

# *CONNECTIONS*

*The joint magazine of Netherlee & Stamperland Parish Churches*



## *December 2018* <sub>03</sub>

*Distributed on the first Sunday of the calendar month*

*Also available at [www.netherleechurch.org](http://www.netherleechurch.org) &  
[www.stamperlandchurch.co.uk/home](http://www.stamperlandchurch.co.uk/home) & by email on request.*

*Registered Charity Nos SC003155 & SC 015303*



## A Message from the Editor Fraser Neilson



**There will be no magazine in January. The next will be 3rd February.**

I have had discussions with the printers of the magazine and now that there is a better understanding of the needs of both parties, the lead time for submission of articles has been reduced with a view to a further reduction as time and experience dictates.

Meanwhile, may I take this opportunity of thanking everyone for their contribution to the magazine in whatever form, and I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year when it comes.



### find us and follow us on

An opportunity for busy young families on a Sunday afternoon in Netherlee Church 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! Proposed dates for the 2018/19 session are 20th January / 3rd March. **SAVE THESE DATES NOW!**



### Christian Aid Swim Christian Aid Committee



The annual Christian Aid Swim for Clarkston Churches Together was on Saturday 7th October in Eastwood baths. There were 27 swimmers on the night.

Stamperland had 7 representatives ....of these two were adults and 5 younger people.

Netherlee on the night had one swimmer but had four swimmers overall. Unfortunately, despite at least eight forms being handed out from the Sunday Club, there were no representatives on the night. This was very disappointing as not hearing otherwise these children were expected.

The total raised for each Church was £440.00 (Netherlee) and £370 (Stamperland) for which we are very grateful and thank all our sponsors for their generosity towards this event.



## **Our Minister's Message**

### **Reverend Scott Blythe**



'Prepare ye, the way of the Lord'

are the words from the prophet Isaiah that are often associated with the life and work of John the Baptist. In John, we find one who is clear in his purpose and function before God. He is the one who comes to prepare the way for the coming Messiah.

In this task, John was assured and confident and did not allow himself to be drawn into the greater role of the 'Messiah' as he was the one who confidently told those who sought him that he was not the one who God was to send. Rather he was sent to prepare the rest of the way for Christ's coming.

Are you ready for Christmas yet?

Have you done all your Christmas shopping?

The month of December is one that becomes fraught with preparations, tasks, nights out and school concerts to name but a few things. It can hardly seem that we have enough time to sleep let alone consider the coming of the Christ child.

Yet, Advent is meant for such a time of reflection and preparation. Traditionally in the churches, Advent served as the penitential season that prepared the faithful for the Feasting of the Twelve Days of the Season of Christmas. It was a season that compared with Lent and it was one in which the central purpose was for the faithful to take time to consider if they were ready for God's messiah to be born again into the world.

So, are you ready folks?

Not for all the shopping, not for all the parties, not for all the fripperies. Are you ready for the Christ child to come once again into your life?

Are you ready for the light in the midst of our winter's darkness?

As you proceed through this very busy month, please take time to consider deeply God's coming among us. God's choosing of humanity and God's incredible risk in being born in Bethlehem. All the other stuff will take care of itself – you need only think deeply about the wonder of this tale of tales.

May God bring you peace this Christmas!

**Scott**

## Stamperland Church Advent Foodbank Collection

### Parish & Beyond Committee



The majority of families in the Stamperland and Netherlee area have adequate food to put on the table. Sadly many other families, not too far distant from our homes, do not have enough food.

Many of you give generously week by week to the Foodbank but we are asking everyone to think seriously about those not as fortunate as ourselves. During Advent many of us think nothing of putting extra goodies into our baskets while others are struggling to feed their families on a daily basis.

**For the weeks of Advent we are asking members of our congregation to donate one item of food each day.** If every member brought just one item it would be our way of spreading the Christmas message and bringing love to families for whom Christmas does not bring joy and some of whom may never have heard of Jesus.

Please support this venture and bring your donations to the Foodbank box in the vestibule of the Church. All the gifts of food will be given to the Foodbank at Barrhead for distribution to needy families.





## Norrie Bolton - Session Clerk Stamperland



Elders and members were greatly shocked and saddened by the death of Jimmy Mathieson on the 12<sup>th</sup> September.

Jimmy's association with Stamperland began in 1995; he had been ordained as an elder at Strathbungo Queens Park, in October 1984 and had been delighted to receive a Long Service Certificate earlier this year. In recent years Jimmy had served as Beadle but ever since becoming a member at Stamperland he had worked tirelessly for the church undertaking a wide range of tasks. He had worked as church gardener, had climbed the church bell tower several times, had fixed many leaks in the roofs; he had pointed brickwork, fixed railings, mended windows, painted walls and doors and floors. He delighted in polishing the church brassware and the communion tables.

