

# thegoodneighbour

May 2022



# Parish Register

## WEDDING

14/4/22 Chloe Farmer and Jordan Norrie, 38 The Paddock, Busby

## DEATH

16/4/22 Mrs Ann Montgomerie, 42 Beechlands Drive, Clarkston

"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– MAY

1 <sup>st</sup> May	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
8 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
15 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club
29 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club

## MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church will meet on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 4pm to 6pm.

Our final Messy before the summer break will take place on the first Friday in June, a little earlier than usual, as we hope to join in with the Jubilee celebrations.

If anyone would like further details please text 07970192541 or email [lo.preece@btinternet.com](mailto:lo.preece@btinternet.com)

Lorna Preece

## SATURDAY BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Club will take place 7<sup>th</sup> May, 9am to 10am [8.45am for breakfast] when we will be continuing our discussion, having read up to the end of chapter 18 of "Why did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha and Mohammed cross the road?"

## LIVE STREAMING OF WORSHIP

The technical equipment in the Church Sanctuary has been changed to allow streaming via You Tube on Sunday Mornings in place of Zoom.

Anyone wishing to view the service should click on the link, which is emailed to the congregation each week from the church office. The service can also be found by searching on You Tube. Once in 'You Tube' simply type in 'Greenbank Church Morning Service' and select the correct service.

Please note that with live streaming there is about a minutes delay before the service is transmitted from the church to people at home. Please be patient if it is a little later than 10.30am before the service starts.

Those attending worship in the Church Sanctuary on Sundays are also asked to note that services are being streamed. The camera being used to transmit images is downstairs, just in front of the balcony area. The cameras will film the pews directly in front of it, the side pews at the front and the chancel area of the church. Members of the congregation who do not wish to be 'caught on camera' are asked to select their seats appropriately.

## ACCESSING SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVE BY TELEPHONE OR AS A RECORDING

For those who do not have a computer and are unable to attend church there is an option of using their telephone to listen to the service. Simply dial 0141 815 1166 at 10.30am if you wish to listen to the service live; alternatively you can listen to a recording of the most recent service from the Monday until the Saturday of the following week. When you dial to hear the most recent recording you will firstly hear a message from Jeanne and then some music. Please wait until the music stops and then, when asked to do so, press 1 on you telephone keypad.

Dear Friends,

Being able to meet back in the Church building this year has been an amazing blessing, and I am very grateful for the many people both in our congregation and in the wider church who have enabled us to do this so safely. I want to especially take this opportunity to say thank you all to those who have been endeavouring to get the church and its organisations up and running in person again. I know those who have participated have really valued the opportunity to meet again in person. As restrictions have eased it has been wonderful to see so many old and new faces coming to worship in the church Sanctuary each Sunday. If you haven't done so already I would encourage you to come back and reconnect with your fellow Greenbankers!

The chief focus now, at Greenbank, is to enable people to continue to meet safely and to try and rekindle the sense of community we have missed through our limited contact with one another over the past 2 years.

Apart from the regular pattern of Sunday morning services, one of the first events being planned by Greenbank's social events team is a Jubilee Community Picnic on 3rd June. The team is hoping that this will be a good way for people to come together socially, in a safe way, in the open air to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Everyone from the church and wider community of Clarkston is invited to bring a picnic and enjoy spending some time together. At this all age event a friendly face for those attending will be a prerequisite. There will be lots of fun things to do and further details can be found elsewhere in Good Neighbour. If you would like to help on the day, or if you would like to organise something that you think others will enjoy, please contact the church office. All ideas are very welcome – the more people get involved the better the sense of friendship and community!

I am reminded of the final verse of the children's praise song 'which says "It's me, it's you, it's us, it's love, it's Christ that builds community". The Jubilee Picnic is only a small part of our much bigger aim to create and grow a community of faith here in Clarkston that is caught up in, and inspired by, the great story of God's love, for all people, shown to this world in Jesus Christ.

