

CONNECTIONS

Magazine of Netherlee & Stamperland (Church of Scotland)



April 2020

Distributed on the first Sunday of the calendar month

*Also available at www.netherleechurch.org &
www.stamperlandchurch.btck.co.uk/*

or by email to the editor at cumbrae14@ntlworld.com

Registered Charity No S C 015303

A prayer from the Moderator amid the coronavirus outbreak.

Rt Rev Colin Sinclair offers us this prayer as we deal with a new illness in our communities.

Living God,

In our hour of need we turn again to you, for we have nowhere else to turn.

We put our faith in you, because you have proved your faithfulness time and again.

We reaffirm our love for you because you have never let us go.

We thank you that you are not distant from us

but have drawn near, in your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

He has shared our life, tasted our death and defeated it;

He understands our worries and our fears.

Help us to respond as your children now.

We pray for this pandemic spreading across our world,

remembering all who have lost loved ones

and praying for those seriously ill at this time.

We uphold the National Health Service

as it responds to this added pressure on its already overstretched services.

We pray for doctors and nurses and all in the caring professions,

who work to help and support people as best they can.

We remember those working behind the scenes

testing samples, confirming results, giving information to patients.

We uphold others trying to understand this virus better

working to create an effective remedy.

We pray for our Governments in Westminster and Holyrood,

as they work with the best medical advice.

3.

to guide us on how we should respond
and what action we should take.

We pray that these guidelines might be taken seriously
and that all would put them into action.

May this crisis bring out the best in us, not the worst.

Help us to live by faith and not by fear
to build bridges not barriers,
and to resist all who would speak ill of any other group.

May we not forget our responsibility to one another,
not least to the vulnerable and voiceless in our communities.

Help us to find ways of keeping in touch and offering reassurance
to those with underlying health issues;
for any who feel particularly vulnerable
or in danger at present.

As the virus spreads
we pray for the disruption it causes to normal life,
bringing new fears and anxieties:

We pray for those who have been laid off as their work disappears;
for financial hardship for individuals and businesses;
for the impact on the economy and pensions, when austerity has already left
its mark.

We pray for those whose trips, both for business and pleasure, have been
cancelled;

and others where events, long anticipated and planned for, have been post-
poned;

for those making contingency planning for home based work or child care or
exams.

May our inconvenience not blind us to others' loss.

4.

who cannot visit loved ones in locked-down care homes;
for the elderly whose social contacts have been severely curtailed;
help us to find creative ways of keeping in touch,
of assuring them they are not forgotten or ignored.
May congregations find new ways of living though this time.
May we not forget our faith, but draw strength from it.
So may our worship be heartfelt,
our fellowship deepen.
and our service increase.
God of grace and God of mercy,
hear our prayers at this time.
Strengthen us, by your Spirit, so that:
we may carry on our lives as best as we are able,
looking out for others,
showing love in action,
being faithful in prayer,
and bringing encouragement, hope and peace;
always trusting in you,
our Rock and our Redeemer.
These prayers we bring to you
in Jesus' name.
Amen.



Connections Magazine and the Virus

Fraser Neilson -Editor



It was decided that as this edition of Connections was already well on the way to completion, it be published and sent out by the only means possible, email, as there are no services of worship at either Netherlee or Stamperland for the foreseeable future.

Once you have received your email copy, if you come across anyone else who has been missed please forward it to them or contact me to do so with their email address, if permitted.

There are no plans to continue in May and June as there is unlikely to be any news to report or plans to be made until we are all advised by those in Society who are experts in their field what we can do.

At the time of writing, this is the last publication for this Session, it is hoped to return in September.

Meanwhile, keep well, and I trust we will all come out the other side of this.

Regards

Fraser

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Our Minister's Message

Reverend Scott Blythe



Well folks, what are we to make of all that has happened in the last few weeks!

The coronavirus (Covid-19) has really raised some quite startling realisation for us all.

It has been quite amazing to see the responses that so many of us have had to come to terms with. We have been prevented from doing so many things that seem normal to us as people. We have in many ways had to protest within against those things that we take for granted so normally not happening: whether it is being free to go for a walk in the park, to gather with friends over a meal, to be involved in our churches, to visiting those who we worry about being on their own.

In all of these matters we have come to know an end to something that is part of our experience, things that we value. The process has brought forth so many different emotions within us - many of them rather frustrating and painful. In so many ways, friends, we are walking the way to Golgotha and thereafter the tomb in this extreme time of isolation.

However, as we know, the tomb is not the end of the story! We know that the stone does not stay locked over the remains of our Lord - rather in the wonder of Easter gospel news, the women find the stone removed and the body gone. When the disciples hear the proclamation they are unsure of its meaning!

What will be our resurrection learning from this difficult time?

What will be our new life found at the end of this time?

Will it be a realisation that as people we are truly interdependent and not independent people who live for our own lives and worries?

I hope, that when we emerge from this strange freezing of our lives, we all might take the time to realise that our connections one to another are profoundly at the heart of what makes us human. That our neighbours, although we might not need to live in each other's pockets, are those with whom we share this life and who we are lucky to be with and share our joys and our sorrows.

