

thegoodneighbour

September 2018



# GreenbankParish

CHURCH

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



at the heart of the **community**

GreenbankParish  
CHURCH

# Parish Register

## DEATHS

30/5/18 Mr Charles Cairns, 29 Craighill Drive, Clarkston  
9/7/18 Mrs Sheila Stevenson, 469 Kilmarnock Road, Glasgow  
27/7/18 Mrs Mary Irene Dobson, 3 Bridges Care Home, Carmunnock Road, Glasgow  
30/7/18 Mrs Elizabeth Black, Bonnyton House, Oliphant Crescent, Clarkston  
7/8/18 Mrs Anne Noddings, 'Willowdale', 8 Springhill Road, Clarkston

## BAPTISM

1/7/18 James Ian Ritchie, Strathmore, Larch Avenue, Lenzie

James Ian Ritchie was born on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 12.35am in the Royal Infirmary. He weighed 8lb 11oz. His parents are Neil and Shirley Ritchie and his godmother is Shirley's twin sister, Audrey. James is the first grandchild in the family but his christening robe has been used before, as it was once worn by his dad, his uncle and other members of the family! Neil commented how much he felt at home in the church as he and his brother had been baptised and had attended Sunday School at Greenbank. After the service Shirley, Neil and James spent a lovely afternoon with family and friends at Neil's parents' house.

## WEDDING

14/7/18 Gregor McNeill and Ava Jennie Ireland, Flat 3/2, 23 Strathyre Street, Shawlands

Ava and I first met at the ill-fated Wholefoods. Fortunately our relationship went from strength to strength, and friendships endured with many of our former colleagues celebrating with us on our wedding day!

We got married in the Templeton building on Glasgow Green. Modelled after the Doge's Palace in Venice, it houses a Bavarian style brewery called 'West' which is where we had both the ceremony and reception.

My best man was my brother Alastair and I had my friends from school as ushers. Ava's maid of honour was her sister Hester, who was bridesmaid along with her best pal, Bety.

We had our honeymoon in Costa Teguisse, Lanzarote, making good use of our all-inclusive package, never missing the buffet and sampling all the cocktails. It was a beautiful place to relax after such an exciting day.

Now that we are back from our honeymoon, we have our first home to look forward to. We have bought our first flat in Mount Florida and are moving in in August.

A treasured thing that we will take away from the wedding is that love truly brings people together. We felt very fortunate to be able to share such a special day with friends and family from far and wide.

We'd also like this opportunity to thank Jeanne again for marrying us and making our ceremony feel very personal and unique to us.

## PULPIT DIARY

2 <sup>nd</sup> September	10.30am	Sacrament of Holy Baptism & Sunday Club
7 <sup>th</sup> September	4.00pm	Messy Church
9 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
	6.30pm	Prayers for Healing
16 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving & Sunday Club
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	10.30am	Family Worship
30 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club

## MESSY CHURCH FRIDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER, 4PM – 6PM

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

Dear Friends

I do hope that you have had a good summer and it was a time of rest and relaxation. Whether you managed to go further afield or spend some free time at home, I hope you benefitted from it. With people away, the summer weeks at Greenbank were a bit quieter but it didn't stop Sunday mornings being blessed by the attendance of people of all ages at every service. I especially enjoyed the fact [and I know many others did too] that everyone – adults and children were able to worship so happily and comfortably together. Hopefully the services affirmed the fact that Greenbank is not just a building but a group of people of all ages who belong together as children of the One God.

2018 has been designated by both the Scottish Government and the Church of Scotland as The Year of Young People. This provides an opportunity to give thanks for the presence and the gifts of young people in our midst. However, in a church where it is often said that children and young people are the future of the church, I am convinced that the decisions and attitudes that adults make with respect to them and their families, will determine that future.

This month, we start a new session in our church's life. We have already moved away from the Summer Holiday type of service with Sunday Club and JAM resuming on 19<sup>th</sup> August. On this Sunday, I spoke about the Church without Walls Report published by the Church of Scotland in 2001 which, at the time, urged its adult members in churches to focus on creating friendships with the next generation. The report stated that churches were failing to keep promises made to children at baptism by their failure to create nurturing friendships with children and their families. It went on to suggest that these friendships could only begin when every adult in a church knew the name of some of the children and young families in their congregation – 17 years later - how many names do you know?