As we move forward, may we all continue to sustain one another by a sense of togetherness that strengthens and inspires us to be carriers of God's love who will help make Greenbank Parish Church a true place of friendship and community in Christ's name for many generations to come.

Yours,



## **SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE**

April's coffee and chat was well attended with £456.10 being raised for Ukraine from ticket sales, bring and buy contributions and the Easter eggs raffle. It was lovely to hear the sound of chat as everyone enjoyed catching up with each other whilst devouring chocolate treats and hot cross buns. The bring and buy items still occupy the Hall of Friendship and if there is anything that catches your eye please put a donation in the honesty box.

Preparations are well under way for our Community Jubilee Picnic on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June from 1pm till 4pm. Everyone is welcome and it is hoped that many of our Messy Church families can come along. It is a free event where all you need to bring is your own picnic and a rug or two. The tea tent will be available for seating, serving hot drinks and juice and there will be games and fun activities in the manse garden. Hopefully the weather will be kind as the community come together to celebrate. If anyone feels they can assist on the day or organise a particular activity please contact a member of the social committee. (Lindy Dallas, Anna Maclure, Jan Millar, Eleanor Johnstone, Jill Liddell)

Lindy Dallas

# Prayer Diary

'The seasons are shifting, the winter shades lifting,  
The springtime is filling  
Earth's children with mirth.  
The daffodil yellow, The south wind so mellow,  
The gentle rain falling,  
Upon the green earth.  
The song sparrow singing, New life quickly springing,  
All nature is telling  
A tale of rebirth:  
The deep wells of being, Beyond each day's seeing,  
O'er flowing with new Life,  
Restoring the earth.'  
( 'Spring' - David Bumbaugh)

Although it's still quite chilly, it's lovely to see some sunshine. I'm happy enough for there not to be too much, so the garden doesn't sprout overnight. I've already had a huge bee in the kitchen, and a small green caterpillar trying to munch my clematis.

Our world is amazing. Please remember everyone who is working to help avert the climate crisis. Ask that governments don't forget how important action is, and push these problems into the background in light of current tensions. Say thank you for everyone who is doing what they can in their own small way, and ask that many more will consider how much small changes can achieve.

We are, of course, keeping the war in Ukraine in our prayers. So many lives lost, or irrevocably changed. How many people who have fled will have absolutely nothing to return to? So many buildings in ruins, so many lives shattered. Yet it's been heartening to see people from many other countries rally round to offer what help they can. That is the world we pray for.

Say thank you for all the people who donate to food banks or charities; for all the staff and volunteers who give of themselves both here and abroad; for anyone who puts a little kindness someone else's way; for businesses who can see past their profits to help support the communities around them.

Pray for Greenbank, that increasing numbers of people will feel confident enough to come in person, and that we will be able to increase the number of our other activities. Please also pray for the advancement of our Legacy Project, that we can start to move forward again.

'I know not whence I came,  
I know not whither I go;  
But the fact stands clear that I am here  
In this world of pleasure and woe.  
And out of the mist and murk  
Another truth shines plain -  
It is my power each day and hour  
To add to its joy or its pain.'  
( 'I Am' - Ella Wheeler Wilcox)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

If you need prayer for yourself, a loved one or a friend requests can be sent to our Minister, Rev. Jeanne Roddick at [JRoddick@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:JRoddick@churchofscotland.org.uk) or the Church Secretary at [office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk](mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk) Alternatively, you can phone our Prayer Promoter, Gillian Foy. Those for whom prayers have been requested will be prayed for throughout the following month by members of the Prayer Group.

Gillian Foy (0141 638 6245)  
Prayer Promoter

# News and Updates

## KIRK SESSION: WHAT DO THEY TALK ABOUT?

The Kirk Session met via Zoom on Monday 4th April. The purpose of the meeting was to update elders on progress with both our Legacy project and with the Presbytery Mission Plan, and to seek various approvals relating to these topics.

