



Kilbarchan Parish Church

Your local church magazine

Dear Friends,

Every day, for the past 4 weeks, I've woken up with a song on my lips and in my heart. As I open my eyes to welcome the summer morning sunshine I hear the words of the classic Johnny Nash song, 'I can see clearly now....'

And last thing at night, just before I drift off to sleep, my nightly prayer is the words of the great hymn, 'Be Thou my vision'

The reason for these musical choices has been the success of my first cataract operation. The difference, if it doesn't sound too hackneyed, was like night and day. Colours are brighter. Objects are clearer and more defined. I'll maybe even recognise you and be able to say Hello using your name at the Church door. Just kidding. My sight wasn't that bad.

The skill and dedication of the nursing and medical staff at the Glasgow Eye Hospital was second to none.

A few weeks ago, in church we were thinking about the story in the gospel of the Transfiguration. In the sermon that day I said that most of the time we have thought about the Transfiguration as something that happened to Jesus.

His clothing became dazzling white. He shone like the sun. The change is located in Jesus.

But, what if?

What if the change happened in the three disciples who were with Jesus that day? What if Peter, James and John had something like, 'divine cataract surgery' The change was in them and in how they saw Jesus, who he was and what his mission and subsequently their mission was to be.

Change can sometimes feel unsettling and disturbing. It can make us unsure of our place in the grand scheme of things and even for some include a questioning of identity.

Yet change is all around, in the world, in society, in our country, in our church and in our life.

One change you will notice from September onwards is a new face in the ministry team of Kilbarchan Parish Church. Aaron Marshall will be with us for fifteen months as a Probationer. This is the final period of training in Aaron's journey towards becoming ordained as a minister of word and sacrament within the Church of Scotland.

Aaron will become involved in all aspects of the life, worship and ministry of our congregation. Elsewhere in this issue of the Church notes Aaron introduces himself.

Soon he will become a recognised and friendly face around our church and village. I know you will guarantee Aaron a warm welcome.

I look forward to seeing you in worship and in the various organisations within the church that start up in September.

Your friend

Stephen



FROM THE EDITOR



Autumn is now with us and I do hope you all had a good summer break. Now all our organisations and groups are back in harness. As well as coming to worship on a Sunday, why not give some of the weekday groups a try. Country Dancing, Midweek Fellowship or the Tots' Club to name but a few. You'll find out more as you go through the magazine.

I hope that this magazine will contain something of interest to you and if you want to submit something you wish to share with us, then please send it in. This is after all YOUR Magazine and your support is not only appreciated, it is needed.

The winter issue will come out on Sunday 3rd December and all items for it should reach me by Sunday 19th November.

Alastair MacKinnon

alastair.mackinnon@ntlworld.com

KIRK SESSION REPORT

We hope that you have all managed to enjoy some sunshine over the summer and are now looking forward to taking part in some of the various groups and activities which will be resuming in the halls in the coming weeks.

It is good to have lovely memories of Liliias Day at the start of June when the weather was kind to us, and the Church stalls attracted many visitors. The stall was a financial success but even more importantly, it raised our profile and provided an opportunity to connect with many visitors as well as with familiar faces. We are very grateful to everyone who helped in any way to the success of this event.

Since the last magazine was circulated, the kirk session has had one formal meeting when regular business was carried out and two meetings for specific purposes. At the first of these, session decided, after much deliberation, to return the bell from the original West Church to allow it to be reinstated in its original position in the bell tower. The second meeting was to discuss further information about our section of the Mission plan prior to it being finalised at the June meeting of Clyde Presbytery.

Sadly, there have been two deaths since the last magazine but it was good to have a baptism and a joyful service of blessing during the summer.

At the end of June, we were pleased to welcome the children, staff and friends of Kilbarchan school to Church, for their end of term service which included presentations to the pupils who are moving on to High School at the start of the new session.

We were pleased to see so many of you taking part in the Communion service and to know that we were joined by many more at home – either at the same time with us, or later using our YouTube service.

During the summer, Stephen managed to have some annual leave and we were pleased to welcome Rev Jeanette Peel and Rev Stuart Davidson to lead our worship.

