

thegoodneighbour

December 2018



The Blessings Of
Christmas
PEACE★HOPE★JOY★LOVE

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



GreenbankParish
CHURCH

at the heart of the **community**

Parish Register

NEW MEMBER

2/11/18 Mr David Dowell, 20 Linwood Avenue, Clarkston

DEATH

25/10/18 Mrs Delma Ballantyne, Mearns House, 1 Aldton Court, Newton Mearns

"My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so,
would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?"

John 14:2 N.I.V.

PULPIT DIARY

2 nd December	10.30am	Gift Service & Sunday Club
7 th December	4.00pm	Messy Church
9 th December	10.30am	Sacrament of Holy Baptism & Sunday Club
	6.30pm	A Time to Remember
16 th December	10.30am	Family Nativity Service
	7.00pm	Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
23 rd December	10.30am	Family Christmas Carol Service (A medley of your favourite carols)
24 th December	6.30pm	Children's Christmas Eve Service
	11.30pm	Watchnight Service (mince pies & mulled wine in the halls at 11pm)
25 th December	10.30am	Christmas Day Family Worship
30 th December	10.30am	Family Worship

MESSY CHURCH

If anyone would like to be added to the WhatsApp group to be kept informed of what's happening at future Messys, please send your mobile number and name to me at 07970192541. Lorna Preece.

SATURDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB

The next meeting takes place on Saturday 8th December at 9am for one hour with breakfast refreshments being served from 8.45am in Room A. The first meeting in the new year will take place on Saturday, 12th January.

CHANGE TO DISTRICT ELDER

After many years of faithful service Duncan McIntyre has retired as District Elder to district 75 (the Postal District). Liz Allan has agreed to take over this district. Grateful thanks are extended to Duncan for his dedication to his role as an elder at Greenbank.

LIFE & WORK MAGAZINE

Could I advise current subscriber's to Life & Work magazine that the magazine will increase in price by 30p per monthly issue from January 2019. This increase will result in an annual subscription of £33.60 for 2019. Hope this meets with your approval. Ian Mc Turk (638 4649)

223 GLASGOW COMPANY BOYS' BRIGADE

Christmas Card Delivery 2018

The B.B. boys will be delivering Christmas Cards within the Parish again this year. The collection box for them will be located in the vestibule of the church from Sunday 2nd December until 10.30am on Sunday 16th 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 screen in the halls and on the front of the collection box.

Dear Friends,

When we were on holiday in Portugal in October, Graham and I visited the Igreja de Sao Francisco [Church of Saint Francis] in Evora. Despite the fact that I found the famous church decorated with the bone of 5000 monks very disturbing, I was delighted to discover a collection of one hundred and fifty Nativity scenes on display in its upstairs gallery. 60% of the nativities were from Portugal and they were all shapes and sizes and made of various materials. They were very beautiful and part of a private collection of over two thousand pieces owned by local residents, Fernando and Fernanda Cahna da Silva. The couple wanted to share their love of nativity scenes with the public and as Saint Francis Assisi began the tradition of recreating nativity scenes for 13th century Christmases, they felt that a church dedicated to him was a suitable place for their collection.

I enjoyed seeing the exhibition as I have always loved Nativity scenes. I have collected a few Nativity scenes myself but I especially love the one that Isobel Blanchflower and Joan Steel so artistically and beautifully assemble for us here at Greenbank each year. This year, the Nativity scene is going to be placed in our link building so many more people can have the opportunity of seeing it. I am looking forward to seeing it completed and knowing that so many more people will have the privilege of seeing such a lovely reminder of the Christmas story.

Since the time of Francis of Assisi nearly 800 years ago, people have been trying to recreate and capture the very beginning of the Christmas story - that holy moment of wonder when Jesus was born in Nativity Scenes. However, no nativity scene can truly capture the Christmas story, as it is one that is still unfolding in the lives of those who believe that God, through His Son Jesus Christ, still continues to give birth to the love that can change the world. In the weeks to come, in the various Nativity scenes that we view, may we see in them a reminder of the constant and unconditional love God gives to us and to the whole world in Jesus, not just at Christmastime but, in every day and night of the year.

