



Kilbarchan Parish Church

Your local church magazine

**Dear Friends,
Sunday February 19th.**

We seem to be getting through the Winter. There has been some awful storms with rain and high, but not a lot of snow in Kilbarchan anyway. But it has been tough for so many folks, with high energy bills, the continuing affects and after effects of Covid, the cost of living rocketing and people worrying about the future.

It's hard to believe that a few days after I write this, February 24th, will see the 1 year anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Think back to a year ago. Its hard to believe all that has happened.

But we do seem to be getting through the Winter. And the first signs of Spring are appearing. There have been a few exceptionally mild days and snowdrops are appearing in our gardens and parks.

In terms of church life, our presbytery, Clyde Presbytery continue to grapple with the issue of finding a workable Presbytery Mission Plan. A plan that recognises some buildings may have to close in the near future, that there will be a reduction in ministry numbers across the whole of Scotland and Presbytery, ministers will be encouraged to take on more responsibility and mission has to be at the forefront of our thinking, our planning and our acting. The last sentence is easier said than achieved!

But there are signs of Spring in the life of the Church, and new green shoots. New folks at worship, some excellent Messy Church events, Kirk Session Teams starting to find their feet and lots of life around the church and its buildings.

As Lent and Easter approaches, we can have hope. For God is a God of Resurrection and New Life, and he invites us to continue to share in his Risen Life.

Your friend,

Stephen

FROM THE EDITOR



I am writing this in the middle of February and looking out it appears a nice calm warm(ish) day. Perhaps Spring will be kind to us. One thing is sure, your magazine will be out as usual. We have an eclectic range of different items for you to read, from 'organs' to a poem that was used at Messy Church, and reports from various organisations as well as the 'Kidz Korner.' I

wonder do the Kidz read their page, It would be good to get feedback from you, the readers, so as I know what you want from YOUR magazine.

The next magazine is the Summer one and any items for inclusion should reach me by Sunday 21st May

Alastair MacKinnon alastair.mackinnon@ntlworld.com

Editor



" EASTER THOUGHTS "

- * **E** aster is a sky that's fair,
 Church bells on the morning air.
- * **A** ll nature's joys for us to share, **That is Easter !**
- * **S** eason of new hope and cheer,
 Sounds of anthems ringing clear.
- * **T** he story, old but ever dear, **That is Easter !**
- * **E** arth's awakening, flowers a-bloom,
 Casting out Good Friday's gloom.
- * **R** esurrection from the tomb. **That is Easter !**

Genevieve Froggatt

KIRK SESSION REPORT

We have been delighted to see the number of people worshipping with us both in person and online continuing to increase and also to welcome several visitors to our fellowship recently. It is very good to have two new members joining our roll and we extend a warm welcome to them. Sadly, since the last magazine, three of our members have died and two members have moved away, resulting in the number on our roll at the time of writing this in February being 359.

After being appointed as roll keeper of the former East congregation on 3 October 1999, Jean Young then agreed to continue as roll keeper of the Parish Church following a period of transition coordinating the amalgamation of the new roll with Margaret McIntyre. Jean has now made the difficult decision to retire from this post. We are extremely grateful to her for all the work she has done in this capacity over the last 23 years. It was unanimously agreed at the Session meeting on Tuesday 7 February that Fulton Dunn would become our roll keeper as well as continuing his responsibility for ensuring our GDPR is kept up to date.

At our last session meeting we also approved a change to our Free Will Offering Convenor. Laura Berry had been responsible for coordinating the free will offering envelopes and the associated returns since the Parish Church was established. Unfortunately, due to health problems, she is no longer able to continue with this. Grateful thanks were expressed for the contribution she had made in this regard and good wishes extended to her. Session approved Neil Chittick to take on this responsibility.

At the start of December, elders delivered a Poinsettia plant to those of our members who are over ninety, housebound or in care. We are extremely grateful to Willie Beattie who organises this every year and who also ensures that members of the congregation receive a card to mark the occasion of a significant birthday or anniversary.

Renfrewshire Young Carers were pleased to receive almost 90 gifts which our generous congregation brought to the Gift Service. These gifts were given to young people between the age of 8 and 18 who provide care and support for a relative. Our Christmas services were well attended and on the Sunday prior to Christmas we were pleased to have the Junior Church, and their helpers, telling us the Christmas story. Thanks too to the Choir and readers for the service of nine lessons and carols. It was good to have these traditional events return following all the restrictions which had been in place for two years

After about four months, we were sorry to say farewell to Thorsten Koenig who had been on a placement with us. We had enjoyed having him with us and hope that we might perhaps see him again in our pulpit. It had also been good to have his wife,

Astrid, singing with the Church Choir and to admire and purchase the beautiful crochet work which she made for the Christmas Fayre. At the close of worship on the Sunday before Christmas, Thorsten was presented with a card and a small token of our appreciation.

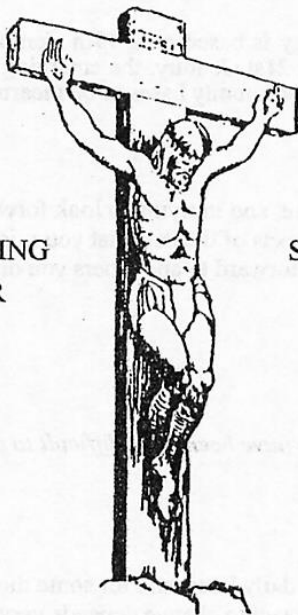
It is good that the new teams which were set up following the change to our constitution, have all met and are now working to delivering their remits and establishing some new initiatives. The first meeting of the coordinating group was held prior to the February session meeting, and this proved to be a very useful forum to discuss ideas from the teams.

At the most recent Session Meeting, we agreed to hold a service of remembrance at 3pm on Sunday 23 April. This will be particularly for those who lost loved ones during the restrictive times of the pandemic, but everyone will be made most welcome to join with us in a time of reflection and remembrance.

