:TNelson@churchofscotland.org.uk)



## Pastoral Care

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

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • <b>Transport to Church</b>  | <b>Hospital</b>              |
| • <b>Doctors Appointment</b>  | <b>Shopping</b>              |
| • <b>Could do with a chat</b> | <b>Have a prayer request</b> |

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

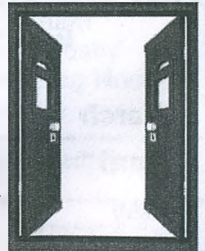
A few months ago we introduced a Library service to you, and this month would like to commend this to you again. Kay is able and willing to exchange your library book, assist you with future choices of your favourite authors, or like authors. Additionally she can provide listening books and large print 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.

**Grace Scott (0141 637 2226)** On behalf of the Pastoral Care Team,

## 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 any one 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

## Guild



The ladies of the Guild wish everyone a Very Happy New Year. We are now into the second half of our winter programme. Our syllabus is as follows:

<b>Jan 31</b>	<b>My Garden through the years</b>	<b>John Kinloch</b>
<b>Feb 7</b>	<b>Caring for Mother Earth in Bolivia</b>	<b>Stuart Smith, Christian Aid, GUILD PROJECT</b>
<b>Feb 14</b>	<b>Music of the 50's, 60's &amp; 70's</b>	<b>Margaret Weldon</b>
<b>Feb 21</b>	<b>Holmwood House</b>	<b>Iain McGillivray</b>
<b>Feb 28</b>	<b>Fashion Show by The Edinburgh Woollen Mill</b>	<b>OPEN NIGHT</b>
<b>Mar 3</b>	<b>(Friday) World Day of Prayer</b>	<b>Held at Stamperland Church at 10.30am</b>
<b>Mar 7</b>	<b>Burma</b>	<b>Rev Jan Mathieson</b>
<b>Mar 13</b>	<b>Outing</b>	
<b>Mar 21</b>	<b>Look good, feel good (Colours)</b>	<b>Denise Winton</b>
<b>Mar 28</b>	<b>Musical Evening with Jill Leavy &amp; her Choir</b>	<b>OPEN NIGHT</b>
<b>Apr 4</b>	<b>AGM</b>	
<b>Apr 10</b>	<b>HOLY WEEK</b>	

We do hope that there will be something of interest for everyone. Music of the 50's, 60's & 70's should be an enjoyable night reminiscing to music of several decades ago, Mr Iain McGillivray, previously Head Teacher at Williamwood High School and an excellent speaker, will speak to us about the history of Holmwood House which is of local interest.

This year we are having a Fashion Show by The Edinburgh Woollen Mill which is a first for Stamperland Guild. Tickets at a price of £5.00 will shortly be on sale from Guild members. Clothes and accessories will be on sale. We do hope that you will come along and support our Open Evening.

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March the Service for the World Day of Prayer this year is being held in Stamperland Church at 10.30am. We do hope that as many members of our own congregation will come to this Service.

Another date for your diary is **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March** when we are going back to Dobbie's at Stirling for lunch with time to browse around the various shops. We will leave the Church at 11.00am returning to Stamperland by 3.30pm. The cost, which is for the coach only, at the time of writing this

article has yet to be finalised but should be around £8.00. Last year this proved to be a very successful outing and I do hope you will give consideration to coming with us this year.

**Evelyn Graham, Stamperland Guild Secretary**

---

### **The Cost of an Operation**

A little girl went to her bedroom and pulled a glass jelly jar from its hiding place in the closet. She poured the change out on the floor and counted it carefully. Three times, even. The total had to be exactly perfect. No chance here for mistakes.

Carefully placing the coins back in the jar and twisting on the cap, she slipped out the back door and made her way 6 blocks to Rexall's Drug Store with the big red Indian Chief sign above the door.

She waited patiently for the pharmacist to give her some attention, but he was too busy at this moment. Tess twisted her feet to make a scuffing noise. Nothing. She cleared her throat with the most disgusting sound she could muster. No good. Finally she took a quarter from her jar and banged it on the glass counter. That did it!

'And what do you want?' the pharmacist asked in an annoyed tone of voice. 'I'm talking to my brother from Chicago whom I haven't seen in ages,' he said without waiting for a reply to his question.

