

thegoodneighbour

December 2015



Living our **faith** by our **actions**



at the heart of the **community**

GreenbankParish
CHURCH

Parish Register

DEATHS

29/10/15 Mrs Evelyn Dewar,

2/11/15 Mrs Marion McAlpine,

22/11/15 Mrs Nancy Duncan,

*"Just as I am, thou will receive, will welcome pardon, cleanse, relieve,
Because thy promise I believe, Oh Lamb of God, I come.*

WEDDINGS

31/10/15 Kimberley Wood and Christopher Morrison, 5 Lavender Drive, East Kilbride

Jennifer Bryden and Adam Brown on Saturday 19th September 2015

Jennifer and Adam have known each other a long time as they met in Secondary school. They had their ceremony in Alloway Parish Church and were married by Jeanne. Jennifer commented, "It was lovely as, in addition to the connection my family has to Greenbank, my husband Adam used to play with James Roddick. I got ready at my mum and dad's house and had a lovely surprise when the Brownies showed up to give me a guard of honour - which was just brilliant. I genuinely had no idea, and they were all in full uniform and cheered me off in my car. My bridesmaids were my sister, Elizabeth Wilson, and best friends Suzie May and Rhona McCallum. The best man was Iain Brown (Adam's brother) and groomsmen were brother-in-law James Wilson and our friend from school Calum Costello. We had the reception at Brig o' Doon House Hotel. We were delighted that two of the Malawians who were here as part of the Kwenderana partnership were able to join us for our celebrations as mum attended a wedding in Malawi. It was really nice to be able to let them experience a traditional Scottish wedding in Burns country. We honeymooned in French Polynesia and Cook Islands and are setting up home in Clarence Drive, Hyndland. My lasting memory of the day is walking into the church and seeing all my friends and family, and then Adam at the front. It is a memory I will treasure forever."

Katherine King and James Roddick on Friday 9th October 2015

James explained, "Katie and I have known each other since we were 18 or 19, through mutual friends. We met in Edinburgh where she was studying and happened to share a flat with two of my good friends (one was an usher, the other, one of my best men). So we were friends for a while before our relationship became more around 2 years ago. The best men were, Ewan Macphee and Gaurav Ramayya and the ushers, Darryl Boyd and Ruiraidh Thomson. All were my friends from school. The bridesmaids were Katie's sister, Maggie King and her best friend, Loretta Bacon.

We had 36 guests over from America. After the church service, which was officiated by my mum, with help from Father Dugan from St Joseph's, we had a reception in the church halls to which all the members of the congregation were invited. Our thanks go to everyone who helped with that. My best man Gaurav then surprised us by organising two beautiful cars to take us and our parents to the Barony. After a great meal and some fantastic speeches, our evening guests arrived and we started a ceilidh, which lasted long into the night. I was very impressed with everyone's energy for it! Two days after the wedding we left for America to go to Katie's home. After a short stop over we headed to Puerto Rico in the Caribbean. It was beautiful! It was fantastic to spend time together just the two of us! Initially Katie and I are looking to settle in Scotland. We don't have a longterm plan but are looking forward to putting the distance behind us! A moment I'll remember is, towards the very end of the day Katie and I went to the top balcony, over-looking the dance floor, as all our guests were dancing to strip the willow. It was a nice moment for us to reflect on everything that we had done and the day we had both been so fortunate to share together.

Dear Friends,

Advent begins on 29th November with our morning service and an Advent Communion service in the evening at 6.30pm. During Advent, beginning on 1st December, the true meaning of Christmas is being highlighted through a special Advent Calendar situated in our Hall of Friendship. Each day of December, friends of and members of Greenbank are offering their own personal insight into this special time and I hope that you will take some time to have a look and be inspired.

The 2nd Sunday of Advent on 6th December is our gift service. The gifts this year are going to The Princess Royal Maternity Hospital, The Cardinal Winning Prolife Initiative in Govanhill and The Scottish Council for the Care and Rehabilitation of Offenders (SACRO).

Everyone, not just the children, is invited to bring a gift to the church and to place it under the Christmas tree. Information about suitable gifts can be found on page 8 of this edition of Good Neighbour.

The 3rd Sunday of Advent begins with a baptism at our morning service on 13th December and closes in the evening with our 'Time to Remember' service at 6.30pm which will be a quiet service of remembrance for loved ones no longer with us.