By the time you read this, Aaron Marshall will have joined our fellowship as he undertakes his probationary period of study, prior to completing his training for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. We are sure you will make him feel at home with us and extend a warm welcome to him if he comes to visit you.

For the first time in several years, we participated in the Renfrewshire Doors Open Scheme with our Church being open for visitors during the afternoon following the end of worship. Rosie, Ian and Fiona provided some music and there were some interesting record books and memorabilia on display.

Alasdair, Christine and Helen.

HELLO KILBARCHAN PARISH CHURCH!

My name is Aaron Marshall and I will be joining you for my 15 month probation period as a candidate for ordained ministry. I live in Bridge of Weir with my wife Hanneke, who is Minister of St Machar's Ranfurly Church. We have three children: Lukas aged 18, Lois 15 and Tabitha 11. The girls go to Gryffe High School and Lukas is doing an electrical engineering apprenticeship.

We moved to Scotland in October 2015 from the village of Broughshane in County Antrim, primarily for my wife to fulfill her call to ministry. Initially we were in the town of Duns, in the Borders, where my wife completed her probation period before receiving the call to St Machar's in March 2017.

Prior to training for ministry, I worked in different career areas including secondary school teaching and careers guidance. Most recently I worked for Skills Development Scotland in the East End of Glasgow.

In our spare time we enjoy going out into the beautiful countryside around us with our dog Asher and his new sister Heidi. I'm keen to experience ministry in a more rural environment after placements in Renfrew, Maryhill and Inverclyde Royal Hospital.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the coming weeks.

Aaron



MIDWEEK FELLOWSHIP

We meet each Wednesday commencing again on 6th September – in the small hall.

Anyone can come along – tea/coffee/chat

from 10.30 a.m. onwards and then at 11 a.m. there is a short, informal service

A warm welcome awaits you any Wednesday morning. We really do hope to see you.

A time in the middle of the week to have fellowship – to have a quiet, reflective time – to worship in a Smaller, informal setting. If this appeals to you – why not give it a try.





MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church resumes on Saturday 16th September when we look forward to seeing all our Messy families for a new session of fun and friendship. We meet in the church hall from 4 - 6pm when we explore a bible story through crafts, games, story and song ending with

sharing a simple meal together. If you have been before we welcome you back and if you haven't why not come along and see what it is all about. Just remember to bring an adult with you.



THE CRECHE

We are hoping to restart the Creche on the 3rd September when the Junior Church starts back. To begin with we intend to meet in the small hall till we see how many young children and babies come along. The age range we are hoping for is from baby to three or four years old. This should give the parents the chance to attend church but of course you are welcome to stay if they will not settle.

All our helpers have to be PVG checked and have attended a course every 5 years so at the moment we have only a small number to make up a rota as we are waiting on Presbytery running a course. Both Junior Church and Creche could do with more volunteers to help out when needed. PVG checking takes about eight weeks so if you are interested please speak to Elizabeth Dunn soon. Normally the course itself only takes a couple of hours on ZOOM in an evening.

The Nurture Team



Yesterday's Worries



Take yesterday's worries and sort them all out
And you'll wonder whatever you worried about;
Look back at the cares that once furrowed your brow—
I fancy you'll smile at most of them now.
They seemed terrible then, but they really were not;
For once out of the woods, all the fears are forgot.

PRESBYTERY REPORT FOR TUESDAY 20TH JUNE 2023

The Presbytery Clerk, Rev Dr Peter McEnhill has submitted his resignation from 31st August 2023. An interview panel of Ken Gray, Maggie McArthur, Jonathan Fleming, Carol Moore and Sheena McFarlane will consider applications and interview potential candidates.

The Rev Dr Alistair Shaw is demitting his charge as the 31st August 2023 on the grounds of age.

Inverclyde Family Contact Centre plans to become an SCIO in the summer of 2023 and that from September 12th 2023 Presbytery will no longer appoint Trustees to the Governing body and the Moderator of Presbytery will no longer be a Trustee ex officio.

TREASURER: Presbytery accounts were approved for year ending 31st. December 2022. Thanks were given to Mr Jim Gibson for acting as Independent Examiner for 2022 and he was appointed for another year.