That would surely be an Easter hope to take forward into the years ahead!

Take care of yourselves! Happy Easter!

Scott

A Message from the Editor

Fraser Neilson—cumbrae14@ntlworld.com



I am seeking pictures from both congregations for possible inclusion on the front page each month over the year. If you have any that reflect the seasons, life in Netherlee, Stamperland or Clarkston, nature, transport, buildings, parks etc. Preferably in colour. They can be emails as Jpegs, scanned, printed or simply loaned for scanning and return. Any takers?

Publication	First Submission	Final Submission	Delivery Uplift
May 2020			Suspended
Jun 2020			Suspended

Changes to the Roll - Stamperland

Bill Paterson



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

Name	From	To

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

Name	From	To
Mr Archibald Weir	Stamperland	Giffnock

Deaths

Name	From	

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples.

The teacher placed a note on the apple tray: 'Take only ONE . God is watching.' Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies.

A child had written a note, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples..'



Netherlee Sunday Club & Senior Sunday Club

Elaine Murray



As we look back over the previous weeks it is hard to imagine that we would not be meeting in person.

Our lessons continued while they could and we enjoyed the traditional Lost Sheep story. We went on a hunt for 'lost sheep' cotton wool balls around the room and made lovely sheep cards to take home. As we entered Lent, the children were given a picture of an egg. On it were challenges to accept and colour when complete. We tried to think a little about the ways in which GOD loves and cares for us, and sometimes the ways we can show our love for HIM. We hoped to swap the coloured eggs for chocolate ones on Easter Sunday.

Rest assured, you can bring your completed egg when we next meet, but let's hope it's not a chocolate reindeer by then! The story of the prodigal son brought great discussion from the kids as did the lesson on needs and wants which couldn't have been better timed!

On Communion Sunday we joined our friends at Stamperland and enjoyed a quiz. It is amazing what we walk past each week and don't remember - do you know how many chicks the pelican is feeding on the wall of Stamperland Halls?

The Senior Sunday Clubbers always enjoy a hot chocolate and a chat on current topics and no prizes for guessing what that has been recently. Sadly, their planned trip to Iona, will presumably need to be rearranged. One of the recent storms also meant the visit to Linn Park to present the wheelbarrow to the Friends of Linn Park had to be postponed. Some things to look forward to at least.

The Sunday Club and Senior Sunday Club are sorry not to be together at the moment, but we are keeping everyone in our thoughts and prayers. Until we meet again, God bless.

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with petrol just before a holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him in the service station. Finally, it was his turn.

"Preacher," said the young man, "I'm sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."



John Mann Memorial Trophy

Gordon Lang



On Wednesday evening 26th February some men from Netherlee and Stamperland Church took part in an enjoyable evening of 'indoor sport and games' to help remember the late John Mann, who was, as many of you know, an elder at Netherlee.

All the activities, which included bowls, putting, Jenga, hoopla, table top curling, shooting (with a toy gun) and others took place in the Church



at Netherlee. Please note no animals or children were harmed during the games!

A great night was enjoyed by all with take away food and refreshments brought in to help provide 'fuel' for the athletes!

David Kerr retained the prestigious trophy for the second time and George Cowan gained the honour of the wooden spoon. Prizes were also

won by Scott Blythe, Malcolm McVey and Stuart Buchanan.

A sum of money was raised and passed on to Ann Mann for her to forward to a charity of her choice.

Put a note in your diary for next year.....be there ,or be square!!

Another perspective on the Games Night by Fraser Neilson

I took myself along to this Games Night because it simply appealed to me as a fun night and having ascertained that there would be nothing strenuous that would upset my friend Arthur Itis I went on safari to deepest



10.



Netherlee in search of what can only be described as a rarity, or by some, a lost cause.

As I turned into Ormonde Ave just outside Netherlee Church I was amazed to see it right there in the shadows of the nearby street light with not a moving vehicle or person to be seen that

would commandeer it before I did. What was this highly sought-after treasure of Netherlee? Why! A parking space of course, and right outside the door minus 5 paces. On entering the building, I could hear voices and a little bit of hilarity, so as this was probably the place to be I stepped



into the bright lights and surveyed all before me.

A few well kent faces were there and I settled for a seat beside Malcolm McVey who it turned out got landed with me for the rest of the evening whether he liked it or not when the teams were being selected.

After a drink to get the joints lubricated, we all set off on the course and each got instructions as to how to play the games, followed by a really fun night. At the end of the games proper, we returned to the original room and had a different game of the modern equivalent of “shove halfpenny” only it was less than eager pound coins that were being persuaded to roll.

The aim of the game was to get the nearest three coins to a can at the top end of the room and for this, two bottles of wine and one of whisky were the prizes.

Much hilarity and pound coins were going everywhere but where they should all observed by yours truly, who also noted



that one or two who were sliding their coins were being more accurate. Once a few pockets had emptied I decided, in the interests of competitiveness you understand, I

stepped forward and "had a go"

It is with the utmost regret that I have to tell you that I got the nearest to the can and was presented with the bottle of whisky. It was in a fancy box which said "Talisker Skye Single Malt". Well I thought to myself only one malt, can't be up to much, then can it?