The 4th Sunday of Advent begins with the Children's Nativity Service in the morning and closes in the evening with our annual service of 'Lessons and Carols' with Peter and the choir at 7pm.

On Christmas Eve, we will be having our 'Children's Christmas Eve Service' once again at 6.30pm, where there will be lots of fun, excitement and Christingles for all the children. Then at 11pm we will gather in the halls for some mince pies and mulled wine before the Watchnight Service at 11.30pm.

Finally, at our Family Christmas Day Service at 10.30am we will celebrate Jesus' birth. The children [and adults if they wish!] coming to this service are invited to bring a Christmas gift they have received to show everyone.

I hope that you will find something that will encourage you to worship here at Greenbank during Advent and Christmas this year. I am delighted that the JAM group are helping to decorate our church this year and although at the time of writing I haven't yet seen it – it promises to be a totally different and inspirational addition to our Advent and Christmas worship in our sanctuary.

Whatever else is happening in your lives over the next few weeks, I hope you will find some time to worship and reflect on what it means for you that God sent Jesus, to this world at Christmas. May God keep you ever mindful of all those who are not free to worship, join together and celebrate and may you have a blessed Christmas and a peace filled New Year.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanne".

PULPIT DIARY

4 th December	4.00pm	Christmas Messy Church
6 th December	10.30am	Gift Service & Sunday Club
12 th December	9.00am	Soul Food on Saturdays
13 th December	10.30am	Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Soul Food on Sundays & Sunday Club
	6.30pm	Time to Remember
20 th December	10.30am	Family Nativity Service
	7.00pm	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
22 nd December	5.00pm	Christmas Film Night & Crèche
24 th December	11.30pm	Watchnight Service (mince pies & mulled wine in the halls)
25 th December	10.30am	Christmas Day Family Worship
27 th December	10.30am	Family Worship

This year the true meaning of Christmas will be displayed on a large **Advent Calendar** display in our Hall of Friendship. Members of the congregation are invited to provide a short verse or a short personal reflection into this special time of year. During Advent these verses or reflections will be displayed each day for visitors to the Hall of Friendship. Anyone wishing to participate is asked to send their contribution to the minister by email [if possible jeanne.roddick@ntlworld.com] or to hand it in to the church office as soon as possible.

Christmas at Greenbank Manse
for Al Shurooq School, Bethlehem
Friday 11th December 10am-12.30pm
Tea, Coffee, Home Baking & Gifts Ticket: £2



223 GLASGOW COMPANY BOYS' BRIGADE CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY 2015

The BB boys will be delivering Christmas cards within the Parish again this year. The collection box for these will be located in the vestibule from Sunday 29th November until 10.30am on Sunday 13th December and cards will be delivered as soon as possible thereafter.

Please note that cards can only be delivered within the Parish boundaries as shown on the map on the front of the collection box.

DEFIBRILLATOR

A Defibrillator has been mounted on the exterior of the Fraser Hall. This has been gifted by Clarkston Community Council and Craig's Fund in memory of Craig Stokes (1990-2005). To access the Defibrillator telephone the number displayed on the casing and you will be given an access code. It is very simple to use but basic instructions are contained inside. It is hoped to run some formal training over the next few months. Notices have also been posted in the local shops.

CHRISTMAS MESSY CHURCH FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER, 4PM – 6PM

Christmas crafts, Christmas fun and games
For more details, to book a place or offer help, please phone/text Lorna Preece
at 07970192541 or email lo.preece@btinternet.com

TRIBUTE TO HAROLD BROWN

Read in Greenbank Church on Sunday 15th November 2015

Harold Brown, one of our elders, died on the 20th of September 2015.

Harold was born on 25th October 1923 to parents Robert and Elizabeth Brown in Langside. He was brought up with his older brother John and was a pupil at Battlefield Primary then Queens Park Secondary School. Harold's family were members of Langsidehill Church and it was there that Harold joined the Boys' Brigade which was to become a big part of his life.

Harold began his working life as an apprentice engineer at Weirs of Cathcart and attended Strathclyde on day release to obtain his engineering degree. After obtaining his degree Harold packed a great deal into his working life, firstly at Scottish Boiler, later moving on James Anderson Colours. This Scottish company was then bought out by Swiss Ciba-Geigy, where his career blossomed and he became the youngest plant chief engineer in the whole organisation. After taking early retirement Harold went to work for Daniel Engineering in East Kilbride for a few years, and then started up an instrumentation and electrical engineering company, Capelrig, with a group of colleagues. When the firm became successful and needed to relocate to Aberdeen Harold decided that this was a step too far for him and his family, however he then went on to become a tutor in engineering drawing at Strathclyde University and didn't finally retire from this until he was 75 years old.