MINISTRY: intend to run Worship Leader courses later in the year, the committee has asked for expressions of interest to be made to YSmith@churchofscotland.org.uk. Congratulations to Charlene Mitchell from St John's Church in Gourrock who following attendance at National Assessment Conference has been accepted for training for the Diaconate.

MISSION: Presbyters are urged to fill in the short questionnaire asking for preferences for future Clyde Presbytery Mission Conferences:

<https://forms.office.com/e/fjSQT5sNbG>.

Congregations to look at the work of 'Prospects Across Scotland' and to either encourage people with additional needs to join with JAM (Jesus And Me) worship or for congregations/cluster groups to look at setting-up a similar worship event.

<https://www.prospectsacrossscotland.org.uk>

Note the date for a Session Clerk Training Day hosted by Inchinnan PC on August 26th 2023 and facilitated by Faith Action Forum for those in, and those who might be taking up, this post please email aknox@churchofscotland.org.uk to confirm your attendance (may be a delay in this training).

PLANNING: amendments to the draft Mission Plan as stated in the Extract Minute of the Faith Nurture Forum were adopted and the amended plan is now the Presbytery Plan for Clyde Presbytery. The adoption of the amended Presbytery plan means that the fourteen day period for lodging Mission Plan Review requests has begun.

PROPERTY REPORT

Since the last magazine report, the Property Team has met three times to review what works we would still like to do, but also to ensure we comply with the Kirk Session approved financial limits.

This year's financial limit has been reached and, in fact, exceeded due to projects which had been instructed in the previous financial year.

The small hall and session house loft spaces have been insulated to hopefully retain heat in the buildings and reduce heating costs.

The sound systems in the church and hall have been upgraded very recently.

Where applicable, the portable electrical appliances, boilers and fire safety equipment in the church, halls and manse have had their annual service.

A drone survey of the church and hall roofs has been completed to see what work, if any, is needed to the roof coverings and gutters.

We have bored into the cavity of the interior gable wall in the large hall to investigate the damp patches. However, this was inconclusive and further investigation of the exterior of the gable is now needed.

The Church of Scotland has instructed the church to prepare an accessibility audit on an annual basis. This is a new instruction and the Property Team are looking at how to comply appropriately.

The upgrade of paths has been put on hold.

The observant amongst us will have noted new paintwork, both inside and outside thanks to Iain Gibb.



FUNDRAISING NEWS

As I write this, Art Off the Square is about to begin and will hopefully be a great success-thanks once again for all the work done by Myra and George, and indeed to all the willing helpers without whom this show would not be successful.

The next event will be the Christmas Fay re-not thinking so far ahead in the middle of August!!

FINANCE TEAM

Neil Chittick, our Free Will Offering Convenor, will shortly be ordering the Free Will Offering envelopes for 2024. Any member, who currently donates using the envelopes, but who does not want to donate in this way next year, should let Neil know as soon as possible that envelopes are no longer required.

Also any member who would like to start using Free Will Offering envelopes, should contact Neil as soon as possible so that the appropriate number of envelopes can be ordered for 2024.

Neil will be happy to answer any queries members may have regarding donating by way of weekly FWO envelopes.

Members are also able to donate on a regular basis by Standing Order where donations are paid directly into the Church's Bank Account. Any member interested in giving using this method can contact any member of the Finance Team, who will be pleased to provide the appropriate forms or deal with any queries.

As always, sincere thanks are extended to all members for their continued support of the Church.

FINANCE TEAM *Marjory Love* (Treasurer) *Neil Chittick* (Free Will Offering Convenor) *Myra Grant, Ian Trushell, Cathy Millar, Alex Christine*



BADMINTON CLUB



By the time you read this, the new session of the Badminton Club will have started. We meet at 8pm on Thursdays in the Church Hall. This is a reminder for members, and an invitation for any adult who wants to join us. We're a friendly bunch, and would welcome new faces.

Susan MacAskill

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

It has recently been noted that reports in the Accident Book (in the kitchen if it's needed) contain personal information which shouldn't be left lying around. This has now been rectified. Once the details of any reported accident/incident have been resolved and appropriate measures have been taken, then the report sheet is removed from the Accident Book and kept securely along with similar personal data held by the Safeguarding Team.

