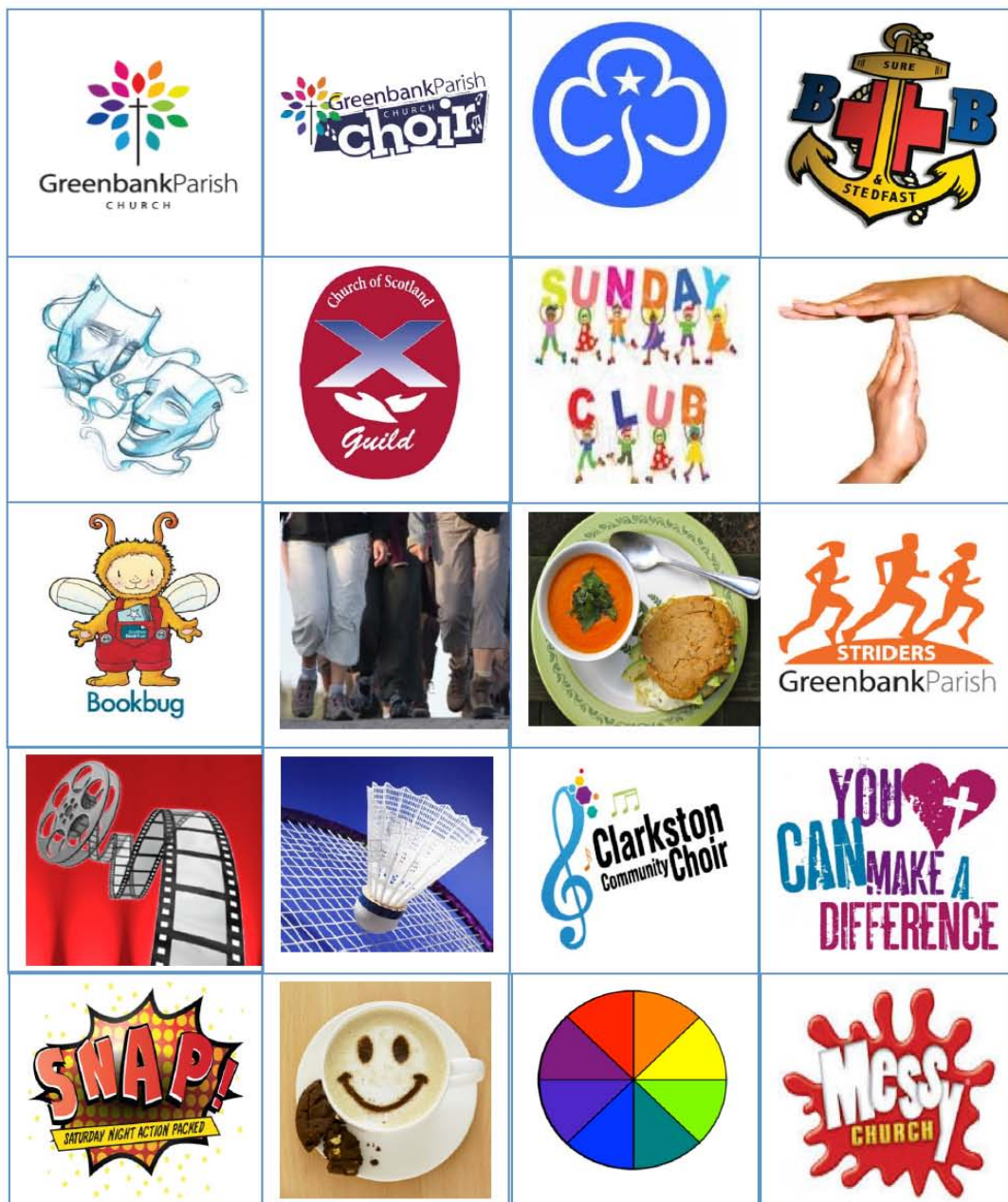


thegoodneighbour

September 2017



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



GreenbankParish
CHURCH

at the heart of the **community**

Parish Register

BAPTISM

16/7/17 Isabelle Ainsworth, McArthur Drive, Stewartfield, East Kilbride

Isabelle was born on 30th April 2016 at Queen Elizabeth University Hospital at 10.14am and weighed 8lbs 4oz.

Isabelle's mum is Jennifer and her dad is Jack. Her godparents are Laura and David Pert, who are close family friends. Jack has known David since school and he and Laura have a daughter, Lucy, who is 6 months older than Isabelle.

After the christening there was a small buffet lunch along at the Eglinton Arms in Eaglesham which gave Jennifer and Jack a chance to catch up with family who had travelled to be with them on Isabelle's special day.

The thing Jennifer will most remember about Isabelle's christening is how kind and welcoming everyone was, especially as she and Jack were newcomers to the church. Jennifer explained that people made a point of speaking to her and her family afterwards to say what a lovely service it had been and how well Isabelle had done. This welcome made the day all the more memorable.