And why the regret? I nearly forgot to tell you that I am a teetotaler and have never drunk alcohol in my life!! I might not be invited back now after that revelation.

I would like to thank all at Netherlee for making me most welcome from "up the road" and I hope this tale may encourage others to go to these games next year.

***** The lost Chapter of Genesis

Adam was hanging around the Garden of Eden feeling very lonely. So, God asked him, "What's wrong with you?" Adam said he didn't have anyone to talk to.

God said that He was going to make Adam a companion and that it would be a woman. He said, "This pretty lady will gather food for you, she will cook for you, and when you discover clothing, she will wash it for you. She will always agree with every decision you make and she will not nag you, and will always be the first to admit she was wrong when you've had a disagreement. She will praise you! She will bear your children. and never ask you to get up in the middle of the night to take care of them. "She will NEVER have a headache and will freely give you love and passion whenever you need it."

Adam asked God, "What will a woman like this cost?"

God replied, "An arm and a leg."

Then Adam asked, "What can I get for a rib?" Of course the rest is history



Rev. J. Ross Kernohan

by Carole Diamond.



Many from Netherlee will remember our youth minister of twelve or thirteen years ago, Ross Kernohan.

Once he left us he returned to Northern Ireland briefly and then worked in information technology again in Switzerland for a charity during which he met and married their accountant, Fanny Buechner. Fanny persuaded Ross to go in for the Ministry and he studied in Northern Ireland. He completed his probationary period in Randalstown in County Antrim and was finally ordained in 2017. By now he and Fanny have three children, Benjamin (8), Jacob (6) and Gabi (2).



Ross was called to go to an international church in Uganda for two years during which time they met up with Michaela Foster Marsh and hoped to work along with Starchild.

Then Ross was called to his present charge back in Northern Ireland – this time to Carlisle Road and Crossroads Presbyterian Churches in the centre of Londonderry. There Ross was ordained and installed on Friday thirteenth of December 2019 and where the family are now adapting to the lack of sunshine and warmth.

I'm sure all in Netherlee and Stamperland would wish them well in this new chapter in their lives.

Peace of mind

Once Buddha was walking from one town to another town with a few of his followers. This was in the initial days. While they were travelling, they happened to pass a lake. They stopped there and Buddha told one of his disciples, I am thirsty. Do get me some water from that lake there.

The disciple walked up to the lake. When he reached it, he noticed that some people were washing clothes in the water and, right at that moment, a bullock cart started crossing through the lake. As a result, the water became very muddy, very turbid. The disciple thought, How can I give this muddy water to Buddha to drink! So he came back and told Buddha, The water in there is very muddy. I don't think it is fit to drink.

After about half an hour, again Buddha asked the same disciple to go back to the lake and get him some water to drink. The disciple obediently went back to the lake. This time he found that the lake had absolutely clear water in it. The mud had settled down and the water above it looked fit to be had. So he collected some water in a pot and brought it to Buddha.

Buddha looked at the water, and then he looked up at the disciple and said, See what you did to make the water clean. You let it be ... and the mud settled down on its own and you got clear water... Your mind is also like that. When it is disturbed, just let it be. Give it a little time. It will settle down on its own. You don't have to put in any effort to calm it down. It will happen. It is effortless.

What did Buddha emphasize here? He said, It is effortless. Having 'peace of mind' is not a strenuous job; it is an effortless process. When there is peace inside you, that peace permeates to the outside. It spreads around you and in the environment, such that people around start feeling that peace and grace.

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Netherlee Guild

Margaret Fear, Secretary



By the time you read this another Session will have ended and unfortunately, abruptly so.

Owing to the coronavirus our A.G.M. The Daffodil Tea, and the Outing in May had to be cancelled.

We did have a varied schedule with, I am pleased to say, good attendances despite the bad weather- particularly during the latter part of the session.

In particular we have enjoyed our joint meetings with our Guild friends in Stamperland : especially sitting down together for a Friendship Lunch at the Golf Club.

I hope you all will have a rejuvenating and healthy Summer to be ready to return in October.

Any member of the congregation would be most welcome to join us.

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Diary of Social Events - Cancelled until further notice



Worship Schedule for April 2020 All cancelled until further notice.

Netherlee & Stamperland Flower Calendars Are suspended until further notice

"I hope you didn't take it personally, preacher," an embarrassed woman said after a church service, "when my husband walked out during your sermon."

"I did find it rather disconcerting," the Pastor replied.

"It wasn't out of any disrespect to you," insisted the church-goer.

"Fred has been walking in his sleep ever since he was a child."