Recently, we have been concerned to see the horrendous effects of the devastating earthquake which occurred in Turkey and Syria on Monday 6 February. In order to extend some support to the many folk affected by the quake, members were given an opportunity to contribute to the DEC appeal either after worship or through a link on our Facebook page.

Alasdair, Christine, and Helen.

THE
CROSS
SYMBOL OF SUFFERING
PUNISHMENT FOR
CRIME
GUILT
SHAME
AGONY
DEATH



THE
CROSS
SYMBOL OF SALVATION
SACRIFICE FOR
SINS
PARDON
HOPE
LIFE
GLORY

Clyde Presbytery meeting. 22nd November 2022

As advised to Session at their meeting on 20th November, Presbytery had changed the proposed structure of their meeting on 22nd November as follows :

“In light of the volume of correspondence already received in relation to the draft Presbytery Mission Plan the Presbytery Planning Committee have come to the view that they are still in effect in the 'consultation' phase. As a result, if approved by Presbytery, the meeting shall take the form of a conference from 7:00pm. The Plan shall be tabled at the meeting but no substantive decision will be taken at this stage. The planning committee will thereafter consult further before bringing a revised plan to Presbytery for approval at a later date.

Congregations that have been cited in their interest can still send a representative to the meeting and they will be afforded an opportunity to speak, though there will be no decisions taken with respect to any particular congregation. As such a congregation can simply send in their comments to the Planning Convenor for further consideration by the committee. The plan is not subject to amendment at the meeting so no motions or amendments will be taken.

We are eager to hear people, but given the number of likely speakers, each speaker should be succinct and precise, and each speaker will be limited to 5 minutes. Comments on the proposals for your congregation are acceptable. Some speakers have asked several pages worth of questions and this level of precise detail in a specific situation is probably best dealt with via a written response from the planning committee.

Obviously, all affected congregations will be further cited in their interest to the meeting wherein the Presbytery plan is to be approved by members of Presbytery.”

The conference on 22nd November commenced with a short speech by the convenor, Jack McHugh, who commented on the amount of time and effort put in by the committee to produce a plan in the timescale they were given. The committee were disappointed that there were so many comments, questions and amendments about the plan even after the numerous meetings with individual churches.

The result has been a request to the Presbytery Mission Plan Implementation Group (PMPiG) for an extension to the deadline of the 31st. December, this has been granted, although with some reluctance. The Final Presbytery Plan will be presented at meeting on Saturday the 4th. February 2023, with the sole purpose of formalising and accepting the Plan.

The meeting then moved on to look at each area in turn and take comments and questions from cited individuals, ministers and presbyters. This resulted in the

participants falling roughly into four different camps:-

- Congregations and Kirk Sessions generally approving of the plan but not the selection of the Church that was to remain open (category A) and correspondingly the Church to eventually close (category B).
- Congregations or individuals unhappy with the criteria used to produce the plan, and often suggesting these criteria were not being applied consistently across the whole area or Plan.
- Kirk sessions and congregations concerned and confused by the use of the grading of B (provisional) to Church buildings. As this did not appear in the Presbytery Mission Plan Act and therefore did not carry any specific meaning.
- There were some congregations who generally approved of the plan with no questions about the categorisation of buildings.

With respect to our cluster (B): the following comments came from the representatives of the various congregations:

- **Inchinnan and Renfrew North.** Some confusion over the grouping of these two Congregations. On the draft plan Inchinnan was grouped with Erskine but this had changed as the Final plan shows there was to be a grouping of Renfrew North, with Inchinnan. Position was clearly stated regarding Renfrew North and its difficulty in moving all its work and local groups to Inchinnan, in the long term. Renfrew Trinity was included in this group. There was also the difficulty that the 3 churches had ministers on unrestricted tenure and they were to reduce (eventually) to 2 ministers.
- **Kilmacolm.** The allocation of 1 minister was in the interest of the community but St. Columba's is at the centre of village life and it has various connections to local schools etc. Therefore, there was concern over the categorisation of the building as B.
- **Bridge of Weir.** Again, concern of the grading of buildings, the suitability of one church for all members and its ability to sustain the various groups and organisations using both building at this time.
- **Kilbarchan and Howwood.** A written response was submitted by Kilbarchan.
- **Elderslie and Johnstone.** Again the concern was the allocation of a B grading to Johnstone High due its central position and its links with civic groups.
- **Barrhead and Neilston.** The Plan shows a reduction from 3 to 2 ministries, looking towards a Team ministry. All churches and halls are Graded B (provisional) with the expectation that the congregations will decide which buildings will be retained. This was a major concern to the Kirk Sessions.

Remarks by Moderator or Convenor following the representations by congregations:
“The information, questions and comments by the participants made during the conference session should be emailed to the Presbytery planning convenor. Assuming that the information has not already been passed to the committee. The information received would be reviewed by the committee and where necessary a written reply, telephone reply or in some cases a visit would be made to the appropriate

congregations.”

Clyde Presbytery meeting. 14th February 2023

Introduction: A warm welcome was given to Rev Dougie Adam, who was ordained within Renfrew North Church, on the 14th of January 2023. Tributes were given to the late Alan Grant and Rev. Donald Campbell by Douglas Vallance and the Rev Ian Miller respectively.

Appointment of Interim Moderators: Rev Dr Alan Hamilton at Bearsden Baljaffray from 1st January 2023 on the demission of Rev Dr Ian McEwan, Rev Ann Cameron at Helensburgh linked with Rhu and Shandon from 29th November following the resignation of Rev Roddie Hamilton and Mr Jim Gibson at Paisley Abbey from 2nd December 2022 following the demission of Rev Elspeth McKay.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE: standing order number 54 was amended to allow the Presbytery Accounts and Budget to be presented at the June meeting. At this meeting an appointment would also take place of an Independent Examiner for the Accounts. The Rev David Burt, minister at Old Gourock & Ashton Church was appointed as the next Moderator of Clyde Presbytery from September 2023. A draft timetable for the visit from the Moderator of the General Assembly was distributed to Presbyters.