Have a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Yours,

Jeane



Staying with a Nativity theme, as we prepare to celebrate the gift of Jesus everyone is invited to come along to the Children's Christingle Christmas Eve service dressed up as a character from the Nativity story – shepherds, sheep, cows, angels, Mary and Joseph, wise men [or women!], whatever you can think of - even babies are welcome. Extra sheep, cows, crowns and tinsel will be available at the door for those who forget. I look forward to seeing and sharing the Christmas story with you.



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2018

The Centenary of the Armistice

A huge thank you to all who contributed to making this special Remembrance Day particularly poignant; from Ross McAldine, piping 'Battle's Over' at 6am, through to Gordon Campbell playing 'The Last Post' on the bugle at 6.55pm, bringing our Remembrance evening service to a close; and all the people who

provided wool, knitted poppies and helped attach them to our beautiful display. Thanks also to Derek Christie and John Meek for the organisation of a truly memorable Remembrance Day.



CHRISTMAS AT THE MANSE

This year's coffee morning at the Greenbank Manse will be held on **Monday, 10th December from 10am to 12noon** and is in aid of a bore hole for the Sight Impaired Residential Unit at

Ekwindeni Primary School.

The water supply standpipe at the Primary School is often cut off by the water board when the school cannot afford to pay the bill. A bore hole would give access to a private water supply and prevent very vulnerable children from walking to the river a kilometre away to fetch water.

There will be tea, coffee, home baking and last minute Christmas gifts for sale. We will once again be entertained by Carolside Primary School choir. Come along and enjoy the festive atmosphere. Donations of gifts and home baking

would be much appreciated. Please bring gifts to the Church office or to the manse early on the day and leave home baking in the halls' kitchen the night before or again, bring to the manse early on the day. Tickets cost £2 and can be purchased from the church office, after church on Sundays or on the day at the door.

Prayer Diary

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play.
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, goodwill to men.
(Henry Wordsworth Longfellow)

December as a month is taken over by Christmas. Everywhere you go there are cards and decorations, and an amazing number of different varieties of mince pie. Here at Greenbank we retell the events of that Christmas so long ago, and we celebrate the birth of our Lord in song, in story and in prayer.

Take a little time to remember those for whom Christmas has no meaning. For those to whom Christmas is only a time for spending money and eating and drinking to excess; ask that they discover a richer meaning to this time. For those who are alone, who have no-one to share this season with, and no reason to decorate or prepare; ask that they find comfort and hope. For those who have nowhere to go; no home, no family; ask that they find shelter, a hot meal, a bed.

Say a prayer for those whose Christmas is overcast with worry over illness or money; those waiting for test results, or unable to find a job; those struggling to look after someone close, or to find a way forward. Pray for those who live in fear, for those who are grieving, for those who can find no peace within themselves.

Ask that the work we do in reaching out to the local community continues to bear fruit in the new year to come.

Pray that we find the best way forward for our church, that we will prosper in the years ahead.

Say thank you that we live in a time of peace in this country, and ask that mankind strives to reconcile its many conflicts and differences with words rather than weapons.

'Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid.' John 14:27

'May you have the gladness of Christmas, which is hope;

The spirit of Christmas, which is peace;

The heart of Christmas, which is love.'

(Ada V Hendricks)

I hope this Christmas brings you peace and joy, and that the coming year brings prosperity and hope.

Gillian

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



TIME TO REMEMBER

On Sunday 9th December at 6.30pm a simple service will take place in the church for all bereaved, whether recently or a long time ago.

The service will commemorate loved ones no longer with us and the opportunity will be given to place their names on Greenbank's 2018 Christmas Tree of Remembrance.

Refreshments will be served after the service.

What's On

THE LUNCH CLUB

We meet for our last lunch of the year on Friday, 30th November when you can enjoy home-made soup, filled rolls and some festive treats with your tea and coffee. Lunch is served between 12noon and 1.15pm. Come along and join us! If you need transport call the office on 644 1841 or get in touch with Jan or Maureen.