He married his wife Anne on 11th July 1953 in Frome, Somerset, and they bought a brand new house at 59 Mansefield Road Clarkston. They spent 55 years living there, bringing up their son, Alastair, and daughter, Sandra. These were very happy years for Harold and Anne and they built close ties over the years with many neighbours.

When they first came to live in Clarkston they joined Greenbank Church where Harold later became the Junior Section Captain of the 223rd Company. He also served on committees within Cathcart District and also the Glasgow Battalion of the Boys' Brigade. Harold became an elder at Greenbank in 1963 and received a 50 year Long Service Certificate in 2013. He was the last survivor of the 1963 ordinations at Greenbank and was the longest serving Greenbank ordained elder at the time of his death. He was the district elder for Woodbank Crescent for many years and was involved in a number of property projects at the church.

Above all else in his life Harold was first and foremost a family man. He and his family spent many weekends and holidays at their caravan at Sandgreen near Gatehouse of Fleet and more recently in Arran. Harold was a hands on Dad, involved in his children's lives, teaching them to swim, and taking them sailing. Harold loved and was proud of his children and his six grandchildren.

Harold and Anne moved to Aidan's Brae in 2007. They were happily married for 62 years and celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a cruise on the QE2, subsequently celebrating their ruby and diamond wedding anniversaries together with family and close friends.

There was nothing pretentious about Harold - he was a kind loving, down to earth man, who will be deeply missed by those who loved him and knew him. Today we give thanks to God for the life and service of Harold Brown and commend Anne, Alastair, Sandra and the wider family to the love and care of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer Diary



AN ADVENT PRAYER

When the world was dark
you came.

You crept in beside us.

And no one knew.

Only the few

who dared to believe

that God might do something different.

Will you do the same this Christmas, Lord?

Will you come into the quietness of our world,

not just the friendly quietness

as when lovers hold hands,

but the fearful silence

when the phone has not rung,

the letter has not come,

the friendly voice no longer speaks,

the doctor's face says it all?

Will you come into the chaos of this world,

not just the friendly chaos

as when partyers have fun,

but the fearful chaos

when there is terror and conflict,

the absence of compassion

the lack of peace

the family torn apart by violence?

Will you come into the darkness,

and do something different,

not to distract,

but to embrace your people with

the deep peace in which enemies embrace

the peace of your community of love,

the peace of your Son,

the Prince of Peace?

[Adapted from Cloth for the Cradle

Wild Goose Publications, Iona Community]

trypraying.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

18th 24th January 2016

During the week of Prayer for Christian, all the churches involved in Clarkston Churches Together* are taking part in the 'try praying' initiative. [see <http://www.trypraying.org/>]. On 17th January 2016, at the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the clergy from each church will lead the service in other churches at the end of these services the members of each congregation who wish to have one will be given a 'trypraying' booklet.

The 'trypraying' initiative is a simple challenge to try praying for seven days and see what happens. It has short articles and stories of answers to prayer. There are things to do each day as well as a short prayer to pray. A 'trypraying' booklet will be given to every person who wishes to have one. A 'trypraying' app is also available for android and IOS smart phone users. A 'trypraying' booklet – called 'putting the pray into play' will also be given to the children in each congregation.

At the end of the week of Prayer for Christian Unity everyone will be encouraged to pass the booklet on to friends and family [or invite them with a text to download the app] with a few words of encouragement like: *'Why don't you try praying for a week and see what happens in your life?'*

*Busby, Carmunnock, Greenbank, Netherlee, Stamperland, Williamwood Churches of Scotland; St Aidan's Scottish Episcopal Church; Cartsbridge Evangelical Church, St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

PRAYER PROMOTER

There is a vacancy in Greenbank for the position of Prayer Promoter. If you are interested please speak to Jeanne Roddick on 644 1395 or e-mail her at jeanne.roddick@ntlworld.com. Joyce McMeeking, our former Prayer Promoter, would also be happy to speak to anyone thinking of volunteering to give them an insight into what the position involves.

PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAYERS FOR HEALING

If you need prayer for yourself, a loved one or a friend please use the Greenbank Church Card [see reverse side] which can be found at the end of the church pews, and place it in the box at the front door of the church. Alternatively, prayer requests can be given to our Minister, Rev. Jeanne Roddick.