**Legacy Project:** Elders received an update from the Legacy Project Group. This update explained that it was necessary to make two amendments to the missives relating to the sale of our land. Following this, approval was sought for these two amendments, and Kirk Session granted approval for them. A request has now been sent to the deputy solicitor of the Church of Scotland, asking that these changes be made on our behalf.

**Presbytery Mission Plan:** Elders received an update outlining all of the work and progress to date on our engagement with the Presbytery Mission Plan process, and future key dates. **This information is shown below.**

Approval was sought for Greenbank Parish Church to form a church cluster with Busby Parish Church and Netherlee and Stamperland Parish Church. This church cluster would then proceed to form a draft Cluster Mission Plan. Approval for the formation of the church cluster was granted by Kirk Session.

## PRESBYTERY MISSION PLAN UPDATE

### Background

At the General Assembly of May 2021, the Presbytery Mission Plan Act was passed.

In requiring Presbyteries to plan mission within their bounds, the Church of Scotland seeks to:

- underscore the Church's priority as participating in Christ's mission.
- set down a definition of that mission.
- provide a framework for a Presbytery to express that priority in forming a rolling five-year Mission Plan.
- enable a group of Presbyteries anticipating union to work together on a Mission Plan.
- ensure that a Presbytery makes best use of the ministry posts allocated to it by the General Assembly.
- insist that a Presbytery take decisions about the future of Church buildings.
- provide a range of ways in which a Presbytery may structure and resource Church life.
- engage the Faith Nurture Forum and the General Trustees in assisting Presbytery in their planning

**Each presbytery will be required to have an Approved Mission Plan in place in terms of this Act by 31 December 2022.**

**In order to achieve this, the following stages have taken place:**

In **August 2021**, representative members of Greenbank Kirk Session (Peter Liddell, Derek Christie, Jeanne Roddick, Alistair Smith, Alison Allan, Lindy Dallas) met and responded to a congregational survey, which was returned to Glasgow Presbytery.

In **October 2021**, online consultation sessions were held with representatives from congregations. Jeanne and Derek attended these. Responses from these meetings helped to inform the 21 principles.

Also in **October 2021**, all members of all Kirk Sessions in Glasgow Presbytery were invited to feedback 5 words describing their elder journey. This helped to shape the agenda for the conference held on 5<sup>th</sup> March entitled "Recharging the Eldership" – this conference was held with a view to encouraging and inspiring elders, given the requirement for elders, and other members of congregations, to potentially take on new tasks which would previously have been done by ministers.

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2022** – zone details were released for approval at a meeting of Glasgow Presbytery on **8<sup>th</sup> March**.

**7<sup>th</sup> February 2022** – Presbytery plan communication sent to elders in advance of the meeting of Kirk Session on that date. Numbers revealed reduction in ministry numbers in Glasgow Presbytery from 123 to 84 (part of reduction across the entire country to 600 ministry posts) Reduction in numbers to take place by the end of 2026; proposed zones published – Greenbank in zone 4.

**6<sup>th</sup> March 2022** – named as Presbytery Plan Sunday

**13<sup>th</sup> March 2022** – AMBA (Asset Management Buildings Audit) form submitted to Glasgow Presbytery by Una Heaney (since October 2022 there had been much work done by us in collating information about our estate and suite of buildings).

**19<sup>th</sup> March 2022** – representatives from the 28 churches in zone 4 were invited to a gathering arranged by the Presbytery Plan Creation Group (PPCG) in Orchardhill Parish Church, with a view to starting/continuing conversations with congregations with whom they would like to work. Jeanne Roddick was on holiday; Derek Christie and Alison Allan attended. A discussion took place with Netherlee and Stamperland, and Busby Parish Churches, a natural affiliation due to the Clarkston Churches Together grouping, which is already in existence. Williamwood Parish Church chose to pursue conversations with a confederation of churches including Giffnock South. Carmunnock Parish Church is in a different zone. Both of these churches were offered a further invitation to affiliate themselves with Busby; Greenbank; and Netherlee and Stamperland.