Jimmy had always sought to work in the background and someone remarked to me that he undertook many tasks that few of us or indeed any of us would ever know about. Jimmy was always in a good humour; he had tales to tell and spoke to all in the same friendly way no matter who they were. The high regard in which he was held and the affection of many was reflected in the attendance at the Linn Crematorium and at the subsequent service in the church to celebrate Jimmy's life. His passing has saddened us all.

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**The Christian Aid  
Team**



The annual Art Show for Christian Aid is on Saturday 9th March at the Carmichael Halls. We would appreciate help with the setting up on Friday Morning and/ or Friday afternoon. Also help to serve in the tea room on Saturday. This is usually a very enjoyable day with art for sale from local artists a proportion of the sale of which goes to Christian Aid.

If you can help out at this fundraiser in any capacity please speak to Stamperland.....Sandra or Russell and at Netherlee.....Walter, Vicky or Marjorie.

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### ***Didn't You Get My E-Mail?***

***As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked the usual, "And what would you like for Christmas?"***

***The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped: "Didn't you get my E-mail?"***





## Christmas Services - Netherlee

Sun 2nd	Morning Worship—First Sunday of Advent Time to Remember Service	10.00am 3.00pm
Sun 9th	Morning Worship - Gift Service - Donations to Starter Packs	10.00am
Sun 16th	Morning Worship Nativity Lessons & Carols led by the Choir	10.00am 6.30pm
Sun 23rd	Joint Family Service at Stamperland	10.30am
Mon 24th	Christingle	5.00pm
Tue 25th	Family Service with Stamperland at Netherlee	10.30am

## Christmas Services - Stamperland

Sun 2nd	Communion	11.30am
Sun 9th	Morning Worship	11.30am
Sun 16th	Stepping Stones Nativity	11.30am
Sun 23rd	Family Service with Netherlee at Stamperland	10.30am
Mon 24th	Joint Watchnight Service at Stamperland	Carols Service 11.00pm 11.00pm
Tue 25th	Christmas Morning Service at Netherlee	10.30am
Sun 30th	Morning Worship	11.30am

January 2019

Sun 6th	Morning Worship	11.30am
Sun 13th	Morning Worship	11.30am
Sun 20th	Morning Worship	11.30am
Sun 27th	Morning Worship	11.30am



## ER. Foodbank Stamperland Parish & Beyond Committee



### 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

East Renfrewshire Foodbank is a project of churches and community working together under charity no: SC029853

The foods selected for the months of December and January are as follows:

**Tinned soup & packet cuppa soup**

**Baked beans, Tinned tomatoes**

**Tinned macaroni cheese or pasta shapes,**

**Breakfast cereal including Weetabix & porridge, Tinned sponge pudding**

**Tea Bags/Instant Coffee [not decaffeinated]**

**Ladies/Gents toiletries including ladies sanitary products, Children's toiletries.**

**If you wish to donate anything with a "Christmassy" theme we will ensure that it is taken to the Foodbank in time to be handed out prior to Christmas.**

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

The food donated to the Foodbank collected during the month of October amounted to 36.6kg. This will feed 3 single people for 3 days.

If you wish to donate anything with a "Christmassy" theme we will ensure that it is taken to the Foodbank in time to be handed out prior to Christmas.

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.

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## Changes to the Roll—Netherlee

**Mabel Bell**

### Deaths

Date	Name	Locality	District	Elder
15/10/18	Mrs J Boyd	Netherlee	91	M Bell
23/10/18	Mrs J Bell	East Kilbride	91	M Bell
28/10/18	Mrs J McKellar	Netherlee	58	D Kerr

### Joined by Certificate

No	Name	Locality	District	Elder

### Change of Address

No	Name	Locality	District	Elder

## Fire Alarm in Netherlee Church

**Iain Alexander - Fabric Convenor**



*At the end of June there was a fire alarm shortly after the morning service, when many members were in the large hall enjoying tea, coffee and juice. Over the following days various reports were received of folks ignoring the alarm, continuing to pour and drink tea or coffee, fire doors not being fully opened and members generally appearing reluctant to exit the building.*

*When the alarm sounds everyone must leave the building as quickly as possible using the nearest available exit, cross to the opposite footpath in Ormonde Drive or Avenue and wait there until the fire officer gives the all-clear to re-enter.*

*This proved, thankfully, to be a false alarm but no-one could have known this at the time. Please think of your own safety and that of others when the alarm sounds and follow the laid-down procedures.*



## Pastoral Care

Please contact Grace Scott, 0141 637 2226



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

**Transport to Church**

**Hospital**

**Doctors Appointment**

**Shopping**

**Could do with a chat**

**Have a prayer request**



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.



