# thegoodneighbour

**APRIL 2023** 



# **Parish Register**

### **DEATHS**

3/03/23 Mrs May Glaister, Silverburn Care Home, 3 Netherplace Rd, Glasgow G53 5AG

"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 <sup>nd</sup> April	10.30am	Palm Sunday Family Service
9 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30am	Easter Sunday Family Worship with an Easter egg hunt for the children
16 <sup>th</sup> April	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club/JAM
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	10.30am	Worship and Sunday Club/JAM
30th April	10.30am	Worship and Sunday Club/JAM
7 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	All Age Coronation Service of Worship

### **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April conducted by The Guild and Timeout Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April conducted by JAM and the Sunday Club

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at Busby with Greenbank and Netherlee Stamperland

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April at Greenbank (Maundy Communion with Busby and Netherlee Stamperland)

Good Friday 7th April at Netherlee Stamperland (A meditative service of lessons and music led by choirs from

Greenbank and Netherlee Stamperland)

### **The Walk Through Good Friday** - A short act of worship will take place on the hour:

9am Carmunnock Parish Church 'Father Forgive them. They do not know what they are doing' - Luke 23: 26-38

10am Cartsbridge Evangelical Church 'Today, you will be with me in paradise' - Luke 23: 39-43
11am Busby Parish Church 'Mother, there is your son ...' - John 19: 25(b)-27 [refreshments]
12noon St Joseph's RC Church 'My God, My God, why have you forsaken me - Mark 15: 33-35

1pm Greenbank 'I am thirsty' - John 19: 28

2pm St Aidan's Scottish Episcopal Church 'It is finished' - John 19: 29-30

3pm Netherlee Parish Church 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit' - Luke 23: 44-49 [refreshments]

### LIVE STREAMING OF WORSHIP

The technical equipment in the Church Sanctuary allows streaming via You Tube on Sunday Mornings.

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

On Easter Sunday we say together; *Alleluia. Christ is risen He is risen indeed. Alleluia.* The empty tomb, the eyewitness accounts, the millions who have followed Jesus over the centuries, are some of the many good reasons for believing those words, as are the many women and men whose lives were so transformed that they were compelled to tread the path of hope and love opened up for them and others on Easter Sunday.

On Easter Sunday we say together; *Alleluia. Christ is risen He is risen indeed. Alleluia.* However, if we only say those words simply as a remembrance of a miraculous event from the past, with a mention of hope for a better life in the future they will have very little meaning. If these words are to truly mean something, we have to believe that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is still happening in our world today.

The gospels teach us that the Risen Christ is always with us inviting us to believe in the power of God's love that we might be strengthened and sustained to be the carriers of resurrection moments. Those resurrection moments can happen in unexpected acts of kindness, forgiveness, generosity and sacrifice. They can happen when what little we have is shared with other or put someone else's interests before our own. So, this Easter may we once again be reminded to remain alert to, and respond to, those moments that the hope and love of our Risen Lord may continue to break out in sacrificial ways and unexpected places that we and many others may be able to truly say; *Alleluia*. *Christ is risen He is risen indeed. Alleluia*.

To you, your family and to those you meet along the way, I wish you happiness and the blessings of many Easter moments.



### KING CHARLES III CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

The Coronation will be a historic moment in the life of our country, a time to reflect on history and a time to celebrate as we look to the future. At the centre of the Coronation, a Christian service will take place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May at Westminster Abbey in which Charles will be anointed as King. The service will be rooted in longstanding tradition and Christian symbolism. The hope is that this might be a time when many are reminded of the person of Jesus Christ and hear His call to each of us to serve others. The Coronation will also present a unique missional opportunity for the Church to reach out, gather together with those known to us and to make new friends. There are many ways churches and Christians are being invited to get involved, from church services, to volunteering initiatives and community events.

Building on the Coronation themes of community, faith and service an **ALL AGE CORONATION SERVICE** will therefore take place at Greenbank on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Afterwards a **BIG LUNCH** event will take place in the Manse garden where everyone can gather to eat their own picnics; enjoy coronation themed baking from the Sunday & Jam baking stall; meet with friends; create new connections and have some fun together.