TREASURER: the General Fund Budget for the year ending 31st December 2023 and the allocation of Presbytery Dues for 2023, and authorisation of the issue for payment requests to Church Treasurers, were agreed by Presbytery.

MISSION: A mission Conference has been scheduled for 13th May 2023, and a request has gone out for names to be forwarded to Ann Knox,

aknox@churchofscotland.org.uk as soon as possible. This will allow the level of participation to be established. A grant of £10,000 was awarded to Dalmuir Barclay for their twice weekly Food Pantry, and prayers are asked for the success of that venture. Congregations are being encouraged to look at funding available from 121 and other outside agencies to aid mission initiatives. Some information on grants can be found on: <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/resources/grants-and-funding> and the Mission Officer is available to give advice.

SAFEGUARDING: training courses have been arranged for February, March and April they are Advanced Training by zoom, Introductory Training by Zoom, Trustee Training by zoom and Trustee Training face to face in Paisley South Church.

Meeting adjourned to **Saturday 18th March 2023** to receive the Presbytery Mission Plan.

JUNIOR CHURCH



We hope all our families have had a good start to the year and are looking forward to the arrival of Spring and lighter mornings and evenings again. We are continuing our journey through the Old Testament and the children have learned about Noah, Joseph and we are currently hearing all about Moses and his mission from God to set the Israelites free from Egypt.

As usual the children have made crafts that accompany each weekly theme, like making a multicoloured coat out of ribbon for Joseph, weaving a placemat out of coloured paper when they learned about Baby Moses, making a Burning Bush and making a googly eyed frog as a representation of one of the 10 plagues.

It's great also to now have a core group of regular attendees and we will continue to explore the Old Testament stories till a couple of weeks before Easter when we will switch to the Easter topic.

Shona and I would also like to say a massive Thank You to both Margaret Gibb and Christine Erwin who have had to help out at very short notice when either one or both of us have not been able to attend.

Take Care.

Ros & Shona



JUNIOR CHURCH

As many of the Junior Church volunteers have decided not to continue in their position due to other commitments, there is a need for us to recruit others. In terms of safeguarding, it is important to start this process as soon as possible since it takes some time for this to be completed. To this end if anyone would be willing to go on a rota to offer help for a much needed part in our Church, please speak to Ros or Shona and pass your name to me.

We are very grateful to the leaders for agreeing to continue in this work with our youngsters and hope that we can continue to encourage and help them with this work.

Elizabeth Dunn

BENEVOLENT FUND

Many thanks to Alastair McKinnon for producing and selling ginger wine with all the proceeds going to the Benevolent fund.

It benefited by £120.00.

Alan Fulton

Fund Treasurer.



BENEVOLENT FUND.

It's good that our Church Services are back to normal.

The Benevolent fund has benefited from the congregation's generosity at communion services and the fund was able to gift £100 to Adam's house and Accord Hospice at the end of 2022.

The fund will continue to donate to charitable causes during 2023 with your support.

Alan Fulton

Fund Treasurer



DRAMA GROUP

The Drama group hosted a movie afternoon in the Church hall on Saturday 26th November where we watched Elf with some snacks and got into the festive spirit. The afternoon raised just over £100 for church funds. Our thanks to all that came along to support the new venture.

Now life has returned to normal, we are investigating options and are hopeful of being back "treading the boards" in November.

Fiona McKenzie on behalf of the Drama Group



CHURCH GARDEN

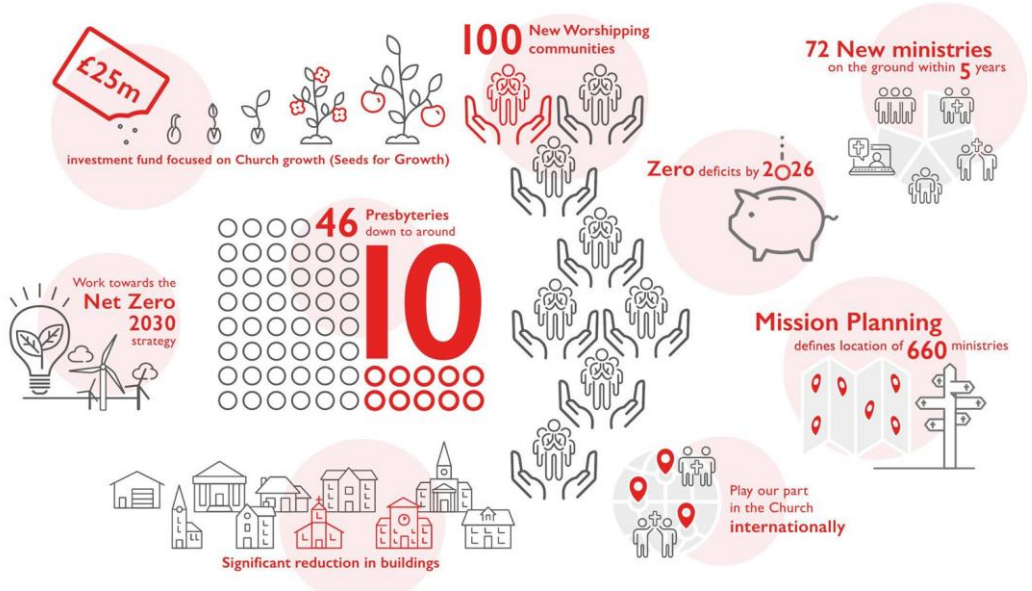
Almost time to start gardening again. If anyone is interested in helping in the church garden please contact *Fulton*.



