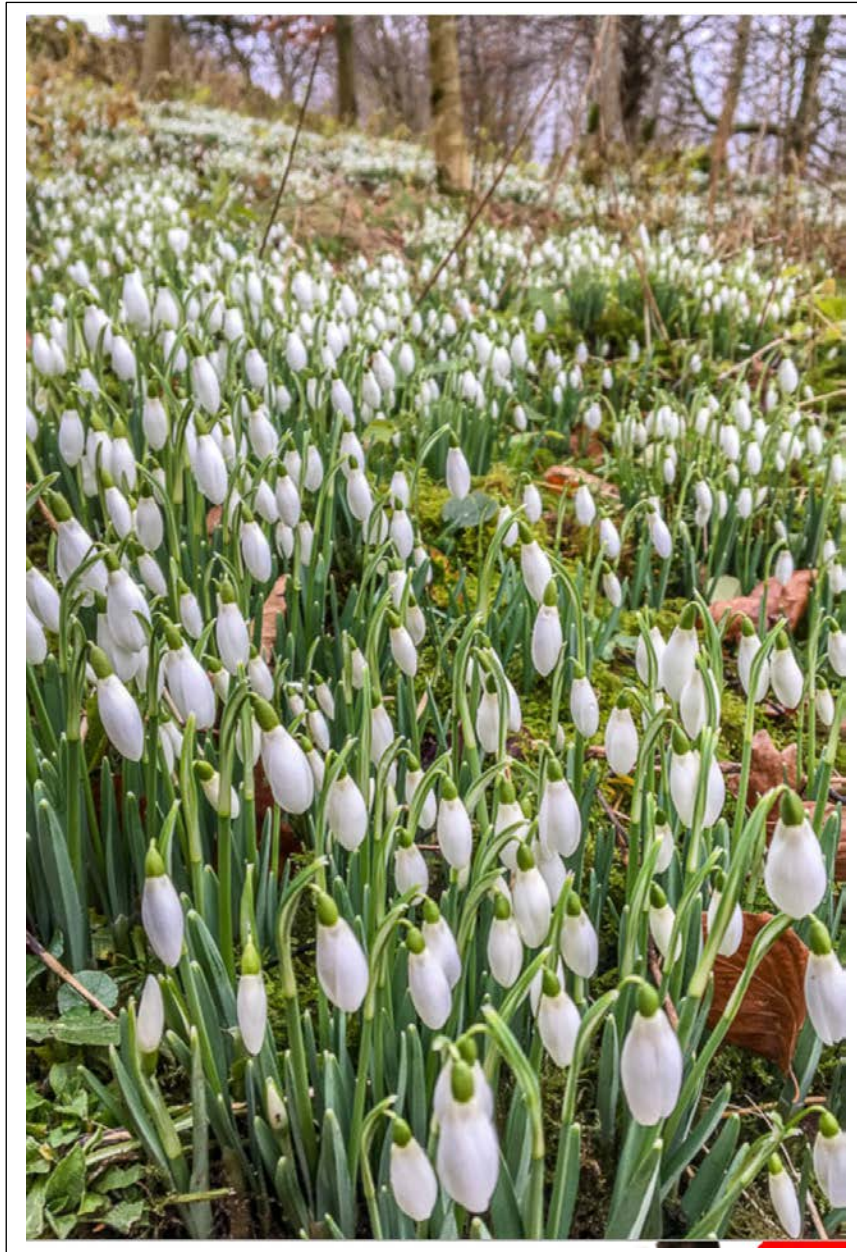


thegoodneighbour

FEBRUARY 2024



Living our **faith** by our **actions**  at the heart of the **community**

GreenbankParish
CHURCH

Parish Register

DEATHS

8/12/23	Mrs Christine Baird, Mansefield Road, Clarkston
16/12/23	Mrs Elizabeth Ritchie, Douglas View Care Home, Hamilton
17/12/ 23	Mr Bill Carswell, Hilltree Court, Giffnock
3/1/24	Mr Archibald (Archie) Clark, Greenbank Lodge, Clarkston
7/1/24	Mr Rodger Mason, Mearns View Care Home, Newton Mearns
7/1/24	Mr Douglas Nichol, formerly of Hawthorn Road, Busby

"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

4 th February	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club/JAM
11 th February	10.30am	Family Worship (Sunday Club/JAM are on holiday)
18 th February	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club/JAM
25 th February	10.30am	Worship & Sunday Club/JAM
3 rd March	10.30am	Sacrament of Holy Communion (Sunday Club/JAM meet in the Halls)

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 minute's 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.

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.