Changes to the Roll - Netherlee

Mabel Bell



By Profession of Faith

Name	Location	District	Elder

Death

Date	Name	Location	District	Elder
13.2.20	Mrs Anne Gray	Netherlee	20	Dianne Levy
15.2.20	Mr David Cloggie	Netherlee	46	Mabel Bell

Disjunction

	Name	Location	District	Elder
6035	Mrs Sheila Slateford	Netherlee	17	Bruce Young

Change of Address

Name	Location	District	Elder

"After a morning service, a mother with a fidgety seven-year-old boy told her Minister how she finally got her son to sit still and be quiet. About halfway through the sermon, she leaned over and whispered, 'If you don't be quiet, the Minister is going to lose his place and will have to start his sermon all over again!' It worked."





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



Please give two weeks notice of any requirement for transport for medical appointments

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 liked 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, 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.

Stamperland Church Open Door (Suspended)



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
Facebook [CrossReachHeartForArt](https://www.facebook.com/CrossReachHeartForArt)
Call 0141 620 3092

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.

Stamperland Church Gardens

Fraser Neilson cumbrae14@ntlworld.com (586 0955)



Some time ago I sought volunteers to maintain the gardens at the church now that I have had to take a step back, but to date there has been no response from anyone since that time.

Someone is already cutting all the grass and someone is going to tend the roses, and I am prepared to look after the tubs so that leaves the hedges and bushes to be trimmed once or twice a year and the garden and path areas to be weeded and or sprayed with weed killer.

The equipment is on hand to use and all you need to do is turn up in your own time and do a "bit" to keep on top of nature.

If the gardens are not tended it is a known fact that people out with the church will notice and return to the bad habits of dumping litter and cigarette ends over the wall, as well as the inevitable bits of rubbish that blows in from time to time. Vandalism will follow on from this and our church will begin to look neglected with people wondering if it is still open.

The above is fact as that was what people were saying to me when I started to tackle the then backlog of needs in the garden several years ago.

This is the kind of job where everyone will think that someone will do it when in fact no one will do it, so are you are an everyone, a someone or a no one?

I can give advice where required until you get the hang of it, so please get in touch and become a someone!

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Ladies, If a man says he will fix it, he will. There is no need to remind him every 6 months about it.



someecards
user card

Just met a Chinese
drug addict He said
"have you seen
my cocaine"?
I said "not since he
starred in The Italian
job"

Planting Your Spring Garden

For The Garden of Your Daily Living

Plant Three Rows of peas

1. Peace of Mind
2. Peace of Heart
3. Peace of Soul

Plant Four Rows of Squash

1. Squash Gossip
2. Squash Indifference
3. Squash Grumbling
4. Squash Selfishness

Plant Four Rows of Lettuce

1. Lettuce Be Faithful
2. Lettuce Be Kind
3. Lettuce Be Patient
4. Lettuce Really Love One Another

No Garden is Complete Without Turnips

1. Turnip For Meetings
2. Turnip For Service
3. Turnip To Help One Another

To Conclude Our Garden We Must Have Thyme

1. Thyme For Each Other
2. Thyme For Family
3. Thyme For Friends

Water Freely With Patience And Cultivate With Love.
 There Is Much Fruit In Your Garden Because You Reap
 What You Sow. Pass It On!!!

Down Memory Lane in Stamperland

Pat Roller



A pictorial review this month rather than text Enjoy! (More next time!)



First Church above/ Comrie Hilltop below

BB Jun Sect at Nth Berwick and Millport



Glasgow 278 (Netherlee) Boys' Brigade
www.facebook.com/netherleeboysbrigade
Alistair Haw, Captain
alistairhaw@yahoo.co.uk 07434521928



In the few weeks prior to the suspension of BB activities throughout the UK it had been a busy period of continued growth for Netherlee Boys' Brigade, with new members joining each of our sections. With all face to face activities coming to a close for the foreseeable future we must give thanks to all who have made our work possible from leaders, helpers, parents and the boys themselves. A special thanks to Caroline Watson Sweeney (Officer in Charge, Junior Section), George Cowan (Officer in Charge, Company Section) and Christine McGowan (Special Adviser to the Captain) for all their endeavours throughout the year. Our last few weeks can be summarised as follows:

Anchor Boys (P1-P3): The boys had a great night of street games courtesy of Glasgow BB Sports Development Officer Graham Cossar, an evening of pancake flipping relays and of course pancake eating plus the presentation of a bronze recruitment badge to Aaron R for bringing his pal Nihal.

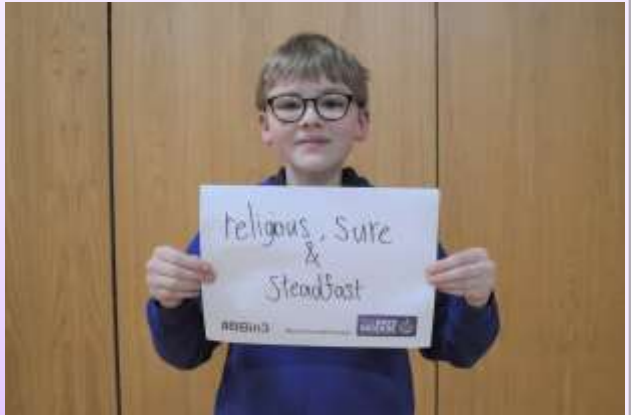


We also presented Calum, Ruairidh and Angus with silver certificates for their entries to the Glasgow Battalion colouring competition.