Those for whom prayers have been requested will be prayed for at the monthly Prayers for Healing Service and throughout the month by members of the Prayer Group.

What's On

THE GUILD

Diary

2 nd December	2.15pm	<i>Singing and chat</i> The Westertones
9 th December	TBA	<i>Christmas lunch</i> Cathcart Castle Golf Club
6 th January 2016	2.15pm	<i>Gospel Music and Magic</i> Rev. John Campbell
13 th January	2.15pm	Games Afternoon
20 th January	2.15pm	<i>Inside the mind of Mary Queen of Scots</i> Roy Johnstone
27 th January	2.15pm	<i>Project Haiti: Guild Project</i> Ross McFarlane

The first half of our Guild year has passed very quickly. We continue to have interesting speakers and attendances remain fairly high. There being no January edition of *Good Neighbour* our speakers for January are listed above.

Once again we are returning to Cathcart Castle Golf Club for our Christmas Lunch, which we know will be a happy occasion.

Details of Sunshine Bag money will be published in February *Good Neighbour*. Despite the poor summer it looks like the bags have still raised a very satisfactory amount of money.

Sincere thanks to all involved.

Enid Dron, Secretary

THE FESTIVE MOVIE NIGHT

The Festive Movie Night takes place on Tuesday 22nd December. You are invited to come and enjoy the Christmas classic 'It's a Wonderful Life', at 5pm sharp in the Church, followed by a minced pie and mulled wine. While you're enjoying the movie, the children will be entertained. A children's movie will be shown in the church hall along with crafts and activities. Hot dogs and refreshments will also be provided for the children. Look out for posters with booking details and further details.

We are looking for volunteers to help with this event contact gillandgeorge.hunt@ntlworld.com if you can help in any way. Thank you.

TIME OUT

On **Thursday 3rd December** we will be having an evening of Christmas crafts, which should help us to get all in the mood for Christmas (if we aren't already!) The evening will begin at 8pm in the Church Hall and tea and coffee will be served. Anyone wishing to join us will be made most welcome. On **Thursday 17th December**, we will not have our regular meeting but instead some of us will enjoy our Christmas night out. If you would like to come along to any of our evenings, please phone Catherine Hart tel. 639 9496 or Moira McAldine for more details.

BURNS SUPPER

Our always popular Burns Supper takes place on Sunday, 31st January 2016

Tickets priced £16 will be on sale on Sunday 13th December after morning service in the Hall of Friendship from Jan Millar and Graham Vance.

LUNCH CLUB

The Lunch Club will eat again on Friday 29th January 2016 from 12noon till 1.30pm. Hope to see you all there. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Jan, Maureen and all the Team.

News and Updates

ARTICLES FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY SUNDAY 17TH JANUARY PLEASE

ED LINES

Hi folks,

I love Christmas and everything that goes along with it. I love seeing my house decorated with Christmas trees, lights, baubles and tinsel. I love making a Christmas cake with icing and marzipan. I love the atmosphere (though not the shopping!) in shopping centres when buying presents for friends and family. I love the Christmas hymns and songs sung in church. I love writing and getting Christmas cards from friends that I haven't seen for a while and only keep up with at Christmas. I love the silly jokes that come from crackers. And, even though I'm often working, I love having everyone round the table for Christmas dinner, roast turkey and all the trimmings.

Sometimes we can become so engrossed in the trimmings and decorations that we lose sight of the things that are important; we miss out the main ingredient. What use is having the icing on the cake without the cake to ice? Baubles and tinsel are pretty, but useless without a tree. You can decorate your house as much as you want but until there is love and laughter, it's only a shell. It's only when you have built up memories, or have family and friends with which to share that it becomes a home.

It wouldn't be turkey without the stuffing. It wouldn't be Santa without his sleigh and if we didn't have Christ it wouldn't be Christmas.

Hope you and yours have a good one.

Alison

Belated Birthday Congratulations to Jemma Blanchflower who was 21 On 27th November.

Hope you had a great day!

Dear Alison,

I would like to express my grateful thanks for all the get well messages, cards, flowers and 'meals on wheels' which I received during my recent stay in hospital.