## 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

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The Church of Scotland  
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life  
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## Christmas Card and Calendar Collection 2018



See the full choice and order yours at:  
[shop.crossreach.org.uk](http://shop.crossreach.org.uk)  
or call: 0131 454 4374

The Church of Scotland  
Social Care Council



## **231st Boys' Brigade Junior Section & Sparks**

**Scott Russell - Officer in Charge**



Activities continued throughout October, culminating in our annual fancy dress party where boys are invited to bring a friend along. The evening was a great success with over 50 boys in the hall joining in with the activities such as a disco, making chocolate apples, pinning the smile on the pumpkin as well as our fancy dress parade. We had lots of fantastic costumes on the night but most importantly all the boys had lots of fun.

In the first week of November we resumed 'normal' Friday night activities with the boys working in their groups. Our Sparks were learning about Guy Fawkes Night and make a terrific firework freeze and rockets that could actually fly.

The Junior Section built bridges from paper which had to span the length of a couple of tables. The boys were graded on their team working skills as well as the final product of their bridge which had to stand the test of the weight of two cans of juice. Andrew leading group 2 was judged the winners, earning themselves a free Freddo or Fudge from the tuck shop! After the completion of this task we discussed the importance of building bridges to help us in life to cross things like rivers but we reflected on how it was easier to build a bridge when we worked well in our team rather than working individually and how we as a church can also build bridges with others in our community.

BB football training and Saturday morning games are continuing to be popular. Each week we attract over 20 boys to our Wednesday evening football training and between 5 and 10 boys take part in Saturday morning games. Thankfully I have support from boys from the Company Section which helps me provide a varied programme for the boys.

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November we had a normal BB night with the focus being on Remembrance before the service on the Sunday. I also met with some parents for an evaluation evening to think about ways we can continue to improve how our section runs. The opinions we gathered were very valuable and allow us to reflect and improve on what we do. At this meeting we also started to plan for our Christmas Fair and Coffee Morning which will have been on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November we attended the Remembrance service which was held at Netherlee Church, and I would like to note my huge thanks to all of the boys who came to the service. All of our boys behaved impeccably throughout the service and this was commented on by a number of the members of the congregation. Our boys



## **Christmas Tree Festival Netherlee**

### **The Children and Youth Ministry Committee**



Following the success of the first Christmas Tree Festival, planning is well underway for this year's event, which will take place in the Church on Saturday 8th December between 2pm – 4pm. We're hoping it will be even bigger and better! Refreshments will be served in the large hall throughout the event.

Last year showcased the creative talents of many of the organisations that use the Church premises. Will the 1st Netherlee Guides defend their title?

We are hoping for a fantastic display of trees and would encourage many people from the congregation and the local area to come along on the day to enjoy the festival.

It's an ideal activity to build into your organisation's programme planning for the next session. Here are a few more details;

Trees can be either 2 dimensional or 3 dimensional.

Small or large in size, real or artificial – if you're considering a large display please bear in mind constraints such as the height of the Church roof. We're not trying to compete against the Trafalgar Square tree!

Any tree lights should be battery operated.

Access to the Church to set up your tree will be from 11.30am on Saturday 8th December. Trees can be collected or dismantled from 4pm onwards.

The theme of your tree is up to you – the more creative the better. You might want to link your decorations to your organisation.

This is a great opportunity to get creative and have some fun.

Please email the Church office [office@netherleechurch.org](mailto:office@netherleechurch.org) by Friday 16th November to confirm that your organisation is taking part.

Nearer the time we will provide a card that we will ask you to fill in with the name of the organisation, a little bit about what you do and your chosen theme. The cards will be displayed with your tree.

Lastly, there are prizes to be won! We are hoping for a good turn out from members of the congregation to see the display and will be inviting people to vote for their favourites on the day.



12.

## Which one are you?

Stuart Buchman



A teenager was complaining that their life was miserable and that they didn't know how they would ever make it in the world. They were tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed. The parent, a chef, said "Come into the kitchen". 3 pots were filled with water and placed on a high flame. Once the pots began to boil; potatoes were placed in one, eggs in another, and ground coffee beans in the third.

The parent let the pots boil, without saying a word. The teenager moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what on earth was going on. After 20 minutes the flame was turned off, and the parent took the potatoes out of the pot and placed them in a bowl. They did likewise with the eggs and finally ladled the coffee into a cup. Turning they asked "What do you see?" "Potatoes, eggs, and coffee," was the hasty reply.

"Look closer and touch the potatoes." said the parent. They were noticeably soft. "Now take an egg and break it." After pulling off the shell, the hard-boiled egg is observed. Finally, "Sip the coffee." The rich aroma brings a smile to the teenager's face, and they then ask "What does all this mean?"

The parent explains that the potatoes, the eggs and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity – the boiling water. However, each one reacted differently. The potato went in strong, hard, and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and weak. The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid interior until it was put in the boiling water. Then the inside of the egg became hard.