'Well, I want to talk to you about my brother,' Tess answered back in the same annoyed tone. 'He's really, really sick....and I want to buy a miracle.'

'I beg your pardon?' said the pharmacist.

'His name is Andrew and he has something bad growing inside his head and my Daddy says only a miracle can save him now. So how much does a miracle cost?'

'We don't sell miracles here, little girl. I'm sorry but I can't help you,' the pharmacist said, softening a little.

'Listen, I have the money to pay for it. If it isn't enough, I will get the rest. Just tell me how much it costs.'

The pharmacist's brother was a well-dressed man. He stooped down and asked the little girl,

'What kind of a miracle does your brother need?'

'I don't know,' Tess replied with her eyes welling up I just know he's really



sick and Mommy says he needs an operation. But my Daddy can't pay for it, so I want to use my money.'

'How much do you have?' asked the man from Chicago .

'One dollar and eleven cents,' Tess answered barely audible. 'And it's all the money I have, but I can get some more if I need to.'

'Well, what a coincidence,' smiled the man. 'A dollar and eleven cents---the exact price of a miracle for little brothers.'

He took her money in one hand and with the other hand he grasped her mitten and said 'Take me to where you live. I want to see your brother and meet your parents. Let's see if I have the miracle you need.'

That well-dressed man was Dr Carlton Armstrong, a surgeon, specializing in neuro-surgery. The operation was completed free of charge and it wasn't long until Andrew was home again and doing well.

Mom and Dad were happily talking about the chain of events that had led them to this place.

'That surgery,' her Mom whispered. 'was a real miracle. I wonder how much it would have cost?'

Tess smiled. She knew exactly how much a miracle cost...one dollar and eleven cents...plus the faith of a little child.

### The Logic of Larry



Larry's class was on a field trip to their local police station where they saw pictures tacked to a bulletin board of the 10 most wanted criminals.

One of the youngsters pointed to a picture and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person.

"Yes" said the policeman. "The detectives want very badly to capture him."

Larry asked, "Why didn't you keep him when you took his picture?"

### One Line Lift me-ups!

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.

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



### Cub Pack

**Auchengillan Weekend** – As noted in the last Focus, the Cubs took part in a weekend away in November to round off our year celebrating Cubs 100 (the centenary of Cubs). We had excellent weather (if cold) and the Cubs took part in a number activities, mainly outdoors, including backwoods cooking, laser quest, crafts and much more.

We also had our usual forfeit campfire with everyone having to complete a forfeit in between songs and games. We then rounded the evening off with everyone renewing their Cub Promise around the campfire.

**Panto** – The Cubs joined with the Beavers and Scouts in a trip to the panto at East Kilbride to see Robin Hood. We all had a great night and the Cubs definitely enjoyed themselves.

**New Session** – At the time of writing we have only had 1 week back at Cubs, but as usual we will have a full session of activities and opportunities for the Cubs to gain badges.

The Cub pack is still full, with a waiting list, but with the movement up to Scouts we might be able to take a few off the list in the coming months.

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

### Scout Troop & Explorers

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January** – This was the first night back after the festive break and we had 16 scouts on the night which was great to see. Can I take this opportunity on behalf of the boys and Leaders to wish everyone within the congregation and Stamperland community a Peaceful New Year and hope it's a good one.

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – The scouts had joined the Beavers and Cubs in going to the panto Robin-hood at East Kilbride Theatre to finish off the session before the festive break and this turned out to be a great night for the boys and Leaders.

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December** – This was the last night in the hall before the Christmas break when the boys had a night of Traditional take away food with a full night of games and fun and exchanging gifts and cards

**Duke Of Edinburgh Award** – At present we have three Explorers carrying out their Volunteering section of the Bronze award with the various sections. Over a three month period, by rotating on a four week slot in the sections to help with programming, assisting in games and getting to know the individual boys by taking the register on a Thursday night. Johnny, James and Sam:



keep up the good work! As we go into 2017 we have another two of our older scouts working within the Group completing the volunteering Bronze award.



Plans are in place for the Scout Group to do a joint Unit with 1st Stamperland Guides as in the past four Jamborees. The Jamboree will be held between 29th July and 5th August 2017 at Auchengillan Outdoor Centre. The Jamboree has been organised by a regional team in the past. This time, after a number of successful events at the Centre, the Auchengillan Team will be planning, organising and delivering AJ17.