The SNAP Saturday night Community Youth Club has started back again and most youth organisations start back this month and there are many ways in which you can help with this work of befriending young people without making a weekly commitment. I warmly encourage you to make contact with one of the leaders listed on the 'What's On' sheet accompanying this Good Neighbour to see if you can help. On the afternoon of 8<sup>th</sup> September Greenbank is hosting a Community Fete for all the family, in the church, halls and grounds [weather permitting] which will again provide many befriending opportunities not only with children and young people and their families in our church but with those in the surrounding community too. Please put the date in your diary and come along to what promises to be a fun day for all ages –further details about the event are in this edition of Good Neighbour.

Although the work of Greenbank's Legacy group has seemed a little quiet over the summer months, I very much hope to see firm progress with the proposed plans for Greenbank's future over the next six to nine months. I am encouraged by the General Assembly's decision to urge its congregations to face up to decline and to bring forward robust, sustainable and radical plans for the future. I find this affirming because this exactly what Greenbank's Legacy Group and Kirk Session have been working towards in the last few years. However, I also believe that everyone has a part to play in ensuring a good and sustainable future for Greenbank through the friendships and positive attitudes that they adopt towards those around them – young and older alike.

So may all ages know the presence of God's love and blessings in this new session for Greenbank and in the future plans He has for us all.

Yours,



## **SATURDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB**

The next meeting takes place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 9am for one hour with breakfast refreshments being served from 8.45am in Room A. Thereafter the club will continue to meet on the first Saturday of every month.

## **TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE CAIRNS**

Read in Greenbank Church 8<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Charlie Cairns, one of our elders, died on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May.

Born in Leith on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1925, Charlie was the eldest of six children. His father was a coal merchant and Charlie used to feed the horse which pulled his father's cart, tend chickens and kill the chickens for dinner ---which put him off chicken for life. Charlie attended Hermitage Park Primary School then Norton Park Secondary School. He was also a member of the Boys' Brigade.

When war broke out in September 1939, Charlie left school and was employed by Bruce Peebles, an electrical equipment manufacturer, where he undertook a 5 year apprenticeship as a toolmaker. The factory manufactured war equipment so, when he turned 18, he wasn't "called-up" as he was in a reserved occupation but Charlie did his bit with overnight Home Guard duties. At the end of the war he served his National Service in the Fleet Air Arm. His church involvement in the navy began when he realised that by attending church on a Sunday morning he would be excused from deck cleaning duties. From this began his adult involvement in the Kirk.

When Charlie was 17, his father passed away, leaving Charlie as the main breadwinner. He helped support his family until he married Wilma in July 1952 whom he met at a motor cycling club dance. Charlie, as well as being a keen dancer, was a keen motor-cyclist and owned the first Norton Dominator in Scotland. Charlie and Wilma set up their first home in Leith where John and Norman were born. When Charlie moved to Clarkston he became works director of Tulliallan Fabrics in Rutherglen. In this role he helped the company achieve the Queen's Award for export; during this time Angela was born. In 1980, rather than move to Bradford, he took a job as a sales rep with Ashton Brothers and from this he made many friends all over Scotland and Northern Ireland. Many Greenbankers benefitted from Charlie's towel samples, nappies and baby bedding products up until he retired in 1992. Family holidays were spent in Kingsbarns in Fife and later further afield in Devon and Cornwall before he and Wilma started going abroad, particularly to Austria, a place Charlie loved.

Charlie was ordained as an elder of Greenbank in 1974 and served on the Fabric and Grounds committees. He was a faithful District Elder for Daleview Drive until he transferred to the Retired List in September 2003. Charlie received his 30 year Service Certificate in 2004. He participated fully in the work of the Kirk Session and was a faithful attender at Kirk Session meetings and church activities.