Jan Millar (258 4959) and Maureen Moss (639 5114)

THE GUILD

Diary

5 th December	T.B.A.	Christmas Lunch <i>Cathcart Castle Golf Club</i>
12 th December	2.15pm	Juliet Robb <i>The Olive Tree</i>
2019		
9 th January	2.15pm	Tom Marchant <i>A Saunter Round the South Side</i>
16 th January	2.15pm	Kevin Simpson <i>Guild Project: Malawi Fruits</i>
23 rd January	2.15pm	Morag Thow Osteoporosis and Bone Health
30 th January	2.15pm	Bill Stein The Munros, Part 2

The first half of our Guild year has been successful. Our Guest Night was well attended and a very happy time was had with Christ Scott and his topic, 'T.V. Humour.' Thanks to the ladies of the committee who, as usual, provided an excellent supper.

Sunshine Bags are still being counted and the total raised will be published in the next edition of Good Neighbour.

We now look forward to our Christmas Lunch at Cathcart Castle Golf Club and wish all members of Greenbank a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Enid Dron (Secretary)

THE FILM SOCIETY

The Film Society welcomes members old and new to join us for some popcorn and a movie.

10th December The Ghost and Mrs Muir (1947)

Gene Tierney, Rex Harrison and George Sanders

In 1900, strong-willed widow, Lucy Muir, goes to live in Gull Cottage by the British seaside, even though it appears to be haunted. Sure enough, that very night, she meets the ghost of crusty former owner Captain Gregg...and refuses to be scared off. Indeed, they become friends and allies, after Lucy gets used to the idea of a man's ghost haunting her bedroom. But when a charming live man comes courting, Lucy and the captain must deal with their feelings for each other.

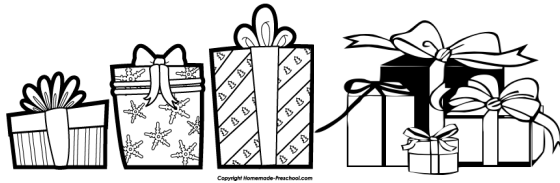
7th January The Way We Were (1973)

Barbra Streisand and Robert Redford

In 1937 spit-fire Katie Morosky briefly meets the preppy Hubbell Gardiner. Almost eight years later, the two are reunited in New York, when leftist radio worker Katie spies military officer Hubbell in a nightclub. The two opposites fall in love and head to Hollywood so that Hubbell can write a screenplay for producer pal, J.J. But the House Committee on Un-American Activities' Communist witch hunt in 1947 tears the pair apart, as a pregnant Katie refuses to keep silent about the jailing of the Hollywood Ten, while a faithless Hubbell decides to save his career. When the two meet again in the 1960s, TV writer, Hubbell, and nuclear protestor, Katie, feel that old pull again, but they have to decide if they have what it takes for the long run.

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)



Gift Service Sunday 2nd December

Everyone is invited to bring along a gift to help brighten up Christmas for children and families in need in Glasgow. Gifts are going to:

- SACRO (Scottish Council for the Care and Rehabilitation of Offenders) for young people aged 13-18. Gifts of toiletries, socks, sweets, gift cards eg. New Look or JD Sports would be most appreciated please.
- The Princess Royal Maternity Unit – a section cares for young homeless or vulnerable mothers - Baby clothes for newborn babies and toiletries for mums are requested (nothing second hand please).
- Church House, Bridgeton – games and arts and crafts for girls and boys age 8-12.

Please join the Sunday club placing your **new, unwrapped** gift under the Christmas tree in the church on 2nd December or hand it in to the church office before this date.

Thank you for your support. Your generosity will make a big difference to their Christmas.

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The choir's Christmas concert will take place in Greenbank Parish Church on Wednesday 5th December at 7.30pm. Come and enjoy a night of festive favourites, accompanied by a fabulous orchestra of musicians from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Tickets £5, are available on the door. If you miss us on the 5th (or are desperate to hear the concert again!) there are other chances to hear us sing: 26th November at 7.30pm at Burnside Blairbeth Parish Church, and 9th December at 7.30pm at Langside Parish Church.

THE BURNS SUPPER, SUNDAY 27TH JANUARY 2019

Tickets for the Burns Supper will be on sale on Sunday 9th December after church. Please see Jan Millar and Graham Vance in the Fulton Hall of Friendship.

THE FRIENDSHIP CAFE

At a loose end on a Friday morning? Come along to the Friendship Cafe every Friday, 10am - 11am, in the Fraser Hall (except the last one of the month which is Lunch Club Friday). All more than welcome.