Whether joining in to be part of history and celebrate by worshipping in church or simply coming together with others over a bite to eat, the church service and the lunch will offer opportunities for the church and community to come together to share friendship, food and fun. Please invite your friends, family and neighbours and put the date in your diary now!

It would be wonderful if Greenbank could also get involved in **THE BIG HELP OUT** on Monday 8th May – a day in which various churches and groups across the country are being encouraged to highlight how volunteering benefits both communities and those who take part. If there is something that you have already volunteered for and would like help with; or something that you would like to organise please do not hesitate to email the church office with further information as soon as possible - <a href="mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk">office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk</a>

Yours.

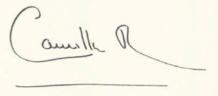
Jeanne



We are delighted that you are to hold a Coronation Big Lunch, joining people the length and breadth of the United Kingdom, and further afield, as we celebrate the ties that bind us. It is these connections, as neighbours, friends and communities, that make the places where we live feel even more like home.

Whether this is your first ever Big Lunch, or whether it is an annual part of your local calendar, we send our warmest good wishes to each one of you, and all those who will be with you, at what we hope will be a truly enjoyable event for everyone.







### OFFERING INCOME

Dear Friends,

I wish to thank all those who continue to support the church, whether by standing order, direct payment into our bank account, weekly freewill offering or putting money in the offering bag each Sunday.

Offering income is essential to the work of the church and I thank all those who have responded to the financial appeal letter to the congregation last November. It is not too late – it is never too late – to increase your offering to Greenbank. You may also, or instead, make a contribution to the Greenbank's Restricted Fabric Fund. I recognise that some of us may not be able to increase their offering which makes it all the more important for those who can, to do so.

For those who may still feel uneasy or unable to come to church for whatever reason, but still wish to contribute financially, you may contribute by any of the above methods. For a standing order form, or details of the church's bank account to make a direct payment, please email me at <u>alistairdsmith@ntlworld.com</u> or write to me at the address below and I will be happy to assist. You may also post me a cheque and/or your freewill offering contribution to the address below. My address is 26 Stewart Drive, Clarkston G76 7EZ.

Thank you all for your continuing support.

Alistair Smith, Treasurer.

### **BAPTISMAL REFLECTION**

### From Jennifer Mackie, mother of Samuel Richard Mackie

Samuel Richard Mackie was born on Saturday 25th September 2021 at 12.57pm in the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow. He was baptised in Greenbank Church on 27th November 2022, when we also joined the Church. The date was much later than we'd ever intended it to be, but for various reasons we weren't able to do it any sooner.

As it turned out, the date was very special - I had been baptised in Greenbank 40 years earlier, to the day. I couldn't believe it when Sam's Gran told me the significance of the date! I'd been nearly 3 months old when I was baptised on 27th November 1982 while Sam had just turned 14 months old. So, although our dates were the same, we were very different babies. I felt so proud as Sam walked into his own christening, his little hand in mine and the memory of seeing my parents in the congregation, the look of pride on their faces, and my Mum trying to hold back tears as she quietly gasped Sam's name as she saw him walk in wearing his five-piece suit, will stay with me forever. We really wanted Sam to be baptised in Greenbank by Jeanne, who also married us in 2016. One of my best friends, Jennifer Wyllie, and one of Craig's best friends, Peter Brown, are now Sam's Godparents. Lots of our friends and their children were there for the baptism and even more joined us afterwards for a celebration.

There were so many special moments that day, that it wouldn't be possible to list them all here but I think one of my favourites was Sam visiting the Sunday School and spending some time there with the children, who sang a song to him and were so welcoming and kind to him. He seemed to really like being there and I hope he'll want to go when he's old enough.

We feel so lucky to have had such a wonderful day on such an important event in Sam's life. We would like to say 'thank you' to everyone at Greenbank for being so helpful, supportive and welcoming to us, and extend special thanks to Jeanne who made it such a warm, special and meaningful occasion for Sam and for us.