DEATHS

25/5/17 Mrs Myra Alexander, Eastwood Court Care Home, Giffnock

26/5/17 Mr Tommy Taylor, 1 Cartside Place, Busby

27/5/17 Mrs Helen Curran, Linn Park Court, Netherlee

1/6/17 Mrs Margaret Bartaby, Greenlaw Grove Care Home, Newton Mearns

20/6/17 Mrs Marion McCulloch, 12 Knollpark Drive, Clarkston

22/6/17 Mrs Jean Goodfellow, 4b Fairfield Court, Clarkston

26/6/17 Mrs Myra White, 7 Stamperland Drive, Clarkston

5/8/17 Mr Derek Foy, 65 Greenwood Road, Clarkston

5/8/17 Mrs Allison Rae, Westlea Nursing Home, Neilston

*"Dependent on your bounteous breath, we seek your grace alone,
In every stage of life and death, to keep us still your own"*

WEDDINGS

6/7/17 Mhairi McAndrew and James Mawhinney, 56 Simpson Square, Perth

29/7/17 Carolanne McFarlane and David Fleming, 76 Livingston Drive, East Kilbride

12/8/17 Jennifer Young and Hamish Charters, 37 Hopton Road, Cam, Dursley

NEW MEMBERS

2nd June 2017

Graham Wyllie, 16c Buchanan Drive, Newton Mearns

I live in Newton Mearns with my partner Phyllis. We enjoy city breaks and love exploring other countries on holiday. I work as a management consultant and my hobbies include watching football and playing golf. Indeed my sporting claim to fame is having played in two schoolboy finals at Hampden Park (won 1 and lost 1) and I've also been fortunate enough to have managed two holes-in-one at golf. As an ex-member of 223rd Greenbank Boys' Brigade, I know the church well and am looking forward to meeting up with some 'old' and 'new' friends alike!

Welcome to the church Graham.

Gordon and Karyn Campbell, 89 Fereneze Avenue, Clarkston

"WHAT'S ON" SHEET & HARVEST OFFERING ENVELOPE

Inside your Good Neighbour this month you will have received a "What's On" sheet which includes many useful contacts that you may require during the course of the year; please retain this for future reference. You should also have received a donation envelope for "The Lodging House Mission" which is for your Harvest Offering. If you wish to make a harvest donation please bring this with you to church on **Harvest Sunday** which this year is **Sunday 1st October**.

Dear Friends,

As we come to the end of summer, there is a definite chill in the air; the leaves are beginning to fall and foliage is becoming rich and varied, signalling the beginning of autumn. The changing of one season into the next reminds me of how time keeps rolling on as Greenbank moves into another new session of church activities in my 15th year as your Minister. The years have flown since I first came to Greenbank. As one year has changed into the next there have been many changes in my life and in the life of our church. Change is inevitable but it can also be one of the most unwelcome guests. Our lives change for the worse or for the better and nothing remains the same – much as we want it to. This is no less true with regard to the church as it is with our individual lives.

During July, here at Greenbank, we were reading through Paul's letter to the Ephesians in which he passionately stressed the importance of believing in God's power in Jesus Christ to bring about extraordinary life giving changes to churches and to people's lives. To bring them about, Paul reminded the Ephesians, and thereby us, never to underestimate the power of truth, honesty, kindness, prayer and every witness for justice and peace, no matter how feeble or how doubtful or conflicted we felt them to be. Paul said we must never neglect these values and as people of faith, that we must use them to stand firm against any malevolent forces that conspire against the ways of God.

As we embrace the changes that mark the beginning of autumn, and the beginning of another 'church year' may the months ahead be filled with times of promise and praise, of thanksgiving and possibility and together, as the Body of Jesus Christ, may God turn us into a formidable force for all that is good, loving and hope-filled.

Yours



PULPIT DIARY

1 st September	4.00pm	Messy Church
3 rd September	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
10th September	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
	6.30pm	Prayers for Healing
17th September	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
24th September	10.30am	Holiday weekend - Family Worship

MESSY CHURCH FRIDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER, 4PM – 6PM

To book a place or offer help, please phone/text Lorna Preece at 07970192541 or email: messygreenbank@gmail.com



SATURDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB

The club will meet on Saturday 2nd September at 9am for one hour with breakfast refreshments being served from 8.45am in room A. The group are reading "The Invisible Church" by Steve Aisthorpe (chapter 4). The book can be downloaded onto a kindle from Amazon or purchased from bookshops. Everyone is warmly welcome to come along and join the discussions.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J ALLAN

Read in Greenbank Parish Church on 18th June 2017

Bill Allan, one of our elders, died on the 17th of May 2017.