TIME OUT

We finish off the year on 14th December when we head to Loks in Shawlands for our Christmas Night Out.

2019 will be a busy year for us, with the following line up:-

10 January	Line Dancing
24 January	Taste & Try/Sell & Swap
7 February	The Richmond Trust
21 February	Church Quiz
7 March	Clothing Sale - Fundraiser
21 March	Reiki
4 April	Great Wall of China Presentation
18 April	A.G.M.

As always, all members of the congregation and friends are welcome to join us.

If you would like to know more about Time Out, please contact Moira McAldine on busymoira@aol.com or Sharon Mitchell on sharonemitchell@hotmail.co.uk.

SNAP COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB

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.

KIRK SESSION – WHAT DO THEY TALK ABOUT?

The Kirk Session met on 5th November with 53 members attending and they discussed a wide range of issues.

Worship: Among the worship reports was one from Messy Church which is proving very successful with about 35 children attending the last meeting. Thanks were expressed to members of the Worship Group for leading two of the morning services in October.

Outreach: The Kirk Session received a report from our representative at Glasgow North East Foodbank where more donations and volunteers are required. **If you can help contact Alex Howie via the Church Office.** Greenbank continues to support the Lodging House Mission through sales of Christmas cards, and the team from Greenbank provide volunteers on a rota basis, with other churches, to facilitate a Saturday opening. Congratulations were expressed for those who took part in the Christian Aid sponsored swim and the Kirk Session noted the total sum of £24,839 was raised by Clarkston and District Christian Aid Committee per their August 2018 report.

Finance: The Financial Position was updated and this showed 1.6% increase in offerings for the period to 14th October. Since the last report contributions have been received from the Colour Circle, and Lunch Club/Friendship Cafe. External organisations who use our halls continue to generate useful income towards the upkeep of our halls. The Community Fete raised £292 for church funds and the retiring offering in aid of the Lodging House Mission raised £1298. The treasurer presented the Budget for 2019 which shows a projected deficit of over £13,000 and this was approved by the Kirk Session along with a 3% salary increase in 2019 for the Church Officer, Church Secretary, Organist, and Church Cleaner.

Fabric: The Kirk Session noted maintenance and replacement work on the emergency lighting and that the annual gas safety inspections had taken place in the Church, Manse, and Church Officer's house. The biannual removal of tree roots from the underground drainage system which drains the church grounds had also taken place.

Fellowship. It was reported that a healthy number of people are attending The Guild and Time Out but it was noted Lunch Club numbers had fallen and District Elders were asked to encourage folk to attend. The Lunch Club meets on the last Friday of the month (not December) at 12noon. Future events include Community Choir Concert on the 5th December and the Greenbank Burns Supper on 27th January 2019.

Youth: The Youth Club continues to flourish with around 30 young people each week and the numbers in JAM and Sunday Club remain consistent. The 1st Clarkston Brownies have begun the new session with healthy numbers and it was noted that the Brownies and Guides are introducing the new Guiding programme.

Legacy: An update reminded the Session that while we await the publication of the Local Development Plan, scheduled by the Local Authority for March of next year, work on aspects of the project was continuing. Specifically, discussion continued with the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland to seek appropriate advice and guidance; Visits were to take place to churches recommended by the General Trustees that were considered to be good examples of churches preparing for the future and finally, negotiation continued with surveyors, valuers and developers in connection with our current and prospective sites.

Other Matters: The Kirk Session received an update from the Health & Safety Administrator on the Health and Safety Action Plan which is well on the way to completion, and the Kirk Session authorised the Session Clerk to sign the policies and procedures on their behalf. The Kirk Session noted the dates of the Christmas Services. One of our elders, Duncan McIntyre, asked to be placed on the retired list and the Moderator thanked him for his many years of faithful service. It was noted that Liz Allan had agreed to take over the Postal District from Duncan. After the formal business had been concluded the Kirk Session broke into small groups for a discussion on prayer.