Charlie was a hardworking, practical man who loved his family. He was a keen gardener and enjoyed growing tomatoes in his greenhouse and giving them out to friends and neighbours. He helped his children with DIY and decorating. He always wanted his own children to do well and was so proud of all their achievements. He loved all his six grandchildren and enjoyed spending time with them.

After Wilma passed away in 2009, he did remarkably well on his own and was fiercely independent, in a nice way. He was very grateful for the support of family, friends and neighbours.

Charlie Cairns was a man who didn't seem to worry about anything and he never held a grudge. He would speak to anyone and made friends easily. He liked everyone, except the doctor who took his driving licence away from him! Often unconsciously funny and non p.c., he was a kind, generous, endearing, friendly, warm hearted man, who will be sorely missed by all who knew him and loved him.

Today we give thanks to God for the life and service of Charlie Cairns and commend John, Norman, Angela and the wider family to love and care of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **GOOD NEIGHBOUR**

This copy of Good Neighbour was delivered by 'someone' - your district visitor. Nine months of every year copies of Good Neighbour are taken to every member's home in all 64 districts and each year some of our regular visitors have to step down for personal reasons. As distributors, the task of finding new visitors falls to us. At present we are short of a visitor - details in recent orders of service. If you might be able to help, please contact one of us and we can talk through what is available with no pressure.

Margot and Gordon Blyth

## KIRK SESSION – WHAT DO THEY TALK ABOUT?

The Kirk Session met on 5<sup>th</sup> June with 51 members attending and they discussed a wide range of issues.

**Worship:** The Kirk Session received a report on the Saturday Morning Book Club which will continue to meet over the summer months. The Kirk Session expressed thanks to those who volunteered to provide services in local care homes throughout the year and to members of the worship group who led morning worship on a number of occasions during the year.

**Outreach:** The Kirk Session noted that Christian Aid raised £3,800 from door to door collections and £527 from the Big Brekkie. The Craft and Card sale and weekly sales of cards had raised £300 for the Lodging House Mission. The Greenbank Team was on duty at the Lodging House Mission on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July. The Glasgow North East Foodbank continued to be used by ever increasing numbers of people and there was an ongoing need for donations.

**Finance:** The Financial Position was updated and this showed 2.5% increase in offerings for the period to 20<sup>th</sup> May. Since the last report contributions have been received from The Guild, Friendship Café, Timeout, 1<sup>st</sup> Clarkston Guides and 1<sup>st</sup> Clarkston Rainbow Guides. Enquiries from external organisations for hall space continue and current lets generate useful income towards the upkeep of our halls. The Craft Sale raised £279 and the Holiday Club £125. The additional publicity given to retiring offerings had improved the level of donations to these worthy causes.

**Fabric:** The Kirk Session approved the redecorating over the summer of the entrance vestibule of the Church, and the Session House, Kitchen and Toilets and some corridors in the halls. Approval was also granted to treat rising damp in the Manse and dampness in part of the Church Officer's house. Concern was expressed about damage done to internal decoration in the halls and leaders of organisations were asked to engender an ethos of care for our buildings amongst their group members.

**Fellowship.** The Kirk Session noted the success of the Easter Holiday Club with about 40 primary school children attending. Reports were also received from Timeout where the membership is approximately 20 and on The Guild outing to Dumfries House. The Guild is also distributing their usual sunshine bags for the summer months.

**Youth:** The Kirk Session received a report on the SNAP Youth Club which caters for young people in P7 to S3 on a Saturday night. An appeal was made for further volunteers to help on a Saturday night between 6-30pm and 9pm. This need only be on an occasional basis: **if you can help contact the minister.** Volunteers are also required on a Friday afternoon to help run Cosy Café from 2-45pm till 4pm for young people after school. This rota is once per month in term time. **if you can help contact the church office.** The Kirk Session offered congratulations to the 4 Boys Brigade boys who gained their Queen's badge this year.

**Other Matters:** The Kirk Session dealt with a number of administrative matters including agreeing the Retiring Offerings for next year. A number of members have moved and not left forwarding addresses. Members who have moved are asked to ensure they give their new address to the church office or their elder. Jim Guy, one of our long serving elders, was thanked by the Moderator for his past work as a District Elder and former Fabric Convenor on his transfer to the retired list.