On our last meeting we held a Bible quiz where the boys showed that – despite all their high jinks - they do in fact listen to the Bible stories, with all six squads scoring well. Perhaps one weak spot would be the names of the 12 Apostles, with one squad claiming “Jimmy” was amongst their number, with another proffering “Stevie.” Something to work on when we return, perhaps.

Juniors (P4-p6): It was Junior Section's turn to complete the #BBin3 social media task of describing the BB in 3 words. Put together the Juniors associate the following words with BB: Active, Activities, Adventures, Amazing, Bible, Brilliant, Epic, Flag, Football, Friends, Fun, Games, God, Good, Helicopter, Religious, Sporty, Steadfast, Sure, Terrific, Trips.

As part of the badge work the boys did some classes on recycling and ocean pollution, activities relating to Pancake Day (of course) and World Book Day. A planned trip to the (golf) driving range was sadly stymied by coronavirus.



Company/Seniors: For the first time in a few years we were able to enter a team of three P7s into the Glasgow Battalion Compass Badge Challenge – a test of drill, BB knowledge and Bible knowledge. We were delighted that Thomas Forbes, Jack Patterson and Jacob Haw returned with the gold medal. The boys were presented with their medals and certificates by Trustee and former Captain John Montgomery, who was able to inform the boys that it was the first time Glasgow 278 had ever won this event or any of its predecessors. May it be the first of many. (Photo supplied)

It was also great to see former 278-man Zach Mercer, who now plays rugby for Bath and England, appear on BBC One's A Question of Sport. He was on Phil Tufnell's team, but you have to take the rough with the smooth.



The final Bible reading prior to the suspension of BB activities – read by Corporal Drew Makeham - seems as good a way to sign out for the time being as any: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to

God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

Philip Moseley - Cub Scout Leader & Group Scout Leader

Tel: 0780 398 7020

Email: Stamperlanscouts@btinternet.com

Scout Troop & Explorers



As I write this we are being plunged into some rapidly changing and uncertain times. The Scout Association has made the decision to suspend all face to face Scouting for the time being. It is not yet clear when we will be able to resume our programme across the sections.

Unfortunately plans for pottery painting for the Cubs, a trip to go bouldering and an outdoor weekend for the Scouts have had to be postponed.

I hope that we will be able to provide some form of Scouting remotely with the



opportunity to work towards badges at home or some other challenge. Plenty of other groups will be looking to do similar and I know these will be shared across the Scouting community.

Before all this overtook us we held our AGM at the start of March with our new Chairperson, Laura, and new Treasurer, Lorna, taking the reins. Unfortunately our chosen date ended up clashing with events in at least 2 schools, so turn out was lower than we expected. We did go through our review of the year and finances and had questions from a number of attendees.

Our primary focus on start back will be searching for some additional leaders, primarily for Beavers and Scouts as Alison & Gregor retire in the Summer.

All the sections had been running programmes covering a variety of elements in the run up to our suspension. In Cubs we had been working towards the Naturalist badge which involved some searches for wildlife in the church grounds. The Cubs were also making bird feeders which linked nicely to the Naturalist and DIY badges. It was great to see one of the feeders in use the very next day!

On behalf of all the leaders of the Group we obviously wish that all our member, leaders, families and friends stay safe and well and we hope to see you all soon.



A father was reading a Bible story to his young son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt." His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"



Congregations Personal Messages

Netherlee & Stamperland



Dear All at Stamperland Church,

I want to thank you for the lovely flowers I received on 23rd February. It was a wonderful surprise and very much appreciated. With best wishes,

Olive Greer (Stamperland)

I would just like to thank Scott and Anne Mackenzie for the beautiful flowers I received for my birthday on Sunday 23rd February, they were lovely and very much appreciated.

Jean Marshall (Stamperland)

Poppy Scotland--- News

Anne Mann



Upcoming Poppyscotland dates for your diary:

November 7th 2020, Coffee Afternoon for Remembrance Weekend, 2-4pm in Netherlee Church Hall.

The 7th March saw the Beetle Drive. The great sum of £201 was raised. As always a huge THANK YOU to all who helped on the night, donated prizes and to those who enthusiastically played Beetle. A fun night was had by all.

The Coffee Afternoon to celebrate VE day on the 9th May is cancelled.

Thanking you all for your continued support.

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Gordon Lamb

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design | print | digital marketing



Printers for Netherlee & Stamperland Connections

creative design, print & marketing
takes more than machines....



Community Transport East Renfrewshire SCIO

Volunteer Driver Project

PATIENTS FROM EAST RENFREWSHIRE

Do you need help to attend your medical appointment at your GP surgery, Clinics or Hospital?