Williamwood, who are pursuing discussions with a confederation of churches, has declined this invitation.

No response has been received from Carmunnock Parish Church.

St Aidan's Scottish Episcopal Church has warmly supported exploring participation in the Cluster group being formed with Busby and Netherlee & Stamperland, and all churches will take part in the ongoing discussions.

### **The next steps**

Seek approval from Greenbank Kirk Session on 4th April 2022 for Greenbank to form a cluster including Greenbank; Busby; and Netherlee and Stamperland  
If approved, advise Presbytery Mission Plan Creation Group of the cluster by **15<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Proceed to develop a draft Cluster Mission Plan. A progress report is required **by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022**, with the group Mission Plan to be submitted to Glasgow Presbytery by **30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**.

Each cluster will have the services of a facilitator, if required, for up to 6 x 2 hour sessions between **1<sup>st</sup> May and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**, to aid discussions.

By **30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**, there **may** be a decision on church buildings, and Group plans will be ratified by Presbytery.

By **31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**, all Presbytery Plans will be submitted.

Alison Allan (Session Clerk)

## **LEGACY FUND**

Thank you again to all those who continue to contribute to our Legacy Fund.

Pledges can be, and have been, made for any amount of money you can afford, and spread over a few years by standing order if that suits you better. Alternatively a one-off payment by bank transfer or cheque can be made, and you can also donate to the project online by logging on to our church website, following the link to the Legacy Project and clicking the red "Donate Online" button.

Spare pledge and bank standing order forms are available from myself or the Church Secretary, should you require any.

Please remember that **every donation**, of whatever size, is both needed and warmly welcome.

Alistair Smith, Treasurer

Tel: 0141 571 2676 Email: [alistairsmith@ntlworld.com](mailto:alistairsmith@ntlworld.com)

## **OFFERINGS DURING LOCKDOWN**

Dear Friends,

Since lockdown many members have continued to remit funds to the church, and I would like to thank them all for doing this. It is a great help to our church's finances.

The best way to maintain your freewill offerings to the church, if possible, is to make a direct payment into the Church's bank account, putting your freewill offering number in the payment reference box. For those wishing to do this, please email me at: [alistairsmith@ntlworld.com](mailto:alistairsmith@ntlworld.com) and I will supply you with the church's bank account details. Alternatively, you can send a cheque made out to Greenbank Parish Church with your freewill offering number, and I will lodge it with other cheques received.

My address is 26 Stewart Drive, Clarkston G76 7EZ.

Thank you for your support. Alistair Smith, Treasurer

**ARTICLES FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE AND COPIED TO [liddell.jill@gmail.com](mailto:liddell.jill@gmail.com) BY SUNDAY, 15TH MAY PLEASE**

## **FUNDRAISING AND THE RIPPLE EFFECT**

What is The Ripple Effect, I hear you ask? Let me explain...

I am so very lucky to work within a team of the loveliest people. I now consider them to be honorary members of Greenbank. They are so very supportive of everything that we do, but they have never visited our church.

"What are you doing this weekend?" we ask each other on a Friday. "Well, I'll be at church on Sunday - we are selling rice for our rice challenge" was my reply on one occasion, towards the end of 2019. A discussion followed, and then before I knew it, most of my work friends had ordered a bag of rice!

More recently, several of my work friends bought gin bottle lamps or folded books that had been made to raise money for our Legacy fund.

Most recently, I posted a photo on our work WhatsApp group chat of the jars of Elizabeth McKenzie's delicious marmalade that were on sale at church that Sunday. Quick as a flash, orders came pouring in, and all were delighted to enjoy the marmalade and contribute to our Legacy Project. What really amazed me was when one of my work friends, Louise, offered to make tablet for me to sell at church to raise further funds for the Legacy Project. This was so unexpected and extremely kind of her. She has now made two batches of tablet, and it is extremely good, and popular! Louise is fundraising for our Legacy Project, and is not even a member of our congregation!