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

FLOWER LIST FOR DECEMBER 2018

	<u>Communion Table</u>	<u>Centenary Chapel</u>	<u>Side Windows</u>
2 nd December	Marie Forster	Vera Reid	
9 th December		Mrs Spelman	
16 th December		Betty Ritchie	
23 rd December			
30 th December	Alan Johnston		

Please note:

The Flower Lists for **2019** are on the transept windows and you are invited to put your name and telephone number on the list at 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)

Young People's Page



Hi Guys,

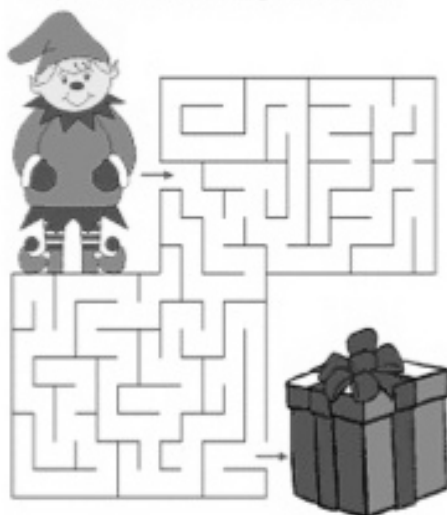
Christmas time at last! Now we all like Christmas - lots of sweets, loads of parties, holidays and presents!! Giving presents at Christmas goes back a long way, right back to when Jesus was born and the Wise Men gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh. Did you know that if you add up all the gifts given in the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" it adds up to 364, one present for every day of the year with a day off to but them! Here are a few Christmas facts and jokes. Maybe not enough for every day of the year but will keep you going until Christmas, Have a good one.

Al the Ed

1. Lego is one of the most popular toys. The tallest tower was 28.7m and had 465,000 bricks.
2. What do monkeys sing at Christmas? Jungle Bells, Jungle bells!
3. Barbie first appeared at Christmas 1959. At its peak, three Barbie dolls were sold every second.
4. Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas? Santa Jaws
5. Buzz Lightyear went to infinite and beyond in 1997. He was based on NASA astronaut Buzz Aldrin
6. What do you call a man who claps at Christmas? Santapplause!
7. Over 250M Monopoly® games have been sold since 1935 and has been played by over a billion people
8. What goes oh, oh, oh? Santa Claus walking backwards!
9. Rubic cubes were popular in the 80's. Children and adults spent hours trying to crack the colour code.
10. Who's a child favourite king at Christmas? A stockING.
11. St. Nicholas, or Sinter Klaas, a Dutchman, gave money to poor people without them knowing about it.
12. Why did the turkey join the band? Because it had the drumsticks!
13. Saint Nicholas threw three bags of gold coins down a chimney and they landed in poor girls stockings, which is why we hang up stockings hoping to find them filled with gifts in the morning.
14. What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney? *Claustrophobia!*
15. Santa travels 218M miles on Christmas Eve. That means he travels 1280 miles a second to reach everyone.
16. What did Adam say the day before Christmas? "It's Christmas, Eve"
17. Santa's sleigh would weigh over 400,000 tons if it carried enough toys for all the children in the world.
18. What did Mary Poppins want from Santa? Superclausifragilisticexpialisnowshoes.
19. The feast of Stephen is on St Stephen's Day which is Boxing Day 26th December.
20. How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas? One that's deep pan, crisp and even!
The 1980s favourite Cabbage Patchers came out on top as the most popular toy ever!
21. What's green, covered in tinsel and goes ribbet ribbet? Mistle-toad!
22. What's brown and sneaks round the kitchen? Mince Spies
23. Yo-yos were invented around 2,500 years ago, but anything with that kind of staying power has to be one of the best-selling toys in history.

Christmas Maze

Help Jo Jo the elf find the missing Christmas present!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to everyone with a birthday in December,
Rory Hood, Cameron Mitchell Matthew
Sproat, Abigail Smith, Keir Sanderson, Euan
Coyle and last but definitely not least James
Houston.

And those born in January, Fraser O'Neill,
Harry McGowan, Alison Preece, Jamie
Stewart, Kartina McKenzie, Stephen Hay,
Aimee Cunningham, Sarah Chamberlain, Jill
Carswell.