Bill was born on 6th July 1934 in Middleton Lancashire and was the eldest of four brothers. During the war he was evacuated with his mother to his grandparent's house in Newton Stewart. After secondary education in Middleton and Newton Stewart he joined Albion Motors in Glasgow as an apprentice, which included studying at the Royal College of Science and Technology, now the University of Strathclyde.

After graduating in 1957, Bill moved into the experimental department of Albion Motors. In 1966 he moved on to Rolls Royce in Hamilton to work on military aero engine development alongside his brother, Tom, who was working on civil engines. In 1971, when Roll Royce went bankrupt, Bill managed to avoid redundancy by changing jobs within the company and transferring to East Kilbride which meant less travel to work but more foreign travel. He was a performance engineer and between 1978 and 1994 he travelled widely on business from Dallas Texas to Melbourne in Australia. On his travels, he brought some fantastic presents home to the family. He retired in 1994.

Bill met his future wife, Liz, in Glasgow and they were married in 1967. Their first home was in Randolph Drive in Clarkston where their children Sheena and Robert were born. They moved to Woodbank Crescent in 1971.

In his younger days Bill played tennis and squash but in his retirement he focused on bowling. He was a member of Giffnock Bowling Club and was encouraged to take on the Presidency despite the fact he hated public speaking. Bill purposely set his mind to the task and under his presidency was able to move the club on to give women members equal status. He and Liz enjoyed many happy social nights at the club although he wasn't all that keen when he was dragged up on the dance floor.

Bill was a man who always did things quietly without seeking the limelight. This was highlighted when as a member of Greenbank Parish Church he was ordained as an elder in 1991 and was a much loved and respected district elder for Fairfield Court. He played a full part in church life quietly with no fuss, unobtrusive but very conscientious. He organised the Kirk Session Coffee Morning every year and the annual Sunday School Plant Sale. He was the Greenbank representative for Age Concern Eastwood and since its inception eight years ago, he was a faithful and supportive member of the Kwenderana partnership committee, set up to oversee the twinning agreement between Ekwendeni congregation in Malawi and the congregations of Busby, Giffnock South, Greenbank and Williamwood here in Scotland.

Bill was a devoted family man. He was a very placid easy-going man who never shouted or got angry except at an injustice. His engineering skills came to the fore when it came to fixing Sheena or Robert's toys in the garage and he also enjoyed DIY and tinkering with cars.

Bill was always a tremendous support to Liz, a loving husband, who always encouraged her in her own career and in everything she did. He was a committed and competent Grandad to Kirsten, Faith, Craig and Rebecca. Bill and Liz were delighted to be able to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year with the family.

There was nothing pretentious about Bill Allan. He was a kind, loving, quiet and uncomplaining man who showed great courage and strength during his final illness. Today we give thanks to God for the life and service of Bill Allan and we commend Liz, Sheena, Robert and the wider family to the love and care of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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. A Prayers for Healing service takes place on the 2nd Sunday of every month in the church at 6.30pm. (Enter by Link building). Everyone is welcome to attend.

Gillian Foy (638 6245)
Prayer Promoter

□

What's On

CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER – 10.00AM. TO 1.00PM.

It is hard to believe that it is only just over two months until Greenbank's Annual Christmas Fair.

Plans for this year's extravaganza are well underway and once again we hope you will support the Fair which has become a major event in Greenbank's calendar. Entry to the Fair has been kept at £2.00 and £1.00 for school age children.

Tickets will be on sale nearer the time or of course you will be able to pay at the door.

All the usual stalls will be there and at this time we would ask for donations for the various stalls listed below:

Home Baking; Christmas Stall; Christmas Bags – gift of £2.00 please; Bottle Stall; Any New Unwanted Gifts; Toiletries/Jewellery; Toy Stall and Children's Books; Book Stall; Chocolate Tombola; Bric a Brac.

Something new – CHILDREN'S ZONE – with games, crafts, face painting, nail bar and tattoos and more.

Donations for the various stalls can be brought along to Church any Sunday from now on and placed in the box in the Link Building, brought along to the hall on Friday 10th November or by contacting Anna, Eleanor or Elizabeth who will be able to collect.

There will of course be the ever popular Christmas Tea Room along with Christmas Bulbs and table decorations together with the super Christmas Hamper Raffle and a general raffle which will include a beautiful fruit hamper. You will also have the chance to win your Christmas Cake and a Cuddly Toy both of which have been donated.

A meeting for all organisations/helpers has been arranged for Wednesday 4th October at 7.00pm. in Room A. If you are helping or would like to help on the day, please come along to this meeting or telephone any of the numbers below. Any additional helpers will be made most welcome

Once again we look forward to your continued support which is very much appreciated both in donating items for the various stalls and by your attendance on the day.