SATURDAY BOOK CLUB

The Saturday Book Club are about to start reading a new book, "Encounters with Jesus" by Timothy Keller. New members of the Club are always welcome to join in our lively and interesting discussions. We will begin by reading the first two chapters. If you would like a copy of the book it is available on Amazon.

Our next meeting is on Saturday, 3rd February in the creche room just off the Hall of Friendship at 10am or at 09:45 if you would like to join us for breakfast. Remember to bring a mug if you want tea or coffee. New members are very welcome and we would be pleased to see you. If you have any questions or would like to know please get in touch with Ronnie McNeill on 0141 577 6503.



Dear friends,

Thank you all so much for the extremely warm welcome you have given me.

As I get to know you I realise more each week just what a privilege it is to be walking alongside you in this time of change. I hope to write regularly to you in the coming months but want to take this first opportunity to introduce myself to you and outline the role I have with you as your Locum Minister.

Officially I am Reverend Ruth Halley BEd BD(Hons) PGCert but, as I always say, Ruth is just fine with me. I am a semi-retired Parish Minister having held a number of positions within the church, both locally and nationally. Most recently I was Associate Minister at Greyfriars Kirk in Edinburgh and prior to that have been Interim Moderator and Locum at Aberlady and Gullane and Parish Minister at Logie Kirk in Stirling and prior to that in Penicuik North Kirk. Before entering Parish Ministry I worked for over 20 years for City of Edinburgh Council latterly as a senior manager with city-wide responsibility for services to children and families. As a young adult I was a secondary school teacher of English, Physics and Chemistry and taught Maths for a while in Zimbabwe. I entered ministry later in life in response to a clear sense of call and have found the journey to be hugely rewarding.

On a personal note I like to claim to be 'local' to Greenbank in that I was born in the Robroyston Hospital and spent my first months living in Tulloch Street. I am 66 years old and like to keep fit by running, swimming and going to the gym. I am not married as some of you may have understandably assumed but was widowed in 2020. I have three grown up children and four grandchildren all of whom live at a distance – York, Toulouse and Toowoomba, Australia. I myself currently live in Dunbar on the east coast south of Edinburgh.

My role as Locum Minister with you is both temporary and part-time and so it will be important to maintain a focus on priorities agreed with the Interim Moderator Rev John McPake and Session Clerk Helen Howard. These priorities include Sunday morning worship, pastoral care such as hospital visiting and funerals, and work with young people in schools. My weekly working pattern is Sunday morning worship, Monday and Tuesday, working at the church and remotely. However, I will be working flexibly so please do feel that I can be contacted by email at rhalley@churchofscotland.org.uk. My mobile number for use in cases where there is an urgent need for a Minister is 07596 579531.

I started this introductory letter by calling you friends and I feel blessed to be able to do that. According to the gospel of John, Jesus says to the disciples, "I have called you friends". We remember, of course, that we approach the majesty and mystery of Jesus, who is not only wholly human but also wholly divine, with humility and reverence. Jesus also says: "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you, abide in my love" This is our guide for life. Jesus calls us his "friends". But this is no ordinary friendship to which Jesus summons us. It is a friendship which He himself has initiated, and that results in commitment and trust on our part.

The people of Greenbank know that this is a call to service. Your loving faithfulness is shown in all you are and do and is already evident to me. What joy and fulfilment it is to be chosen by Him and to be called the friends of Jesus.

With love and blessings,

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 any increases in offering income to Greenbank are always welcome. 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 are 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 alistairsmith@ntlworld.com 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.

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

FLOWER LIST FOR FEBRUARY

	Communion Table	Centenary Chapel	Side Windows
4th February.	Isobel Blanchflower.		
11th February.			
18th February.	Mary Chisholm.		
25th February.	Aileen McKinlay.		

The flower lists are on the windowsill in the Transept. Please put your name against the date you would like to donate flowers for the Church. A member of the flower committee will contact you during the week prior to your date.

With thanks,

Elizabeth Cross (6385162)

Prayer Diary

'Snowflakes and Easter lilies scatter the ground
Winter time and Spring time seem to be having a round
Like a game of tug of war each side wants control
Today it was Winter who wanted to rock n roll
Tomorrow maybe Spring time will give it a heave ho.
Guess we won't know till tomorrow though'
(Janet Eaton)



Here we are heading into the last month of winter. The days are drawing out so we get a bit more daylight, if not actual sunshine. We'll have everything in the shops covered in hearts for Valentine's Day, we can look forward to pancakes for Shrove Tuesday, and haggis for Burns Night.