Over the years my work friends have bought LHM Christmas cards; contributed to the Glasgow Northeast Foodbank; supported LHM by sponsoring our summer of fundraising in the lockdown summer of 2020; and sponsored our church team at Sleep in the Park, one VERY cold December night a few years ago.

This is the ripple effect, where we spread the word of what we are doing, and others engage enthusiastically in the process. It is just what Sharon Mitchell is doing in her role as Captain at Cathcart Castle Golf Club. She is spreading the word about LHM, and LHM will benefit from the proceeds of fundraising, and from more people being aware of the wonderful work which goes on there.

So, just as we drop a pebble in water and the ripples spread out, let us not be hesitant about sharing the joy of what we do as a church with our friends, families and workmates.

This is especially important at the moment. We await, with excitement, a planning decision on our Legacy Project. After so many years of lead up, we must sustain our momentum, and step up our efforts to continue to raise funds in whatever way we can, to ensure a continuing worshipping presence here in Clarkston moving into the future.

I recently learned of the following quote, attributed to Helen Keller. Helen was an American author and educator, who became deaf and blind when she was a very young child, and she said "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much". I think that sums things up quite nicely.

Alison Allan

## CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid week will run from 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May this year. As has been the case for the last couple of years, there will be different ways for you to make your donation to the work of Christian Aid through the annual appeal. The main method of donation will be by following the information contained in the e-envelope which will be emailed to everyone for whom we have an email address. There will also be a limited number of paper donation envelopes available in the church in which cash/cheque donations may be placed. Once filled, these should be left in the collection plates at the doors of the Church. Any such donations will be forwarded to Christian Aid by myself. Please remember to include your Gift Aid slips, if possible, as Gift Aid significantly increases the amount which Christian Aid receives. If you wish to take a spare envelope for a friend or neighbour, please feel free to do so, however there will not be any door to door collections again this year.

I hope you will continue to give generously to this worthy cause, and I thank you in anticipation of your contribution.

Mark Allan

Chairman

Clarkston and District Christian Aid Committee

## TIME OUT

After a delay of two years the Time Out weekend away finally happened. Nineteen of us enjoyed a lovely weekend in Dundee. The V&A was a popular attraction for us, as was the shopping.

We will be having our AGM shortly where we plan to organise a programme for our summer meetings and our new syllabus from September.

As always we would welcome new members.

Susan Mowat [stusue.mowat@hotmail.com]



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**Stuart Meek**  
**Joiner - Clarkston**

Ne'er cast a clout til May is oot! As the days get longer and the weather gets warmer (we hope), we begin to put away our boots, thick warm jackets and jumpers and bring out shorts, t-shirts and sandals. Scotland is not the warmest place and at one time people were cautious about getting ready for summer too early so the saying was don't put away your winter clothes until the end of May.

May has a number of traditions. One is that you should get up early on the 1<sup>st</sup> May and wash your face in the dew. It's supposed to make you more attractive by giving you a beautiful complexion and even getting rid of freckles and spots. In some parts of the UK, the 1<sup>st</sup> of May is known as Garland Day. Primary school pupils make garlands out of flowers and leaves, sometimes attached to sticks in the shape of a cross.

Many of the celebrations in May are about the arrival of Spring and new life. They go back to before Jesus was born as many of them were just good fun, like dancing round the maypole and Morris dancing. In Scotland, people use festival of Beltane on the first of May to mark the halfway point between spring and summer.

May is about lighter days, new growth in nature and hope of things to come. Let's hope the weather this May is sunny and warm enough to cast a few cloots.