### **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: alistairdsmith@ntlworld.com

# **Prayer Diary**

Through all the frozen winter My nose has grown most lonely For lovely, lovely coloured smells That come in springtime only.

The purple smell of lilacs, The yellow smell that blows Across the air of meadows Where bright forsythia grows.

The tall pink smell of peach trees, The low white smell of clover, And everywhere the great green smell Of grass the whole world over.

('Smells' - Kathryn Worth)

We had a strange start to the year with the prevailing wind changing from north to south to north to south, so it was switching between being cold and then mild, and back again. But every mild spell brings a taste of what's to come and starts to banish the cold of winter.

Spring is a time to look forward - to new growth, to longer brighter days, and to Easter. Say thank you for natures re-awakening and the bounty of our world, even as you pray that humankind can come together to work to heal our planet.

Pray for the people of Turkey and Syria whose lives have been devastated by the recent earthquake. Pray that they will find comfort in their grief for all those they've lost, and strength for rebuilding their homes and their shattered lives. And say thank you for the overwhelming response of governments, aid organisations and ordinary people in rushing to help out.

Keep the people of Ukraine in your prayers, as well as everyone caught up in conflicts and persecution the world over. Pray that humankind strives to rid itself of greed and avarice, of its constant need for material wealth, no matter the cost to others. And that we try to overcome the suspicion and hatred of people who are different to ourselves.

Pray for Greenbank, that people always find a warm welcome here and that they might feel it would be good to be part of that. Pray that our plans to be at the heart of our community continue to be fulfilled, and that we will thrive. Say a prayer, too, for the Christian church across the country and across the world, that all the different parts can work together for the benefit of mankind.

And pray that our fractured world can find common ground, that we realise how inter-dependent we really are and work at finding agreement on our most basic needs.

'Do not cling to events of the past or dwell on what happened long ago. Watch for the new thing I am going to do.' (Isaiah 43:18-19)

Gillian Foy [0141 638 6245] Prayer Promoter

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

If you need prayer for yourself, a loved one or a friend, requests can be sent to the Prayer Promoter, Gillian Foy via the church office at <a href="mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk">office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk</a> Those for whom prayers are requested will be prayed for throughout the following month by members of the Prayer Group. Anyone who would like a copy of the prayer list, in order to pray for those on it, should contact Gillian.

### What's On

### FLOWER LIST FOR MARCH 2023

<u>Communion Table</u> <u>Centenary Chapel</u> Side Windows

2nd April

9th April

16th April Elizabeth MacDonald

23rd April Etta Anderson

30th April Eleanor Johnstone

A member of the Flower Committee will contact you during the week prior to your date.

If you would like to donate flowers for the Church, please put your name on the sheet on the Transept window sill.

With thanks

Elizabeth Cross (638 5162)

### THE GUILD

The Guild has completed another successful year of friendly afternoons with our attendance averaging about 30 every week. Our second last meeting of our session was our business meeting where we heard about the progess of the Guild's fundraising for our six projects followed by a quiz which had us scratching our heads but, as it turned out, we were all A students! Our final meeting was our customary musical afternoon which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

We look forward to next year, when we hope more of you will join us.

Enid Dron Secretary

### **TIME OUT**

Our 2022/2023 session has come to an end. Our last meeting was a very interesting talk about bees. I can confidently say that all of us learned some very interesting facts on the undervalued life of bees. We hope to continue during the summer months with our usual garden meetings, fingers crossed for a warm and sunny summer – and lots of busy but well behaved bees.

We've had a varied syllabus this year and look forward to planning another good year for Time Out starting in September. We'd love to welcome new members in the next session.

Susan Mowat <a href="mailto:stusue.mowat@hotmail.com">stusue.mowat@hotmail.com</a>

### THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A date for your diary is Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. After the All Age Coronation Worship Service at 10.10am we will be having a Community Coronation Picnic in the Manse Grounds. We did this for the Platinum Jubilee nd it was a huge success. So pack the blankets and make up the picnic for happy, friendly and, hopefully, sunny Sunday afternoon.