News and updates

ED LINES

Hi Folks,

Are you hanging up your stocking on the wall? This is a Christmas tradition which is said was started by St Nicholas in the 6th Century. St Nicholas, a shy but caring man, wanted to surreptitiously give money to the poor. He climbed on to the roof of a house and dropped a purse of money down the chimney. It landed in the stocking which a girl had put to dry by the fire, which may explain the belief that Santa Claus comes down the chimney and places gifts in children's stockings. It's a tradition that we have all enjoyed promoting. We were fortunate we could do this. Our children reaped the benefits and generally found their stockings full to overflowing.

Some aren't so lucky.

Years ago, my dad, a teacher at the local school, encouraged pupils to bring toys and games to school and put them underneath the tree. For many years, he and some of the pupils would take the gifts, and a gallon of ice cream, to a local children's home. On one occasion, he invited me to go with him; the look on the children's faces was one of complete joy. Oh, the presents were great, the ice cream was wonderful, a rare treat, but they were completely overwhelmed that someone cared enough to do this for them.

At this time of year, amid the flurry of our own Christmas preparations, it is easy to forget or overlook the fact that there are people out there who need our love and support. At Greenbank, we have plenty of chances to show we care. We can donate to the food bank; buy a present for the Gift Service; purchase cards from the Lodging house Mission or become a driver for the church transport service and bring someone to church. We have to make the most of that opportunity.

In a stable in Bethlehem all these years ago, an inn keeper showed he cared by giving a poor family shelter. Three wise men showed they cared by giving gold, frankincense and myrrh. And the shepherds showed they cared, simply by being there.

This Christmas, how will you show that you care?

Happy Christmas,

Alison

ARTICLES FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY SUNDAY 13TH JANUARY PLEASE



Isobel and James Miller! Isobel and James took part in the National Lifesaving competition. Isobel came a very credible 8th and James managed to win a bronze medal. Well done to you both.

Evelyn and Douglas Hamilton belatedly, on your Golden Wedding Anniversary

Evelyn and Douglas were married on 7th November 1968 in Westerton Church, Bearsden and had their reception at the Sherbrooke Castle Hotel. They celebrated their anniversary by having a meal with family and friends at Fereneze Golf Club. Later this month they are heading to Canada to celebrate with family over there. Many congratulations to you both.

THANK YOU LETTERS

DELMA BALLANTYNE

Gordon and I would like to thank Jeanne, the Guild and all other Greenbankers for their love, support, cards and flowers following the death of my beloved Mum, Delma.

Special thanks to Ross McAlidine, who goes back a long way with our family, for piping at Mum's funeral.

Margot Blyth

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the church for the flowers from the morning service after the passing of Elaine's mum, Pam. A big thank you also for the many cards and flowers from our friends in the congregation.

The love, kind words and sympathy were greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all,

Elaine and Ronnie McNeill

Thank you for the beautiful flowers I received during my time in hospital. Thank you, too, for all the cards I received and also my heartfelt thanks for all your prayers which kept me going when my recovery seemed to be taking so long.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

Judy Rigby

10 November 2018

Where has the year gone? It's hard to believe Christmas is here again; we thought it was time to let you know our Christmas and New Year programme, here in the Lodging House Mission.

Christmas Appeal – Once again, our first preference is for a financial donation. Money given will allow us to purchase a small gift for our Service Users and ensure that each person receives a similar value present. Christmas Donation Envelopes may be obtained from *Alison Allan* or in the *Link Building* to enable members of the congregation to make a gift aided financial contribution.

We recognise that some people prefer to give a shoe box or other gift and we are grateful to you if that is your preference.

Dates For Your Diary

Friday 1st December the Glasgow Winter Night Shelter Initiative starts again. Please pray for the success of this project and for the street sleepers who use this and other services.

Christmas Day - We shall be opening our doors to provide a 3 course Christmas Meal and a small gift to around 100 Service Users. For many, this is the only present they will receive. We are always grateful to receive little "Extras" at this time e.g. cakes, biscuits etc.

Sunday 3rd February 2018 at 6.30.p.m. - Our Homelessness Sunday Service will be slightly later this year. Guest speaker will be the Rt. Rev Susan Brown, Moderator of the General Assembly. Please come and show your support for Glasgow's homeless and most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you - to everyone who purchased our Christmas Cards this year. We still have stock for sale.