However, the ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new. "Which are you?" asked the parent. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean? "

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**What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic.**

**What do you call Santa living at the South Pole? A lost clause.**

**What Christmas Carol is a favourite of parents? Silent Night**

**What do snowmen eat for breakfast? Frosted Flakes**

**What's the difference between Santa Clause and a knight? One slays the dragon and the other drags the slay.**





## **Discerning the Way Ahead**

### **Norrie Bolton - Session Clerk Stamperland**



Over the past fifty or sixty years attendance at the national churches in the UK has declined sharply. Church of Scotland membership has reduced from 1.25 million in 1966 to only 330,000 today. A UK wide survey in 2017 found that 53 per cent of the population had no link to any religion of any kind. Three quarters of 18 to 24-year-olds said they held no religious belief.

A report presented to the General Assembly in May this year highlighted that in five years there will be a shortfall of around 300 ministers. Within congregations there are few children, few under 25s and only small numbers of folk in their 30s and 40s. The report said, "With most of those attending Church aged over 60, the missing generations pose a real challenge to the very existence of the Church. We cannot afford to ignore this and fail to produce a plan to address it." World-wide, Christianity is not in decline – so why should Christianity (and religion in general) be in decline in the UK?

Many people have thought hard and written extensively about this topic but no broadly-agreed, consensus view has emerged. In May of this year the General Assembly instructed Kirk Sessions to reflect on the state of decline of the national Church and, in particular, how that affects their Church locally. Kirk Sessions are now tasked with defining their church's vision and mission for the next three years. This instruction has come just as our two churches are undertaking what Scott has called a Discernment Process to determine what we should be doing in the short and long term. The first stages of the "Discernment" took place in October. Members of both congregations met and listed examples of good times and bad times, of times of joy and times of struggle in the life of our two churches. Reflecting on these should help us avoid repeating past mistakes and, rather, help us build on our established strengths. In subsequent meetings we will seek to learn of needs within our community by talking to people who use the church and to people who have no church connection – such as doctors, social workers, councillors and police who interact with those living in our parish. The aim is to identify where we could best focus our efforts to ensure that our churches and the activities they undertake and support are relevant to the lives, the needs and aspirations of the people living in Netherlee and Stamperland.

The "Discernment Process" is one in which everyone is asked to become involved. Your views are important; your experience and opinion is valued and can provide insight to what could and should be done to ensure that our churches are relevant to people in our parish. Traditional ideas of church and community need re-evaluation. Please do not hesitate to speak to elders or our minister – we are waiting for your thoughts.



## 278th Glasgow Company The Boys' Brigade

**Alistair Haw** - [alistairhaw@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alistairhaw@yahoo.co.uk) - 07343521928



The Anchor Boys' Halloween Party was a great success, with 27 in attendance including 7 new faces, several of whom have expressed an interest to join up. Junior Section had a further 15 at their Halloween Party, at which they successfully mummified one of the leaders! Looking ahead, among other activities, both sections will be working on crafts to sell at the Coffee Morning on 24 November.

We were delighted to see former 278 boy Zach Mercer make his test rugby debut for England in a victory against South Africa at Twickenham on 3 November. We wish him every success for the future. The Adventure Begins Here!



We were also delighted to have around 40 boys & officers at the joint Remembrance Day Service. Adding in the 231 boys there must have been in the region of 80 representing the BB, which was fantastic. Well done to all, in particular Jack Nairn & John Cowan on reading the names from the Book of Remembrance and Oliver Giles, Calum Murray and Alexander MacArthur on laying the wreath. Great job too from 231's excellent piper, Connor Black.

Finally we were sorry to hear that former 278 Captain and Netherlee Session Clerk John Montgomery has been unwell. We pass on best wishes for a full and speedy recovery from everyone at Netherlee Boys' Brigade.

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### **Pontius Who?**

***At Sunday school, the younger children were drawing pictures illustrating Biblical stories. The teacher walked by and noticed one little boy was drawing an airplane! "Oh, what Bible story are you drawing?" she asked. "This is the Flight into Egypt," the little boy answered. "See, here is Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. And this," he said, pointing to the front of the plane, "is Pontius. He's the Pilot."***





## **Stamperland Finance**

**Kay Bolton - Treasurer, Stamperland**



If you have been in Stamperland church during the past few weeks you can't have failed to notice the new screen in the chancel area. The previous screen and projector were 16 years old and becoming increasingly unreliable. When the projector became overheated, which seemed to happen when the church was full of people, e.g. during visits by pupils and staff from Netherlee school for their end of term services, it just stopped working. It was decided that a new audio visual system was required.

Having taken advice from experts in the field as to whether we should have two small or one large screen, we opted for the latter. The cost of all this technology was £10,455.

We are fortunate in having an extra source of income at the moment from the rental of Stamperland manse. This money is held on our behalf by the General Trustees in Edinburgh and may be used for the repair and maintenance of fabric in our church, halls and manse. Having made a claim to the General Trustees, I am pleased to report that we have been reimbursed with the full cost of the new AV system.