### **CHRISTIAN AID URGENT APPEAL**

Christian Aid has launched an Urgent Appeal to cover a shortfall in funding. Martin Birch, the chief operating officer for Christian Aid, has sent me a mailshot appealing to Greenbank Parish Church members to give whatever you can. The funding which Christian Aid raised last year for projects across the globe is simply not enough; this may, in part, be due to the cost of living crisis which is affecting everyone. The shortfall being experienced by Christian Aid means that the funding gap puts the most vulnerable people at risk. Without your help, they may not get the support they desperately need to survive. Together, we need to ensure that this does not happen.

Please consider giving whatever you can. To give context to what your donation could mean; £30 could support 6 families with water hygiene kits that will provide clean drinking water. £50 could provide much needed food for a household of 5 people. £109 could provide an emergency shelter and a hygiene kit for one family.

To make your donation please go to; caid.org.uk/shortfall

### THANK YOU

My sincere thanks to the congregation of Greenbank for the generous gifts and thoughtful cards and letters which I have received since leaving my post as Greenbank's secretary. It has been a privilege to serve you and the church which has meant a great deal to me since childhood. I have very much enjoyed working with you over the last fifteen years and take with me many fond memories of you all. I am now looking forward to a new chapter in my life and hope to meet many of you again along the way.

I would like to leave you with the sentiments held in the traditional Gaelic blessing:

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,

may God hold you in the palm of his hand."

Jane Mayer



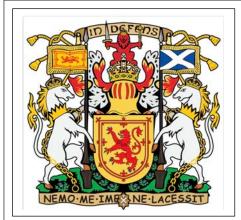
### **WELL DONE, COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Many of you will have attended the marvellous Christmas Concert by Clarkston Community Choir in aid of Maggie's. The result was a cheque for the magnificent sum of £500. As Maggie's said, "We can't sing their praises highly enough for their effort and donation which will go a long way in supporting our visitors in 2023.

Congratulations Choir. You don't just have big voices but also big hearts.

### Young People's Page





### **NATIONAL UNICORN DAY**

This picture shows the old coat of arms of Scotland. If you look at the animals on each side of it carefully you will see that they are unicorns. National animals are often chosen because they show how the country likes to see itself. and Scotland is no different. America has the eagle, a symbol of freedom. England has the lion, a symbol of strength. Italy has the wolf, because they travel in packs meaning that together they are strong. So why is Scotland's national animal the unicorn? Unicorns today are popular as children's toys with sparkles and coloured manes, but the unicorn has been around for a very long time. They were once thought to be above any other animal, especially in Scottish history because they were a symbol of purity and power and could not be defeated.

National Unicorn Day is on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April. Children especially like to wear clothes with unicorns or head bands with horns on them. Stirling Castle even produced a unicorn in 2019 (although a few people suspected it was a small pony with a false horn). Unicorns don't exist. They are magical creatures found in stories and legends. In the Harry Potter stories they appeared as creatures able to heal people and give them life which is what many people believed they could do.

Did you know that at one time the unicorn was used to represent Jesus? Can you think why? Look at the character of the unicorn. It is pure, powerful, a healer and it gives life. It can never be defeated. This is the message of Easter which is also on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April. Isn't that a coincidence?



The brilliant Disney classic animation, 'Robin Hood', is showing in Eastwood Theatre on 15<sup>th</sup> April starting at 1pm. Tickets cost £5 and can be bought through the *What's on in East Renfrewshire* website or by phoning 0141 577 4956.

Watch as Robin Hood, an outlaw, forms a gang in Sherwood Forest to fight against the nasty Sheriff of Nottingham, who forces unjust taxes upon the people on the greedy prince's orders.

### **FAMILY FUN DAY**

Get along to Giffnock Library on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 1.30pm to 3pm for their Family Fun Day full of Spring activities, crafts and stories. It is suitable for children of all ages and is free event.

Contact 0141 577 4976 to find out more.