Anna Martin (644 0972)

Eleanor Johnstone (577 0335)

Elizabeth Cross (638 5162)

WALKING GROUP PROGRAMME 2017

The remaining outings for 2017 are listed below. All walks are on Saturdays.

We leave from the Church at the times shown.

16th September	Chatelherault	10am
14th October	Antonine Wall	time to be decided
November	to be decided	

New members are warmly welcomed. Come along and enjoy good company and fresh air.

Further information from Allan McLaren (639-5848) or Douglas Paterson (638-6350).

LUNCH CLUB

We are back on Friday 29th September, 12 till 1.30pm. Come along and bring your friends for soup filled rolls, tea and coffee. We look forward to meeting new and old friends.

Maureen, Jan and all the Team.

CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club resumes on Thursday the 7th September. The club welcomes everyone of all ages and abilities. Junior Club starts at 7.30pm and finishes at 9pm. Coaching and tuition will be on hand for juniors and beginners.

Contact David 0783 6650492 for further information

TUESDAY EVENING WALKING GROUP

Well the summer is almost over... we have enjoyed walking through the summer evenings and will continue (weather permitting). Please feel free to join us at 7pm Tuesday evenings for a walk in the local area lasting an hour. It's good exercise for the tongue too as we chat all the way! Evelyn Clelland 07762065507

THE GUILD

Diary

20 th September	2.15pm	Opening Meeting and Re-dedication Rev. Jeanne Roddick
27 th September	2.15pm	Love letters from a Desert Rat Liz McIntyre
4 th October	2.15pm	Queen Victoria's Daughters Wendy Sandiford

The new session of Greenbank Guild will begin on 21st September. Again our Syllabus Secretary has planned a very interesting programme for us, details of which are published on the reverse of the "What's On" sheet which is included in this edition of Good Neighbour.

Last year we had twelve ladies join our fellowship and how pleased we were to welcome them! I think they all enjoyed our meetings but yet again we cordially invite members of the congregation to come along and join us on a Wednesday afternoon at 2.15pm. With our future legacy still to be decided, it is reassuring in the meantime to be able to come along and still enjoy the fellowship of an organisation which has given huge support to Greenbank Church for 111 years!

Enid Dron, Secretary

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Clarkston Community Choir will be starting back on Wednesday 20th September, 7.30-9.30pm, meeting weekly to rehearse a programme of festive classics for our annual Christmas concert. All ages and abilities are welcome - no prior musical experience/music reading required! If you'd like to come along or would be interested in finding out more, contact Richard Scholfield on 07519 626373, or email richard.scholfield@yahoo.com.

Clarkston Community Choir's summer concert took place in June. The 60 regular members sold a magnificent 386 tickets and raised £1930, which they split evenly between the Beatson and Richmond's Hope. Well done to all concerned.

SNAP YOUTH CLUB

Open to young people from P7-S3 from 7-9pm every Saturday night. Lots of different activities and a safe place to hang out with friends. We are looking for more volunteers who would be willing to help once every 8/10 weeks from 7-9pm. If you could help please contact Jeanne or email snap@greenbankglasgow.org.uk

GREENBANK AFTERNOON BADMINTON

A warm welcome is extended to members new and not so new to the afternoon badminton club. The club re starts on Thursday the 7th September. Although last session saw our numbers increase, there is always room for more. Contact Carol or any club member for further information.

223RD BOYS' BRIGADE

All sections resume in the first week of September.

Junior Section, Wednesdays at 7pm; Anchor Boys, Thursdays at 6.30pm; Company Section, Fridays at 7.20pm

PET SHOW FUN DAY - SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER IN THE CHURCH HALLS

Look out for further details on the noticeboard in the Hall of Friendship.

Small animals: 12noon-1pm; Dog Show: 1.45pm-4pm

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GOOD NEIGHBOUR CONTACTS

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News and Updates

ED LINES

Hi Folks,

We're just back from an extended summer holiday. We spent a few days at a place called Tattershall Thorpe in Lincolnshire. It's near Woodhall Spa, famous for being the base of the 617 "Dambusters" squadron. We then spent two weeks in Hunstanton, meeting up with various family and friends before finishing off at Beadnell in Northumberland. I have taken many photos to remind me of my holiday, some of which I posted on social media. Many of the comments received have been regarding the favourable weather. They flatter to deceive! I'm a fair weather photographer. I take photos of people and places when the sun shines! The places we've been are beautiful when the sun shines but like everywhere else, dreich and depressing when it rains. I have deleted numerous cloudy weather photos as well as the dreaded "selfie" photos that are so awful they are consigned to the recycle bin immediately! People and places are the same when it comes to photos. They like to be seen in a good light so they are fully appreciated. They like to leave a good impression. No one wants to see a picture that is blighted by rain or a photo of me and my three chins!! We like to put on a good face and hide our imperfections. But we shouldn't have to pretend to be something we're not. We all have failings; none of us is perfect. Perfection is nigh on impossible to achieve. We should be ourselves. We learn to respect ourselves and like ourselves as we are. After all, those closest to us, those who care about us, those who know us best, accept us and love us as we are . . . warts and all.