We did have to purchase a new PC to be compatible with the updated system. The cost of this was £249 which will be taken from the Copper Fund – so thank you to all those who have been faithfully putting their pennies in the jar in the vestibule over the last few years. Thank you also to Dorothy Nicolson for taking those weighty offerings to the bank.

Thanks must also go to those who Gift Aid their offerings. This adds 20% to any offering given which allows us to claim approximately £10,000 in tax every year.

At the end of October our finances were close to the budgeted figures and hopefully this trend will continue until the end of the year.

***Save the Date - Carol Singing***  
***Elaine Murray***



*On Tuesday 11th December we will be Carol Singing in the streets around Netherlee church. Please save the date and join us to sing that evening. The more we are heard, the more money we can raise for Shelter Scotland. Full details in December's Connections.*



## Stamperland Guild

### Evelyn Graham, Secretary



We have had a very varied programme during the month of November including interesting speakers from Dr Graham's Homes in Kalimpong in India, and CHAS the children's charity. Guild members from Stamperland and Netherlee together with members from the congregation and friends enjoyed a very pleasant evenings outing to the Strathaven Gift & Coffee Shop.

If you would like to join us on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December when we will be making Christingles you would be very welcome.

Likewise if you would like to be part of our fun Christmas Party on 11<sup>th</sup> December we would be very pleased to see you.

On WEDNESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> January we are joining with Netherlee Guild, at Netherlee Church, to hear Liz Blythe tell us about her Journey of Faith.

On 15<sup>th</sup> January we will hear about the Frankincense Trail and on 22<sup>nd</sup> January Maureen Digby from Heart for Art will tell us about the marvellous art work being done here in Stamperland Church by people suffering with dementia.

On 29<sup>th</sup> January Stuart Ballentyne from the Trossachs Rescue Centre will tell us about the work of Search & Rescue dogs. This should be a very interesting evening.

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February Jacquie Curran will demonstrate the art of Tied Floral Bouquets. I am sure that this will appeal to many ladies.

Please come along to any of our meetings which may be of interest to you. We will be very pleased to see you. We meet in the Session Room at Stamperland Church on a Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm with the exception of our evening at Netherlee Church as detailed above.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

<b>Dec 4</b>	<b>Christingles</b>
<b>Dec 11</b>	<b>Christmas Party</b>
<b>Jan 9 (Wed)</b>	<b>Journey of Faith, Liz Blythe jointly with Netherlee Guild at N/lee</b>
<b>Jan 15</b>	<b>Frankincense Trail Linda Mullen</b>
<b>Jan 22</b>	<b>Heart for Art Maureen Digby</b>
<b>Jan 29</b>	<b>The Work of Search &amp; Rescue Dogs Stuart Ballentyne</b>
<b>Feb 5</b>	<b>Tied Floral Bouquets Jacquie Curran</b>





## **Down Memory Lane in Stamperland**

### **Extracts from Church Magazines in 1979**



In December 1979 and the following baptisms took place of Alan James Graham of Stamperland Dr, and David & Mark Laing of Randolph Dr

The Cub Pack had, for the second year in succession, won the "Greater Glasgow Scout Council Area Commissioner's Emblem for a high standard of activities throughout the past year.

Charlie Paterson was to become the new Church Treasurer in place of John Duncan who was stepping down.

Annual statistics revealed the following numbers of young people in the organisations;

Sunday Beginners 33 children and 6 Leaders, Primary Dept 62 children + 11 adults, Junior Dept 106 children and 13 adults, Bible Class, 41 young people + 6 adults, Uniformed Organisations, 162 boys and 103 girls, and the Play-group had 48 children.

Changes took place in the leadership of the Sunday Schools when Joan Coulter became Deputy Leader of the Beginners, one of the young elders took over the Junior Department, his name being Alastair Graham, whilst Ena Greig was returning to the Junior Department and Meg Lindsay was leaving as she was expecting another baby. The Sunday School Superintendent at that time was David McLean.

The Junior Section of the BB were heading for the Pantomime, training for their district swimming gala, and their Parents Committee were organising a Coffee Morning, where the tickets were to cost 25p.

The Scout Troop held their AGM attended by 120 parents , during which time they too had staff changes with Jim Bowman and Janet Milliken leaving them and Ian Mundie, George Armstrong and Ronnie McGregor joining the staff with Ian Mundie becoming Chairman of the Executive Committee.

An end of year report from the gardening team included reference to "Ploughing the fields and scatter" being appropriate for that summer's weather, whilst children helped to plant bulbs under the turf, the adults ensuring that that all children were accounted for afterwards. **More to follow next time**



## Share - Netherlee

### Sheena Wurtherman



When you read this we will be at the half way stage of our study of the York Course Life to the Full. There are four sections to this course:

Hummingbird or Arctic Fox  
Murdstone or Peggotty  
Rotten or Ripe  
Desert or Oasis

We find these Advent studies help us to remember the true story of Advent and Christmas.