## MORE BEES PLEASE



May is when we begin to see flowers and crops grow. This would not be possible without the work of bees. Unfortunately, bees are dying out because of the chemicals we use, modern farming methods, building and climate change reducing the wide variety of plants bees need. Around 13 of the UK's bee species are now extinct and 35 others are under threat. Even if you are scared of bees because they sting, it is worth remembering that a bee will avoid stinging if it can because it will die if it stings.

We can help bees by planting bee friendly plants. Bees can see the colour purple more clearly than any other colour, and some of the best bee plants, such as lavender, anemons, buddleia and catmint have purple flowers. Tubular-shaped flowers like foxgloves, honeysuckle and snapdragons are good for bees with long tongues. Single flowers that are easy for the bees to get into are helpful too. You don't even need to have a garden to help – a window box or plant pot will do!

## EXAM DAY TIPS

### Sleep enough

Have a good night's sleep before the exam. Staying up late to 'cram' is never a good idea. Stop revising at a point which gives you time to calm down, then go to bed at a decent time.

### Stop and reset

If your mind goes blank during the exam, do a simple breathing exercise to focus yourself, then have a calm read through the exam paper to find something you know well. Start by answering that, to bolster your confidence, then move on to the trickier stuff.

### Focus on you

Don't focus on what other people are doing in the exam hall. You can't judge how well you are doing by how other people are behaving.

### Move on

Don't keep re-living the exam when it's over. You've done what you can and you can't change anything now. Move onto the next one.



Hi everyone, I'm writing this before the Easter weekend and before our Teddy Bears' Picnic on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

I hope you all have enjoyed your school holidays, and that you all had a very Happy Easter and didn't eat too much chocolate!!

I want to say a big THANK YOU to everyone from Trailblazers, Sunday Squad, JAM and all the leaders, who took part in the service on the Monday night of Holy Week. You all read your part of the service really well, and I know that your parents and grandparents who were there were very proud of you. Other people who were there also mentioned to me how well you all did.

May and June are important months for some of our JAM members who will be sitting exams. The Sunday Club and JAM leaders, along with members of our congregation, will be thinking about, and praying for you all.

Once Easter is past, we're going to be learning about -

- Jesus helping the disciples to catch fish
- Who Jesus really is
- Loving one another
- The Holy Spirit
- Jesus praying for his disciples

In May – Sundays 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May - Sunday Club meets as usual Helen.



## WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

Personalize your flower garden by planting seeds that will bloom in the shape of your name.

### What You'll Need:

Flower box, soil or compost, a pencil, flower seeds

**Step 1:** Prepare the soil in a large, rectangular flower box or in a garden.

**Step 2:** Use a sharp stick or pencil to write your name in the dirt.

**Step 3:** Sprinkle flower seeds in the marks you made.

**Step 4:** Sprinkle loose soil over the seeds and keep them watered. Soon, you'll see your name sprouting from the ground. Remember to keep watering.

Begonia  
Carnation  
Daisy  
Gladiola  
Lily  
Magnolia  
Orchid  
Rose  
Snapdragon  
Tulip  
Violet

O	R	C	H	I	D	P	V	I	C	R	W
D	F	W	H	A	D	J	I	Q	T	O	C
C	A	R	N	A	T	I	O	N	U	S	H
R	R	O	F	F	K	K	L	L	L	E	S
D	U	N	D	S	J	R	E	G	I	F	R
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I	V	S	N	A	P	D	R	A	G	O	N
S	O	J	F	G	L	C	Q	D	D	Y	F
Y	D	M	A	G	N	O	L	I	A	G	N
B	E	G	O	N	I	A	D	O	U	H	N
T	A	V	J	L	B	O	C	L	I	L	Y
J	Z	A	I	Z	F	P	W	A	L	C	L

## BEE JOKES

1. What do you call a bee you can't understand? A mumble bee.
2. Why did the bees go on strike? Because they wanted more honey and shorter working flowers.
3. What did the queen bee say to the naughty bee? Beehive yourself.
4. Where did Noah keep his bees? In his archive.
5. If you have a bee in your hand, what do you have in your eye? Beauty, because beauty is in the eye of the bee-holder.
6. What do bees use to build roads? Nec-tar.
7. What do you call a bee that keeps dropping things? A fumble BEE!

