

CONNECTIONS

Netherlee & Stamperland Parish Church



.....as the smart ship grew in stature, grace and hue,
In shadowy silent distance grew the Iceberg too.

The convergence of the Twain
By Thomas Hardy

February 2020 Edition 13

Distributed on the first Sunday of the calendar month

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

or by email on request to editor.

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Our Minister's Message

Reverend Scott Blythe



A few weeks ago I mentioned in one of my sermons about something that I think is profoundly an important part of our faith. It was about our image of God in our lives.

In the sermon I mentioned about being part of a small study group that was meeting through Lent a few years ago now. In one night's activity, we were asked to take a piece of paper and to half it and fold it and to repeat the process. On opening out the paper you then have four quarters within the paper.

In the first quarter we were asked to draw, or write some words to describe how we imagined God as a child. In the second, you were asked to do the same for how you imagine God as an adult. In the third you were asked to imagine how you would prefer God to be if your image was not what you wished. Finally, the fourth quarter is for looking at what you have produced and to see if there were any common points or general observations.

This exercise for me led to a realisation that God was somewhat distant within my imagining and since that time (almost twenty years ago) I have been working to improve my understanding of the God who is within the God who is nearer to us.

In that journey I have come to realise the importance of how our image of God affects our wanting to pray and can deeply affect our true relating to God. People who have an image of God as the punisher of those who do wrong are affected when they try to pray to God if they feel they have gone wrong somewhere. People who have a distant image of God being in heaven far away, often do not believe that praying to God is something that might make any difference.

What is your image of God today?

Has it changed in any way since you were a child?

Does the image stop you praying in some circumstances?

I think these questions are really important for us to reflect upon within our journey of faith. For I feel that at times while we speak of God loving all, I wonder if at times we are afraid of God because our own image of God is somewhat marred by past teaching/reflection/thought.

If you have never thought about this whole area then I would be very happy to discuss such matters with anyone for whom questions have arisen. If you have done the exercise above and found that there are questions about God that you would like to discuss I would be happy to meet with you. **PTO**

3.

Finally, I am looking forward already to Lent and I am thinking of running a small study group in Lent based upon a very good book that looks at God, our understanding of God and of prayer called 'God of Surprises' by Gerard W. Hughes SJ.

If you would like to be part of a group discussing and reflecting upon these matters together, then you might want to take part in Lent. We will meet initially on a Saturday morning to discuss how things will go in the group and we would be meeting on Thursday evenings in the church.

I believe getting our image of God right is an important aspect of faith. If this piece of writing has simply given you some thought, then that might be enough, but if there is more, then feel free to grab me and have a chat.

Peace!

Scott



80th ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Sunday, 23rd February 11.30 am

Parade of uniformed organisations

**"Birthday cake may feature
at the close of the service"**

All welcome

Pancakes and Coffee



On Shrove Tuesday - 25th February - there will be pancakes and coffee in Netherlee Church from 10am-12mid day and 2pm-4pm.

Come along for chat and pancakes with lots of lovely toppings.



A Message from the Editor

Fraser Neilson

A new year and an new decade and perhaps some changes to the content of our magazine as the year progresses and our Union becomes established. It will take some time whilst Committees and facilities seek their best working arrangements which will in turn be reflected in some of the reports in our magazine. Nothing stays the same!! Early submission sought for March. *

Publication	First Submission	Final Submission	Delivery Uplift
Mar 2020	Mon 3rd Feb	Wed 12th Mar *	Sun 1st Mar
Apr 2020	Mon 2nd Mar	Fri 13th Mar	Sun 5th Apr
May 2020	Mon 6th Apr	Fri 17th Apr	Sun 3rd May
Jun 2020	Mon 5th May	Fri 22nd May	Sun 7th Jun

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
Miss Grace Scoot	Netherlee	Clarkston
Mr Scott Russell	Busby	Waterfoot
Mrs Helen Winters	Stamperland	Giffnock

Deaths

Name	From	
Mrs Janet Coid	Clarkston	

1st Stamperland Brownies

Kirsty Stewart & Alison Gill



The 1st Stamperland Brownies had a very busy first term and have completed a number of activities and crafts which all count towards various badges. We continue to have a large number of Brownies within our unit which is great to see and so long as we have the continued use of the large hall and the correct leader/girl ratio we hope to continue seeing this amount of girls joining our pack in the future.

You will see some of our activities in the photo attached, include home baking, learning CPR, a campfire/hot chocolate night, a visit from the police with a chance to see inside a riot van, and we ended our term with our annual Christmas coffee evening. This was a great night for all. The girls did a splendid job serving their parents and had made various crafts which they sold on the night. We even managed to get all of the 130 people in the hall singing the 12 days of Christmas one table at a time. A great night and I think everyone left feeling festive and full of cake. We raised over £400 on the night

which is fantastic and will go towards our weekly activities and end of year trip. The Brownies are currently working on an Australia project whilst thinking of all of the people and animals affected by the bush fires.

We wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to telling you more about our upcoming activities within the Brownies.



Netherlee Sunday Club & Senior Sunday Club - Elaine Murray



Leading up to Christmas the Sunday Club participated in the Christmas Tree Festival. We were delighted that our 'Starchild Sunflower Tree' won the children's category. Our tree was decorated with handmade sunflowers and golden bags of sunflower seeds. They were sold and £102 was raised for the Starchild Sunflower Sanctuary for Autism in Memory of Rony Bridges. The Senior Sunday Clubbers made a Christmas Dinner Christmas Tree. The Brussel Sprouts decorations and truffles they later sold were definitely a hit, if maybe not one of your fives a day! We raised £90 for the Feed a Family charity.

In December we enjoyed taking part in the gift service while preparing for our Nativity Service. We told the story of the birth of Jesus by opening gifts around the sanctuary. It was lovely to involve the wider congregation as we told our special story. The children were a joy to watch. We were given a beautiful set of knotted nativity characters. The children designed and made a wonderful stable to complete the nativity scene which the children made. We hope you enjoyed seeing it in the Lesser Sanctuary at Christmas time. We held parties for the Sunday Club and Senior Sunday Club enjoying fun activities, games and party food. Santa was a little busy but had left some gifts for the children.

Throughout the year we collect our brown pennies, and along with those donated by the congregation they soon mount up! We are delighted to have spent £170 to buy Kitchen and Bathroom essentials needed by Starter Packs, including a dinner set, 3 full bedding sets, 22 glasses, 6 can openers and 12 bottles of cleaner as well as gloves, socks and boxer shorts for the Lodging House Mission in support of their winter shelter. Every penny really does count! The kids made some Thank You posters that you will see around the church halls.

We started the New Year thinking not about new resolutions but about Jesus' new commandment. We read John 13, 34-35 *And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.* We made heart shaped decorations to remind us of Jesus' love and to follow his commandment.

We are very proud of the contribution made by our Sunday Clubbers within our church family and community beyond. We extend a warm welcome to all children nursery to P7 to Sunday Club as well as S1 and beyond for Senior Sunday Club! Just come along, we'd love to see you. Joining us for the first time? Don't hesitate to get in touch via the Church Office to find out more, or simply meet us on a Sunday morning when services are held in Netherlee.

We also meet during joint services whether in Netherlee or Stamperland. Everyone welcome! Just come along.

Stamperland Fabric Committee Year End Report

Roy Allan



To round off the year we commenced the replacement of windows in the small and large halls, kitchen, session room and session clerks office.

All the curtains were taken down and sent for dry cleaning. They were also treated to new rails, replacing previous ones which were long past their serviceable use. Two LED tubes were also replaced in the large hall which requires the use of scaffolding so is a much bigger exercise than it would suggest.

One of our heating boilers had some repairs carried out and is now back to full strength.

After some heavy showers we noted some water ingress from the flat roof above the hall doors, this was attended to straight away and the problem was solved.

A silver birch tree which was outgrowing its site and was a risk, was removed and some brickwork surrounding its site is will be tidied up. Thanks to John Curror for taking care of this job on his own and removing it off site at no cost to the Church.

We still require a volunteer/s to take care of our gardens (excluding the grass) so please get in touch with Fraser Neilson to offer your services now that he has had to retire from this job. He is happy to remain in an advisory role, but only if need be.

The manse received a new dishwasher to replace the existing one which was unrepairable. Some paintwork and remedial repairs are ongoing with contractors having been appointed.



The Netherlee Forum

Sheena Wurthmann



Since the last edition of *Connections*, the Forum has enjoyed two fascinating talks from Dr. Lesley Orr, a research fellow at the Centre for Theology and Public Issues at the University of Edinburgh; and Neil Young from the St. Paul's Youth Forum in Provanmill. Both speakers shared with us some candid and inspiring insights.

In November, Dr. Lesley Orr addressed the Forum on the topic of *Building the New Jerusalem: women's suffrage in Scotland, the campaign and the aftermath*. Lesley began by introducing some of the women at the heart of the women's suffrage movement in late Victorian Scotland. In 1870, Jane Taylour addressed 150 public meetings across Scotland, determined to challenge the notion that politics was not for women. Between 1885 and 1905, organisations like the Primrose League and the Scottish Women's Cooperative Guild took up the cause and 'respectable' women like Flora Stevenson and Lady Frances Balfour became its pioneers. As Lesley noted, during this period, the women's suffrage movement was very decorous. The movement had legitimacy in the eyes of many Scots, thanks to the support of aristocratic women like Lady Balfour and prominent social reformers like Dr. Stevenson. It was only after 1905 that the movement acquired a more radical edge.