‘Go and make disciples...’

Investment and support for new church growth – with the national serving the local

Matthew 28:19



Over the past few years, we have seen many changes in the Church and in our world. We have also encountered great challenges, one of the biggest being the decline of our membership and attendance – something that we are not alone in experiencing.

Throughout my time in the role of Chief Officer where I have been focused on the national supporting the local, I have sometimes heard it said that as a Church we are ‘managing decline’. The pain of the change we are navigating through is the result of not having tackled enough of the serious issues we have faced and have articulated for 50 years. We are at this point of transition, change and experimentation because what we currently do is no longer working for us and those we seek to reach out to in the way that it did in the past.

Our priorities are changing with the goal of building for a future full of hope. The infographic above highlights some of our key intentions with significant investment from reserves. Over the next seven years, our Seeds for Growth Fund will make £25m accessible for mission initiatives aimed at growing local churches and creating new congregations with the goal of establishing 100 new worshipping communities.

As a Church we are also working hard to enable and equip new forms of presbytery, with the reduction from 46 to around 10 presbyteries whilst progressing what is acknowledged to be the very difficult and at times painful task of Presbytery Mission Planning to reshape our Church for the future. Our buildings, which can take up so much of our time and money due to their age and condition, also need to be looked after and the overall number significantly reduced. As a Church we must also work towards a Net Zero 2030 strategy.

From our strong foundations, we must remain effective in our witness, nurture and service. Making disciples and renewing and growing the Church – this is our top priority and really must be our focus. I have no doubt that there is a future with hope for our Church. To achieve this we must work together, not just to survive – but to thrive.

Dave Kendall, Chief Officer, Church of Scotland



PROPERTY UPDATE

The new Property Team under the new Constitution comprises of Myself as Property and Hall Convener, Iain Gibb (Church Convener), Marie Alexander (Manse Convener), Tony Martin (Health and Safety Co-ordinator), Fulton Dunn and Graham McKay.

The new team has met once prior to the Session meeting of 7th February.

As a team, we will be striving to ensure that our buildings are wind and watertight, safe and comfortable for use by the congregation and other organisations who make use of our facilities.

To that end, the north gable wall of the main hall is due to be repaired by the end of February, which we hope will solve the problem of dampness on the interior plasterwork. We will also be installing wi-fi to the halls to improve connectivity and user experience.

We will be arranging for the buildings to be fully revalued for insurance purposes.

The Presbytery carried out a quinquennial survey of the church and halls in January and we look forward to receiving that report when it becomes available.

Over the coming year we will be looking at other projects to improve our buildings.

Malcolm MacAskill

Property Convener

THE GUILD.



We are now more than half way through the second Session of the Guild and despite wet and windy Tuesday afternoons attendance has been good. We all enjoyed Irene Thom's tales of schooldays of yore, when tables were drummed into you. Writing in ink was thin up and thick down and the big treat on Friday afternoons was a chapter from King's English covering interpretation and grammar while the teacher worked on the weekly class register. How different today!! It was so good that some of Irene's ex Kilbarchan school colleagues came along to join us..

At our next meeting we had lovely foot tapping afternoon with players from Caledonian Fiddle Orchestra entertaining both Guild members and visitors who came along to join us.

Later on in February we had a return visit by Vivienne MacDonald showing slides of some of her World Travels set to music and was enjoyed by all.

In March we have a speaker from Crossreach talking about the much acclaimed Heart for Art Project .

All visitors welcome.

Jan Howatt



Messy Church in Kilbarchan *Church Halls, Steeple Square, Kilbarchan*

- * games
- * crafts
- * fun
- * worship
- * food



*All children must
be accompanied
by an adult*

Entry is **FREE!!!**

4.00pm - 6.00pm

Saturday 18th March

One Hundred Years at the Organ

On 1st March 1923 the Session Clerk of Kilbarchan United Free Church, James Davidson of 'Dalefield', Park View, wrote to James Henderson, Fyfe Place, Johnstone offering him the post of Organist and Choirmaster. Three days later, in the same post, arrived another letter from the General Manager of Glasgow Corporation Tramways, James Dalrymple, offering James Henderson a job as a tram driver. This posed a great dilemma for James and his widowed mother. Having been unemployed for almost three years during the post-war depression following the Great War, a condition of service in the Tramways was that, due to shift work, operatives had to live within walking distance of a depot. James could not continue to live in Johnstone and work in a well-paid job for life with the Tramways. James sought the wise counsel of his mother who said, 'Well James, we have managed all these years with very little money and so take the job at the Kirk.' James wrote to the General Manager thanking him for the kind offer of a job, but declined, having explained the circumstances. Dalrymple, a well-known harsh manager and difficult man, replied stating, 'Any man who forgoes a job with Glasgow Corporation Tramways to serve God will surely prosper.' James Henderson did prosper and served the Congregation for the next 54 years.



James (Jimmy) married Ellen (Nellie) McEwing on 1st December 1934. She was the aunt of Ian Trushell's father and so Ian was Jimmy's great-nephew. Having taken piano lessons with Morag Mitchell in the village, Ian started playing the organ under Jimmy's tutelage when his legs were long enough to reach the pedal board, and he assumed the role of Organist and Choirmaster the Sunday after James Henderson died on 15th November 1977.

Sunday, 12th March 2023 marks the centenary of James Henderson's first service as Organist and Choirmaster of what is now Kilbarchan Parish Church. He and his great-nephew have served this church for 100 years, bar seven years when two other organists held the post.