The Moderator reported on the recent General Assembly in which a proposal had been put forward by the Council of Assembly for a ten year plan for the church. The proposal had been rejected by a 77% majority in favour of more fundamental action and the Council was instructed to return to next year's Assembly with a more radical plan.

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

## FLOWER LIST FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

	<u>Communion Table</u>	<u>Centenary Chapel</u>	<u>Side Windows</u>
2 <sup>nd</sup> September		Moira Innes	
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Sally Craig		
16 <sup>th</sup> September	Doreen Cunningham	Beth Tait	
23 <sup>rd</sup> September		Helen Cochrane	
30 <sup>th</sup> September	Jane Livingston		

### Please Note:

HARVEST: Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service this year is being held on Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> September. Members of the Flower Committee would be very grateful for donations of flowers for this service. Flowers can be handed in to the Halls on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> between 9.30am and 11am.

The Flower Lists for 2018 are on the transept windows and you are invited to put your name and telephone number on the list 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)

# What's On

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

**SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER – 10.00AM TO 1.00PM**

After such a warm summer 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 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 stalls listed below:

Home Baking; Christmas Stall; Christmas Bags – gift of £2 please; Bottle Stall; Any New Unwanted Gifts; Toiletries/Jewellery; Toy Stall and Children's Books; Book Stall; Chocolate Tombola; Bric a Brac

Bert McCrum has once again offered to polish your jewellery.

We hope that once again there will be an opportunity to purchase Christmas Cards and these will be set out in the Church.

Due to the success last year of the CHILDREN'S ZONE, we are making plans to develop this popular area which will have all usual the firm favourites – games, crafts, face painting, nail bar and tattoos.

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 9<sup>th</sup> 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. Again any donations would be welcome. You will also have the chance to win your Christmas cake and a Cuddly Toy both of which have been donated.

All organisations/stall holders have been contacted but as always any additional help would be appreciated. If you would like to help on the day please contact one of the names below.

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

## LUNCH CLUB

Everyone is invited to come along to the church hall on Friday 28th September for the first Lunch Club of the new session. Soup, filled rolls, tea, coffee, biscuits and companionship will all be on the menu. Lunch will be served from 12noon until 1.15pm.

We are always happy to have new faces joining the group. If you are considering volunteering to help and you would like to know more about what is involved, please phone Maureen on 639 5114. If you require transport to the church hall, again please contact Maureen.

## TIME OUT

Our first meeting will be Thursday, 6th September in the Church Halls at 8pm. This will be an informal Cheese and Wine night where we will be happy to welcome any new members.

Other nights planned for the new session include a visit from The Wee Fudge Company, a speaker from The Playlist For Life charity and a visit to Kevan Scott, the Jeweller.

We look forward to welcoming members old and new!

For more details you can contact Moira McAldine on 07793 252138 or Sharon Mitchell on 079600 12991.

## **THE GUILD**

### **Diary**

19 <sup>th</sup> September	2.15pm	<i>Opening Meeting and Re-dedication</i> Rev. Jeanne Roddick
26 <sup>th</sup> September	2.15pm	<i>Nan's Story</i> Liz McIntyre

The 112<sup>th</sup> Session of Greenbank Guild will begin on 19<sup>st</sup> September. Last year was a very successful session for the Guild and we look forward to welcoming all members back to what we trust will be another happy year. Again our Syllabus Secretary has planned a very interesting programme for us, details of which are published in the "What's On" sheet included with this edition of Good Neighbour.

Enid Dron, Secretary

## **TUESDAY NIGHT WALKING GROUP**

We meet on Tuesdays at 7pm prompt (weather permitting) and walk around the local area chatting all the way. Our walks usually last an hour. Feel free to join us on any Tuesday.

Evelyn Clelland  
07762 065507

## **SNAP COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB**

SNAP Community Youth Club started again on the 18th of August. Any new members from P7 to S3 are very welcome to come along on Saturdays (term time) from 7pm till 9pm. If you're P7-S3, come along for some Saturday night action packed fun and meet new friends -all are welcome. We do a range of indoor and outdoor activities from arts and crafts, board games and sports such as dodgy ball and badminton.