Also, for your help and support during the past 12 months. We simply could not exist without you.

Everyone in the LHM wish you all every blessing throughout the Advent Season.

Yours sincerely,

Gus Smeaton

CROHN'S & COLITIS UK RAFFLE FOR RESEARCH 2018 - [PLEASE HELP US]

As many of you know, our beautiful daughter Millie, who is 10 years old, has Crohn's Disease and is still not in remission almost 2 years after diagnosis. Last year, in an effort to do something positive, we, as a family, made it our mission to sell as many raffle tickets for Crohn's and Colitis UK's Raffle for Research and we raised £1,500 – thanks to you. The charity is using Millie and her story to headline this year's campaign and I know some of you may have been sent your own raffle tickets to sell for this cause. The horrific thing about Crohn's and Colitis is that currently there is no cure and as such, it is a life sentence. We are asking you to please, please buy some of the tickets you have received or, if you didn't receive your own tickets, please, please buy tickets from us (**you can see us after morning service or call us on 0141 638 0630**). Our only hope in finding a cure is in the vital research that is being done. Tickets are £1 each and just buying one ticket will make an enormous difference. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you all so much. The Simpson Family xxxx

CHRISTMAS FAIR 2018

Once again this proved to be a very happy and friendly day, raising the fantastic sum of £3,200. Of course this amount could not have been raised without the support of a large number of people. Thanks to everyone the ladies who worked tirelessly in the kitchen, the ladies and gentlemen who served the tea/coffee and mince pies in the tea room, the gentlemen who manned the door, the team that counted the money and to those who so willingly manned the various stalls. Thanks to Lindy and Susan and their team who organised the Children's Zone and gave the youngsters who attended a great time. A very big thank you to everyone who donated items for the various stalls and for all the mince pies/shortbread/biscuits which were enjoyed by all. We must say a special thanks to John Meek for all his invaluable help and advice and to Jane and Jill for all the publicity and printing they did on our behalf. Finally a very big thank you to all who came along and supported the event on the 10th November and helped create a friendly and happy morning for all.

In the new year planning will start for the Fair in November 2019 and if you would like to be involved please speak to Anna or Eleanor. Any new ideas for stalls, etc would also be welcome!

Well done to everyone for your efforts and a big thank you to you all from Anna and Eleanor.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2019.

Anna Martin (644 0972) Eleanor Johnstone (577 0335)

CHURCH FAIR - HELP!

We the undersigned having acted as cashiers for the fair for the last seven years, feel that with an average age of 80+ we are in need of replacement! This is not too onerous a task, requiring as it does about 3 hours of your time a year! We would ask anyone interested to contact us (or Anna Martin).

Duncan McIntyre (01355 260068)

David Margetts (644 3820)

Tom McMeeking (571 9072)

STAMPS AND POSTCARDS

While all stamps are acceptable, please look out for the higher value ones that sometimes come in on our church packages. Postcards too continue to be wanted. A special mention to the lady who handed in the two wooden ones from Rothesay, they were particularly well received.

Duncan McIntyre

LODGING HOUSE MISSION

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The sale of Christmas cards to raise funds for the Lodging House Mission will continue each Sunday, until 9th December. Cards are priced at £4 or £3.50 for a pack of 10, and will be sold in the Fraser Hall after the morning service. There are some lovely designs again this year, so please do come and have a look at the selection.

SATURDAY OPENING

Greenbank provided a team at LHM on Saturday, 27th October. Thanks go to Susan Johnston, James Roddick, Anne Muir, and Douglas and Steven Carswell for giving up their time to do this. Our church will again provide a team of 4 people on Saturday, 16th February 2019.

GLASGOW WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

The LHM will again host the Glasgow Winter Night Shelter which will run *from 1st December 2018 until 31st March 2019*. This joint initiative is run by the Glasgow City Mission in the Lodging House Mission premises.