Alison

ARTICLES FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER PLEASE

BELATED CONGRATULATION TO

Barbara and John Low who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 17th of June.
Barbara Macphail and John Low 17/6/67



Barbara Macphail and John Low met in Boni's Cafe in Clarkston. It was Barbara's little red jacket that first attracted Johnny! They married on the 17th of June 1967 at Greenbank Church. The weather was so hot that the tar was melting! Barbara's bridesmaids were Johnny's sister, Isobel and Barbara's cousin, also Barbara. Johnny's best man was his childhood friend Douglas Jack. Their reception was in the Marlborough in Shawlands, before honeymooning in Scarborough. They celebrated their anniversary at Cathcart Castle Golf Club and went to Girvan for their golden moon. Many congratulations to you both!

STRENGTH AND BALANCE CLASS

I thought this would be a good time to update the church family on the Strength and Balance class held on Fridays from 12.15pm till 1.15pm in the church halls. Lorna Preece is our excellent instructor who guides us through all kinds of exercises to improve strength and balance and build confidence. Many people benefit from just this kind of exercise to recover from illness, surgery or general aches and pains who are not yet able to join mainstream fitness classes. We are currently a small happy group but hope soon to expand. I love this class: it gives me everything I need from a fitness class at this stage in my life and hopefully I will soon be active enough to give something back. Come along and give it a try.

Best wishes, Ann Harper

SUMMER EXPERIENCE

Our summer holiday was a mixed bag, a bit like the weather!

We broke down 350 miles south with caravan on tow and bike on top! By the end of the 350 miles back on a recovery truck the tears had dried and the adventure was appreciated. Steve's car was unfixable so we went out the next day and bought a new one. Not what he would have gone for but it had a tow bar fitted. Hoping to have only missed three days of our holiday, we picked up the car on the Monday to discover they'd taken off and skipped the tow bar! Steve phoned and arranged for a new one to be delivered next morning while I arranged flights for us girls down to my in-laws on the Tuesday night, which caused great excitement as they'd never flown before. On Wednesday morning the tow bar that arrived was a different one from the one we ordered. Steve fitted it anyway but had a very rocky drive to Wolverhampton on the Wednesday night. On Thursday morning, we woke to a puncture! Thus we got to our campsite six days late and had to order an extra part for the stabiliser to be delivered to the site. We really enjoyed the nine days we had left though!

When life is a lemon, pour a gin and tonic!! We did plenty of that!! It did feel like every time we picked ourselves up we got knocked straight back down but what really picked us up was the amazingly generous offers and help we received from family and friends. Lorna Preece

ELDERS LONG SERVICE CERTIFICATES

In May, seven of our elders received long service certificates. We managed to speak to most of them but David Thomson was away on holiday so we've caught up with him now.

DAVID THOMSON

I was ordained as an elder in April 1987 after several years on the congregational board. My first district was in the Newton Mearns/Crookfur area. For the last thirteen years my district has been in the Muirend/Netherlee locality and I have had a great deal of enjoyment and friendship from the kind and interesting folk in our church. We have shared many joys and sorrows as well. Every elder needs a good district visitor and I have been fortunate to have had Anne Dykes, one of the best.

I find it difficult to believe that as a district elder I have visited over ninety members in the last thirty years. I have also served on a number of committees. One of the other tasks I was given was to visit new members to discuss the various ways they could give their offerings to Greenbank. From 2004 until 2010 I visited over sixty new members and it is a pleasure to meet them again when they come to church.

RETIRED ELDERS

We also had a couple of elders putting their feet up for a well-earned retirement.

BLAIR MILLER

Margaret and I joined Greenbank in 1971 and after a couple of years on the Congregational Board I was appointed to the Eldership in 1977. During that time, which seems to have flown by, I was privileged to serve the church in a number of ways. The church districts were larger at the beginning with 20+ houses to visit at Communion time, compared to 8 to 12 today. Having to earn a living could be complicated at that time and visits had to be planned like a military campaign, even more difficult when you were required to lodge away!

Opportunities to serve were always there, and with Margaret's ever-ready support, we started the Lunch Club which occupied us for 18 years. With many of the same helpers we started the Friendship Café, in which we still take an interest. This was very satisfying as was the organising of the Greenbank Fun Run during the Eighties when participation was as high as 400+ runners. Among the more "normal" church appointments, I taught in the Bible Class for seven years, I was a member of the New Members Committee for a time, Publicity Convenor for four years during which, in Greenbank's 130 Anniversary Year, we arranged the filming of a DVD illustrating the Church work and activities.

All in all I have kept myself busy and now feel it is time to give youth a chance!