## **CHURCH TRANSPORT**

As many of you will be aware, for many years prior to the outbreak of Covid 19, Greenbank ran a very popular transport service for people who would otherwise have found it difficult to attend our Sunday morning service. Throughout the pandemic, with the various restrictions on travel and meetings between households which everyone has been well aware of, it has not been possible to run this service.

As the current convenor of the Church Transport service, I thought it would be worthwhile to provide an update for everyone.

Please be assured that this service has not been forgotten. At the time of writing, and even as the mandatory wearing of face coverings is being relaxed, the guidance from the Scottish Government still does not recommend the sharing of cars between different households. Given the close proximity of up to 4 households in each car, and the vulnerability of some of our passengers, there will still need to be great care and consideration given to how this service might be able to resume.

To this end I have been looking at options to solve some of these challenges, but am not yet able to confirm when there might be a resumption of our Church Transport service. I know this will be somewhat disappointing and frustrating news, but please be assured that our passengers have not been forgotten, and as soon as I have something positive to report I will, of course, share this with you.

Mark Allan

Church Transport Convenor

## **BACK TO CHURCH**

For a long time, even when church re-opened, I continued to worship at home, unless I was on door duty as an elder. I felt that, spiritually, I had everything I needed there. I had the familiar sound of Jeanne's voice, at that time on zoom, and the reassuring and encouraging messages from bible readings and Jeanne's sermons. Church without walls took on a whole new meaning, and it confirmed what I already knew, that a church is wherever people are worshipping.

However, when I was appointed to the office of session clerk, I decided that, in that role, it would be more appropriate for me to be in church for Sunday worship. Our church Covid arrangements have been managed very efficiently, and I feel extremely safe when I am in our church and halls. Whilst masks are no longer a legal requirement, we are requesting that they still be worn while moving about our church and halls. Masks may be removed once you are seated in your place, and when praying and standing to sing. These, we feel, are reasonable measures to try to keep everyone safe, and they are measures which are still in place in many work places.

I am still very covid aware, and I am very selective about if, where and when I choose to go for a meal or coffee to a cafe or restaurant. I have elderly parents, and I must still try to keep them safe when I visit them.

But I feel safe in our warm but airy building, with its high roof, with plenty of room for spreading out should you wish to, and well ventilated halls where tea and coffee are served. I realise how much I missed everything and everyone!

It is lovely to see familiar faces smiling, and to sing, pray, and chat together over tea and coffee, and I encourage you to come back to church when you are ready - we miss you.

Alison Allan

## **BUSHIDO KARATE CLUB**

Our club is going strong, and it is great that we are still training at Greenbank. It is a busy time of year for our club – we have just completed a number of gradings where our students were outstanding in their techniques and ability. We have classes coming up with one of the top self-defence instructors in Scotland, also with a Master in Kung-fu and with Machig a Buddhist Monk – covering meditation techniques, Chi & the relationship to Karate. We have a Senior Black Belt Grading in May where we have a number of students attending.

We have been working on new advanced Kata which is always a great learning experience- our students are at such a high level with a very deep understanding and insight of these advanced Kata. Kata is a Japanese word meaning literally "form" referring to a detailed choreographed pattern of movements made to be practised alone, and also within groups and in unison when training. There are 26 different Kata in Shotokan our style of Karate.