An email was received from the General Trustees in July advising us that due to high numbers of false alarms from automatic fire detection systems the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will no longer dispatch fire fighting appliances without confirmation that there is actual fire, smoke or burning smell within the building.

Our fire evacuation plans for the buildings in Kilbarchan Parish Church have been updated to reflect this development and it may seem that the "responsible person" for any ongoing activity has the added duty of confirming whether or not there actually is a fire. However, this person should not put him/herself in any danger. You do not need to see flames to know there is a fire. If you see smoke; if you hear crackling sounds; if you smell burning; or if you can feel heat on a closed door by using the back of your hand to sense it, then any one of these is sufficient confirmation that there actually is a fire. Do not open the door if you can see, hear, smell, or feel the effect of fire behind it. Just tell the Fire Service and they will attend urgently.

Hopefully such occurrences will not happen. But it does highlight the necessity for vigilance. Do check that gas and electric appliances are turned off before leaving the buildings. Please ensure that everyone stays safe.

Tony Martin (H&S administrator) 01505 352490



THE TOTS' CLUB

The club resumes on Monday 4th September from 9.15-11.30. We look forward to welcoming some old and new faces. We were able to give a large donation to church funds at the end of June which is excellent, as we only charge £1 per adult. We are happy to see anyone for coffee on a Monday morning and if you would like to join our group of volunteers, please speak to us.

Elizabeth and Fulton, Alison and Ian, Myra, Helen, Rosie, Rosemary, Christine, Margaret, Cathy, Fiona, Malcolm and Jen

THIS IS THE WORLD THAT GOD MADE

This is the field
that is part of the world that God made.

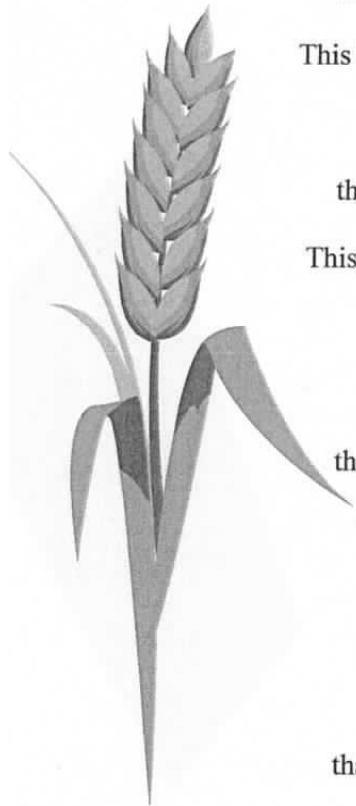
This is the wheat
that was planted by the farmer
that grows in the field
that is part of the world that God made.

This is the flour that was ground by the miller
that comes from the wheat
that was planted by the farmer
that grows in the field
that is part of the world that God made.

This is the bread that was made by the baker
that contains the flour
that was ground by the miller
that comes from the wheat
that was planted by the farmer
that grows in the field
that is part of the world that God made.

This our tea when we eat the bread
that was made by the baker
that contains the flour
that was ground by the miller
that comes from the wheat
that was planted by the farmer
that grows in the field
that is part of the world that God made.

This is the day when we say 'THANK YOU'
to the baker,
the miller,
the farmer
and to God
for giving us bread by which we live
in the wonderful world which God made.



THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM...

Two travelling angels stopped to spend the night in the home of a wealthy family. The family was rude and refused to let the angels stay in the mansion's guest room. Instead the angels were given a small space in the cold basement. As they made their bed on the hard floor, the older angel saw a hole in the wall and repaired it. When the younger angel asked

why, the older angel replied, **"Things aren't always what they seem."**

The next night the pair came to rest at the house of a very poor, but very hospitable farmer and his wife. After sharing what little food they had the couple let the angels sleep in their bed where they could have a good night's rest. When the sun came up the next morning the angels found the farmer and his wife in tears. Their only cow whose milk had been their sole income, lay dead in the field. The younger angel was infuriated and asked the older angel how could you have let this happen?

The first man had everything, yet you helped him, she accused. The second family had little but was willing to share everything, and you let the cow die.