Keep asking in your prayers for peaceful resolutions to conflict the world over. Not only in Ukraine and Gaza, which have dominated the headlines for so many months, but also for the conflicts which have slipped away from the headline news. Remember the ordinary people who have been dragged into a war zone, and all the troops putting their lives on the line, on whichever side. Pray that the people in command have the will to find peaceful solutions, and to be prepared to make compromises.

This is the year that we hope to see some visible progress on our Legacy Project, so keep asking in your prayers that everything moves along smoothly, and good progress is made. And give thanks that we have Ruth to lead us in our worship for the next wee while.

Pray for all those who find their lives so traumatic that they leave everything they have and risk dangerous journeys in the hope of finding a better life. Ask that God will change the hearts and minds of the perpetrators of suppression, injustice and inhumanity in all places, and that He will give strength to all those that oppose them.

'Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry. Man's anger does not achieve God's righteous purpose.'
(James 1:19-20)

Gillian Foy
Prayer Promoter [0141 638 6245]

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 office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk 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

THE GUILD

The Guild members are enjoying being back together and look forward to a successful Spring session. We have an interesting programme and will still be delighted to welcome any ladies at 2pm on Wednesday afternoons.

The Guild were all very saddened by the sudden death of Christine Baird. Christine was a faithful member of the Guild and will be greatly missed by everyone.

TIME OUT

Happy New Year everyone from Time Out. We're looking forward to an exciting 2024 session. January started out with a quiz night and our annual Burns night, always an entertaining evening.

February starts with a line dancing evening on the 8th and an interesting topic on the 22nd, Street Vets. We meet every other Thursday at 7.30 in the church halls. All new members welcome.

liz.milne@ntlworld.com stusue.mowat@hotmail.com

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Clarkston Community Choir are back with a new session, rehearsing for upcoming summer concerts, working on a huge variety of classical, pop and folk songs. The choir is welcoming and inclusive - there are no entry requirements, and no need to be able to read music, just come along and join in! We meet 7:30-9:30pm on Wednesday evenings in Greenbank Parish Church Halls, and attendance is free for your first week, and thereafter £3 per week. For more info you can email the choir director at: richard.scholfield@yahoo.com

CHURCH CHOIR

Before the festive season becomes a distant memory, I must record on behalf of the congregation our gratitude and thanks to Peter, our dedicated and hardworking organist and choirmaster, and our Choir for their Nine Lessons and Carols service in December. It is always the most uplifting, traditional Sunday service of Christmas at Greenbank. It never disappoints! I hope all the participants know how appreciated they are throughout the year but particularly at this special time.

Thanks also to our excellent readers for their seamless rendering of the Bible verses. We simply sit back and enjoy!

Thank you all.
Anne Jaap

The Choir were augmented by a number of singers for their Nine Lessons and Carols. The regular members are a sociable bunch who really enjoy the Choir and being put through their paces with Peter each Thursday in preparation for Sunday services. If you can sing and think that you would like to join the choir, please approach Peter and find out what is involved. Basses, baritones and tenors would be particularly welcome!

GREENBANK PLAYERS

We have pleasure in announcing that tickets will shortly go on sale for our next production which will be on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th March.

Tickets for 'Return to Grimley', a two-act play, cost £8 and will include wine and nibbles. They can be purchased from Liz Smith (571 2676) and Jill Liddell (638 7870) or any club member.

We hope to see you at one of our performances.

LET IT SNOW! LET IT SNOW! LET IT SNOW!



Schools in Aberdeenshire were closed for five days during January when there was heavy snow. I'm sure some of wishes that you were having a snow day! Snow can be beautiful, exciting and fun but not so much when it turns to ice and slush making travel difficult and people cold. Love it or hate it snow is fascinating.

Each year, at least 1 septillion snowflakes fall from the sky. That's 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000. (24 zeroes!). Snow forms in clouds. When the temperature is below freezing (less than 0°C or 32°F), snow begins to form in the clouds. Although snow seems white, snowflakes are actually made of tiny ice crystals that form on tiny bits of dirt in the air. They grow on the way down, becoming heavier as they fall toward Earth.

Some snowflakes are made of one single ice crystal. Other snowflakes are made of up to 200 ice crystals joined together. It's believed that no two snowflakes are the same but one scientist found two identical snowflakes from a snowstorm in Wisconsin. Snowflakes can have different shapes. The air temperature around them determines its shape. Also, snow is actually not white. It's clear. It appears white because of the way the sun reflects off of the ice crystals. The world's largest snowflake was recorded at 15 inches across and 8 inches thick. It was found at Fort Keogh, Montana in the United States on January 28th, 1887. It's a Guinness Book of World Record!