Ian Trushell

A first visit to Prenzlau New home of the Kilbarchan West organ

Tom Ferguson

I spent over 36 very happy years as organist at Kilbarchan West Church; I loved the sound of that instrument from the first time I saw it until it was removed from Kilbarchan. When the West Church building closed in 2015, I was very clear that I wanted to find a new home for the organ, described by an organ adviser to the Church of Scotland as 'probably the finest organ ever installed in a parish church in Scotland'. There were a few false starts, but by 2018 there were two requests offering a new home for the organ; one was in Poland, but we decided to accept the request from the Marienkirche in Prenzlau, Germany, as the information available showed a greater chance of success for the future of the instrument.



In November 2018, a team from Eberswalde Orgelbau in Germany spent three weeks in Kilbarchan dismantling the organ, a very major task, labelling every item and storing every detail on computer so the huge jigsaw puzzle could be unravelled in Germany when the time came. All the parts were laid out throughout the church, quite some sight. On a very wet November day, the Hill organ left Kilbarchan after 114 years.

Prenzlau is a town of 20,000 people, in the Uckermark District of the Brandenburg Region, about 60 miles north of Berlin. Although it is a relatively small town, it is the largest in the area. The Marienkirche was built between 1289 and 1340. The town was bombed by the Americans in April 1945, when about 90% of the buildings were destroyed, and the Marienkirche was badly damaged, only the external walls remaining.



Marienkirche, after 1945



Reconstruction began in 1970 and has been ongoing ever since. The restoration of the vaulted roof was completed in 2021; the excellent result can be seen clearly in the photograph. A gallery is being built at the west end to support the organ, with the blower and bellows, etc, which were in the ‘dungeon’ in Kilbarchan, hidden below the stairs. When I was in Prenzlau in August that was planned for Autumn 2022, so may now be under construction or completed. This means the organ will be at the back of the church, as it is in most Lutheran churches. The modern stained-glass window you can see in the photograph of the church will be hidden behind the organ.

Looking to the west end where the organ will be placed on a new gallery

While I was in Prenzlau I was well looked after by Hannes Ludwig, the Cantor of Prenzlau, who is responsible for all church music in Prenzlau. They hold a weekly ‘rush hour recital’ at 5.00 each week during the summer. I was invited to be the soloist on 2nd September, when I played the two small organs currently in the Marienkirche.



The first was built by Röder in 1742. It is currently in the Marienkirche while extensive renovations take place in its home church in the village of Greiffenberg. It has one manual and pedals. The smaller organ, which has no pedals, was built early in the 20th century for a Danish church. Hannes Ludwig bought this organ in 2017, and it is on loan in the Marienkirche.

We visited the organ builders' workshop in Eberswalde. It was good to meet up with the team again nearly four years after their three weeks in Kilbarchan. I was reunited with the Kilbarchan console, minus the keyboards, and saw evidence of the poor state the organ was in – although I suspect lying in Kilbarchan for three years in an unheated building did make that worse. The photographs tell their own story!



Some of the leather work

Before:



After:



The main structural support – ouch!

Hannes also took me to see the other organs in Prenzlau and to some wonderful organs in the area; we visited (and played) the organ in Marienkirche in Angermünde, built in the early 18th century, which features drums and other novelties. We also visited Stralsund, a city on the German Baltic coast, where there are some fabulous old organs. The main reason Hannes arranged

that trip was to hear Thomas Ospital (the celebrated organist from Paris where he is titular organist at St Eustache) playing the organ in the Marienkirche in Stralsund. It was a wonderful recital, and I enjoyed a lovely meal afterwards with Hannes, Thomas, Martin Prost (organist in Stralsund), and other North German organists. While we were there Thomas accepted an invitation from Hannes to play in Prenzlau when the Kilbarchan organ is completed. The organ in Stralsund was built by Stellwagen in 1659 (26 years before Bach was born!); it has been restored several times since then, but most recently between 2003 and 2008. The following morning Hannes and I met with Martin Prost, and I was able to play this wonderful historic instrument. Since all the posts I have held, starting in 1967, had instruments with radiating pedal boards, getting used to the straight pedal board at Sherbrooke Moss park in Pollokshields after moving there in July last year was a challenge enough, but the Baroque pedal boards in Angermunde and Stralsund, with fewer notes and more spread out, was something else!

My five day trip to Germany was a wonderful experience, and I am looking forward to visiting again when 'my' organ is restored and installed.

The inauguration of the Hill organ into Marienkirche, Prenzlau, was originally scheduled for summer 2020; the pandemic was only one of the reasons why that did not happen. Hannes and everyone in Prenzlau cannot yet give a definite date for the opening of the organ, but they hope to celebrate the new chapter in the life of the Hill organ in the late summer of 2023, or perhaps 2024. It will depend on the progress of the building of the gallery and the installation of the organ. I hope some people from Kilbarchan will make the visit to Prenzlau to join in the celebrations.



Saturday 1st April, 10.00 – 12.00, £ 3.00/£1.00

What exactly is Fairtrade Fortnight and when is it in 2023?

Fairtrade Fortnight runs every year for two weeks.

Its aim is to transform the farming industry and to ensure that farmers and workers in the developing world get a fair deal for the crops they grow.

Fairtrade Fortnight brings together consumers, retailers, licensees, businesses, producers and campaigners nationwide to promote awareness and sales of Fairtrade products and campaign on issues of trade justice.

This is done by action-packed campaigns, targeted at businesses, places of worship and schools and colleges, that participate in raising awareness of Fairtrade products. will take place from the Monday 27th of February to the Sunday 12th of March 2023 inclusive.

Last year, online panels, ‘bake-offs’ and coffee mornings and over 50 “virtual events” took place as part of the Fortnight and many will return for 2023. The conversations sparked from these events aim to ensure farmers and workers are put front and centre of conversations on how to tackle climate issues.

This Fairtrade Fortnight, join us in spreading a simple message: **“choose Fairtrade now and help save our favourite foods”**.

Did you know cocoa, bananas and coffee could soon be much more difficult to find on our shelves?

Climate change is making crops like these harder and harder to grow. Combined with deeply unfair trade, communities growing these crops are being pushed to the brink.