"Things aren't always what they seem," the older angel replied.

"When we stayed in the basement of the mansion, I noticed there was gold stored in that hole in the wall. Since the owner was so obsessed with greed and unwilling to share his good fortune, I sealed the wall so he wouldn't find it."

"Then last night as we slept in the farmer's bed, the angel of death came for his wife. I gave him the cow instead.

"Things aren't always what they seem."

Sometimes that is exactly what happens when things don't turn out the way they should. If you have faith, you just need to trust that every outcome is always to your advantage. You might not know it until sometime later.



Renfrewshire Foodbank Summer Update

The information presented below is taken from Foodbank's latest update so thanks to them for giving me permission to reproduce it here.

Food Parcels

In June & July Renfrewshire Foodbank (RF) supplied the following parcels across their distribution network:

Singles – 506 (June - 272, July – 234)

Couples – 142 (June – 81, July – 61)

Small Families (up to 4 people) – 125 (June – 67, July – 58)

Large Families (5+ people) – 46 (June – 24, July – 22)

Total – 819 (June 444, July - 375)

These parcels provided 1355 people with emergency food. This breaks down to 960 adults and 395 children.

A total of 16,536.19kgs of food, toiletries and cleaning products were distributed.

In comparison to the same period last year, RF has seen a 10.97% increase in food parcels issued and a 5.6% increase in people fed. This breaks down to 7% more adults and 2% more children.

Donations

In June and July RF received 10,628.34 kgs of donations, and purchased 1745kgs of stock over the period. This was made up of fresh items for the fresh packs and a top up of most needed items.

July also saw a significant milestone in terms of donations. RF reached a phenomenal 1 million kgs donated since RF's records began.

The Foodbank model is based on the community helping the community. Renfrewshire Foodbank would not exist if it was not for the kindness and generosity of the community of Renfrewshire and beyond.

School Uniforms

Asda Linwood and Linwood High School donated some school uniforms and RF team members have been identifying families for these and they have been very much

appreciated. A local business also held a school bag drive which collected some bags and stationary for RF to distribute too.

Pet Food

In June & July, we provided emergency food for 193 dogs, 176 cats, 2 gerbils, 1 ferret, 1 rat, 1 parrot and 2 guinea pigs. RF was also able to pass on some pet treats and accessories.

Van Cover

RF are still on the lookout for a couple of new van people. If yo know of anyone who may be able to help out regularly or even ad hoc to cover holidays, please contact Renfrewshire Foodbank. Ideally, they should be able to confidently drive a van and should be physically fit.

The Renfrewshire Foodbank Management Team would like to thank Kilbarchan Parish Church for our continued support of the Foodbank.

Graham McKay

Post Script

Renfrewshire Foodbank will now accept donations of fresh fruit and vegetables purchased from shops, supermarkets, garden centres or home grown surpluses from your own garden.



COUNTRY DANCING

It is time for the Country Dancing to start again on Tuesday 12th Sept. at 7.30p.m. until 9.30p.m. we meet each Tuesday for a bit of fun learning new Scottish dances taught by Anne Whyte. I would like to encourage you to dust off your dancing shoes and come and join us. Please bring your own

mug or cup as tea will be provided.

This year we look forward to the ladies from Elderslie coming to join us on 26th Sept. For more information please contact

Helen Miller





Kilbarchan Parish Church



kilbarchankirk.org

Facebook - [facebok.com/kilbarchankirk](https://facebook.com/kilbarchankirk)

X (Twitter) - [@kilbarchankirk](https://twitter.com/kilbarchankirk)

YouTube - search for Kilbarchan Kirk

We are now into the Autumn and church organisations, clubs and groups are starting back up after the summer break. Any changes or updates to information shown on the church website for each organisation can be sent to Web Admin at kilbarchankirk@gmail.com.

AUTUMN



Wandering aimlessly through the trees
So peaceful
Only the rustling of leaves.

Turn around, looking a long way back
I can see my footprints
Like a pattern in the track.



Some withered leaves start to fall
And right in front of me
A hedgehog crawls.

I watch it's slow and graceful gait
As it shuffles through the fallen leaves
Is it searching for its mate?