JOHN BAIRD

John was ordained as an elder by Dr Stewart in 1989. He was district elder for three different districts, enjoying meeting and chatting to members throughout the parish. John was part of the group which extended a welcome to new members. He was one of the founding members of the Summer Sunday Gang which ran during the summer. At its height over 50 children attended. John is a keen drummer and became a valued member of the praise band, "Age Gap." John's biggest commitment was to the Boys' Brigade, where he was captain for over ten years, seeing the lads progress from Anchor Boys, through Junior Section and then on to being Queen's Men. He is still a training officer with the Battalion.

John is now looking forward to putting his feet up and spending more time with Christine and his grandson, Joshua.

LODGING HOUSE MISSION

SPONSORED CYCLE

As I write this, the sponsored cycle is a couple of weeks away, on Saturday, 26th August. A dry day would be very welcome! Our participants this year are Mark Allan and Bill Stein. So far, in excess of £400 has been pledged in sponsorship by our very generous and thoughtful congregation. You will hear more in the next issue of Good Neighbour.

SATURDAY OPENING

Saturday opening at the Lodging House Mission continues, thanks to the support of churches in Glasgow Presbytery who provide a team of four volunteers each week on a rota basis. The four volunteers are in addition to two paid sessional workers and a volunteer chef. There are currently fifteen churches, including Greenbank, on the rota. Greenbank has been on duty on four Saturdays since the rota commenced in December 2016. We have a total of twelve volunteers from Greenbank, and all have found the experience to be very worthwhile. Duties include serving tea, coffee and lunch; helping with food prep; operating the dishwasher; and cleaning and hoovering. Our next duty is on Saturday, 2nd September when the volunteers will be Susan Johnston, Douglas Carswell, John Bryden and Christine Bryden.

The appeal for sugar continues. To date, 110.65kg plus 2000 sachets of sugar have been donated. All donations have been much appreciated. Alison Allan

A LETTER FROM PRISON

To the congregation of Greenbank, 'Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.'

This rather formal greeting seems oddly appropriate as it is contained in each of what are referred to as Paul's Prison Epistles. Whilst incarcerated in Rome Paul wrote to the Ephesians, the Philippians, the Colossians and the letter to Philemon.

As most of you know when I finished my placement at Greenbank Parish Church, I began a new placement at Her Majesty's Young Offenders' Institution Polmont. Whilst it is from prison I have written to you, I, of course, have the benefit of only being a visitor. Paul was not the only one who knew what it was like to be a prisoner. Jesus let himself be handed over for trial and was sentenced and punished. He knew and suffered the rejection of his community and possibly this gave him a different perspective when he forgave the robber on the cross beside him.

There are various injunctions in the Bible for us to consider the plight of prisoners. In Matthew 25:36, when Jesus is explaining the allegory of The Sheep and the Goats he says "I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." It is also written in Hebrews 13:3 "Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them."

Whilst there is a constant need for ministry in this area, all of us are encouraged to remember those affected by prison particularly during Prisoners' Week which is an annual event and this year falls between 19th and 26th November 2017. Prisoners' Week is not just a time to remember those in prison but is also an opportunity to remember all those affected by crime. Often the families of prisoners appear to suffer as much as the individual sent there. Prison officers and many other workers within a prison environment are also deserving of our thoughts and prayers and, of course, we should not forget the victims of crime.

My time at Polmont has been extremely beneficial and has caused me to think about a number of matters. Working in an ecumenical partnership has allowed me to ask questions of the Roman Catholic Priest and the Muslim Imam alike and has allowed me to explore what, as people of faith, we have in common. It has been a great privilege to share experiences with people during times of great sadness and despair but also times of laughter, joy and hope. HM YOI Polmont is home to around 80 females of all ages and 400 male young offenders who are in prison for crimes ranging from the relatively minor such as theft to the most serious crimes such as child abuse and murder. As might be imagined, the background story to every person is as individual and unique as each person is in themselves. As a rule, in Chaplaincy, we never ask what someone is in prison for which reflects our attempts to treat everyone as a person who is of equal worth in God's eyes. Sometimes individuals are keen to share the details of why they are there. One of the surprises for me, though in retrospect I shouldn't have been surprised, is the number of people who say they have never set foot in a church of any description before. This means much of our work is in introducing them to the concept of God and beginning by telling them some of the stories about Jesus that most of us heard in Sunday School as children. Others come with a clear church background and sense of faith but need to explore what that means for them. Much of our role is getting alongside people and attempting to help them in practical ways, such as re-establishing links with family members. In my time there I have assisted one young man express his faith through baptism and one young female express her grief through a memorial service for her grandfather. The work there is interesting, varied and challenging in equal measures.