We are looking forward to some exciting new activities, an Explorer only Sub Camp & Programme, AJ's All American Diner – an adult free zone, an opening carnival and much more. The Jamboree is open to both Scouts and Guides aged between 10 and 17.

**Joe Mailley – Scouter-in-Charge, Tel: 0141 571 0887**

### Stepping Stones

Hi Everyone, it's Rebecca, Laura, Lauren and Cara from Stepping Stones.



We have learned about our Church and the different names for the places.

We found out about what different people do to keep our Church. We would like to say a big "Thank You"!

We made stained glass windows out of tissue paper and hung them around the Church. We made a big cross then signed the inside of it. Then we also asked the people within the Church to sign it. We plan to bring it up soon to let everyone see it.

We made poppies for Remembrance Day and decorated the Church with them. We started doing the Nativity in November and practices every week till we performed it. This nativity was good fun and we hope you enjoyed it?

After Christmas, we had a party to celebrate Jesus birthday. We are going to continue the topic of "Our Church" until Easter.

**Rebecca, Laura, Cara and Lauren.**

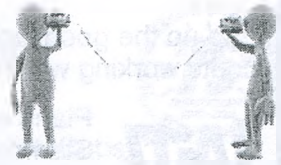
### Fun from 1978

A secondary school teacher displays the following "sales" notice in his classroom "Free, every Monday to Friday - Knowledge -

Bring your own containers"



## COMPANY SPEAK – PR and HR



Poletek is a company which has recently started advertising in Focus. Poletek is a window cleaning company and its advertisement and a recommendation spurred us to ask them to clean the outside of the high, clerestory windows of our sanctuary. The windows were cleaned in November – but, to be honest, they didn't look much cleaner. Then, through a contact of a BB officer, we asked a local property management company to clean the inside of our windows. When this had been done - what a transformation! As much dirt had been on the inside of the glass panes as on the outside. I'm certain that many a minister could deliver a Children's Address on this theme – it isn't just the appearance on the outside that matters but also the state of the inside.

This story also highlights the power of advertising and the power of networking. The Focus advertisement "worked" for Poletek. The conversation between BB officers led to a successful outcome for us and for the company. Advertising (speaking to people you don't know personally) and networking (speaking with people you do know personally) is key to modern business. As a church we need to improve our advertising and networking – our reaching out to people we don't know and to people we do know.

Advertising and Public Relations (PR) has evolved into a huge business sector. For churches, advertising is no longer having an intimation in the local paper. We have to have an on-line presence, Facebook pages, web streaming of services, etc. Both our Church, and many of our Organisations do some of these things, but we can do more. Our church has a committee called the Strategy & Communications Committee which has the remit of reaching out to and engaging with people both within our church, within Stamperland and, indeed, much further afield. We could do with more members on that committee – preferably members with skills and abilities in some of the wide range of communication technologies. In business jargon we need appropriate HR (Human Resources) to help us do our PR.

While PR and HR is important, within the church a slightly different form of HR is even more important. Our HR is Human Relations. The church is all about relationships – our relationship with each other and with God. And it isn't just about relationships within the church but our relationships with work colleagues, neighbours, friends, acquaintances and, even, strangers.

Working together, playing, talking and discussing together is networking. In conversation, drop in a reference to your church and you are networking for Stamperland Church. Who knows where your networking might lead.

**Norrie Bolton**





## 1<sup>st</sup> Stamperland Guides

Happy New Year to you all from the leaders and Guides from 1<sup>st</sup> Stamperland Guides.

I would like to apologise for not having an article in the Focus every month, but since taking over the role as County Commissioner I have very little spare time. I will try and do better this year!

Guides are doing well with 28 very enthusiastic girls. Thank you to all the congregation who supported the Guides Mulled Wine morning after the children's service at Christmas. The Guides supply the food and drink and all donations were donated to the Church. This year it was over £100, so thank you for your generosity.

On Christmas Eve we were lucky enough to be given a days bag packing at Morrison's in Giffnock. The leaders were there all day but the Guides were only required to do an hour and a half. It was very welcoming to hear members of the public congratulating us on the behaviour of the girls and the fact that they were nice and cheery. So well done girls. We will in the future 'pay back' Morrison's by doing a bag pack for their charity.