ASK your surgery to register you with the service then you phone directly to arrange your appointments giving at least a week's notice

For more information: Call Anne Marie Kennedy

Telephone: 0141 881 6439



Scottish Charity N° SC045068

TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
IN SOMEONE'S LIFE, YOU
DON'T HAVE TO BE BRILLIANT,
RICH, BEAUTIFUL, OR PERFECT.
YOU JUST HAVE TO CARE



Kids thoughts about God

1. The seventh commandment is thou shalt not admit adultery.
2. A Christian should have only one spouse. This is called monotony.
3. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.
4. Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark.



Treasurer's Report Budget 2020 (Netherlee & Stamperland Church of Scotland)

Allan Mathieson



Kay Bolton and I prepared individual budgets for Stamperland and Netherlee in the normal way. We met to finalise it for the United Church, recognising the impact the union would have on our finances in 2020. I highlight the following points in the final budget:

Income The budget for Offerings at Netherlee reflects the changes in the roll and the movement in each individual scheme in 2019. It is assumed that any reduction from members leaving a scheme in 2020 will be covered by members reviewing their level of givings in light of inflation and their own personal circumstances. Kay compiled her budget for offerings as normal. We felt that as the integration of the two churches progressed it was prudent to allow in the budget for Stamperland's Offerings a fall of 5%.

£7,500 has been included in the budget for the Gift Aid Tax Recovery claim that Stamperland has yet to make for the period 6th April 2019 to the 31st December 2019.

Historically Stamperland made one claim a year in November/December for the tax year that finished on the 5th April. From the 1st January the claims for the current year will be included in the quarterly claim for the Gift Aid contributions from Netherlee members.

However the amount that can be claimed under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme is limited to £8,000 of the Ordinary Offerings. Before the Union both churches could claim £8,000. The 2020 budget for Ordinary Offerings is £10,048 and therefore we will not be able claim the £2,048 above the £8,000 limit. The loss of the Tax Recovered on this excess is £512.

The budget reflects the additional income (£4,500) at Netherlee from the Clarkston After School Care using the premises for their non - term time club. The budget shows £44,000 for the use of both premises. This represents 14.3% of our total income

Expenditure We were advised in November last year that the Mission and Ministries allocation for the 2 congregations was Stamperland £53,216 and Netherlee £118,737 a total of £171,953. When the calculation was done in January following the union, the charge was reduced to £160,649. A

welcome reduction of £11,304 (6.6%).

The budget for R & M is set at £32,304. £16,000 for Netherlee and £16,304 for Stamperland. £10,000 of the latter is offset by the Transfer from the General Trustees for the rent from the Stamperland Manse. The General Fund budget for R & M is based on those items of routine maintenance as envisaged by the 2 Fabric Committees. Major items or those of a capital nature will be charged to the Fabric Fund/ General Legacy Funds.

The Cleaning and Laundry budget reflects the increase in the national living wage of 6.2% from April.

The budget for Heating and Lighting reflects the new contracts, negotiated by 121 George Street starting on the 1st April. The electricity contract is for 3.5 years and that for gas is for 4 years. Against the current contracts a saving of 0.77%, £132. will be made.

Transfers to and from Funds The budget shows a transfer to the Fabric Fund of £7,200 to build up the Reserve to meet major Fabric expenditure. The Trustees accepted the recommendation from the Finance Committee that 25% of any surplus at the end of a year should be transferred to the Fabric Fund. If the budget comes to fruition this will result in further £3,912 being transferred to the Fabric Fund.

The contribution to the General Fund, to help meet our Ministries and Mission allocation, from those Funds that receive dividends and interest has been set at £8,244 based on the average income from dividends and interest received by both churches over the last 3 years.

Summary A Surplus of £11,729 is being forecast for 2020.

The Budget schedule shows that the Unrestricted Reserves for the 2 churches as at the 1st January 2020 stands at £641,785. The United church has a strong financial base for going forward.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) we are living in a period of economic uncertainty. The stock market has seen a major fall in the last 2 weeks. As at the 13th of March the FTSE 100 shares index has declined by 29.3%. The value of our investments at the 31st December 2019 was £409,719. The amount we had in the bank accounts and deposit funds at that date was some £294,000. We have more than sufficient cash resources to meet the projected expenditure in the budget for the General Fund and it's not anticipated that we will be

forced to sell any of our investments in the current depressed market. The situation will be monitored.

**Netherlee and Stamperland (Church of Scotland)
General Fund Budget**

Budget 2020

Income

WFO	26,350
Gift Aid	158,300
Ordinary Offering Ordinary Offering	10,048
Tax Recovered	49,075
	243,773
Donations from Congregational Organisations	3,700
Other Income	5,000
Utility Warehouse Scheme	180
	252,653
Use of Premises Use of Premises	44,000
Transfer from General	10,000
TOTAL INCOME	306,653

Expenditure

Ministries and Mission National Stipend Fund	160,649
Minister Tele/Post etc	980
Minister Travel Expenses	1,635
	163,264
Supply	540
Presbytery Dues	9,476
MINISTRY COSTS	173,280

PTO

29.