Regards,

Lindy Dallas

Dear Alison,

On behalf of the Timeout girls, I would like to say that it was another great night put on by the men of Greenbank. I'm sure most of us spent some money and we were never short of a drink! The highlight definitely had to be the entertainment. The synchronised swimming was brilliant and we look forward to seeing the Greenbank team in the next Olympics! Whilst we were certain the second act couldn't possibly be as good - it was totally sublime ... how did they persuade the Bay City Rollers to make an appearance? A really good night and a very big thank you needs to go to Graham and the whole team who made the event such a success.

Elaine Carr

CHRISTMAS FAIR - SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2015

A very big "thank you" to everyone who helped make the Christmas Fair so successful. This success would not have been possible without your generous support either by donating items for the various stalls, helping on a stall or by coming along on the day and supporting us. A sum in excess of £3,000 was raised - a fantastic achievement. Thank you for your support, which is very much appreciated. Roll on next year ...

Eleanor

SUNDAY CLUB GIFT SERVICE - SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER

The Sunday Club would like to invite everyone to bring a gift on Sunday 6th December to help brighten up what might otherwise be a rather bleak Christmas for some children and families in our city. In the past we have had a terrific response to this request.

As before Gifts are collected for 3 groups:

1. NEW BORN BABIES & MUMS - a section within the Princess Royal Maternity Hospital cares for young, homeless or vulnerable mothers: gifts of new-born clothes for the babies and toiletries for the mother are requested please. Nothing second hand please.
2. TOYS – all types of toys are requested please for girls and boys who receive support from the Cardinal Winning Prolife Initiative in Govanhill.
3. GIFT CARDS – all gift cards (e.g. itune vouchers; next vouchers or Silverburn vouchers) will be gratefully received please for the Scottish Council for the Care and Rehabilitation of Offenders (SACRO). SACRO will distribute the gifts cards to children within families that they are assisting to rehabilitate.

Your help will make a BIG difference to others.

Please bring along a **new, unwrapped** gift on Sunday 6th December and join the Sunday Club by placing it under the Christmas tree in the church. We thank you for your support this year and in the past.

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY 20TH-27TH MAY 2016

Each presbytery is invited to send one young adult (aged 18-25) to the General Assembly 2016. To help the Church of Scotland have produced a job description so that any interested young adults will know clearly what is expected of them.

Being a youth rep at the General Assembly is an incredibly worthwhile experience. A youth rep does not need to be a youth worker or someone involved in work with children and young people in the church. A youth rep is simply a young person giving their views on all aspects of the work of the Church of Scotland. While it is preferable if a youth rep is able to be there for the whole week it is not always possible given that the assembly falls during university exam time.

The information needed, including a copy of the role description, nomination form and a poster can be downloaded from:

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B0lcBI4EzX9bM3FqTXRDVXR5ZGs&usp=sharing>.

For stories from previous youth reps please see <https://www.resourcingmission.org.uk/learn/young-adults>. Please contact the minister or church office for more information.

LIFE & WORK

Life & Work is the monthly magazine of the Church of Scotland. Each month it features articles, topics and opinions from a wide variety of contributors on subjects, which are current, topical and on occasion contentious, actively inviting lively response and counter response. Life & Work Editorial covers a broad range of subjects, which includes news and happenings from local churches and towns to global events of interest. The magazine also maintains a monthly register of activity within the Ministry recording Appointments, Obituaries, Transfers and Deaths.

The Mission and Discipleship Council in Edinburgh has taken the decision to appoint a Business Manager to support the magazine and increase its readership while not increasing the current price of £2.20 per monthly issue. i.e. no increase in price for 2016. Could I encourage members of the congregation to support the magazine in this new approach by signing up for annual subscription. The magazine will be delivered to your home by the District Visitors while payment will be annually to the Church. May I take this opportunity to thank all current subscribers to the magazine for their support and encouragement.

Thank you in anticipation,

Ian Mc Turk

LODGING HOUSE MISSION

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The Lodging House Mission is NOT asking for filled shoeboxes this year, but invites supporters instead to make an equivalent financial donation. This will help them to meet the costs of festive meals and to purchase modest individual gifts for their clients. Printed envelopes are available for this purpose in the Link Building, or from me. Loose toiletries would also be much appreciated. These will be used by staff at the LHM to make gift packs for LHM clients. Please leave any toiletries for donation in the Link Building by Sunday 13th December.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The sale of Christmas cards to raise funds for the LHM will continue each Sunday until 13 December. Cards are on sale in the Fraser Hall after the morning service. There is a good variety of designs this year. Cards are sold in packs of 10 and are priced at £3.50 per pack.