Our forthcoming programme has a few old favourites. Our annual Burns Evening with dancing and Haggis and Chinese New Year ...again with food! A few of the girls are working on the Baden Powell award and they hope to complete this in March by attending the County BP Adventure at Netherurd.

As we will be attending the Auchengillan Jamboree in July, with Stamperland Scouts, our main focus will be on getting the girls 'camp ready' as many of them have not had much experience of going away with the Guides camping and a week is a long time ....and some very valuable team building.

Leaders have a training weekend at Netherurd in February to keep them up to date with Girlguiding UK Policies and Regulations, new ideas for weekly unit meetings and places /activities to try, but also to give them a head-start with the new programmes for all sections rolling out next year !!

Last year the County ran a "design our neckie competition" and I am delighted to say that both the winner and runner up came from Stamperland Guides. More about that once the girls have been informed.

Please remember that we have a RAG-BAG box at the back of the Church Hall. Any unwanted clothing, shoes, household linens, bags and belts will be gratefully received. This helps with our funds.

By the end of January all subscriptions should be paid. Please speak to any leader if there are any questions.

**Christine Mailley, [stamperlandguides@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stamperlandguides@hotmail.co.uk)**



# Stamperland Parish Church Or- ganisations Activities at Christmas 2016

The volunteers  
putting up the  
tree in early  
December

Lighting the  
third Advent  
Candle

The volunteers  
putting up the  
tree in early  
December

Handprint  
Wreaths made by  
the Brownies &  
given to the  
Nursing Home

Stars from the  
Nativity Play

The Cubs at the  
Panto in  
East  
Kilbride

Junior BB & Sparks  
at Cinderella in  
the King's  
Theatre



# **The Modern Woman**

**Jean Anderson 3/3/94 (Courtesy of Willie Anderson)**

Done it, seen it, bought the tee shirt,  
Is the modern term of phrase,  
Things are all so different  
Since my own youthful days.

We came through the swinging "sixties",  
Those really were the days,  
Or so they kept on telling us  
But I lived them in a haze.

For I never had the time  
To walk barefoot in the park,  
For I was knee-deep washing nappies  
From dawn till it was dark

New babies came all ready wrapped  
In every kind of plastic  
And they all stay quite waterproof  
With clever use of elastic!

The modern woman has a language all her very own,  
She owns a car, and mortgage  
And she's very seldom home,  
Not for her the hours of cooking,  
Or doing the washing in a tub,  
She's more likely to go drinking  
With her mates down at the pub.

Black is the colour, the young ones like to wear,  
The girls wear leggings all year round,  
Bare legs?- they wouldn't dare!

Unisex is the fashion for either sex to wear,  
Some females can look very butch  
But they really do not care,  
For life is for the living and they haven't time to think.  
Yes, our modern lively women aren't tied to the sink.  
But still I know our sisters of this exciting generation  
Are caring about the environment all across the nation

So here's to all us women,  
Be they modern, round or flat,  
We make the world a better place  
Be assured of that!



*The Guild  
Fashion Show*

*By*

*Edinburgh Woollen Mills  
The Avenue, Newton Mearns*

*Will be held in  
Stamperland Church*

*On*

*Tuesday 28th February 2017*

*At 7.30pm*

*Tickets £5.00*





## Walking with Ghosts

By Donald Montgomery

This morning I walked with ghosts.

Happy to be alive I strode out gladly, marveling at the beauty of the early Sunday morning, warmed by the brightness of a low slung winter sun, a brave reminder that spring is on the way.

I travelled the route I've travelled on more Sundays than ever I could count, passing between the familiar rows of modest suburban dwellings. Homes built in the inter war years, little more than fancy two-ups, two-downs, with tiny gardens.

Perhaps it was the feeling of being at the beginning of the year that made me think of the original owners of these houses. The familiar names from my earliest days came

back to me; the Logan's and the Robb's, the Christison's and the Williams, all of them now long gone, settled elsewhere or in many cases, dead.

I remembered the stern politeness of Sunday mornings long ago, when close neighbours and even friends were addressed as Mr and Mrs and we children spoke only when spoken to. I wondered then how these strict disciplinarians, conscious of their exalted standing as Elders of the Kirk, would view the easy familiarity now common between men and women and between the generations.