On I walk quite undisturbed
Listening for the song
From a passing bird.



Then I find a rippling brook
What pleasures will I find
When I stop to look?

There's water beetles, and little frogs
With starey eyes peeping out
From under sunken logs.

The leaves have turned from green to brown
Trees shedding their summer coats
As the leaves fall to the ground.

The sun sets in the autumn cold
Nature's time to sleep
But still a beauty to behold.



Anne Logan



Faith Will initiative

You may already have seen articles in the press promoting a new partnership to create local and global change through gifts in wills.

For the first time ever, international development agency Christian Aid is working with the Church of Scotland, Church of England and the Quakers on a joint legacy initiative called Faith Will.

We have been asked, by the Church of Scotland, to draw your attention to this campaign which will run throughout September with leaders, from all three denominations, inviting people to consider leaving a gift in their will to their church and, or Christian Aid.

You can find more information at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/give/gifts-in-wills>



JUNIOR CHURCH

We hope our Junior Church children had a fun time over the summer holidays, and have made some wonderful memories.

Junior Church resumes today, Sunday the 3rd of September. Shona and I look forward to welcoming back our children and their families and any new additions looking to experience Kilbarchan Parish Junior Church.

Take Care
Ros & Shona



SURVEY OF KILBARCHAN PARISH CHURCH GRAVEYARD

In 2021 a decision was taken to record as many of the gravestones as possible and a group of volunteers comprising Fulton Dunn, Myra and George Grant, Christine and Lindsay Erwin, and Ian Trushell commenced the task of reading and recording the details on each gravestone. This task was recently completed and recorded in hard copy format. A separate electronic database of the information was created which can be interrogated to find all relevant information held on record.

The work outlined above was rewarded when Alan Vaughan received an enquiry via the church website on 29 July of this year from Eugeniusz Kowalski, residing in the Netherlands. His father, Josef, was a Pole staying in Scotland between 1940 and 1944 who had made friends with Jessie Mitchell residing at 3 Steeple Square. Did we know Jessie's dates of birth and death?

A search of the electronic database described above found the record of Jessie Mitchell's gravestone within seconds. Jessie died on 16 December 2005 aged 96 and was the grand-daughter of Colin Houston. Her details are recorded on gravestone 7 which stands at the wall behind George and Myra Grant's house. These are the most recent details recorded on any gravestone in the cemetery. Colin Campbell found Jessie's birth details on <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk> website and so the questions were answered within a matter of days, including a photograph of the gravestone, much to Mr Kowalski's delight.

A parallel piece of research into the Lair Records is currently being undertaken by Alex Ritchie and when that is completed the intention is to combine it with the Gravestone Records into a single publication and database.

Ian Trushell



MONDAY CLUB

The Monday Club hope to resume for the new session on Monday 2nd October at 7.30pm in the large hall. We are only a small group and really need new members to make the club viable. You can help in this by coming along to our first meeting. There is no obligation to join (although that would be great). Who knows, you might enjoy yourself!

KILBARCHAN PARISH CHURCH ECO GROUP



Although we have all been enjoying our Summer despite the mixed weather conditions, the Eco Group has been busy behind the scenes discussing Eco ideas for the coming Autumn /Winter Season. We are delighted that we now have a “Green Champion” as a Representative from each of the Session Teams to ensure that the Eco Agenda is being actively considered throughout the work that we do as a Congregation. The Teams : Nurture; Worship; Property; Finance; Mission and Pastoral Care and the Green Champions have already shown themselves to be enthusiastic in coming up with some great suggestions for potential projects. Ideas like showing a film about

how we can help to save the Environment; chart to measure our progress towards the achievement of an Eco Congregation Scotland Silver Award; audit form to ensure that unnecessary lights in church buildings are switched off and much more besides - Other suggestions that any of you may have are always welcome, just speak to anyone in the Eco Group : George Grant, Elizabeth Dunn, Colin Campbell, Isobel Arnott, Dawn Brown

At time of writing, we have several proposals that we are hoping to take forward over the next few months: Community Litter Pick; Tree Planting, Green Christmas. In addition, we continue to collect your Blister Packs for recycling and a member of the Eco Group will contribute an Eco Prayer to the Sunday morning Service once per month.