People come together across the UK to share stories about the people who grow our food and drinks, mine our gold and who grow the cotton in our clothes – people who are often underpaid, if not exploited. But here’s the good news...

More of us choosing Fairtrade means extra income, power, and support for those communities, as they work to build sustainable and prosperous futures.

So not only is choosing Fairtrade best for people and planet, it could help save everyday treats like chocolate, bananas and a hot cuppa!

The growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers in the communities that Fairtrade works with are at the forefront of the festival.

Marginalised people in countries such as Ethiopia, Kenya and Honduras – who have actually done the least to contribute to climate change – are disproportionately affected by it, due to consistent low prices for their produce.

This lack of money for their hard work means they can be exposed and unequipped to meet their everyday needs and cope with the adversity they face from climate change

and those in vulnerable countries are already seeing the impact of the climate through droughts, crop diseases and floods for example.

These days, Fairtrade Fortnights are celebrated in several countries, most notably Ireland, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

What does Fairtrade mean?

Fairtrade means better prices, good working conditions and improvement to sustainability.

Buying Fairtrade products means that there are agreed terms and pricing for both farmers and workers in developing countries in the southern hemisphere.

Fairtrade provides them with the security of knowing they'll receive a fair price for their crop and the long term stability that comes from having a better relationship with their buyer.

And there are positive signs! Today, 1 in 3 bananas bought in the UK are Fairtrade. But there's plenty more that we can do to ensure that people earn what they deserve from their labour.

With everything that has happened since the start of "The Pandemic", the adversity that farmers must face now is even worse, with falling commodity prices and general shock echoing around global supply chains.

This leads to ongoing poverty in farming communities that makes it even harder for these people to cope with the effects of climate change.

How to buy Fairtrade products...

Look out for the Fairtrade symbol, clearly marked on each pack. When products have this symbol on, you will know that, due to the [certification by Fairtrade Foundation](#), a fair price has been paid to the workers involved.



Fairtrade Foundation logo

With over 4,500 different Fairtrade products are available to buy in UK supermarkets and stores you can't miss them!

Choosing and asking for Fairtrade is one way to ensure farmers and workers can farm into the future and earn enough to provide for their families and invest in their communities.

So start preparing NOW and have a fantastic [Fairtrade Fortnight 2023](#).



You can purchase Fairtrade items at the Rainbowturtle Stall in the church hall on Sunday 12th March.

E A S T E R W O R D S E A R C H

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E A S T E R
Q P E J R E
E I D L O S
F L R J K U
D A E D M R
E M M S J T V H A R F E E T
S A L E D E O K R E L P O Y
V O S A S W S L Y C R M C T
X G L T Q S S U H T B B V N
Z F I D E U A H A I S S E M
I R P Z N O
P E E Z D R
S J R G S R
F U L S G R
D J S S D S
F J W E U E
Y E F J J L
A R V H I P
D U O D O I
I S S O R C
R A R G P S
F L E D G I
D E T F V D
O M E S F K
O L P U D S
G X E N I W
    
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Easter Jesus Resurrection Cross Bread Passover Good Friday
 Easter Eggs Tomb Mary Soldiers Pilate Peter Disciples
 Jerusalem Messiah Hands Feet God Wine





eco-news January 2023

The eco group are continuing to research and advise the Church and community on issues we can all address in our daily life.

On Wednesday 1st March at 7.30pm, an Information Session has been arranged in the Church hall with **Mary Sweetland**, Eco Convenor of Lomond Parish Church in Alexandria (they have recently received their Eco Congregation Gold Award from the Moderator). Although we would encourage any interested Church, and Session members to attend, it is particularly aimed at members of the Finance and Property Teams.

Mary will talk about the various ways that the church can assess their property and energy priorities with a view to potentially accessing grant funding for repairs, insulation and generally improving our carbon footprint etc. She will also speak about the Eco Journey that has enabled Lomond Parish to achieve their Gold Award.

We have also organised our next **eco-forum** for Wednesday 17th of May 7.30 in the hall. There will be two speakers.

The first is **Paul O'Brien** from ENVA waste management, who will speak about his company, and the journey our rubbish takes after the wheelie bin. His theme will be "The Secret Life of Waste".

The second speaker will be **Tom Knockolds** of LOCO HOME, who will speak on the work his company does. His expertise lies in helping communities develop energy saving projects, with advice on decarbonising and insulating buildings and homes. Bearing in mind the age of local properties, I am sure we will all find his talk very useful.

Both speakers will be willing to take questions on their subject, and I hope we can all benefit from this exchange of information.

Please come along to hear these speakers, and share your own ideas with us.

George Grant

KILBARCHAN PARISH CHURCH

‘EAT or ATE’ QUIZ ANSWERS

Eg Move on ice (5)

Skate

| | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | To reward a loss or injury (10) | Compensate |
| 2 | Kitchen utensil used for cheese (6) | Grater |
| 3 | Bread or flour (10) | Wholewheat |
| 4 | Gain an unfair advantage over (5) | Cheat |
| 5 | Found in the bog (4) | Peat |
| 6 | Fit in with others wishes (11) | Accommodate |
| 7 | Cockerel on the roof (11) | Weathervane |
| 8 | Could be a bench or a chair (4) | Seat |
| 9 | Beverage with something removed (13) | Decaffeinated |
| 10 | A boxer could be this (13) | Featherweight |
| 11 | Sang by Marilyn Monroe (4,4) | Heat Wave |
| 12 | Set in Aidsfield (9) | Heartbeat |
| 13 | Think hard (11) | Contemplate |
| 14 | Love or ... (4) | Hate |
| 15 | Make or become different (13) | Differentiate |
| 16 | Opposite to No 9 (11) | Caffeinated |
| 17 | Official document (11) | Certificate |
| 18 | Men and horses do it, women never (5) | Sweat |
| 19 | T-shaped piece of metal (5) | Cleat |
| 20 | Song by Donavon (3,2,3,5,2,4,3,2) | Why do you treat me like you do |
| 21 | Arousing the appetite (13) | Mouthwatering |
| 22 | Beef, pork or lamb (4) | Meat |
| 23 | Correct (8) | Accurate |
| 24 | Repeal or do away with (8) | Abrogate |
| 25 | Song from Brigadoon (7,2,3,4) | Heather on the Hill |

Thank you for entering the ‘EAT or ATE’ Quiz. The sum of £ 150.00 was raised for Church funds. There were a total of 29 entries submitted, of that there were 3 correct.. The first two correct entries drawn were :-

Janice Douglas of Brookfield
and
Morven MacKinnon of Glasgow

No Charge!