## Eco Congregation - Netherlee

### Sheena Wurtherman



In November Eco-Congregation Scotland organised workshops around the topic of Zero Waste. In the morning we looked at the topic of *Love Food - Hate Waste* and the afternoon *Love your Clothes*. I will report on the outcome in a later edition of *Connections*.

## Netherlee Book Club

Sheena Wurtherman



At the meeting of the Book Club in October we reviewed "Phoebe" by Paula Gooder. This is about the early Christians at the time of Peter and Paul in Rome. Phoebe delivers a letter from Paul to the congregations in Rome. They read it and copy it and discuss Paul's writing. The discussion is mixed with everyday life.

We had rather mixed views of this book. Some of us found the historic information interesting. Some found the writing style poor. All of us found the detailed footnotes as endnotes unhelpful. We are finding that there is more discussion when we don't like a book.

Our next meeting is on Saturday 15th December when we will be having a party and watching a film. At present the choice is between *La La Land* and *Victoria and Abdul*.

The January meeting is on 18th January 2019 when we will be reviewing Sue Black's book *A Life in Death*. This book comes with many commendations so I wonder if the discussion will be limited.

**What do you give a railway station master for Christmas?  
Platform shoes**





## Congregations Personal Message



*I would like to say thank you for the beautiful flowers that I received after the service on 4th November. They were very much appreciated,*

*George Fraser*

*Many thanks for the church flowers that were delivered by Anne McKenzie recently. They brought Joan and I great pleasure and comfort,*

*Bill Coulter*

*Anne, David, Christine, Rebecca and Susanne would like to thank Scott Blythe, the care and share ladies and all their friends in the Church Family for their kindness, practical help, cards and letters received following the untimely passing of John.*

*Thanks also to all our friends who attended the Celebration of John's life and who generously gave £800 for McMillan Cancer Care.*

*Anne Mann.*

*The Leaders would like to thank all the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers who were able to attend the Remembrance Service at Netherlee Church. From the candle lighters to collection duty, all the Cubs and Beavers who joined the Sunday Club to make a poppy pillar, the Scouts and Explorers who remained in church throughout, we are very proud of you all. The respect shown by these young people, who were smartly dressed and impeccably behaved throughout, was a credit to themselves, their families and the 79<sup>th</sup> Scout Group.*

*We would like to thank the Minister and congregation for the beautiful flowers and prayers made for us this year and over the last four years. Your support and kindness has meant a great deal to us and is very much appreciated.*

*Hazel & Donnie Thompson*

*I would like to thank the members of the congregation for their support in the form of cards, flowers, visits and phone calls when Jimmy passed away; the kind words were also much appreciated as well as attendance at both Services. A special thank you to Stuart Bruce for his very heartfelt words at both Services and to Jack Drummond for his warm recollections about Jimmy. A huge thank you to everyone for their kindness.*

*Margaret Mathieson*



### **Beaver Colony:**

It has taken a bit of time due to all the new members, but the section is now working as a group. For the first time we have 3 girls in the section which I think is a first for the group but they are fitting in well and are as enthusiastic as the boys.



We held Halloween party at the end of October which went well with lots of fun and games.

The Beavers are also working on their membership badges as well as the health and fitness badge.

**Alison Macfarlane (Asst. Beaver Leader) Tel: 0141 644 2712**

### **Cub Pack:**

After our very busy lead up to and at Auchengillan the Cubs have been a bit quieter recently.

However we have found time to create some simple Halloween lanterns, "dooked" for apples and played lots of games, including some new ones using a giant ball.

We have also looked at Fireworks safety and had fun with sparklers just before Fireworks Night.

Cubs have also learned about the important role Scouts played during the First World War and created our own art work which is on display at the church.

**Cont. Page 21**

**Philip Moseley (Cub Scout Leader) Tel: 0780 398 7020**

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**Poppyscotland 2018 Appeal**  
**Anne Mann—Netherlee 01355 231885**



The two recent events held for Poppyscotland have both been very successful due to the wonderful support from my very kind friends who stepped in to help at a very difficult time for my family. 'Flowers by Frances' raised the sum of £295.

The coffee morning raised the wonderful total of £1125.45 which included the kind donation of the Sunday Coffee money.

A huge thank you to all who made these events possible and successful.



21.



At the start of November 1<sup>st</sup> Stamperland Guide Leader (and County Commissioner) Christine Mailley, Group Scout Leader Joe Mailley and Cub Leader Philip Moseley from 79<sup>th</sup> Stamperland Scouts were delighted to be invited to attend the National Scout and Guide Thanksgiving Service.

This service is held in Westminster Abbey and thanks leaders from both organisations for their service and dedication to Guides and Scouts. Hundreds of leaders and supporters from across the country converged on Westminster for this annual event where youth members from both organisations took active parts in the service before the UK Chief Commissioner of Scouts and the Chief Guide led renewals of the respective Promises.