Other Salary Costs	Other Salary Costs	21,984
Repairs and Maintenance		32,304
Cleaning and Laundry		20,064
Council Tax		3,312
Grants to Organisations		600
Heating and Lighting		17,496
Miscellaneous		2,016
Organ and Music		2,280
Printing and Stationery		3,360
Publicity and Advertising		240
Purchase and Maintenance of Equipment		960
Rates and Insurance		10,620
Telephone & Post/Church Office Exps		3,540

OTHER COSTS 118,776

TOTAL EXPENDITURE 292,056

T/FER TO FABRIC RESERVE FUND (7,200)

25% of the Surplus for the Year to Fabric Fund (3,912)

Contr. ex Res funds to M & M and Pres. Dues 8,244

SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR 11,729

Unrestricted Reserves at 1st January 2020

Fabric Reserve Fund	324,108
General Legacy Fund	253,492
General Fund	64,185

TOTAL 641,785



All Preachers Here We Go

We had a substitute preacher preaching at our church and he told this story.

He said, when he was younger, he thought that the doxology went: "Praise God from whom all blessings go, Praise him all preachers here we go (instead of creatures here below), then praise him above the heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

He said he thought that because, when everyone sang that, often the preacher leaves the pulpit and walks out!

Day at the Beach

A little boy walked down the beach, and as he did, he spied a woman sitting under a beach umbrella on the sand.

He walked up to her and asked, "Are you a Christian?" She said, "Yes."

"Do you read your Bible every day?" She nodded her head, "Yes."

Do you pray often?" the boy asked next, and again she answered, "Yes."

With that he asked his final question, "Will you hold my quarter while I go swimming?"

The Package

There was this gracious lady mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country.

"Is there anything breakable in here?"

asked the postal clerk. "Only the Ten Commandments," answered the lady.

My Dads Job

Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50."

The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100."

Little Johnny says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"



We will be back soon! But not at Easter!!!

Netherlee Forum

The Forum Team



****Please note, this article contains references to suicide.***

In February, the Forum was fortunate enough to hear from Dr. Simon Walker from the University of Strathclyde on the difficult subject of military suicide during and after the First World War. Simon researches the history of health and healthcare provision during the war, and he has a longstanding interest in the mental health of British soldiers and veterans. Simon began by reminding us of the magnitude of the Great War. When the war broke out in 1914, tens of thousands of men voluntarily joined the British Army. Millions more were later conscripted, and deserters and conscientious objectors were severely punished by the state. By the end of the war, 888,000 British soldiers had been killed. Those who survived were indelibly marked by their experiences, including those who would later take their own lives.

Simon pointed out that his research is made all the more challenging by the fact that there are no reliable statistics on how many soldiers and veterans took their own lives in the era of the First World War. Suicide was a taboo subject and many important details were simply not recorded by the authorities. Some of the most revealing information available to historians comes from letters written by soldiers themselves. One such example is that of Private Robert Andrew Purvis, who in 1916 wrote to his parents explaining his decision to take his own life. In his letter, Purvis – who survived the First Day of the Battle of the Somme – praised his commanding officers, offered his remaining possessions to his comrades, and asked God to look after his parents. The letter remains one of the only documents of its kind from the First World War. It serves as a poignant reminder of how distressed the survivors were by their experiences on the battlefield. In most cases, the authorities chose to link military suicide to insanity, but Simon was very keen to stress that not all cases of military suicide resulted from shell shock. There were

many varied reasons why servicemen chose to end their own lives, from personal heartbreak to severe depression. As well as being frowned upon, military suicide was regarded as a form of military misconduct and, until 1919, suicide widows did not receive a war widows' pension.

Simon touched upon the role of military chaplains during the Great War. Chaplains were originally attached to the Royal Army Medical Corps, and they were only supposed to preach to the soldiers and bury the dead. Some chaplains were dismissed as "God Botherers", but others played a central role in the life of their units. One such chaplain was Charles Edwin Dowdie. A polymath, Dowdie became a military chaplain in 1914. When he was killed by shellfire, his regiment was disbanded, such was the demoralising effect of his death upon his parishioners. Military chaplains received a medal, but otherwise their specific type of military service has been largely forgotten.

We were extremely grateful to Simon for delivering such a sensitive talk on such a difficult subject. Simon shared with us lots of information that was uncomfortable but nonetheless important for us all to hear to fully comprehend the trauma of the First World War.





An elderly man thinking his wife was losing her hearing went about 20' behind her and asked "Can you hear me sweetheart?" No reply. Moved to 10' and inquired again. No reply. 5' and not a word. A few inches behind ear, he asked "Can you hear me now honey"? His wife said "For the fourth time, yes."



To Brighten up your Day!



Foodbank Donations

Stuart Buchanan—Session Clerk



Due to the Govt guidance on reducing socialising and unnecessary travel our normal Foodbank donation systems are not feasible in both of our churches until further notice.

If you wish to continue donating, might we suggest donating to a Foodbank in your supermarket, if you are able to get out for essential shopping.