Please feel free to come along and register on the night or email:

[SNAP@greenbankglasgow.org.uk](mailto:SNAP@greenbankglasgow.org.uk) for more information.

## **THE CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHOIR**

The Clarkston Community Choir will start rehearsing for their annual Christmas concert on the 5th of September. We welcome members of all ages and abilities - no prior musical experience required, just come along and sing!

Rehearsals run weekly every Wednesday in Greenbank Parish Church halls, 7.30-9.30pm.

## **MEARNSKIRK HOUSE**

The Chaplain of Mearnskirk House is conducting a communion service at Mearnskirk House on Thursday the 27th September at 2 pm. Any member of the congregation who would like to attend should meet at Mearnskirk House at 1.50 pm. Your assistance at this service would be much appreciated. If you have any questions regarding this please contact Elizabeth Wishart on 0141 644 441.

## **HOW GREEN ARE YOUR FINGERS?**

Fancy a spot of gardening? The grounds committee could do with your help at 7pm on Tuesday evenings.

## **CHRISTIAN AID**

The first meeting of the new session for the Clarkston and District Christian Aid Committee will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> September, when the main topic will be the forthcoming annual sponsored swim.

This year the sponsored swim will take place on 6<sup>th</sup> October at the Eastwood swimming pool. Sponsor forms for those wishing to take part will be available from Mark Allan and Ron Livingston.

Please consider taking part in this annual fundraising event, or by sponsoring one of the Greenbank participants.

Mark Allan

# News and Updates

## ED LINES

Hi Folks,

I woke with a smile on my face this morning. Two reasons, one, I'm going on holiday tomorrow - yes another one! And two, the sun is shining! Wow! What a summer we've had: wall to wall sunshine, waking up most mornings to blue skies. I hope you've all enjoyed it as it's likely to be the last one for the next 5 years!! It doesn't take much to lift one's spirits and make people smile. It could be a surprise visit from a friend, a wee bunch of flowers, a word of praise or encouragement. A phone call from a loved one always makes my heart sing. Even on a gloomy day, just a wee chink in the clouds can brighten things up. Things always seem better when the sun shines.

I was in church last Sunday. It was a dreich day to say the least, but as I went into the Session House I felt my spirits lifting. It's been painted a bright sunshine yellow. As I read the words "Let Your Light Shine" above the door I felt the sun come through the window. The warmth, friendship and fellowship of Greenbank Church engulfed me. Let us hope, that in the session that lies ahead, we can put a smile on the faces of all those who enter our Church. May they too feel our light shining, and know the warmth, fellowship and friendship of Greenbank Church.

Alison

## ARTICLES FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER PLEASE

A few belated congratulations – I've got a feeling some people were avoiding me!



Silver Wedding congratulations to Lindy and Peter Dallas who were married at Dunblane Cathedral on 16<sup>th</sup> July 1993.

Big Birthday congratulations to Jan Millar – hope you managed to get all your candles on one cake Jan!

Ross McAldine won't see 59 again. Hope you had a great Big Birthday Ross!

Last but definitely not least, congratulations to Bob Swan who celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 20<sup>th</sup> August.



## THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone who expressed their sincere sympathy on the loss of my dad. I received many lovely cards and also beautiful flowers which was very kind, thoughtful and uplifting at such a difficult time.

I would also like to say a big thank you to those who sponsored me for the Bubble Rush event at Bellahouston Park on 6<sup>th</sup> May, in aid of Accord Hospice Paisley. The total amount raised was £548.50. It was a great day with lots of sunshine and fun for all ages.

Lesley Burgess

## “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 16<sup>th</sup> September** or hand it in to the church office.



## **CHANGES TO DISTRICT ELDERS**

After many years of faithful service Jim Guy has retired as district elder to district 74 (Giffnock). Lynn Armstrong, one of our recently appointed elders, has agreed to become the elder for this district.