LATEST NEWS

There are a couple of staffing changes at the moment at the LHM. Neil Watton, the Day Centre Manager at the LHM is leaving them after 21 years of service. Neil is to take up a new position as a Development Worker in the elderly care sector in Easterhouse. Wendy McGinley has been appointed as the Educational Development Officer. This is a full time position, funded by a recent legacy. Wendy has previously spent some time working at the LHM as a placement student from the International Christian College.

GREETINGS CARDS

Many thanks to all who have purchased greetings cards during tea and coffee. Thanks to your support of this venture, a further £100 has been donated to the LHM from the sale of these cards, which were originally given to us by Williamwood High School. In total, the LHM has received £350 from the sale of these cards. A letter of thanks from the LHM for this £100 donation is on display on the noticeboard in the corridor outside the Fraser Hall. The sale of these cards has been suspended while packs of LHM Christmas cards are on sale. Greetings card sales will resume in the New Year.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

The LHM was extremely grateful to receive a significant amount of shortbread, mince pies and fancy biscuits which were surplus to requirements following our Christmas Fair. These will be enjoyed by the LHM clients during the Festive Season.

Please accept my sincere thanks for your generous and enthusiastic support of the LHM. Your support really does make a difference by allowing their work to continue.

Thank you all once again - may you know Joy and Peace this Christmas and in the coming year.

Alison Allan

CONSIDERING MAKING A WILL OR GRANTING POWER OF ATTORNEY?

Diane Adam would be happy to meet anyone considering making a will or granting Power of Attorney. She can take instructions and prepare either or both of these documents for you between now and the end of 2015. The cost of a Power of Attorney would be a standard sum plus the cost to register the document with the Public Guardian's Office. The preparation of a Will is free, in return for a donation of your choice to Greenbank Church. The offer to prepare a will is to help raise some funds for Greenbank Church - a very worthwhile cause. Diane can be contacted on 0141 613 1787 (Office) or email: sda@macallans.co.uk.

FLOWER LIST FOR DECEMBER 2015 & JANUARY 2016

The flowers on the communion table on 27th December were donated by Allan Johnston.

	<u>Communion Table</u>	<u>Centenary Chapel</u>	<u>Side Windows</u>
3 rd January	Bert McCrum		
10 th January	Bill Stein		
17 th January	Howard Family	Betty Ritchie	
24 th January	Calder Watson	Elizabeth MacDonald	Jan Millar
31 st January	Isobel Livingstone	Jane Livingston	

The Flower Lists are on the transept windows ; you are invited to put your name and telephone number on a list to donate flowers on the date of your choice. A member of the flower committee will contact you during the week prior to this date. If you require any more information regarding flowers for the church please phone the church office (644 1841).

LADIES NIGHT

Our 2015 Ladies Night was held in the Church Halls on the evening on Saturday 24th October. Over 90 ladies attended and were treated to an evening of socialising, retail therapy, food, stage entertainment, a quiz and many, many prizes for lots of different things!!

The evening commenced with champagne and canapés served by the gentlemen of Greenbank who were smartly dressed in their white shirts and not-so-reserved bow ties. While this was happening we had a number of local retailers who had set up stalls in the Fraser Hall selling everything from ornaments to jewellery to perfume and cosmetics. Richard Scholfield's jazz band performed in the Hall of Friendship for those who preferred to relax and enjoy the music.

Having spent all their money, eaten all of the canapés and drank most of the champagne the ladies retired to the Cowley Hall where the tables were set out with balloons and other table decorations. The Greenbank Male Voice Choir treated the guests to a welcoming song followed by a buffet meal. When the food was all gone (and at this stage I must extend a sincere apology to the small number of ladies who, while being fed, did not get any of the warm food – entirely my fault and a lesson for future events).

For the rest of the evening the ladies were entertained by two stage acts and a quiz including questions from our compere Bob Smith and two picture boards with the images of famous men and international landmarks. The stage show was delivered by a number of less than serious men in our congregation. The first act was synchronised swimming on stage by eight swimming costume clad characters (all of whom are on our Kirk Session I might add). This appeared to "tickle the fancies" of the audience but was nothing when compared with the last act of the evening - 5 of Greenbank's finest dressed up as the Bay City Rollers and performing a medley of BCR songs, miming to them and playing instruments. This had the effect of stirring the audience to their feet and before we knew it the Cowley Hall was rocking like never before. Maybe it was the tartan scarves we handed out that did the trick, however the sight of 90 ladies on their feet singing along to Bay City Rollers songs was a sight to behold. Ladies who in normal circumstances exude a reserved and dignified image lost their inhibitions and joined in, singing, laughing and generally having a "let your hair down" experience.