Best wishes

John (Bushido Karate Association Chairman)



### Lodging House Mission

Donations for the LHM can be left on the trolley in the Link building on Sundays before and after the church service. UHT milk and sugar are particularly requested. Spare plastic bags would also be appreciated to use for take-out meals. Clothing is not required at the moment. Envelopes are also available for donations of money. Please complete your details on the envelope (so that Gift Aid can be claimed if relevant and your donation can be acknowledged) and either hand to me or post in the secure letterbox at the entrance to the church halls. Please do not leave these envelopes on the trolley with the other donations. All donations are very much appreciated.

### LHM Easter Egg Appeal

Thank you for your generous response to the Easter Egg Appeal. The Easter eggs, some of which can be seen on this page along with other donations from Greenbank, have been given to LHM clients and other local projects including Glasgow Women's Aid and the Talbot Association. The residents of 12 hostels have also benefitted from donations.



Below is an extract from an email I received from Deacon Claire Herbert on the 7 April.

***We are delighted to report we have received over 1000 eggs so far and this number is still rising!***

***What an amazing message of hope to be sharing with those who often feel forgotten and ignored.***

***Heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in supporting the appeal in whatever way.***



### Volunteering to help Greenbank help LHM

At the start of lockdown Greenbank was very fortunate to have so many volunteers to take in donations for the LHM on a Sunday and deliver these donations during the week. As we have almost returned to pre-lockdown days, this presence on a Sunday is no longer required. Many thanks to all the volunteers who so willingly gave up their time to support the LHM. **We do still need volunteers to join the rota to deliver the donated items to the LHM on a suitable day during the week.** If you would be interested in helping on a rota basis, please email the church secretary at nor call 0141 644 1841 and leave a message on the church office answering machine.

Liz Smith [0141 571 2676]

LHM Representative

### GLASGOW NORTH EAST FOODBANK

The response has been fantastic since the foodbank donation box was placed in the link building; many thanks to you all. I appreciate there are many calls on your charitable giving. Just updating the donations we look for at this time, the concentration being on food. We are well stocked with tinned soup, beans and pasta but tinned vegetables and fruit, UHT milk and fruit juice, packets of potato powder (smash), vegetable oil, fish, meat and toiletries are welcome.

Alex Howie

### STAMPS AND POSTCARDS

Postcards themselves are no longer being collected but please note that postcards with foreign stamps and British ones with unusual stamps are still usable, as I will soon cut the stamps off!

They can be got to me by using the following means:

1. There is a box in the manse doorway where they can be left anytime.
2. If attending church by putting them in the wooden boxes in the foyer of the church facing you as you enter.
3. With the assistance of The Guild who, while the halls remain in use, meet in the hall on a Wednesday from 2pm till approximately 3.30pm (last meeting before Christmas in the halls is 1<sup>st</sup> December, restarting on 12<sup>th</sup> January).

As before ordinary blue second-class stamps are not wanted and it looks likely that 2nd class Christmas stamps will join them so don't waste time and effort cutting them out!

If in doubt feel free to phone me.

Duncan McIntyre  
260068)

(01355

Let's have coffee  
and chat...



Saturday, 7th May, 10am - 12pm  
in Greenbank Church Halls





## GOOD NEIGHBOUR CONTACTS

### COMMUNICATIONS:

Email: The Church Secretary, currently working from home  
[office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk](mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk) or leave a message at the church office on 0141  
 644 1841 or email  
 Jill Liddell: [liddell.jill@gmail.com](mailto:liddell.jill@gmail.com)  
 Church Website: <http://www.greenbankglasgow.org.uk>

### DISTRIBUTOR:

Liz Allan, Email: [lizabeth.allan3@ntlworld.com](mailto:lizabeth.allan3@ntlworld.com)



Minister: Rev. Jeanne Roddick, Tel: 0141 644 1395.  
 Session Clerk: Alison Allan, Tel: 0141 638 3916  
 Depute Session Clerk: Peter Liddell, Tel: 0141 638 7870.  
 Church Office: 0141 644 1841, Email: [office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk](mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk)  
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 Congregation No. 160863. Registered Charity No: SC011453