## **UPDATE ON BLACK PLASTIC RECYCLING**

We have been asked about black plastic recycling. East Renfrewshire Council tell us that black plastic food containers with the numbers 1, 2, 3, or 5 in a triangle can be recycled. Anything else in black plastic cannot. Also plastic milk bottle tops cannot be recycled.

Information from Greenbank Church Ecoteam

## **POSTCARDS**

Now that summer is nearly finished please remember that we still have a charity which can make money from postcards so if you are finished with them please hand them in. Incidentally used or unused are equally acceptable. Thank you in anticipation!!!

Duncan McIntyre (01355 260068)

## **STAMPS**

We are still collecting stamps so all are welcome. They should be roughly trimmed - cut perforations make them useless - if on postcards please hand the postcard in intact.

Elizabeth MacDonald

## **SNAP YOUTH CLUB**

Snap Community Youth Club is still looking for volunteers to help on Saturday evenings between 6.30pm-9.30pm. If you can help, even for just one Saturday a year, please contact Jeanne, email [snap@greenbankglasgow.org.uk](mailto:snap@greenbankglasgow.org.uk) or call Lindy Dallas on 638 2362.

## **LODGING HOUSE MISSION**

Since the last Good Neighbour, Stephen Mitchell has been appointed as Assistant Manager. He joined LHM at the beginning of June from The Marie Trust, another homeless charity based in central Glasgow. A new minibus has been purchased, and this gives reliable transport for outings etc. LHM is currently without a chaplain.

A big thank you to all who have continued to support the Lodging House Mission over the summer months, and since the last issue of Good Neighbour. They have been very grateful for all thoughtful and generous donations, including towels, functional clothing, cash, sugar and other groceries.

The ladies from the Age Concern Eastwood Dementia Project at The Stables Day Centre kindly donated a quantity of tablet and fudge, packaged into very attractive wedding favours, which they had prepared to mark the wedding of Meghan Markle to Prince Harry in May. These items of confectionery were enjoyed by the service users at LHM.

Bill Stein, Susan Wilkie, Elizabeth McKenzie and I formed a team helping at the LHM on Saturday, 14th July. It was a busy day, with lots of time spent in the kitchen serving teas, coffees and breakfasts; operating the dishwasher; preparing lunch; and clearing and cleaning. All of this under the capable and watchful eye of the wonderful weekend volunteer chef, Sharif. Sharif is a great teacher in the kitchen, judging quantities with amazing precision. We helped him prepare a delicious mixed fish biryani, made using 5kg of rice, which was very well received by the diners.

There are now 16 churches on the rota for Saturday opening at LHM. The next date for Greenbank is Saturday, 27th October. Please let me know if you would like to be part of the large team of volunteers from Greenbank.

The next fundraising event is the sponsored cycle, part of the annual fundraising day, on Saturday, 25th August. This year we have 9 participants - Bill Stein, Chris Adam, Mark Allan, Jennifer Allan, James Roddick, Cathal MacRae, Susan Wilkie, Gordon Wilkie and Matthew Wilkie - cycling 18 miles to raise funds. We are grateful to them all for giving up their time to take part in this worthwhile and fun event.

Please support the LHM by donating items of non-perishable food at our Harvest Service on Sunday, 16th September.

Thank you very much for your continued support.

Alison Allan (638 3916)

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Shetland

For anyone who is unaware of what I have been doing recently, let me fill you in. After I finished my placement at Claremont Church in May, I came up to the Shetland Islands for five weeks of work experience. Shetland is the most northern part of the United Kingdom and the locals have a very distinct idea of identity. You realise this very clearly when you hear them talking about "visiting" Scotland.

Contrary to the impression that might be given by Douglas Henshall and the makers of the TV series 'Shetland', the islands are not fluttering with crime scene tape or covered with bodies being protected by forensic tents on various beaches and moors. Indeed, if you speak to the locals about the show, the islanders themselves seem a little bemused by the programme. The reality for them is that they have not had a murder since 1952, they have only six police officers for all of the 151 islands that make up the Shetland Isles and most of the time, when you see a film shot of a car driving on a road, the person driving ends up at a completely different location from where they should be by following that road.