Sincere thanks to everyone who has so enthusiastically, thoughtfully and generously supported the LHM in the past year. Your gifts of your time, money, groceries, and material goods is greatly appreciated by all at LHM, and makes a valuable contribution to the success of the services provided. Please continue to remember the staff and clients in your prayers. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Alison Allan

CHRISTIAN AID

The annual Christian Aid Sponsored swim took place at Eastwood pool on Saturday 6th October. Congratulations to the 5 participants from Greenbank. The total number of swimmers from all the churches represented was 27, which was slightly down on last year. The sum of the sponsorship money raised by our swimmers was £167, but I will give a final figure of all the sums raised from all the participating churches 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 are being prepared for presentation to the Greenbank swimmers; hopefully during the morning service in the near future. In November the Art Group sub-committee began the organisation of the next fundraising event to take place on 9th March 2019 which will be the annual art exhibition and sale; this event again taking place in the Carmichael Hall at Eastwood Park. 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 2018 and wish you a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mark Allan

CHURCH TRANSPORT - URGENT APPEAL

The church transport service has been running for 40 years, providing a necessary and much appreciated service to our members who would otherwise find it difficult to attend church.

We currently have a group of drivers, on a rota, who are required to bring their car to church once every 6 weeks. The church transport service urgently needs more drivers. Please consider volunteering for this. The commitment is just once every 6 weeks, and you can swap with other drivers if the rota dates do not suit. If you currently drive to church alone, please consider offering your services once every 6 weeks, to bring a car load of people to church. This would be much appreciated; it may allow new friendships to develop; and would complement our status as an Eco congregation.

If you do not normally drive to church, please consider doing so, just once every 6 weeks, to allow others to enjoy worshipping with us. Please contact Mark Allan 638 3916, if you are able to help.

WHO DO YOU THINK THEY ARE?

Name? Ronnie McNeill (choir member and Cosy cafe helper)
 Are you over 21? Yes, do you need glasses?
 Favourite food? Curry
 Favourite T.V.? Dr Who
 Favourite film? Star Wars
 Favourite actor? Bruce Willis
 Favourite music? Katherine Jenkins
 Favourite joke? Why aren't elephants allowed in swimming pools?
 They can't keep their trunks up!!



Name? Lorna Preece (Messy Church co-ordinator)
 Are you over 21? No (said with conviction)
 Favourite food? Curry
 Favourite T.V.? Big Brother
 Favourite film? Ghost
 Favourite actor? Patrick Swayze
 Favourite music? Ed Sheeran
 Favourite joke? How many elders does it take to change a light bulb?

Change??????

Name? Alistair Smith (Church treasurer)
 Are you over 21? By how many years?
 Favourite food? Anything other than squid
 Favourite T.V.? Netflix
 Favourite film? The Shawshank Redemption
 Favourite actor? Dustin Hoffman
 Favourite music? 60s and 70s
 Favourite joke? Unprintable!!!!



Best wishes to Kate Sanderson who retired after more than 10 years in the Sunday Club. She was given a special brooch made by Bert McCrum many years ago for Sunday School staff.

Thanks for all your hard work over the years Kate. We'll miss you.

The Junior Section of the B.B. has been having a lot of fun recently. They were visited by the Fire Brigade who talked to them about bonfire safety and then had another exciting night at their Halloween party.



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 or call Lindy Dallas on 638 2362.

BUSHIDO KARATE CLUB

It is my pleasure to announce that at the Association Black Belt Grading in November our club had tremendous success where Angus Brown and Jeff Parker achieved there Black Belt(1st Dan) and Iain Frame achieved his 3rd Dan. They all showed great skill during their grading (exam) which is down to their hard work and commitment to the art.

Some of our other students have also been graded at KYU grade level and have been successful and these grading experiences are another preparation on their journey to Black Belt.

We had our recent Association KATA course where our students were taught a new advanced KATA – a great course and went home with new skills and experiences.

Our Junior Black Belts also sat a First Aid course which was sponsored by the club as part of their development.

Our very own Sensei Brendan Morris who is skilled in many martial arts is taking a class on “ground defence” and later on in the month he is holding classes on “BUSHIDIO against bullying” – always great learning experiences.

We will have a new intake of students in January and would encourage anyone of any age to join our great club and start their journey- even if you would like to come along for a taster session.

Finally, Bushido Karate Club would like to wish all our friends at Greenbank Church a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Best wishes,

John Elliot

Bushido Karate Association Chairman

GOOD NEIGHBOUR CONTACTS

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