You can read more about the service and watch the sermon here: <https://www.westminster-abbey.org/abbey-news/scouts-guides-2018>

It was a very special event and you would never guess from the photo that there are over 100 years of service between Christine, Joe and Philip!!

We are so grateful that we have such dedicated leaders amongst our youth organisations.

### **Peace & Unity Award – Starchild & Williamwood High School**

Starchild and the Communication Support Service for autism at Williamwood High School were delighted to receive a Peace and Unity award at the City Chambers on Nov 6th. It was given by the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and the Al Ala-Biat society and multi-faith groups for their work with the CSS in Williamwood, breaking down stigmas and myths associated with autism in Uganda and Scotland.





## Stamperland Flower Calendar

**Contact Mrs May Paterson—0141 571 8652**



2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Mrs N Fisher	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Mrs C Anderson
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Mrs J Silcock	23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Miss H Dunbar
30 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Mrs G Marshall	6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Mrs A Charlton
13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Mr W Anderson	20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Mrs E Moseley
27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Mrs A Martin	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Mrs J Marshall
10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mrs M Allan	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mrs M Boyce
24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Miss J Stewart & Mrs E Macpherson		

As in previous years we plan to distribute Poinsettia plants within the Parish and local Care Homes. If you wish to donate a plant please bring to church on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> December. Many thanks.



## Stamperland Church Open Door

Parish & Beyond Committee



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.

Please come and support this activity.

### *Cryptic Christmas Card*

*A man sent his friend a cryptic Christmas card. It said: A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z. The recipient puzzled over it for weeks, finally gave up and wrote asking for an explanation.*



*In July he received the explanation on a postcard: "No L."*



## 231st Boys' Brigade Junior Section & Sparks

**Scott Russell - Officer in Charge**

**Cont. from P 10** did themselves, their families and our company proud and are fantastic ambassadors for the 231<sup>st</sup> Boys Brigade in Stamperland Church. I am immensely proud of all of our boys and I am privileged to be able to work with them every week. It was also good to share the service with our friends from the 278<sup>th</sup> in Netherlee and with the Scouting organisation. We look forward to welcoming the Netherlee organisations at Stamperland next year.

2019 is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of the 231<sup>st</sup> in Stamperland Church. A Social and Fundraising Sportsman's Dinner is planned for the 22<sup>nd</sup> February and we will be encouraging ex members, friends and families of all those involved with the 231<sup>st</sup> to come together for what promises to be a good night. More details about this evening will be available in the coming weeks.

As this is the last publication before the Christmas and New Year break can I also take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with the 231<sup>st</sup> for all their help throughout this year. For when it comes, I wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.



**Shelter**  
Scotland

**Netherlee Church  
Carol Singing  
Tuesday 11th December**

**In aid of Shelter Scotland  
Helping tackle Homelessness**

**Meet in Netherlee Church Welcome Hall  
6.30 - 6.45pm**

Hot chocolate & Christmas goodies on return to the Church

Bring Santa Hats and Torches or Lanterns

All welcome, but children need supervision.





## The Netherlee Forum

Sheena Wurtherman



The first meeting had Niall Illingworth, a Netherlee Elder and former local policeman talking to a packed audience. Niall treated us to a fascinating and humorous insight into some of the lesser known and less often used techniques of modern day policing.

Niall acknowledged that the essential aims of policing haven't changed over the years although there are many new types of crime. The police are expected to know and understand a raft of new legislation although there hasn't been a Royal Commission looking into the way policing is carried out since 1962. The police are very good at responding tactically to major crime incidents and are very effective when in command and control situations.

The challenge of modern day policing however lies in dealing with the day to day run of the mill crime where a more problem solving technique is required. Strong community policing is essential to develop a knowledge of the local situation and an awareness of low level signs that may signify a descent into more serious crime.

Roping in two unsuspecting members of the audience a street robbery was acted out and Niall described an operation that was carried out in Paisley in 2010. Over a short period of time officers concentrated their efforts on known offenders and actively pursued these using problem solving techniques rather than a tactical approach. Effective problem solving achieves results but is resource intensive and therefore underused. However it is this technique that is required to more effectively police on going crime in our modern day world.

The Very Reverend Dr Chalmers will have discussed the "Radical Church" on 19th November and this will be reported in the next magazine. On 17 December Dr Lesley Orr from the Centre for Theology and Public Issues, University of Edinburgh will speak on "Building the New Jerusalem: Religious Dimensions of Women's Suffrage, Citizenship and Protest in Scotland. The Forum meets at 7.30pm in the lesser sanctuary and everyone is welcome.