### **FIVE FUN FACTS ABOUT EASTER EGGS**

- 1. Egg painting comes from Ukraine. See how bright and patterned they are.
- 2. The first ever chocolate Easter egg was invented in the U.K. It was made in Bristol in 1873 by Fry's, the chocolate company.
- 3. The world's biggest Easter Egg was more than 34 feet tall. It weighed 15,873 pounds and was made in Cortenuova, Italy.
- 4. The most expensive Easter Egg was sold for £7000. It was sold in London on 20th March 2012, was covered in gold leaf and took three days to make.
- 5. Around 80 million Easter Eggs are sold in the UK each year. That's a lot of chocolate!



**Ukrainian Easter Eggs** 



### Hi everybody,

Last month I wrote about the 40 days from Ash Wednesday until Easter Day (except the Sundays) being Lent and how people try to give up something for Lent. Did any of you do that? It could have been something to eat, or perhaps something to do less of like biting your nails, or spending less screen time on technology. The Sunday Club Leaders and I would love to know if you did anything, even if just for some of the time – you can tell us when you next see us.

This year the Easter weekend will be in the middle of your school holidays. If you're not away then, it would be great to see you in church for the family service – and there's the Easter Egg hunt too! You can of course come to church on any Sunday during the holidays as there are always some crafts and colouring for you to do.

All the Sunday Club and JAM leaders wish you all a very Happy Easter, and we hope you enjoy the school holidays too.

#### Helen

Here's our Sunday Club dates for April:

Sunday 2nd April Sunday Club/JAM on holiday – Family worship in church

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April Easter Sunday – Family service with Easter Egg Hunt for children

Sundays 16<sup>th,</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> April Sunday Club/JAM as usual



### **EASTER EGG FUDGE**

During the Easter Holidays we hope the sun will shine and we can get outside but if it's raining and you're bored try this recipe. You could even try it instead spending time on your phone or playing computer games.

#### **INGREDIENTS**

700 g chocolate we used a mixture of milk and dark. A large knob of butter 395g can sweetened condensed milk 4 Cream eggs Small packet of mini eggs

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Break the chocolate up into small pieces and put them into a heatproof bowl.
- 2. Add the butter and condensed milk to your bowl.
- 3. Using a double boiler (a pot of simmering water with a bowl placed on top, making sure the bowl doesn't touch the water)
- 4. Leave the fudge to cook on a low heat until it has fully melted, stirring it occasionally.
- 5. Line an 8 inch baking tray with baking paper. You can use a larger or smaller tin if you want thicker or thinner fudge. Pour the fudge in and press down with the back of a spatula.
- 6. Using a sharp knife chop the cream eggs in to rough quarters and half the mini eggs. Arrange the eggs on top off the fudge.
- Put the fudge in the fridge for a few hours until it has set.
- 8. Cut into small squares and enjoy.

### **FIND THE WORDS**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO EVERYONE
WHO HAS A BIRTHDAY
IN APRIL.
HAVE A GREAT DAY!!

### **News and Updates**

### **CHURCH OFFICE**

The contact arrangements for the church office remain unchanged. Please continue to use the same email address and telephone numbers as before:

office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk 0141 644 1841

As before, the answering machine will be monitored regularly, as will incoming emails. Please bear with us as we work through this period of change until we are able to appoint a new employee working in the church office. Thank you.

### **VACANCY**

Greenbank has a vacancy for an Administrator/Receptionist. If this is something you or someone you know would be interested in, please contact:

Alison Allan, Session Clerk (alison.allan@ntlworld.com/0141 638 3916) for further information.

ARTICLES FOR THE MARCH ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO JILL LIDDELL AT: liddell.jill@gmail.com BY SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> APRIL PLEASE

### **STAMPS**

Old style FIRST and SECOND class stamps are now set to EXPIRE on 31st JULY 2023

Many thanks from Duncan and me for all the stamps brought to the Church vestibule boxes and the Guild.

All postage stamps are welcome. QR strips should be retained and it is most helpful if stamps are retained on a modest portion of the envelope, and not trimmed very close to the perforations.