I wonder if this last observation is a metaphor for times in our own lives when we take ourselves down certain paths but end up at an unexpected location. There are other metaphors to be found here in the islands.

Something you are constantly aware of in Shetland is the boats. We arrived on the car/passenger ferry from Aberdeen to Lerwick but there are many other harbours here and many different types of boats: fishing boats, mussel boats, pleasure boats, working boats hauling goods such as oil and materials and lifesaving boats. There are even boats the sole purpose of which is to help other boats, whether as a pilot to guide a big cruise ship or as a taxi to get people and goods from ship to shore and back again.

Another thing they are not short of in Shetland is churches. The Church of Scotland has 33 buildings, excluding manses, throughout the islands and, if you look at other Christian denominations, there are 15 listed in the centre of Lerwick alone! Speaking from my recent experiences in the presbyteries of Glasgow, Falkirk and Hamilton, Shetland seems just like the rest of Scotland with regard to ageing and reducing congregations. As a denomination, we, in the Church of Scotland, seem to be obsessed with our buildings. There is great resistance to change and many people seem intent on keeping on the road that they have always been travelling on. Although small by Glaswegian standards, the churches here all appear to be beautifully maintained and looked after even if the congregation is, in one case, around three people and there is a service only once a month.

En route and whilst here, I have been struck by the comparison between the people of God in a church and a ship in a harbour. Any sailor will tell you that a ship needs regularly to go to a harbour for maintenance, to be refreshed and filled with fuel and supplies. However, this visit to a harbour is so that the ship can carry out its true function when at sea. Similarly, we, as Christians, need to go to Church regularly for our spiritual maintenance, to be refreshed and fuelled with the Spirit of God. However, that visit to church is so that we can carry out our own true function in the world.

There is a real danger that some people are so comfortable in their harbour that they rarely venture out. So rarely, in fact, that even the thought of venturing to another harbour becomes a big issue. They seem intent on sticking to the road they are on but, as I have mentioned regarding the TV series earlier, the road we think we are following doesn't always lead us to where we expect. I have certainly found this to be true as, up until a short while ago, I would never have expected to find myself, even if only temporarily and for a very short while (as Shona is at pains to remind me), in the beautiful Shetland Islands.

Fergus Cook

## **GREENBANK PLAYERS**

The Greenbank Players are looking for someone who might be able to make a compilation DVD from the collection of Videos and some DVDs of the past productions (not all 70 years!)

Any offers of help please contact June Alexander on 644 2682.

As you know we have not been able to put on a production this year but the Club committee has not been idle. We did not want our 70 Years to go unmarked and so have been planning a "bit of a do". We have secured Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> September at Cathcart Castle Golf Club and hope all past members will keep the date. If you are still in contact with past members not still with Greenbank Parish, please let them and us know!!

June Alexander (644 2682)

# Prayer Diary



The air is different today  
the wind sings with a new tone  
sighing of changes  
coming  
the harvest gathered  
a flower, a nut  
some mead, and bread  
a candle and a prayer  
returning the fruits  
in thanksgiving.

(An extract from 'Alban Elfed', Rhawk)

And so here we go, heading into another new session - hopefully refreshed after a summer break and raring to go. And what a summer it was. We were blessed with weeks on end of warm, sunny weather.

For us that made a nice change, but please remember in your prayers those who've been caught up in the path of wildfires; those whose crops have been affected by drought; those for whom high temperatures are just too much to take.

Say a prayer for everyone of all ages returning to our many organisations, that they are eager to get stuck back in. And for all the youngsters now back at school - learning new things, maybe moving to a new school, starting an important year for exams, starting college or university, or venturing into the world of work.

As arguments and discussions roll on about the fate of refugees, about the path this country should take, about the interactions of the global community, ask that the world's leaders remember that we are all people. We are different colours, we have different cultures, and different faiths, but together we are humanity, and we have a responsibility to each other, and to our environment and future generations. God created a world where everything is linked together, and works together. We need to work the same way and think twice, and then three times, about the consequences of our actions.

Please also say thank you for the work that went into making the halls look bright and cheery. And for all the people that work in the background in so many ways. Many hands make light work.