Soon the church came into view, an ugly flat roofed concept, occasionally threatened with closure. I was reminded then of the dedication and determination of the original residents who'd moved mountains in hard times, to give the community it's own place of worship. Ungrateful child that I was I'd often wished we'd had a "proper" church", one with a towering steeple, flagstone floors and ancient pews. Now I can see how the great effort had been for the war-ravaged congregation to have created even the modest focus of what was then a hall church for the community.

As I walked, I wondered what these hardy men and women of yesteryear, who had stoically tholled war time insecurity and austerity of the post war years, would make of the scene today. All around was evidence of easy



living; they'd be astonished to see a car parked outside almost every house.

Here a couple were carting the weekly shopping from a packed boot, the bulging plastic bags packed with goodies unimaginable to a generation used to years of rationing and want. And shopping on the Sabbath? The very ideal.

Then again my ghosts, upright men of God in their threadbare Sunday best, might stare aghast at the casual scruffiness of a later generation. They might well exchange puzzled glances, shake their heads and mutter a well used phrase from time gone by;

"Aye it's changed days," I almost heard them say.

They can say that again.

+++++  
**The Worship Committee**

The Worship Committee would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated to the Gift Service, held on Sunday 1th December, bringing along beautifully wrapped gifts for needy children. There were 120 gifts donated which were donated between Woman's Aid (Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire) and the Trussell Trust.



The children from Stepping Stones enjoyed and did a great job collecting the presents from the congregation and placing them under the Christmas tree. Thank you to all of them.

A carrier bag of wrapped gifts was handed into the Church by a lady who could not manage to the service that morning but wanted to take part. Thank you so much.

I think from the oldest member to the youngest child that morning the true meaning of Christmas gifts was realised in that it is in giving and not receiving that we are truly blessed.

+++++  
**The Worship Committee**

- My wife got 8 out 10 on her driver's test--the other two guys managed to jump out of her way.

-There may be no excuse for laziness, but I'm still looking.

-He who laughs last thinks slowest.





## Stamperland Congregation's own Page for Messages

THANK YOU

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.

Thank you so much for the church flowers, They were just lovely,  
Jacqui Kidd

On behalf of David, I would like to thank the Rev Jack Drummond for visiting David at the Care Home during the festive season. I also thank him for the gift he brought with him from the Church. Although David does not fully understand, it is nice to know that he is not forgotten.

I would also like to thank Anne MacKenzie for the flowers she very generously sends to him from time to time. Thanks to all,

Jean Waugh

*I would like to thank Grace Scott and Margo and Fraser Neilson most sincerely for the car lifts to and from hospital and for giving my sister Agnes and Helen lifts to visit me. This was greatly appreciated. I would like to thank everyone for the lovely get well cards and flowers. Thank you also to Rev Jack Drummond for his visit and prayers and also thanks to Anne MacKenzie for the lovely flowers.*

*Marion Cochrane*

Thank you to all who sent cards, phoned and visited me at home and in hospital, and to all who gave and offered lifts to Margaret to let her visit me. Thanks to Jack for all his visits and uplifting prayers and for the lovely Church flowers we received.

Also for everyone's kindness during the last few months which was very much appreciated by both of us. I am glad to say I am coming along fine and hope to be back at Church in the near future.

With kind regards, Jimmy & Margaret Mathieson





## Duty Teams for the coming Months

### Feb 5<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 2

Mr G Fairweather  
(Con)

Mr R Russell  
Mrs J Silcock  
Mr S Owens  
Mr R Kirkwood

### Feb 12<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 3

Mrs A MacFarlane  
(Con)

Mr A Henderson  
Mrs S Skelton  
Mrs R McNiven  
Miss J Stewart

### Feb 19<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 4

Mrs N Fisher (Con)

Miss J Barr  
Mrs J Cranston  
Mr G Finlayson  
Mrs K Bolton

### Feb 26<sup>th</sup> - TEAM 5

Mr R Allan (Con)  
Mrs J Herriot  
Mrs J Curror  
Mr J Curror  
Mr S Russell

### Mar 5<sup>th</sup> – COMMUNION

Mrs A MacFarlane(C)  
Mr N Walker  
Mrs M Young  
Mrs J Silcock

### Mar 12<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 6

Mr A Graham (Con)  
Mrs E Graham  
Mr N Walker  
Mrs M Neilson  
Mrs K Baird

### Mar 19<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 1

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

### Mar 26<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 2

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

### Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> - TEAM 3

Mrs A MacFarlane  
(Con)  
Mr A Henderson  
Mrs S Skelton  
Mrs R McNiven  
Miss J Stewart