My little boy came into the kitchen this evening
While I was fixing supper
And he handed me a piece of paper he'd been writing on
And after wiping my hands on my apron
I read it - and this is what it said

For mowing the yard - five pounds
And for making my own bed this week - one pound
And for going to the store - fifty pence
An' playing with little brother, while you went shopping
Twenty-five pence
Taking out the trash - one pound
Getting a good report card - five pounds
And for raking the yard - two pounds
Total owed - fourteen pounds seventy-five pence.

Well, I looked at him standing there expectantly
And a thousand memories flashed through my mind
So I picked up the pen, turning the paper over,
This is what I wrote:

For nine months I carried you
Growing inside me - no charge
For the nights I've sat up with you,
Doctored you, prayed for you - no charge
For the time and the tears.
And the cost through the years, there's no charge
When you add it all up.
The full cost of my love is no charge.

For the nights filled with dread
And the worries ahead - no charge
For advice and the knowledge
And the cost of your college - no charge
For the toys, food and clothes and for wiping your nose
There's NO CHARGE, son
When you add it all up,
The full cost of my love, is - No charge.

Well, when he finished reading

He had great big tears in his eyes
And he looked up at me and he said,
"Mama, I sure do love you."
Then he took the pen,
And in great big letters
He wrote: "Paid in full."

When you add it all up
The cost of real love is - no charge.

Get your hankies ready! You can listen to Tammy Wynette or Johnny Cash singing "No Charge" on Youtube a real Country Music tear-jerker. As told to the children and their parents or carers who attended Messy Church where the theme was "Love".

Bobby



Kilbarchan Parish Church of Scotland

Kilbarchan Kirk Online

Find all the information you need on what's happening at KPC
on our website and social media.

Web: kilbarchan-kirk.btck.co.uk

Twitter: [@KilbarchanKirk](https://twitter.com/KilbarchanKirk)

Facebook: facebook.com/kilbarchankirk



A big round of applause for all those who organise and take part in Messy Church. I am reliable informed by a young participant that they had a great afternoon. There was a great attendance, Margaret Gibb even had a panic about having enough food !
It's terrific to have the halls full !



MESSY CHURCH

We have enjoyed two sessions since the last magazine. On Saturday 3 December our theme was.... CHRISTMAS We made christingles and talked about what each element represented before going into the church where Fiona played some festive pieces on the organ and the praise band led us in some favourite carols, this was the highlight for everyone present and both adults and children were so impressed with the band and seeing the church decorations. We are indebted to the band for their time and talents so willingly given.

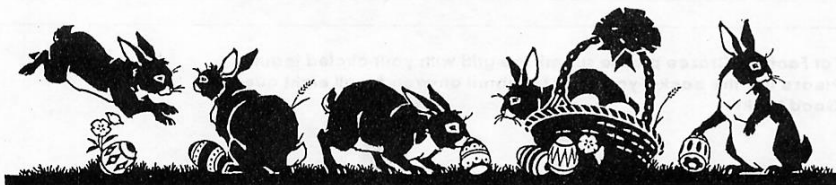


On the 21 of January our theme was Light of the World. The crafters offered a wide range of activities on this topic, many of the adults made special mention of how impressed they were with the crafts on offer. Stephen gave a short talk on the subject and they sang This Little Light of Mine. During the meal in the large hall the singing continued with a variety of different items from an enthusiastic group of friends that really added to the very happy atmosphere.

Our latest session was on the 18 February when our Messy friends joined us for more fun and fellowship. The theme this time was Love and once again the crafters did us proud

My sincere thanks to all the messy team for their efforts and support

Margaret Gibb



KILBARCHAN PARISH CHURCH HILLWALKING CLUB REPORT

February 2023

The hillwalking club met for our AGM at the start of December, where we planned fourteen walks and two hostelling weekends (our first overnight trips since 2019) for this year. The meeting was, as always, followed by a blether over coffee and homemade cakes. The full walk programme is displayed in the church hall and I'm happy to email a copy to anyone interested in joining us.



December's walk was up King's Seat Hill from Dollar, a Donald in the Ochils. A good turnout of eleven braved freezing temperatures and a snow storm on the summit for an otherwise excellent day out.

In January nine of us walked from Mugdock Park visitor centre, via Craigend Castle and Mugdock Castle, to a short section of the West Highland Way and Craigallian Loch. It was a showery day and soggy underfoot, with wading required on flooded parts of the WHW path. Unfortunately none of us had wellies, but we dried off with coffee and tasty cakes in the cafe at the end of the walk.

February's walk was the Falls of Clyde circular around New Lanark, with thirteen in attendance. The river was in heavy spate, so we had lots of waterfall action, but timed it perfectly to get back to the cars before the afternoon's rain. As always, the company was top notch.

Our upcoming walks will be:

- 4th March: Ben A'an
- 15th April: Ben Ledi
- 13th May: The Craigie (Duncarnock)
- 12th-14th May: Braemar Rucksacks Hostel

For all walks we will meet at the Steeple at 8am. Any new members would be very welcome on these or any subsequent walks.