I would like to thank a number of people for giving huge amounts of their own time to making this all happen. Stephen Blanchflower and Neil Scholfield gave me enormous support - without their participation the event would never have happened. Jane Blanchflower spoiled her own surprise on the evening by coaching the synchronised swimmers and Bay City Rollers in the weeks leading up to the Ladies Night. The Greenbank gentlemen who served the ladies throughout the evening (including the unsung heroes in the kitchen who kept things moving) our compere Bob Smith and lastly the complete nutters who performed the synchronised swimming and Bay City Rollers acts – a huge thank you to you all.

Not sure what we'll do next year!!!!

Graham Vance

LADIES NIGHT BY A LADY

I missed last year's event as I had another engagement but would not have missed this one for the world. What a fabulous night. The boys were kept busy the whole night making sure our glasses were never empty. The buffet was lovely and the "turn" by the boys was really funny. I will not be able to erase the image of my friend, Graham Vance, in his bathing suit!!! A tremendous effort by all. Well done. Now should we turn the tables and do a "night for the boys"?

Helen Quietsch

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW RETIRED GRADUATES ASSOCIATION

Rev Donald Ross who is a member of Busy Parish Church has recently discovered that there are University of Glasgow Retired Graduates Associations all over the country except in Glasgow. He has asked his own congregation if anyone would like to form such group and perhaps meet on a monthly basis. He has had nine people put their names forward and he wondered if any members of Greenbank might like to join them and help form this new association. If you are a retired graduate and feel that this is something in which you might be interested, please contact Rev Donald Ross on 0141 644 2220 for further information.

CLARKSTON AFTER SCHOOL SERVICES

In October we welcomed our latest organisation at Greenbank. Clarkston After School Services run by Lesley Manson previously met at Overlee Pavilion. However the pavilion was closed for health and safety reasons. The group had to find temporary accommodation in various places at very short notice, which was proving very inconvenient for parents and disruptive for the group itself. Greenbank's Kirk Session was delighted to help out and provide a more permanent base for the group. Our members and visitors can expect to see lots of very small people in and around Greenbank first thing in the morning and then for a couple of hours after school. Already we have received an offer from Lesley that if any of our young people are working towards Queen's badges or Duke of Edinburgh awards, she would be very happy to facilitate their qualification for service to the community by having them as temporary leaders. This would enable them to learn the basics of looking after children, organising games and other activities and importantly exercising and developing their leadership skills. Greenbank Church bids a very warm welcome to Lesley and her group with the hope that our relationship grows stronger in the months and years to come.

CHRISTIAN AID

The annual Christian Aid Sponsored swim took place at Eastwood pool on Saturday 24th October. Congratulations to the 10 participants from Greenbank. The total number of swimmers from all the churches represented was 41, which was similar to last year. At the time of writing I am still receiving sponsorship money, which currently stands at a creditable £714 but I will give a final figure of the sums raised in due course. The event itself ran very smoothly with most of the participants completing the target of 20 lengths of the pool with a well-earned refreshment after their hard work. Certificates have been prepared for presentation to the Greenbank swimmers and will be presented once all monies have been collected. In November the Art Group sub-committee began the organisation of the next fundraising event to take place on 12th March 2016 which will be the annual art exhibition and sale, this year taking place in the Carmichael Hall at Eastwood Park due to redecoration of Clarkston halls. On behalf of the Clarkston and District Christian Aid Committee, I would like to thank everyone at Greenbank for your support of the fundraising efforts for Christian Aid during 2015. I wish you a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mark Allan

ARMISTICE TUNE SELECTION

Over the last seven years, many of the congregation have asked what tune I played at the Armistice Service and why. Last year I played "The Argyllshire Gathering" which reflected the mood in 1914, as the men marched up to the front for the first time. 2015 marked the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo and the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Loos. Both battlefields were in Belgium where Scottish regiments made their name for bravery and valour. At Waterloo, Napoleon was heard to ask "who are those devils in skirts?" A century later, at Loos, piper Daniel Laidlaw was awarded the Victoria Cross for piping under fire during a failed gas attack. He saved hundreds of his comrades. The county of Perthshire suffered most losses on the Belgium fields, so the tune I picked this year was "The Hills of Perth" which was played at the front line by a piper from the Western Australian Infantry who fought at Gallipoli. This tune reflects the two cities of Perth and the surrounding areas on both sides of the world and remembers the many men who never came home.