The Women's Freedom League was established in 1907 and its membership was disproportionately high in Scotland. The League embraced radical tactics – such as disrupting public meetings and chaining themselves to objects in the Palace of Westminster – but it was a much more democratic organisation than the Women's Social and Political Union founded by the Pankhurst's. The radicalism of the new century was not to everybody's taste, however. The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies continued to prefer 'constitutionalist' means of winning the vote. One such constitutionalist was Chrystal Macmillan. Although a graduate of Edinburgh University, Macmillan was denied the opportunity to vote in the 1906 election to determine the Member of Parliament for the university. She fought the case all the way to the **Cont**

House of Lords. She ultimately lost, but the case attracted worldwide publicity and Macmillan was widely praised and ridiculed as the 'Scottish Portia.' As Lesley explained, it took guts for women who advocated for women's suffrage to launch themselves into the public eye. Such activity went completely against the grain of what was regarded as acceptable female behaviour in Edwardian Scotland.

No churches in Scotland came out in support of the women's suffrage movement, but some people of faith were supportive of the campaign. Suffragette Helen Crawford – who was involved in the Church – famously said: 'If Christ could be a militant, so could I.' Of a similar view to Crawford was radical suffragette Dr. Dorothea Chalmers Smith, the wife of Reverend William Chalmers Smith. She was imprisoned for eight months for breaking and entering, and attempted arson. Reverend Chalmers Smith divorced Dorothea, but the opprobrium of her husband did not prevent her from going on a protracted hunger strike in prison. She, and many other women, were forcibly fed by the prison authorities. Some women were effectively tortured in this way for up to six weeks.

The women's suffrage campaign culminated in the Representation of the People's Act 1918. The Act gave the vote to women over the age of 30. The women's suffrage movement left a considerable legacy beyond legislation, however. Rent strikes, the International Congress of Women, and the Women's Peace Congress in 1919 were all heavily influenced by the activism of those involved in the international women's suffrage movement. We are very grateful to Lesley for delivering an excellent talk on a historical, but topical, subject. Her talk was well worth the wait!

In December, Neil Young spoke to the Forum about his work with the St. Paul's Youth Forum in Provanmill. He began by explaining that the Youth Forum exists alongside conditions of deprivation in the north-eastern part of Glasgow. In Blackhill, for example, 51 per cent of children live in poverty. Despite the challenging circumstances, one of the great strengths of the Provanmill community is that people pull together in times of adversity. That ethos has enabled the Youth Forum to thrive, and one of its key objectives is to tackle poverty by bringing people together. **Cont.**

Neil has worked at St. Paul's as a youth worker for 18 years. When he arrived, violent crime was a major problem in Provanmill. As youth worker, Neil helped to establish the St. Paul's Youth Forum with the objective of tackling the causes of violent crime in the area. The Youth Forum has gone from four members initially, to 450 members today. There are a number of projects members can work on, from the Bike Workshop, which repairs and replaces broken bicycles; to the Blackhill's Growing project, where members grow fruit, vegetables and care for animals on areas of waste ground near the church. Together, members have visited Iona, London and Ireland; attended Proms in the Park; and gone on sailing trips. The Youth Forum even has its own radio station, Bolt FM. Neil emphasised the Youth Forum is all about a shared sense of togetherness. Members learn to work together in their shared interests.

In recent times, the St. Paul's Youth Forum has turned its attention to exercise, eating, and education. Neil explained the Blackhill's Growing project addresses, two interrelated problems: poor diet and food poverty. Those members who grow the produce eat much of what they grow and, what they don't eat, they sell. Those who grow the produce are also encouraged to take some home with them. Together, members eat a three-course meal two or three times a week and, during the school holidays, meals are provided for members every day. In the past, members have even grown their own Christmas dinner. Neil described all of these activities as the *dignity approach* to food poverty. Rather than simply giving members food to take away, members are encouraged to eat together. Other projects include the Blackhill Bakery and Blackhill on Bikes, which involves members cycling to school together.

The St. Paul's Youth Forum has been a great success. In 2006, 61 young people were charged with violent crimes in Provanmill. In 2016, only one young person was charged with a violent offence. Neil estimated that every pound of investment saves the taxpayer £714 in the cost of putting a young person through the justice system. Nevertheless, Provanmill is the 'black bit at the end of the golden banana' as, in recent decades, the area has missed out on much of the investment needed to tackle poverty and crime. Using the 'fly in the jam jar' analogy, Neil explained that an important part of his job is to help and encourage young people to achieve more **Cont.**

for themselves. This process can be costly and time-consuming, but the benefits for individuals and communities are immeasurable. We are very grateful to Neil for his instructive and inspiring talk. Schools, churches, the police, local authorities and governments could all learn much from the innovative work of the St. Paul's Youth Forum.

In January, Reverend David Coleman delivered a talk entitled *Singing when Earth Burns*. David is the chaplain of Eco-Congregation in Scotland, and his talk referred to the recent bushfires in Australia. The Forum will hear from Dr. Simon Walker (University of Strathclyde) in February on the intriguing topic of suicide, spiritualism and support during the First World War. The last talk of the session will take place in March, when Jan Savage from Enable Scotland will discuss the important issue of learning disability and inclusion.