Doddie Aid Challenge 2023

I'd like to thank all members of the congregation who donated to my challenge in support of the Doddie Weir Foundation that does so much to raise the awareness of Motor Neuron Disease (MND).

I had set my target at cycling 555 kilometres by 31st January but achieved this by 14th January. When I realised the challenge ran until the The Doddie Weir Cup was played for against Wales on 11th February, I set my new target of 555 miles cycled.

I achieved this on Thursday 9th February hitting my final total of 555.17miles.

Due to the generosity of friends, family, anonymous donors and members of the congregation, I have raised the magnificent total for the Doddie Weir Foundation of £1600 (at the time of writing). To say I'm overwhelmed is an understatement.

On behalf of the Doddie Weir Foundation and myself I'd like to thank everyone for the generous support.

Graham McKay



A huge thank you to everyone who continues to support the invaluable work of the Renfrewshire Foodbank. As the cost of living crisis deepens, the work of the Foodbank becomes even more essential to an ever widening group within the community.

Items urgently required are Nappies in large sizes (5 6 & 7), small bottles of diluting juice, brown and tomato sauces mayonnaise, shaving foam and tampons.
Thank you for your support.

Graham McKay

Christian Aid Week (15th-21st May 2023)

We will be delivering donation envelopes throughout Kilbarchan and Brookfield during Christian Aid Week and ask that you return your donations to collection points in Kilbarchan and Brookfield at the end of the week.

It will also be possible to donate electronically via a JustGiving page on the church website www.kilbarchankirk.org

By donating, you can help to support Christian Aid's work in some of the poorest communities in the world. Recent events in Turkey/Syria and elsewhere demonstrate the impact of natural disasters and of climate change which so often affect those areas least able to cope.

Kilbarchan and Brookfield have been very generous supporters of Christian Aid Week in the past, raising **£3,785** last year. We are very aware of the pressures on every household's budget at this time, but hope that our community will again respond by contributing whatever they can afford.

As always, the success of Christian Aid week depends not only on your donations, but on a team of volunteers who distribute donation envelopes around the villages. If you are able to help in this, or any other way, please contact **Alasdair** on **07805 918509**.



I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, gifts, visits and kind messages which I received for my 90th birthday. It was very much appreciated.

Nan Chittick

I really appreciate the return of the intimation sheet on a Sunday. Grateful thanks to all involved with the production.

Margaret Beattie

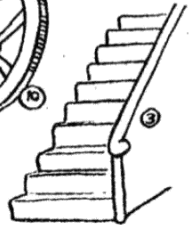
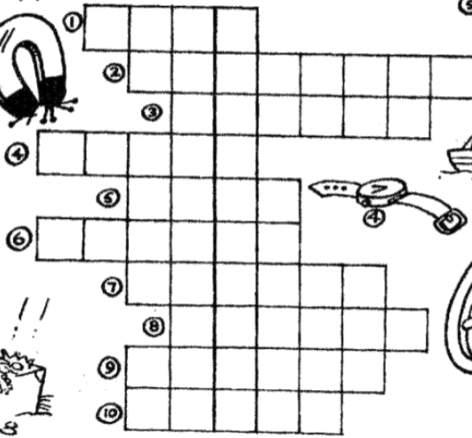


Kidz Korum

Name the Place

What was the name of the garden where Jesus was arrested?

Mark 14:32-51



Which picture goes with which Bible reference?

① Exodus 8: 8-10

② Acts 9: 19-27

③ Numbers 20: 3-11

④ Leviticus 19: 38-39

⑤ John 19: 3-5

HAPPY EASTER



PARISH REGISTER



CERTIFICATE OF TRANSFERENCE

Members joining Kilbarchan Parish Church

Mrs Anne Logan

Mrs Anne Anderson

Members leaving Kilbarchan Parish Church

Certificate given to Mr Kenneth and Mrs Irene Harris

DEATHS

Apology

It has come to our attention that due to oversight the recording of James death did not appear last year.. It is hoped that including it now in some way makes amends for any unintentional hurt or distress caused to James' family or friends at such a sad time.

'In my father's house there are many mansions'

| | |
|------------|------------------|
| 16/07/2022 | James Logan |
| 25/11/2022 | Mary Hastie |
| 29/11/2022 | Jack Douglas |
| 09/12/2022 | Isobel Crabbe |
| 13/12/2022 | John Graham |
| 05/01/2023 | Jean Girvan |
| 08/01/2023 | John MacLeod |
| 07/01/2023 | Joy MacAskill |
| 18/01/2023 | Chrissie Shiels |
| 02/02/2023 | Elsie McQuilken |
| 15/02/2023 | George Anderson |
| 14/02/2023 | Jeanette Ogilvie |
| 12/02/2023 | Mary Muir Reid |

ROLL

The Roll of Kilbarchan Parish Church now stands at 359 and 17 Adherents.

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister - Rev Stephen Smith - 01505 702621

Joint Session Clerk - Mrs Christine Erwin - 01505 703056

Joint Session Clerk - Mr Alasdair Law - 07805 918 509

Ass. Session Clerk - Miss Helen Robertson - 01505 325382

WORSHIP PROGRAMME

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| Sunday 5 th March | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 12 th March | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 19 th March | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 26 th March | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| | | |
| Sunday 2 nd April | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Thursday 6 th April | 7.00pm | Maundy Thursday Service |
| Friday 7 th April | 7.00pm | Good Friday Service |
| Sunday 9 th April | 8.30am | Early Service at Weavers Cottage |
| | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 16 th April | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 23 rd April | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| | 3.00pm | Service of Remembrance |
| Sunday 30 th April | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| | | |
| Sunday 7 th May | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 14 th May | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 21 st May | 11.00am | Morning Worship |
| Sunday 28 th May | 11.00am | Morning Worship |