Many thanks for your continuing support and look out for further details of forthcoming Eco events.

Isobel



‘Cuppa at the Kirk’

Cuppa at the Kirk' will resume from Tuesday 5th September at the usual time of 2pm-4pm.

This is open to all and not just to Church Members so please come along and bring all your friends for a cuppa and a bit of friendly banter.

If anyone would like to come but does not have transport, please contact Arlene or any member of the Pastoral care Team and a lift will be arranged.

We look forward to seeing you

Arlene McKay

Kilbarchan Parish Church Hillwalking Club Report, August 2023

June hosted our second hostelling weekend of the year, in Ratagan, Glenshiel. With several unfortunate health-related absences only three of us attended, but we made the most of it. On the Saturday we climbed the Munros of The Saddle and Sgurr na Sgine via the technical, narrow Forcan Ridge. It was a beautifully sunny day, but hot enough that we were relieved to soak ourselves in a burn at the end of nearly 12 hours on the hill. On the Sunday we ascended the shorter but notoriously steep Munro of Beinn Sgritheall, with scree on the ascent and slalom between the birch trees on the descent. These were all new Munros for Jim Dick, leaving him with just 5 of the 282 left to climb!

On the same weekend, six walkers took a day trip to the Southern Uplands to climb the Donald of Talla Cleuch Head. The route started from the bridge over the Talla Water, high above the Talla Reservoir in Tweedsmuir, up the narrow road to the Megget Stone. The route turned north over Fans Law, and then NW to reach a gate in the deer fence and onto the top of the rather steep Talla Cleuch where a coffee break was taken. After a modest drop, the final climb followed another deer fence which took the party to the unmarked summit of Talla Cleuch Head (691 metres) just after noon, with time for Photographs and to admire the views. The return reversed the upward route, stopping again above the Cleuch, this time for lunch. The weather was ideal for hill walking - warm and sunny with a gentle breeze to cool the walkers.

July's forecast involved 5 hours of lightning, so the Munro walk was regretfully cancelled. However, the lower level walk of Dollar Glen to Glenquey (and back) was safely below the summits and ridges of the Ochils, so eight of us braved the forecast. We were rewarded by a pretty walk on good paths, with wildflowers and fast flowing waterfalls. The lightning failed to materialise and we only suffered the odd shower. There was even the odd patch of blue sky!

August's smaller hillwalk was also cancelled due to lack of numbers, with many on holiday, but five of us scaled the Corbett of Cam Creag in Glen Lyon. The walk was mainly on landrover track, with a short steep boggy section to the summit cairn. We faced the odd torrential downpour and some atmospheric mist during our summit lunch break, but the heather was in beautiful full bloom and we capitalised on the excellent coffee and cake in the Glenlyon Tearoom afterwards.

Our upcoming walks will be:

- 9th Sept: Beinn Trilleachan (Corbett), Glen Etive
- 16th Sept: Coilessan Glen, Ardgartan
- 7th Oct: West Lomond, Fife
- 11th Nov: Allermuir Hill & Caerketton Hill, Pentlands

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

Eilidh Henderson (with thanks to Jim Henderson)



Christian Aid Week

(14th-20th May 2023)

This year, we again operated a delivery-only system of envelopes throughout Kilbarchan and Brookfield, asking folks to return their envelopes to the church hall, to Brookfield village hall, or to donate electronically via the JustGiving page on our website.

The total sum raised was **£3,460.55** which, together with the Gift Aid recoverable by Christian Aid, means that almost **£4,200** will be available to support their efforts to change lives. This is a great response (more than £500 above last year's total) particularly given the pressures on household budgets at this time.

We are most grateful to all who donated so generously.

None of this could be achieved without the efforts of many volunteers who give of their time to distribute envelopes and count the donations. We owe them a great deal of gratitude.

Our contribution to this year's appeal has helped raise more than **£2.5 million** in the UK, at the time of writing, with donations still coming in.

This fundraising is vital to support the efforts of Christian Aid to help those in need in some of the poorest communities in the world, and to campaign for real change which will remove the inequalities which blight the lives of so many.