Netherlee Forum Session 2019 - 2020

Sheena Wurthmann



The schedule of meetings for the new session is as follows:

17th February	Simon Walker	Saving bodies and minds; Suicide, Spiritualism and support during the first world war.
16th March	Jan Savage	Learning disability and inclusion. Are we there yet?

One Sunday morning, the Vicar noticed little Johnnie was staring up at the large memorial plaque that hung just inside the large wooden doors of the church. It was covered with names, and regimental flags were mounted on either side of it. As he'd had been staring at the plaque for some time, the vicar walked up, put his hand on his shoulder, and said quietly, "Good morning Johnnie." "Good morning father," Johnnie said, not taking his eyes off the plaque. "What is this?" he asked.

"Well, Johnnie, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service."

Solemnly, they stood together and stared at the large plaque. Little Johnnie's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which one, father? The morning or evening service?"



ER. Foodbank Stamperland

Parish & Beyond Committee



SHOPPING LIST

Thank you for your support!

- * Milk (UHT or powdered)
- * Sugar (500g)
- * Fruit Juice (carton)
- * Pasta Sauces
- * Tomatoes (Tinned)
- * Tinned Veg
- * Cereals
- * Dried/ Boll in bag Rice
- * Tinned Meat/Fish
- * Instant Mash Potato
- * Sponge Pudding (Tinned)
- * Rice Pudding or Custard (Tinned)
- * Tea Bags/Inst coffee
- * Tinned Fruit
- * Jam/Spreads
- * Biscuits or snack bars

ALSO COLLECTING

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

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

The foods chosen for February are as follows:

Tea/instant coffee (not decaffeinated)/sugar, Cartons of fruit juice

Tinned meat/fish, Tinned peas/carrots/corn

Tinned fruit

Ladies/Gents toiletries including sanitary products.

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

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.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated food for the East Renfrewshire Foodbank over the past few months. Food collected in November and delivered to Barrhead at the beginning of December

amounted to 69kg. This weight feeds 4 small families for 3 days. We had a wonderful response to the Reverse Advent Calendar Foodbank collection from both Netherlee and Stamperland Churches, the total weight collected amounted to 138kg. This weight will feed either 13 single people or 7 large families for 3 days. This is the largest amount of food taken to Barrhead by ourselves. They are always extremely appreciative of our donations.

If there is no Service at Stamperland on a Sunday morning food can be brought to the Church on a Wednesday morning between 10am and 12 noon when the Church is open for Open Door. Please come along and join the fellowship and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee.

Thank you again for your continued support which is very much appreciated. Again we would ask that items donated are within the **“best before” date**. The Foodbank will not distribute food which is out of date.

Changes to the Roll - Netherlee

Mabel Bell



By Profession of Faith

Name	Location	District	Elder

Death

Date	Name	Location	District	Elder
8.12.19	Mr James Mackie	Netherlee	65	Sheona Moore
07.01.20	Mr William Malcolm	Netherlee	6	W Povey

Disjunction

No	Name	Location	District	Elder
5776	Mr Archie Henderson	Netherlee	30	J Dunbar
5777	Mrs Denise Henderson	Netherlee	30	J Dunbar

Carol Singing for Shelter Scotland

Elaine Murray



A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Carol Singing. Over £375.92 was raised for Shelter Scotland.

The proceeds from the Christmas Tree Festival as well as Tea and Coffee on Sunday 8th December were added, making the final sum sent to Shelter £560.21. Bravo to everyone who participated in so many ways.

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



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

CROSSREACH The Church of Scotland
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trust



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.

Treasurer's Report

Allan Mathieson Treasurer Netherlee

Cumulative to November 2019



General Fund

At the end of November the General Fund shows a surplus of £16,446. This is £10,103 ahead of the Budget and £824 ahead of the same time last year on a like for like basis. I would highlight the following:

Income

Against budget the offerings including tax recovery on gift aid contributions are ahead by £1,157. The income from the Use of Premises continues to be below budgeted levels. In November the negative variance increased by £163 to £2,916.

Against last year, after 11 months, our Income is down £4,099

Expenditure

Ministry cost continue to run close to budget and last year's figures.

The Other Costs continue to be below budgeted levels but the surplus against budget declined by £681 to £7,749. The 3 main areas contributing to the decline are R & M (£146), Heat and Light (£49), and Organ and Music (£252).

The Total Expenditure against last year now shows an increase of £711

Summary

We remain on course to producing a Surplus at the end of the year of circa £15,000, some £9,000 greater than that budgeted

Reserves

Our Reserves have received £15,231, in dividends and interest to the end of November. This is some £3,000 less than the expenditure for the year. With the increase in the stock market in 2019 it is expected that by the end of the year the value of our Reserves will have increased year on year.

Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.

If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.



POPPYSCOTLAND--- DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES.