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/ Boil in bag Rice
- * Tinned Meat/Fish
- * Instant Mash Potato
- * Sponge Pudding (Tinned)
- * Rice Pudding or Custard (Tinned)
- * Tea Bags/Inst coffee
- * Tinned Fruit
- * Jam/Spreads
- * Biscuits or snack bars

ALSO COLLECTING

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

East Renfrewshire Foodbank is a project of churches and community working together under charity no: SC029653

The foods chosen for April are as follows:

Cartons of fruit juice, Bottles of diluting juice, Tinned meat/fish, Tinned vegetables, Breakfast Cereals, Jam/marmalade/spreads. Ladies/Gents toiletries including Sanitary products

Stocks of UHT Milk and Creamed rice/custard are in short supply and would be appreciated.

If you would prefer to donate any other items 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.

The food delivered to the Foodbank in Barhead at the beginning of March amounted to 80kg. This will feed 8 single people or 4 large families for three days. This was a wonderful amount for the months of January and February. Thank you again for your generosity, it is much appreciated.

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.

If you go down to the woods today --

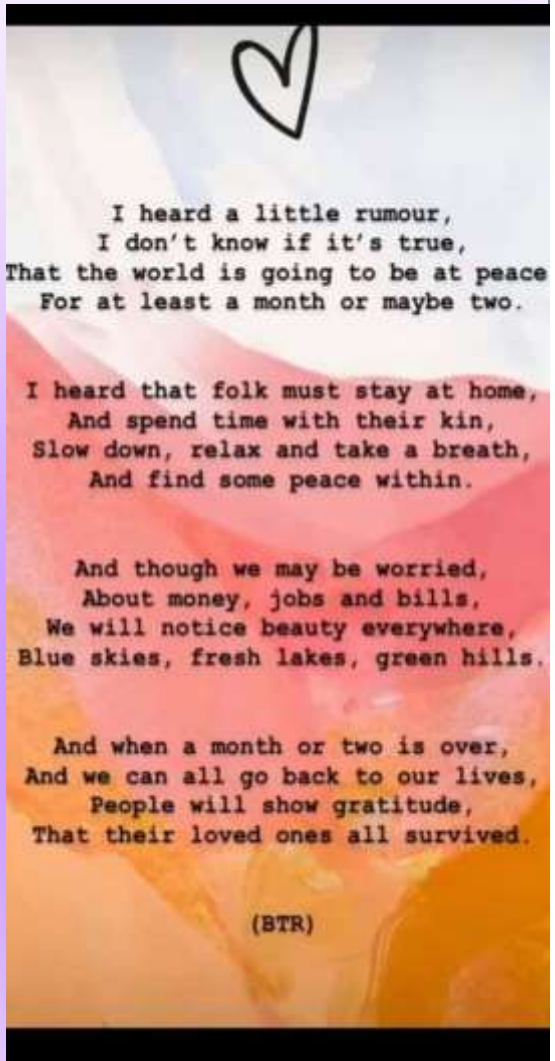
In this woods there fairies be
A fairy door on every tree
Who knows what magic lies within
When the sun goes down
And lights grow dim

When fairies play with butterflies
When little children close their eyes
When pixies ride on bumblebees
In and out the fairy trees

Wild garlic flowers all around like snow
Conceal the fairies down below
But if you're bad, you'll never see
A fairy 'neath a fairy tree

But if you're good and nice and kind
The fairies are not so hard to find
You will not see them clearly
Because they're very shy
But they might twitch a blade of grass
If you walk quietly by.

With Permission Alison White Cathedral of the Isles, Millport, Isle of Cumbrae



More Kids thoughts about God

Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.
The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.
Then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.
The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still
and he obeyed him.



I Love Clarkston Community Awards

Pat Roller



Well, we weren't planning on hosting this year I Love Clarkston Community Awards, sponsored by Bluebird Care Glasgow South, via a Facebook Live Stream, however we hope you enjoyed!

In case you missed anything, here are your winners and runners up across all EIGHT categories (yes, we snuck an extra little award in there!)

Community Champion, sponsored by Bluebird Care Glasgow South

RUNNER UP - Peter Cameron, East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure

WINNER - Michaela Foster Marsh, Starchild in Memory of Frankie Marsh

Independent Business of the Year, sponsored by Business Gateway

RUNNER UP - Greenhouse CIC

WINNER - Dandy's Delicatessen

Inspirational Leader

RUNNER UP - Chris McKenna, Classrooms For Malawi/ Williamwood High School

WINNER - Mandy and Steven Jacobs, Greenhouse CIC

Customer Service Star, Sponsored by East Renfrewshire Council

RUNNER UP - Alex McFarlane, Co-op

WINNER - Pamela Spiers, Allen & Harris

Community Group of the Year, sponsored by JPR Bathrooms

RUNNER UP - Carolside Sports Club

WINNER - Clarkston Community Choir

Heart of Clarkston Award, chosen by the I Love Clarkston Board of Directors

WINNER - Jenny Cook

Kyle Bremner Award for Young Person of the Year, sponsored by Anytime Fitness Clarkston

RUNNER UP - Demi Morrison

WINNER - Ripley Gilmour

National Business of the Year, chosen by public vote

RUNNER UP - Costa Coffee Clarkston

WINNER - Anytime Fitness Clarkston