Ross McAlidine

BOTTLE TOP NURSERY RESOURCE APPEAL FOR MALAWI

As many of you may know I was very fortunate to spend some time in Ekwendeni in Malawi over the summer. As a child care worker I assisted with providing play opportunities for nursery age children along with Bill Robertson also from Greenbank, Maureen Potter from Busby church and Maditso Jerez a child care worker in Ekwendeni. Play resources were very scarce on the ground and good use was made from our used plastic bottles, which made perfect skittles. Another simple resource that can be recycled and provides endless learning opportunities is the plastic blue and green caps off of milk cartons. If you can assist in saving these, please pop them into the box provided in the link building and the Kwenderana Group will ensure that they are shipped over to Malawi.

Many Thanks, Annrose Bisset

SPOONS, SPOONS SPOONS

Did you know that in some parts of Southern Africa, a child is not allowed entry to school if they do not have a spoon?

3rd A Clarkston Guides have been working with 'The Spoon Appeal' to make sure that every child in Africa has a spoon, and can therefore attend school. A spoon is something that we all have and take for granted, but this simple thing can stop the spread of disease and illness, and allow a child the education they deserve. Please help a child gain an education by collecting metal spoons and donating them to this appeal. We have a box in the Session House or halinaspost@hotmail.com.

Halina Sawicki, Guide Captain

BUSHIDO KARATE CLUB

On the 6th of November at the Association Black Belt Grading we had tremendous success where Greenbank students Iain Frame achieved his 2nd Dan Black Belt and Patricia Muir achieved her 1st Dan Black Belt. There was great feedback from the Grading committee on our students mastery of the art and they showed great strength and character during their examination, by one of the highest grading panels in Scotland. They have shown true spirit on their journey and it was a very proud moment for them and our club. On the competition front we had more success where students who entered the Shotokan Cup in Ayr brought home medals, with Nicola Micklejohn (Gold) Roseanne Ambler (Silver) and Recce Dunn (Bronze). This was the first time we had entered students into this competition, so it was very pleasing to see medals back in Glasgow. Looking forward we have classes arranged for kumite (sparring) and in the New Year we will be planning a Competition where this year it will be Kumite (fighting).

As the year comes to a close we have had, as a club, an outstanding year and all our students reflect the famous saying from the founder of modern day karate Gichin Funakoshi - The ultimate aim of the art of karate lies not in victory or defeat, but in the perfection of the characters of its participants. Bushido Karate Club wish everyone at Greenbank Parish Church a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and we look forward to 2016 and being part of the Greenbank community.

John Elliot Bushido Karate Association Chairman

ADVERTISING INITIATIVE

Over the last few years, the Good Neighbour has been running adverts in the centre page, which has provided important income for the Church. We have two adverts fewer this year due to recent shop closures and the increase of businesses using social media to advertise their products. Can we appeal to members of the congregation using those who advertise with us to let them know that you have seen their advert in the Good Neighbour. If you know of anyone or any company who would like to take the opportunity of advertising, please let us know.

(Greenbank Church will not be held responsible for any contracts negotiated by or on behalf of any person purchasing or receiving services provided by our sponsors.)

GOOD NEIGHBOUR CONTACTS

OFFICE

The Church Secretary, Greenbank Church Office 644 1841
36 Eaglesham Road, Clarkston, G76 7DJ

Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 9.15 - 12.15
Thursday & Friday 9.15 - 1.45

E-mail: greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk

Website: <http://www.greenbankglasgow.org.uk>

TIME OUT
Presents



COFFEE AFTERNOON
SATURDAY 23 JANUARY 2016
2-4pm

All proceeds to charity.

*Time Out would like everyone to join them for a coffee (or tea) and
some cakes to bring in the New Year*

- all proceeds to CHARITY.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE

- More details in the next Good Neighbour



GreenbankParish
CHURCH

Minister: Rev Jeanne Roddick. Tel: 01416441395

Session Clerk: Derek Christie.

Depute Session Clerk: Peter Liddell..

Church Office: 0141 6441841. Email: greenbank.office@tiscali.c.o.uk

Church Address: 36 Eaglesham Road, Clarkston, Glasgow, Scotland. G76 7DJ.

Congregation No: 160863. Registered Charity No: SC 011453.

www.greenbankglasgow.org.uk