Anne Mann



Happy New Year to you all. Better late than never.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the November appeal. I had hoped to be able to tell you how much was raised , however I have not yet received the information. Hopefully I will be able to tell you soon. Some dates for your diary:

Saturday March 7th 2020, Beetle drive in the large hall at Netherlee, 7pm.
 Saturday May 9th 2020, Coffee Afternoon to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day, in the large hall at Netherlee, 2-4pm
 Saturday November 7th 2020, Coffee Afternoon in the large hall at Netherlee, 2-4pm.

I am looking forward to your continued support over this next year.

Freddy goes to the church and listens to the preacher. After a while,

Netherlee Guild**Margaret Fear, Secretary**

Feb	05	Dr. P. Cairns - Seema's Project
	19	Dr. Duncan McIntyre - Iona
Mar	04	Ranald Mair - Social Work within the Kirk
	06	World Day of Prayer at St. Aiden's
	10	Friendship Lunch
	18	A.G.M.
	26	Daffodil Tea (Thur)

the preacher asks anyone with needs to be prayed over to come forward. Freddy goes up and the preacher asks, "Freddy, what do you want me to pray about for you?"



"Preacher," says Freddy, "I need you to pray for my hearing."

The preacher puts one finger in Freddy's ear, and he places the other hand on top of Freddy's head and prays and prays and prays. After a few minutes, the preacher removes his hands and stands back.

"Freddy, how is your hearing now?" "I don't know, Reverend," says Freddy. "My hearing's not until next Wednesday."

Glasgow 278 (Netherlee) Boys' Brigade
www.facebook.com/netherleeboysbrigade

Alistair Haw, Captain

alistairhaw@yahoo.co.uk 07434521928



A huge thanks to everyone who made a success of this year's two principal Christmas fundraising efforts. The coffee morning raised a fantastic £1765, resulting in a £1540 surplus to be invested in the boys. This was swiftly followed by £515 raised by the Christmas card delivery service. There are far too many people to thank by name – so an enormous thank you to everyone who put in so much effort to make all this happen.



Still on fundraising, we were delighted to be informed that Victoria Cameron raised an amazing £15,000 for the Scottish Cot Death Trust by running the London Marathon in memory of Netherlee child Scott Love who tragically died in his sleep in April 2018. A £250 donation from our Company Section boys was match funded by Victoria's employer creating a £500 contribution towards this superb tally. Money donated will be used to support bereaved families, educate about cot death and fund research into its causes.

Anchor Boys (Monday 6pm - 7pm): The Anchor Boys are back in action, and have completed the #BBin3 challenge set by HQ (to describe the BB in 3 words). The cumulative result of which was that our Anchor Boys associate the following words with BB: Amazing, Awesome, Bible, Boys, Brilliant, Cake, Cool, Crazy, Excellent, Exciting, Fantastic, Fast, Fun, Funny, Games, God, Good, Happy, Interesting, Jesus, Lovely, Marvellous, Mental, Miracles, Nice, Playing, Prayer, Silly, Sporty, Super, Superb, Sweeties, Toys, Wicked.



We were pleased to formally appoint James Bruce as a new Deputy Squad Captain. James may be our youngest in such a position but

he is up for the job and, as you can hopefully see from the photo provided, has excellent muscles.

Junior Section (Tuesday 7pm –

8.45pm): Junior Section have had a health conscious start to the year, focusing on heart, health, healthy eating and exercise, partly in preparation for the



Glasgow Battalion Athletics Championships which took place at the Emirates Arena on 16 Jan. As Connections was going to print the results were just filtering through, but the short summary is that 12 boys represented the Company with great credit and sportsmanship throughout. Harry Sprott won silver in the long jump, James Forbes bronze in the 200m and our 4 x 60m relay team (Harry Sprott, James Forbes, Michael McGuire and Ben MacLellan) picked up silver. A huge well done to all the boys for the manner in which they conducted themselves, and a special thanks to parents who came along to offer their encouragement from the side-lines and indeed Caroline Watson-Sweeney and Christine McGowan for once again making our participation possible.

Company Section (Friday 7.30pm – 10pm): Company Section somehow survived the excesses of their annual post bowling Christmas visit to China Buffet King, a visit which must surely have left the proprietors struggling to break even. At one point curry, sausages, chips, spare ribs, prawn toast and chocolate sauce was spotted on the same plate, but the less said about that the better.

The boys sought to return to the straight and narrow in January, kicking off with a Bible talk on “John 3:16 Man” who is invariably spotted amongst the spectators at international sporting events. And C.S. Lewis’ subsequent reflection: ‘Christianity, if false, is of no importance and, if true, of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important...’ (discuss)

A parapradoskian is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently used in a humorous situation. This the theme to this month’s humour.





231st Boys' Brigade Junior Section & Sparks

Scott Russell - Officer in Charge



Apologies that content has been missing from us in the recent months. Fatherhood has taken over and finding time to write with a new born has been challenging! Regardless the 231st Junior Section and Sparks have continued to run each week with a variety of activities.