### Programme 2018 - 2019

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>17th Dec</b> | Dr. Lesley Orr (Edinburgh) "Building the New Jerusalem"<br>Religious Dimensions of Women's Suffrage, Citizenship and Protest in Scotland. |
| <b>21st Jan</b> | Dr. Valerie Wright (Glasgow) Women, Rent Strikes and Red Clydeside.   |
| <b>18th Feb</b> | Bill McDougall "Football and Security"  |
| <b>18th Mar</b> | Dr Simon Cuthbert (West of Scotland) Geology of Greenland   |



## Netherlee Sunday Club & Senior Sunday Club

**Elaine Murray**



Our lessons have continued with the 1st Book of Samuel and the story of David. Close to God's heart we discovered how David was surprisingly chosen to be King. We saw how God can see us differently, looking on the inside and we gave thanks that He loves us for who we really are and not what we look like on the outside. As we learned how God helped David to grow wiser and closer to Him, the children tried to imagine what they would be when they are older. We have enjoyed exploring the story through crafts, activities and challenges including pass the parcel and floating prayers reflecting that if you follow God, he will help you grow into the person he wants you to be. On Communion Sunday we enjoyed sharing fresh bread and juice. It is great to have the service on the screen in our hall and feel some connection with worship in the sanctuary.

On Remembrance Sunday we joined the Act of Remembrance in the church, and then welcomed the Netherlee BB Anchor Boys and Stamperland Beavers and Cubs to our group. We spent time learning about the different styles of poppies around the world before making some of our own. With teamwork at its best, our poppies, along with some made by the Monday Lunch Club were used by the Anchor Boys, Beavers and Cubs to decorate the pillars in the welcome hall. We hope you enjoy our colourful display.

The Senior Sunday Clubbers continue to enjoy their Hot Chocolate and chat, but their recent activities have included help to support the Shoebox appeal and prepare the tombola for the Poppy Scotland Coffee Morning.

Looking ahead, we will be preparing for our Nativity Service, planning our Christmas Party and looking forward to the joint family service in Stamperland. Details of these events will be emailed to our parents, but don't hesitate to speak to any of the Sunday Club team if you wish more information.

We extend a warm welcome to all children P1 to P7 as well as S1 and beyond! Just come along, we'd love to see you. Joining us for the first time? Don't hesitate to get in touch via the Church Office to find out more, or simply meet us on a Sunday morning.

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**Man: That train set looks fantastic. I'll take one.**

**Assistant: I'm sure your son will love it, Sir!**

**Man: (sighs) Oh, yes..... I suppose he would. You'd better give me two, then!!**





## Stepping Stones - Stamperland

**Karen Cramb**



Since starting back after the summer holidays in September, we have been enjoying different stories/activities with a "Love" theme. The children have made friendship bracelets, bird feeders and picture frames. Leading up to Remembrance Sunday, Colin discussed the importance of this day followed by one of our favourite activities, making poppy biscuits.



November and December are mainly taken up with Nativity Play planning and rehearsals, with all the children enthusiastic and excited about the roles they play and showing off their talents to the congregation, parents, friends etc. This year's nativity play will take place on Sunday, 16th December and we look forward to welcoming everyone to Stamperland to see the result of all the hard work and fun that goes into each year's play.

Over the last few years, we have enjoyed taking the children to a Pantomime as a treat at Christmas and this year is no different, when you are reading this, we will have already enjoyed our visit to see Harlequins production of, Sleeping Beauty, starring our very own Rebecca Owens.

On the 23rd December, we are looking forward to joining up with Netherlee Sunday School, for a joint Christmas Family Service at Stamperland, with all the children playing a big part in the Service.

### Notes for your Diary

**Sun 16th December – Stamperland Sunday School Nativity Play**

**Sun 23rd December – Family Service at Stamperland**

All staff and children wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



# **Sounds International Community Choir**



## **Christmas Charity Concert**

### **Netherlee Church**

Ormonde Avenue  
Netherlee

**Tuesday 4th December 2018**  
**7.30pm**

**tickets £10**

from choir members or at the door

**Sounds International Community Choir**  
**Netherlee School Choir**  
**Special Guests**

all proceeds to  
**Starchild Charity and the Lodging House Mission**



Lest we forget



Before 11.11, the arguments start.  
About who'll wear a poppy, over their heart.  
Some say "it glorifies war, that they'll never agree!"  
to others it's respectful "you can count on me!"  
Whatever your view on past wars and the state,  
it must be good to have this annual debate.  
To Remember the fallen and atrocities of war,  
it's not about sides, that's not what it's for.



Remember the soldiers who we never met,  
think back a hundred years and feel the regret.

Take two minutes this Sunday to cast your mind back,  
To envision the fear at the ordered attack.

Those young men and boys fought for what they thought was right,  
No matter which side, they ended their fight.

Brain washed or courageous whatever your view,  
Remember, be thankful it hasn't been you.

11.11 is not about war, it remembers the fallen and what they fought for.  
For country and family, for loved ones and friends.

For the peace we enjoy after it ends,  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.  
And make sure not to make the same mistakes again:  
Lest we forget.

**Joint Armistice  
Day Parade at  
Netherlee  
Church 11/11/18**