### Apr 9<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 4

Mrs N Fisher (Con)  
Miss J Barr  
Mrs J Cranston  
Mr G Finlayson  
Mrs K Bolton

### Apr 16<sup>th</sup> – TEAM 5

Mr R Allan  
Mrs J Herriot  
Mrs J Curror  
Mr J Curror  
Mr S Russell

### Apr 23<sup>rd</sup> – TEAM 6

Mr A Graham (Con)  
Mrs E Graham  
Mr N Walker  
Mrs M Neilson  
Mrs K Baird

**Any duty member who cannot attend on any date allocated should arrange a substitute for that date and inform the Duty Convener.**





The total weight of food uplifted in December was 48.4 kg, which would feed 4 single people for three days. The numbers collecting parcels over the last few months has risen quite a bit so it is essential that supplies keep coming in.

As we are still in winter warm and comforting foods have again been chosen for the month of February:

Tinned or packet Soup, Pasta and pasta Sauces, Breakfast Cereals including Weetabix, and porridge, Instant Mash Potato, Baked beans, Tea Bags/ Instant coffee.

UHT Milk and Creamed Rice or Custard (Tinned) are acceptable at any time. 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.

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

A SIGN IN A SHOE REPAIR STORE IN VANCOUVER THAT READ:

**We will heel you. We will save your sole. We will even dye for you.**

**On a Septic Tank Truck: Yesterday's Meals on Wheels.**

**On a Plumber's truck : "We repair what your husband fixed.";**

### 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 bars

### 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



## Parish and Beyond Brunch Feb 2017



We are having a Brunch on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017 after the morning Service. The proceeds of the Brunch will go to East Renfrewshire Good Causes. Russell Macmillan from East Renfrewshire Good Causes will speak at the morning Service on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

Entry to the Brunch is by donation. Please come along and support a very worthwhile cause.

### The Parish & Beyond Committee

\*\*\*\*\*



Continued from page 20

*I wish to thank the Church and members of the congregation for the flowers and get-well cards I received following my recent knee operation. Also thanks to Jack for his welcome visit.*

*Willie Anderson*

### Congratulations !!

**To Scott Russell on his engagement to Colette on Saturday 14th January. We all wish you both well in your future together.**

*I would like to thank the Church and congregation for the poinsettia plants that were given to Mr Scott, Mrs Richmond and myself at Christmas. Also for the gorgeous flowers that were given to the residents of Linnpark Court. They were enjoyed by all,*

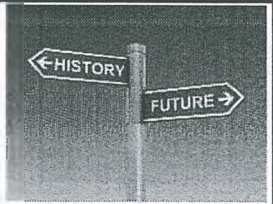
*With very best wishes,*

*Olive Greer*

*I would like to thank everyone involved for the Church flowers, which I received on Sunday 15th January 2017. They are very much appreciated.*

*Beryl Richmond*

## A Walk Down the Memory Lane of Focus Magazines January/February 1978



Looking this month at January and February 1978 one paragraph in the message from the Rev David Speed, read as follows;

"As we stand at the beginning of another year, the future may seem dark and unknown, and we are not sure of the way ahead. It is very tempting to stay within the warm, safe confines of past experience and memory. None of us likes the unknown, or the thought of the unfamiliar"

Badge winners in the Guides in 1977 were Janet Crabb, Fiona Lindsay, Helen Johnstone, Lindsay Young, Anne Dewer, Lesley Bell, Gillian McCormick, Janice McLaughlan, Julie McRoberts, Sheena Skelton, Jill Dunlop, Carol Brown, Jacqueline Finnigan, Christine Liddel, and Karen Anderson, as reported on by Cynthia Martin.

The christening of Avril Janet Blackwood took place on 15th January 1978.

Seven Cubs became Scouts,, namely Cameron McIlwraith, Fraser McInnes, Douglas Miliken, David Herriot, Thomas Gorman and Euan Ferries, as reported by Peter Ferries.