On Saturday 7th December we hosted our annual Christmas Fair in the church. Thanks to all who helped to support the event, particularly Kirsty Stewart who ran the event for us this year. I am pleased to report that we made a healthy profit of around £400 which will be split between the Sections.



Recently the boys have enjoyed Lego mornings at Glasgow Battalion, our Christmas party with Kinetic and we all enjoyed our annual trip to the King's theatre to see Jack and the beanstalk.

In addition to this we were lucky to have the opportunity to visit RFA Tidesurge, an operational Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship which was based in Garelochhead. This was a unique experience that all of the boys and dad's enjoyed.



On Thursday 16th our Junior Section boys took part in the Junior Section Sports event at the Emirates arena. Whilst no medals were won this year, every boy did very well in being an excellent team member and showing excellent sportsmanship throughout.

On behalf of the Scout Group I hope that you had a great Christmas & New Year and managed to get some rest & relaxation amongst the parties, family gatherings and shopping!

Group Sleepover – Our big news for this month is to report on our Group sleepover in December. Over 50 members of the group participated, which was brilliant.

On a very wet and miserable Friday night we gathered at Flip Out. After signing in, those jumping were issued their special socks and we went to watch the safety briefing. And then it was jump time!

We had two hours of jumping and playing on the night. The first hour was a public session with music and lights, with the second hour being only our group in the venue so we could take full advantage.

This was the first time our Beavers had a nights away event and it was great to see them tackling all the areas of Flip Out and sparring with fellow Beavers or Cubs, Scouts or Explorers on the Gladiator bars. **PTO**



21.

After our 2 hours jumping we all went to the café area for a drink and snack. We then got our beds ready and settled down to watch Elf – not everyone managed to stay awake until the end of the film.

On Saturday morning we packed away our beds and had breakfast before another hour of exclusive use of the whole of Flip Out.



So Friday 13th, with all 4 sections and trampolines?? Well everything turned out fine and we all had a brilliant time with lots of Nights Away badges being awarded including a large number of first nights away especially for Beavers and Cubs.

A huge thanks to the staff at Flip Out and to all the leaders who attended to make sure everything went so smoothly – a great way to kick off our 80th anniversary year!

Congregations Personal Messages

Netherlee & Stamperland



I wish to thank everyone who attended the service for Edith in Netherlee. Church on 2nd December. Many thanks also for all the flowers, cards and messages of comfort I have received. Scott conducted a lovely service, and gave us all, with Marie, pastoral support,

Janette Rennie (Netherlee)

I would like to thank the church very much for the lovely flowers which I received after the service at Christmas. They were much appreciated.

Forrest Morton (Stamperland)

Thanks to the Church Family for kind thoughts at this difficult time. The beautiful flowers I received in memory of Anne are very much appreciated,

Ron Kirkwood & Family (Stamperland)

Netherlee GSE Food Bank

Anne Hind on behalf of Glasgow South East Foodbank



Many thanks for your superb support of the Foodbank throughout the year and particularly in the lead up to Christmas. We were able to give many people not only the usual food bag but a Christmas gift for each family member and a Christmas meal in a bag. Thank you for your response to our request.

Ongoing list of items required.

Tinned custard/rice, tinned fish, tinned meat, tinned fruit, shaving foam, razors, shampoo and shower gel.

As I write this article we have just completed a large piece of work organising, crating and moving the extensive donations which came in over the Christmas period. This is a massive piece of work which involved various teams of people and on one day we had over 40 people helping including local school children, senior management team from Clyde College and friends from various churches.

Although our stock levels are high at this time, we know from experience that with the increase in demand we will be struggling for certain items in a few months time. Our figures for 2019 were in excess of 11,000 referrals being received. Needless to say this demands high levels of donations.

Recently a gentleman who had never been to a Foodbank before said it was a wonderful service and that he couldn't believe that everything came by donation. He was delighted to see that people who had children would be able to have nappies – these are donated by Amazon on a regular basis and that this must really help families, which it does, as they are so expensive.

Could I ask that items which would normally go to a charity shop are not donated to the Foodbank as this is not relevant to people and we do not have storage to deal with them.

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

+++++
Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.



23.

Stamperland Flower Calendar

Contact Mrs May Paterson—0141 571 8652



2nd Feb Mrs J Marshall
16th Feb Mrs M Boyce

9th Feb Mrs M Allan
23rd Feb Miss J Stewart &
Mrs E Macpherson

1st Mrs B Richmond
15th Mrs W Paterson
29th Mrs M Neilson & Mrs M Paterson

8th Service at Netherlee Church
22nd Mr George Fraser

Netherlee Church Flowers

Shirley Buchanan 585 3929



Thanks to Patricia Docherty, Irene Williams, Margaret Wyper and Fiona McNeill for your generous donation of flowers for February.



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




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FEBRUARY 2008 £2.00

LIFE AND WORK

THE MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



IN THIS ISSUE

NEW PARTNERSHIPS
Church unions and linkages

RUN WITH PATIENCE
Ultra-marathon runner Dr Mark Cade

A SPIRIT OF GENEROSITY
Stewardship today and new technology
and much more all for £2.00

War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

Evening news is where they begin with 'Good Evening,' and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.