My time at Polmont was cut short by the unexpected illness of my supervisor who required an operation and unfortunately was unable to continue his duties. These circumstances, in part, have also led me to consider the nature of prison and who is in prison. A prison can take many forms and, whilst some are sent to establishments such as HM YOI Polmont, others in our communities may be a prisoner in their own home, a prisoner of their own body or even a prisoner of their own mind.

The theme for this year's Prisoners' Week is 'Hope Within'. As Christians, living our faith in our communities, let us try to think if we know of someone who is in a prison; whether the prison is one of Her Majesty's or one created by society or by the individuals themselves, we should try to share with them God's love so that they too may find hope within. The lessons I have learnt about being alongside people in a physical prison during times of stress, worry and concern are equally applicable to the wider community. A visit to someone in hospital, a cup of tea with someone who is housebound or a listening ear to someone else's troubles are all ways in which we can get alongside someone who may be in their own personal prison. Letting people know that you are there and that you care, lets them know that they are not alone.

With best wishes from Fergus

THE KWENDERANA PARTNERSHIP

The Kwenderana Partnership had a strawberry tea at Busby Church on the first Saturday in July. It was a very busy and cheerful afternoon and we raised just over £1,400 which will be used mainly for child education in the Ekwendeni community.

Christine Bryden

CHRISTIAN AID

The annual door to door collection for Christian Aid took place in May and Greenbank's volunteers collected the sum of £3600; this was slightly down on last year's total, and once again there were insufficient volunteer collectors to cover all the allocated streets within our district. This figure includes the £472 raised by the successful Big Brekkie event held after church at the start of Christian Aid week. The overall total from all the participating churches within Clarkston should be known at the next Christian Aid Committee meeting once the treasurer's report has been received. Many thanks to all those who gave of their time to assist in the collecting efforts and in the counting of the monies received at Greenbank.

The committee would like to mention that the date for the annual sponsored swim at Eastwood swimming pool is Saturday 7th October; sponsor forms will be available from Mark Allan and Ron Livingston nearer the time. Please consider taking part, or sponsoring one or more of the Greenbank participants.

Mark Allan.

CHURCH CAR TRANSPORT

Any changes in drivers' turns and passengers unable to attend church on Sundays 27th August and 3rd September should be notified to Jim Guy on 638 5570.

Bill Robertson (585 0008)

TIME OUT

The ladies/girls from Time Out have enjoyed meeting up over the summer months, 'chatting' over nibbles and a refreshment. Our session begins on Thursday 7th September at 8p.m. with our annual Cheese & Wine evening, followed by our very own Graham Vance coming along to give us a talk on security. On 5th October, we will be shown how to wear scarves in many different ways. Anyone is invited along to join us and will be made very welcome. Please contact Moira McAldine on 07793 252138 or busymoira@aol.com if you want any information.

FLOWER LIST FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

	<u>Communion Table</u>	<u>Centenary Chapel</u>	<u>Side Windows</u>
3 rd September	Christine Britton	Moira Innes	
10 th September	Jane Livingston	Helen Cochrane	
17 th September	Doreen Cunningham	Beth Tait	
24 th September	Judy Rigby	Judy Rigby	

During the month of August flowers were donated by Ailenn McKinlay, Liz Smith, Derek Christie, Bill Robertson, Bob Swandells and M. Cooper.

The Flower Lists for 2017 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.

Elizabeth Cross (638 5162)

BUSHIDO KARATE CLUB

Since the last newsletter it gives me great pleasure to announce that the following students were successful at the BKA Senior Black Belt (Dan) Grading: Carol Morris, Nicola Meiklejohn, Dianne Burns, Derek Rafferty, Debbie O'Shea, Derek Frame (2nd Dan), Gary Hamilton (2nd Dan). Fiona Higgins achieved her 3rd Dan, Sensei Frank Gault and Sensei Jim Humble achieved their 4th Dan. Along with the above success we had Cailin White, Rhudie Buchanan, Lachlan Duncan-Brooke and Connor O'Shea achieving their Junior Black Belts. They all reached a very special milestone on their journey. We also had a great night on meditation, concentration, focus by Sensei Frank Gault's sister, Machig, who is a Buddhist Nun which will help us on our KATA practice. We will be very busy over the next few months with competitions and preparing for our next gradings as well as attending a BKA course on fighting techniques. Finally within our Association Dylan Cross from our Sherbrooke Club took part in the Special Olympics and achieved GOLD for the 4x100 relay, GOLD for his 100mtr freestyle, SILVER for 50mtr Back stroke and Bronze for 50mtr freestyle

Best wishes,

John

Bushido Karate Association Chairman

KIRK SESSION – WHAT DO THEY TALK ABOUT?

The Kirk Session met on 5th June with 55 members attending and they discussed a wide range of issues.