Badge winners in the BB Junior Section were David Anderson, Robert Tyatt, Graeme Kirkwood, Andrew McIlraith, Colin Mackenzie, Brian McCorkell, Ian Malloch, Alan Packham, Graham Sleigh, Andrew Walker, Derek Walker and Douglas McIntosh, as reported by R E Kirkwood.

The Parents Committee Christmas Fayre raised £169 and the cake was won by Joan King, weighing in at 11lb 11ozs (the cake that is!)

Staff changes in the Beginners Sunday School saw Elaine Reid bow out, Joan Coulter, Alison Hunter and Lorna Anderson join the staff, whilst staffing levels were stretched in the Junior/Senior dept. with looking after 110 children, although the Day Trip arrangements were being put in hand, as reported by Sam Esler, whilst in the Bible Class "their "wandering stars" were going to the "Pantheon Club's presentation of "Paint your Wagon" as reported by A S Brown.

Secretaries of the Woman's Guild, Young Woman's Group and the Dramatic Club all announced forthcoming events as reported by Anne Mackenzie, Margo Neilson and Jean Anderson respectively.

An announcement was to be found in The February 1978 Focus advising members of the congregation that a tape recording service was soon to be introduced for those who are unable to attend Church services.

\*\*\*\*\*





## **231<sup>st</sup> Glasgow Company Boys' Brigade JUNIOR SECTION & SPARKS**



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

Hello everyone, Happy New Year! May I offer my best wishes for this coming year and I hope you have an enjoyable and blessed 2017.

December is always traditionally a busy month for us and this year was no different! On Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> we held our Christmas Coffee morning event which was a joint fundraiser for both the Junior and Company Sections. We were very thankful for all who helped and supported the event which raised a super sum of £645.50 which was split evenly between the two sections.

On the last Friday we met before Christmas we had our traditional Christmas party which included lots of games and dancing with a visit by Santa. The boys all had a great night and enjoyed eating pizza and drinking lots of juice.

Panto at the Kings theatre has always been a tradition for the 231<sup>st</sup> so on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> we headed off to the see this year's performance of Cinderella. This night was obviously popular as in the same section as us was another BB company and a Brownie group too! Our boys all had a great night (oh no they didn't!) singing, dancing, clapping, booing and were thoroughly tired out before they bus brought us safely back home. It was also really nice to see Mr Linich who came back to lend a hand and say hello to some of the officers and more importantly the boys.

We started our New Year activities on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> of January. Unfortunately the heating in the church wasn't on so plans were changed and the boys had a night of bouncing and games, as the staff felt that it was too cold to sit and do crafts and activities. We fired up the Bouncy Castle and the boys rotated between the lower hall for a bounce and the large hall for some running games and football. We also practised our Maze marching as we have a competition coming up in March.

Unfortunately BB had to be cancelled on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> of January due to a burst pipe in the toilets area, however the staff took the opportunity to have a staff meeting to plan out the remainder of the session and we now have lots of exciting and interesting activities lined up over the coming weeks and months. We hope to plan visits from emergency services and do some arts and crafts to be displayed around the hall.

**-Women spend more time wondering what men are thinking than men spend thinking.**

**-Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.**



# **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



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



**Bruce Marshall**

*Gardener*

Telephone: 07929 214 746



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

# POLETEK

**Heated Pure Water  
Window Cleaning**

**Jamie Clark**

**07562 378673**

[jamieclark119@gmail.co.uk](mailto:jamieclark119@gmail.co.uk)

**Window Cleaning for  
Stamperland Church  
Members for several years.  
Mention the magazine if calling.**



# *Coffee Afternoon*

*Will be held in Stamperland  
Church Hall on Wednesday*

*8th March 2017*

*from 1.30 to 3.30pm*

*In aid of the Tribute Fund in the  
name of Margaret Taylor with  
The Prince & Princess of Wales  
Hospice, and will be in memory of  
my mum and dad, a very devoted  
couple.*

*Please and come along to support this event. We have made a lot of  
money in the past and hope this year's coffee afternoon will be as  
successful.*

*I look forward to seeing you there and hope that you enjoy a time of  
fellowship while donating to a very worthwhile cause.*

*Evelyn Graham*