The Cinnamon Trust in Glasgow needs more dog walking volunteers.



The Cinnamon Trust is the national charity whose wonderful volunteers help people over retirement age and those in the latter stages of a terminal illness by offering all kinds of pet care. We are looking for some dog walking volunteers to help a resident of Glasgow and their 2 Bichon Frise - Dolly an 8 year old female, and Toby 7 year old male who would love to go for a good walk.

Many elderly or ill pet owners worry about their ability to provide proper care for their animals and start looking to rehome what may be their only companion. This is where our national network of dedicated volunteers step in to offer support enabling them to stay together. We'll walk the dog for a house-

bound owner, we'll foster pets when owners need hospital care, and even clean out the bird cage or litter trays.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, you can download our volunteer registration form from our web site www.cinnamon.org.uk or email us at volunteer@cinnamon.org. If you would like to have a more in-depth chat about becoming a volunteer, please call us during office hours (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm) on 01736 758 707, or you can check out our website www.cinnamon.org.uk for more details.

volunteer@cinnamon.org.uk', and 'www.cinnamon.org.uk'. At the very bottom of the banner, in small text, are '10 Market Square, Hays, Carmarthen T322 4HG' and 'Registered charity number 0134880'."/>

The Cinnamon Trust
The National Charity for elderly and terminally ill people and their pets

Can you help?

We are seeking dog walking volunteers who are able to help elderly or terminally ill pet owners in your area who are unable to take their dogs out for a walk. We have a flexible approach to enable your volunteering to fit around your own lifestyle. Even one walk a week can make all the difference.

Tel: 01736 757900
Email: volunteer@cinnamon.org.uk
www.cinnamon.org.uk

10 Market Square, Hays, Carmarthen T322 4HG Registered charity number 0134880

Netherlee & Stamperland Annual Choir Dinner January 2020

Dagmar Kerr

Members of Netherlee and Stamperland choir enjoyed a fun filled evening at their annual choir dinner. Apart from the excellent dinner, we all enjoyed the varied party pieces and lots of singing.

Choirmaster Steven Crawford thanked members for their continued commitment and he was thanked for his excellent leadership. We have all been enjoying the opportunity of practising with the help from singers from both churches and also "Extras" who are joining us for special occasions like Christmas and Easter. If any readers of this magazine enjoy music and singing, why not come along on a Thursday evening and join the fun? New members will be made most welcome.







Down Memory Lane in Stamperland - February 1980

Pat Roller

This month in 1980 was the 40th anniversary of the founding of Stamperland Church in an air raid shelter which led to the building of the premises we have today. A booklet was published to commemorate the event.

The christening took place of Kirsty Curror of Monteith Dr whilst the number of communicants on the roll was 798.

The Christian Aid sponsored swim was set for February 16th and was being organised by Jennie Fraser.

Following a reappraisal meeting held in the autumn, a Care Committee was formed and volunteers were sought from the congregation as visitors to the elderly. This was being organised by G Graham and J Dodd.

The Senior Sunday School had substituted their Christmas party with their first Disco on Christmas Eve and was set up for them by Brian Bell.

The Brownies "A" pack had raised £90 for their funds at a Coffee Morning in January. "Flying up for 12 Brownies to Guides had also taken place on 21st which was preceded the previous week by the Guides having a Swop Shop.

The Scout Group had attended the Pantomime at the Citizens Theatre and with the Beavers they had a Bring and Buy sale, raising £80 for the Blue Peter Cambodia Appeal whilst the Scouts themselves had presented a cheque for £67 to the Glencare Centre for Handicapped children. Further afield the Eastwood District Cubs presented an invalid chair to the residents of the C of S Eventide home at Woodhill, Eastwood Toll.

The Gang Show rehearsals were under way by the Scouts for April which will also see each Scout challenged to raise £2 for the Scout Job Week.

A sum of £800 had been raised for funds from the sale of Christmas cards organised by Hamish Burnside, all the above having been reported at length by Peter Ferries, Group Scout Leader.

The BB planned a Jumble Sale for 16th February, whilst Gold badges in the Junior Sect had been gained by Andrew Gardiner, Colin McCheyne and Kenneth McKenzie. Visits to Police HQ in Pitt St for the 3rd yr boys, a Fire Stun for the 1st yr.'s and the Glasgow Herald for the 2nd yr. boys also took place.

Stamperland Guild**Evelyn Graham**

The members of the Guild send everyone best wishes for 2020.

We have a varied syllabus for the remainder of our Guild session until the end of March, and hope that you will find something of interest. We meet in the Session Room at Stamperland Church at 7.30pm unless otherwise marked **. Please come along.