Elizabeth McKenzie

### **HALL HIRE**

Greenbank church Halls are available to hire for children's parties. There is plenty of space to run around, play games and have fun. For further information, contact the Church Office on <a href="mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk">office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk</a> or leave a message at the church office on 0141 644 1841

### **BUSHIDO KARATE CLUB**

The Club is preparing for the Association Black Belt Grading in May where we have a number of students being put forward. These students will be graded by one of the highest grading panels in Scotland and it is a tough exam where they have to demonstrate their expertise and skills in a number of categories - performing advanced techniques, Kata, bag work and kumite(fighting). These are always great nights and as a club we are so proud of these students for their commitment and success.

We will also be participating in the annual BKA course where senior instructors will be passing on new advanced techniques.

John Elliot Bushido Karate Association Chairman



### DONATING TO THE LODGING HOUSE MISSION

Donations for the LHM can be put on the trolley in the Link building on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday mornings. UHT milk, kettle foods eg pot noodles, tinned soup eg tomato, chicken and mushroom, tinned stew or mince and tinned beans are particularly requested. Sugar, clothing, toiletries, towels, duvets and bedding are not needed 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, place in an offering bag during the service or post in the letterbox at the entrance to the church halls. Please do not leave envelopes on the trolley with the other donations. All donations are very much appreciated.

### Volunteering to help Greenbank help LHM

If you would like to join the rota to deliver the donated items to the LHM on a suitable day during the week please email <a href="mailto:office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk">office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk</a> or call 0141 644 1841 and leave a message on the church office answering machine.

### **EASTER EGG APPEAL**

After a successful appeal last year, the LHM has launched another one this year for Easter eggs to distribute to their guests. If you would like to donate an egg, please leave it on the trolley in the Link building. It would be appreciated, if you could put a label on your egg with "A Gift of Hope" The last Sunday for donations is 2 April. Thank you for all your donations.

Liz Smith (LHM Representative) 571-2676





Exciting news - Greenbank Church has signed up to become a registered Playlist for Life Help Point! Let me explain a bit about what this means, and the background to it.

Most of us will have heard of the broadcaster and writer Sally Magnusson. Sally is one of an increasing number of people who has experience of caring for a loved one who is suffering from dementia. Whilst caring for her Mum, Sally noticed the benefits to her Mum, Mamie, of the sound of familiar music. Playing music to Mamie brought back memories from her childhood and her life, and allowed Sally and her family to reconnect with this lady who was so special to them. Sally's Mum was again able to sing hymns, previously thought forgotten, and they were able to share familiar music together, and to enjoy moments of reconnection.

The benefits of music to dementia sufferers is well researched and established, and Sally was so taken with the way that her Mum responded, that she wanted everyone to know about this, and wanted all dementia sufferers and their carers to have access to the power of music.

In 2013, Sally founded the charity "Playlist for Life". Her aim was that all dementia sufferers and their carers would be made aware of the positive impact that music can have. Each person, like you and me, will have their own unique play list of music of their life - songs, hymns, and music which will have that flashback effect, taking them right back to a particular time in their life. We all have songs which, when we hear them, take us right back to a place and a time - Sunday School, a wedding, a university event, a holiday, or a dance.

For a dementia sufferer and their carer, this Playlist can provide valuable and special moments of reconnection when other means of connection seem lost forever. The idea is that with a bit of thought and detective work, a playlist meaningful to a dementia sufferer will be established and stored on a suitable device, and that the sufferer and carer will listen to this together and reconnect.

I read Sally's book "Where the Memories Go - why dementia changes everything", about her experience with her Mum, and was touched and moved by it, and would recommend it.

When our church received an email from "Playlist for Life" asking if we would consider being a Help point to raise awareness to dementia sufferers and their carers of the benefits of having a playlist of special music, we jumped at the opportunity.

We are now registered as a Help point, have recently received a package of paper resources, and have access to online materials to support us in this worthwhile venture, and we are working with the charity to ensure that this partnership thrives and that we are able to help spread the word. You will soon see posters in our church, and posts on our social media platforms to publicise this. You will also see supplies of booklets and leaflets containing information

Watch out for further updates, and please do not hesitate to contact me or the church office if you would like to learn more. There will be more information in future issues of Good Neighbour. And you can find out more using the link below

https://www.playlistforlife.org.uk/

### **GOOD NEIGHBOUR CONTACTS**

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