Worship: The Saturday Morning Book Club has had a successful year with the final meeting on 4th June. The Group meets at 8-45am with breakfast in Room A. Among books read and discussed this year was “The Invisible Church” by Steve Aisthorpe. Everyone is warmly welcome to come along and join the discussions. **For more information contact Jane Livingston or the Minister.**

Outreach: The Kirk Session received an update from Alison Allan our Lodging House Mission representative. Donations to the Easter Appeal totalled £258. The appeal for donations for sugar received a good response with 85kg and 2,000 sachets being received. A report was received on Christian Aid from Mark Allan. The Big Brekkie Breakfast was held again at the start of Christian Aid Week and raised the sum of splendid sum £472. A big thank you was expressed to all the volunteers who distributed, collected and counted the envelopes throughout the parish. The final sum raised was £xxx. During the Church Service on 14th May a presentation of the Christian Aid Diamond Award was made to Anne and David Margetts in recognition of their many years of outstanding work on behalf of Christian Aid. The Kirk Session heard that Glasgow North East Foodbank had been experiencing a difficult time due to a severe down turn in donations and an appeal was made for regular donors to help make up the shortfall. It was noted that Clarkston Churches together, in association with Crossreach, were hoping to host a Dementia day Conference in St Aidans Episcopal Church on 7th October. The Publicity Committee thanked all those involved in the production and distribution of Good Neighbour and especially thanked Susan Johnson for her excellent work on our Facebook Page and Fraser Simpson for providing and updating our wonderful Website. Thanks were also expressed to Ian McTurk for distributing Life and Work.

Finance: The Financial Position was updated and this shows a decrease of offerings of 2.3% for the period to 21st May. Since the last report contributions have been received from the Friendship Café, 1st Clarkston Rainbows, Sunday Club and The Guild. Demand from external organisations for hall space continues and generates useful income towards the upkeep of our halls. The Kirk Session Coffee morning raised £1,317 of which half goes to Kwenderama and the balance to the Crisis Fund.

Fabric: The Property committee advised that a number of jobs have been planned for the summer months to ensure that the decorative state of our property is maintained. Approval was granted for a new intercom system at manse, repairs to external lighting and a contribution to replacing a common fence with a neighbour. Greenbank has recently been inspected by the Food Safety Officer who has issued a compliant certificate.

Fellowship: The Friendship Café, which meets every Friday at 10am except the last Friday of the month when the lunch Club is on, has about 12 regulars but would encourage more to join them to chat and solve the World's problems. The Greenbank Film Society had another successful season as did the Greenbank Players. Reports were also received from The Guild (which has welcomed 12 new members) Time Out, Greenbank Badminton Club, Greenbank Afternoon Ladies Badminton, Tuesday Walking Group, Clarkston Community Choir, The Lunch Club, Bookbug, and Church Transport which is looking for more volunteers to help bring members to Church on Sunday. Advance notice was given Gala Day on the 9th September and the Christmas Fayre on the 11th November

Youth: Updates were received from JAM, Sunday Club, 1st Clarkston Guides, and the Boys Brigade where 9 boys received their Queens badge this year at a ceremony in Glasgow Cathedral. Snap Community Youth Club had a successful launch on 22nd April. This youth club is for ages P7 –S3 and runs every Saturday Night during term time from 7pm -9pm. By the start of June 40 young folk had registered with an average attendance of 20. Parental feedback has been very positive and thanks were expressed to all 40 volunteers on the rota.

Legacy: The Kirk Session continued its discussion of the legacy project. Elders agreed that the imperative in all we are trying to do is to leave a sustainable, worshipping congregation of God's people for generations to come. Further work is being done over the autumn and the Session agreed that a plan for more congregational consultation will be agreed later in the year.

Other Matters: The Kirk Session dealt with a number of other routine matters: - Approval was given for next year's retiring offerings, an appeal was made for addresses of members who have moved without leaving a forwarding address, and Anna Martin was thanked for agreeing to represent Greenbank on the Age Concern Eastwood Committee.

(Please speak to your elder if you would like further information on any of the above.)



DON'T SIT AT HOME WONDERING WHAT TO DO ON SATURDAY NIGHTS

SNAP IS A NEW COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB IN CLARKSTON, WHERE YOU ARE ALL WELCOME TO COME AND ENJOY HANGING OUT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE YOUR OWN AGE, TAKING PART IN LOADS OF FUN ACTIVITIES AND MEETING AND MAKING NEW FRIENDS.

MEANWHILE....

LOVE IT!

SNAP!

SATURDAY NIGHT ACTION PACKED

Starting back
19th August
7-9m

SPORTS • GAMES • CRAFTS
BAKING • MUSIC • CAFÉ

AGES
P7-S3

COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB

HAVE FUN

BUILD CONFIDENCE

MAKE FRIENDS

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST CONTACT
SNAP@GREENBANKGLASGOW.ORG.UK

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FUNDING CHANGE IN CHURCH AND COMMUNITY.



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