If you would like to join us on our visit to Cardwell Bay Garden Centre, the cost of the coach is £9.00. The coach will leave Stamperland Church at 11.00am and return to Stamperland Church by 3.30pm. This allows you time to buy lunch or a light snack and have plenty time to browse round the garden centre and shops. Please speak to any myself or any committee member from Stamperland or Netherlee Guild if you would like to come on our outing.

Our main fundraising event is the Fashion Show on 17th March. Please put this date in your diary and come and support The Guild while hopefully getting a few bargains. More information will be in March Connections.

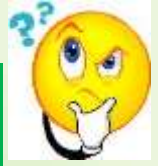
Our syllabus for Feb, March and April is as follows;

Feb

- | | | |
|------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 5th | (Wed) Joint Project evening at ,
Netherlee, Seema's Project | The Free to Live Trust ** |
| 11th | British Heart Foundation, | Laura Stockwell |
| 18th | Visit to Cardwell Bay Garden Centre ** | |
| 25th | Tales of Joyce Grenfell | Yvonne Waring |

Mar

- | | | |
|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 3rd | Grahamston the Forgotten Village, | Craig Mains |
| 6th | (Fri) World Day of Prayer | St Aidan's ** |
| 10th | Joint Friendship Lunch with
Netherlee Guild | Williamwood Golf Club ** |
| 17th | Fashion Show, | Taylor Fashions |
| 24th | Musical Evening, | Grace Nevin |
| 26th | (Thur) Netherlee Daffodil Tea ** | |
| 31st | A G M | |



The Story of the Black Dot

Stuart Buchanan Session Clerk

A teacher enters the classroom and asks the students to prepare for a surprise test. They wait anxiously as the teacher distributes the test with the text facing down. Once all handed out the students are asked to turn over their papers.

To everyone's surprise there are no questions – just a black dot in the centre of the paper.

The teacher sees their perplexed expressions so says, "I want you to write about what you see there." The students, still somewhat confused, begin this inexplicable task.

At the end of the class, the teacher takes in all the exam papers and starts reading them out loud in front of all the students. All of them, with no exception, defined the black dot, trying to explain its position in the centre of the sheet.

After reading the last one, the classroom still silent, the professor starts to explain, "I'm not going to grade you on this, I just wanted to give you something to think about. No one wrote about the white part of the paper. Everyone focused on the black dot – and the same thing happens in our lives. We insist on focusing only on the black dot – the health issues that bother us, the lack of money, the complicated relationship with a family member, the disappointment with a friend. The dark spots are very small when compared to everything else we have in our lives, but they are the ones that can pollute our minds. Take your the eyes away from the black dots in your lives. Enjoy each one of your blessings, each moment that life gives you. Be happy and live a life filled with love! Class dismissed"

+++++

A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.

Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says, 'In case of emergency, notify:' I put 'DOCTOR.'

I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.



Extract from The Extra, On Line (Dawn Renton)

Stuart Buchanan

Stamperland and Netherlee Parish Churches' reverse advent calendar to support East Renfrewshire Foodbank

Members of Stamperland Parish Church and Netherlee Parish Church participated in a Reverse Advent Calendar scheme in support of the East Renfrewshire Foodbank.

Scott Blythe, minister of both churches, said: "I first became aware of Reverse Advent Calendars when I was a minister in a church in New Jersey. Rather than taking stuff out of an advent calendar window or door the idea of the Reverse Advent Calendar is to put something in.



"Ideally, we were looking for one item - such as a tin of soup, a can of vegetables, a tin of meat, a jar of coffee, a box of breakfast cereal or some toiletries - to be put in a cardboard box every day throughout advent.

"Doing his each day for the four weeks of

advent would result in a box containing two dozen vitally-needed items. This would be a significant contribution."

Mrs Evelyn Graham, who liaises with the Foodbank in Barrhead, has been co-ordinating the collection of foodbank donations at Stamperland Church for more than five years.

"Members at Stamperland have been good supporters of the Foodbank for a long time," she said. "Our recent donations, prior to the Reverse Advent Calendar, weighed in at 2,130kg and reflect the concern we have for people facing hardship."

FIDDLERS RALLY



Concert featuring the Bearsden Fiddlers

Saturday, 15th February, 2020

Stamperland Church

7.30 pm – 9.30 pm

Light refreshments

Tickets - £8.00



WEDNESDAY, 4th MARCH 2020 7.30 pm

concert featuring

Glasgow Philharmonic Male Voice Choir

Stamperland Church

Adult - £8.00

Includes light refreshments

STARS FOR STARCHILD



IN MEMORY OF
RONY BRIDGES

Family Fun Day with the 'Stars'

Costume Competition with prizes

Costumed Characters

Photo Opportunities

Toy and Geeky trade stalls

Facepainting

Artists

Raffle & Fresh Baking



JIMMY VEE

R2D2

Saturday 28 March 2020

1pm - 5pm

Netherlee Parish Church

130 Ormonde Avenue

Netherlee

G44 3SL

ENTRY £6

UNDER 12s £4

UNDER 5s FREE

Movie guests can cancel at any time due to filming commitments. This is at Starchild's control.