'Be thou a bright flame before me,  
Be thou a guiding star above me,  
Be thou a smooth path below me,  
Be thou a kindly shepherd behind me,  
Today - tonight - and for ever.'

(Columba (c.521-597))

## **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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

## BUSHIDO KARATE CLUB

Just before the summer break we had a number of students who achieved their Black belts so huge congratulations to Hilary Carswell, Douglas Carswell, Iain Cherry, Araceli Clark, Scott Grindlay, and Stathis Voukelatos who achieved his 2nd Dan and finally to Orla O'Shea who achieved her Junior 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan, a first in our club history. They all showed great skill during their grading (exam) which is down to their hard work and commitment to the art.

### A reason to join our great club - **COGNITIVE IMPROVEMENTS**

A study in the Journal of Sport and Health Science, which included 89 older women and men, average age 70, looked at the possible cognitive benefits of karate training versus a more general fitness programme. The participants were randomly assigned to one of three groups. One group practiced karate twice a week for five months. A second group did traditional fitness activities twice a week for five months, including running, strength training, gymnastics, and other activities that build coordination, balance, strength, and body awareness. A third (control) group just continued their normal activities. Only the karate group showed improvement in attentiveness (as measured by the ability to divide attention between two tasks), reaction time, and mental resilience under stress (which involved a computer test that required the user to react to rapidly changing colours and sounds). It's not clear why karate would produce better cognitive results than the other types of exercise, but the authors cited other research suggesting that karate's specific blend of aerobics, balance, and coordination may have a particularly beneficial effect on the brain.

Best wishes,

John Elliot

Bushido Karate Association Chairman

### GOOD NEIGHBOUR CONTACTS

EDITOR

Alison Harvey 638 3679

E-mail: [alih21@virginmedia.com](mailto:alih21@virginmedia.com)

DISTRIBUTORS

Gordon & Margot Blyth 638 7646

LIFE & WORK

Ian McTurk 638 4649

OFFICE

The Church Secretary, Greenbank Church Office 644 1841

36 Eaglesham Road, Clarkston, G76 7DJ

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9.00 - 2.30

E-mail: [greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk)

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



Bookbug



GreenbankParish  
CHURCH

# Bookbug Sessions

## Thursdays @ 9.30am

Free **story**, **song** and **rhyme** sessions  
for babies, toddlers, pre-school  
children and their families



## **Community Fete**

8<sup>th</sup> September

1.00 – 4.00pm

Tickets £1

### **COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE FUN**

Huge Bouncy Castle

Small Children's Games & Small Bouncy Castle

Garden Games, BBQ – Burgers and Hotdogs

Afternoon Teas & Music

Face Painting, Nail Painting, Tattoos

### **COMPETITIONS**

For Adults – Best flower, Best Preserve, Best scone, Best tablet,  
Best home grown veg.

For Children - Best cupcake, Best Sunflower

**SO GET BAKING AND GROWING! TELL YOUR FRIENDS!**



**7-9pm every  
Saturday night  
during term time.**

**For P7 – S3.**

**Bring your  
friends.**

**£1 entry**



To mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1918 Armistice you are invited to take out your knitting and crochet needles to help create a poppy display for Remembrance Sunday which falls on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> November this year.

The poppy display will be installed in the church vestibule, alongside the war memorials, during the week prior to Remembrance Sunday.

Patterns for poppies are available from the church office. Please call in during office hours or [emailgreenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:emailgreenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk) if you would like one. You might prefer to use your own pattern; all poppies will be gratefully received.

Completed poppies need to be brought to the church by 28<sup>th</sup> October. Donations of red/black wool would also be appreciated. Anyone requiring wool or needles to make poppies will find them on the table outside the church office.



GreenbankParish  
CHURCH

Minister: Rev. Jeanne Roddick. Tel: 01416381395

Session Clerk: Derek Christie. Tel: 0141 6380044.

Depute Session Clerk: Peter Liddell. Tel: 0141 6387870.

Church Office: 0141 644 1841. Email: [greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:greenbank.office@tiscali.co.uk)

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

Congregation No.160863. Registered Charity No: SC011453.