THE KILBARCHAN SINGERS

The Kilbarchan Singers start their new session on Monday 11th September when we will commence rehearsals for our Christmas Concert. This will be held in the Church on Monday 11th December at 7:30. Put this date in your diary as it is sure to be an enjoyable lead into the festive season.

We are always interested in developing people in their musical journey and if you think the Kilbarchan Singers could be for you (and you can read music) then please get in touch with our secretary Myra or me (Tony).

And many thank yous to the Minister, Session and congregation of Kilbarchan Parish Church for their support and allowing us to use the Church for our rehearsals and performances.

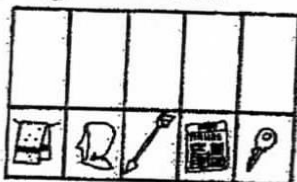
Tony Martin (Honorary President)

when you bring your gift to God ...

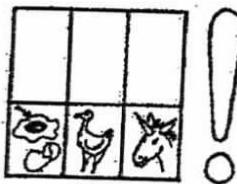
and then remember you are angry with your brother ...

leave your gift at the altar ...

Harvest is a good time to say a great BIG:



go and make it up with your brother ...



and then come and offer your gift

EXODUS 23:16

"Celebrate the Feast of Harvest with the first fruits of the crops you sow in your field.

People can bear good fruit, too!

or BAD fruit!

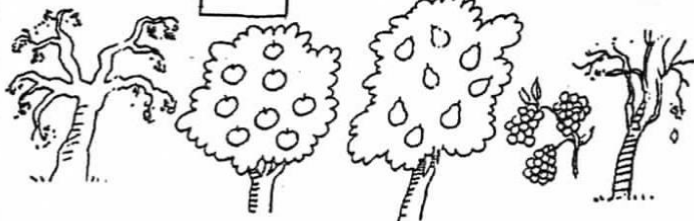


GOOD FRUIT / **BAD** FRUIT



DRAW CIRCLES ROUND THE GOOD FRUIT,

DRAW SQUARES ROUND THE BAD FRUIT...



Thank You!



'The MacLean family would like to thank everyone for the kind messages, flowers and cards received following the death of our Mother Margaret in May. Many thanks to Stephen for his pastoral support and for the lovely service, to Ian for the beautiful organ music and to Christine for all her help as Session Clerk.'

Many thanks. Gael

Isobel Ritchie wishes to say a big “thank you” to all those who sent good wishes, cards, flowers and gifts on the occasion of her 90th birthday recently. These were all greatly appreciated.



Margaret Lightbody and family would like to say a big thank you to everyone who sent lovely cards, flowers and messages following the death of Alex. It was greatly appreciated.

PARISH REGISTER



BAPTISMS

09/07/2023 William Scott Gardner
son of Katy and Steven

WEDDINGS

02/08/2023 Laura Robbie and Jamie McNicol
Dalduff Farm, Maybole

DEATHS

June 2023 William Brown
12/06/2023 Kenny Smith
25/07/2023 Alexander Lightbody

ROLL

The Roll of Kilbarchan Parish Church now stands at 353 and 17 Adherents.

Please remember to notify Fulton Dunn, the roll keeper, of any changes to address, phone number or email in order to maintain up to date information.

Contact details phone 01505704502 or email KPC.rollkeeper@gmail.com



Before you quit, try
Before you talk, listen
Before you react, think
Before you criticize, wait
Before you move on, forgive

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS

Minister - Rev Stephen Smith

Joint Session Clerk - Mrs Christine Erwin

Joint Session Clerk - Mr Alasdair Law

Ass. Session Clerk - Miss Helen Robertson

WORSHIP PROGRAMME

Sunday 3 rd September	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 10 th September	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 17 th September	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 24 th September	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 1 st October	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 8 th October	11am	Morning worship Sacrament of Baptism
Sunday 15 th October	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 22 nd October	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 29 th October	11am	Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Sunday 5 th November	11am	Morning Worship
Sunday 12 th November		Worship for Remembrance Sunday (times to be confirmed)
Sunday 19 th November	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 26 th November	11am	Morning worship
Sunday 3 rd December	11am	Morning worship