A snowstorm when there is a heavy snowfall and a lot of snow lies on the ground. A blizzard is a severe snowstorm that has high winds of at least 35 mph and reduced visibility to less than a quarter of a mile for 2 hours or more. A ground blizzard is when it's not snowing, but strong winds blow around loose snow, making it hard to see. "Thundersnow" is a snowstorm that also has thunder, lighting, and strong winds. When it's not snowing, freshly fallen snow absorbs sound waves, making everything seem quieter.

The Inuit have 50 words for snow but the Scots language has 421 terms related to snow. Some words include 'skelf' (a large snowflake), 'spitters' (small drops of driving snow) and 'unbrak' (the beginning of a thaw). I wonder why we have so many!

WORLD NUTELLA DAY

Have you heard about **World Nutella Day**? The celebration, held on 5th February each year started in 2007 when massive Nutella fan Sara Rosso decided that there should be a day to honour this most delicious of spreads. The day is now run on an official basis by Ferrero, the Italian manufacturers of Nutella. Each year a new Chief Nutella® Ambassador is chosen to wave the flag on behalf of Nutella lovers everywhere. To celebrate maybe you'd like to try this recipe - with a bit of help from an adult.



Strawberry Nutella French Toast Roll-Ups (makes 6)

Ingredients:

6 slices white bread, 6 tbs Nutella, 6 -12 strawberries (chopped), 2 large eggs, 60ml milk, 2 tbs sugar, unsalted butter, icing sugar.

Method:

Slice the crusts off the slices of bread, then use a rolling pin to roll each slice so that it's flat and dense.

Spread a tablespoon of Nutella evenly over each slice, then lay one sliced in a row at the bottom of each slice. Roll up each bread slice into a cigar shape, starting at the edge closest to the strawberries.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk, and granulated sugar. Dip each roll-up in the mixture, letting any excess liquid drip back into the bowl, and set the dredged roll-ups on a plate.

Melt the butter in a large nonstick frying pan over medium heat, then place the bread roll-ups in the pan. Cook, turning the roll-ups occasionally, until all sides are golden brown. Six Roll-Ups are quite a lot so its best to share them. Enjoy!

Hi Everyone,

We hope you and the children enjoyed our Christmas activities over December, especially the Nativity, Christmas Party and JAM Breakfast. I think it's safe to say we all enjoyed them and the children of Trailblazers especially enjoyed their special visit from Santa too and the gifts he presented them with. Spending time with family and friends is always special at that time of year.

Now that we are into a New Year, we have lots of new stories and crafts to enjoy this session running up to the Easter and Summer holidays. As always, we hope you enjoy all the activities and crafts we have on offer, in the coming session.

Sunday Club & Jam Team

Dates for February are: -

Sunday 28th January - Sunday Club & Jam

Sunday 4th February - Sunday Club & Jam

Sunday 11th February - Holiday

Sunday 18th February - Sunday Club & Jam

Sunday 25th February - Sunday Club & Jam



Come on everybody, it's time for Peppa's Cinema Party!

Featuring the voices of Katy Perry as Ms Leopard and Orlando Bloom as Mr Raccoon in an episode of the 3-part Wedding Party story, the whole family can enjoy 10 never-before-seen Peppa Pig episodes! And with 5 brand new songs, as well as 11 interactive entertainment shorts with Peppa and her friends playing, dancing and singing in the real world, you will be moving and grooving with Peppa in a whole new way! So, grab your coat and jump into your boots, let's be on our way to the Peppa Cinema Party!

On 9th -12th February in Eastwood Park Theatre, tickets cost £6 for an adult and £5 for a child from the theatre box office at (BoxOffice@ercultureandleisure.org) or 0141 577 4956.

The programme last for 1hour and 15 minutes.

VALENTINE'S DAY

As Christians we are supposed to be loving as part of our everyday living but on 14th of February everyone is reminded that they need to show love.

No one really knows who St Valentine was or how he became a symbol of love but here are some things we do know.

1. St. Valentine is also the Patron Saint of bee keepers, epilepsy, fainting, greetings, plague, travellers and young people.
2. Valentine, Texas sounds like it ought to be the most romantic town in the world. However, it has fewer than 200 residents and is so named because it was founded on 14th February 1882 by a Railroad construction crew.
3. The tiny post office in the village of Lover, in Salisbury, Wiltshire had for 100 years received 1000's of Valentine's Cards which it has sent on with a special heart-shaped postmark bearing the name "Lover". Sadly in 2005 the Lover post office closed. However, the people of the village stepped in, formed the Lover Community Trust and banded together to stamp letters with their own special postmark to raise money for the village.
4. According to the Flowers & Plants Association, for St. Valentine's Day, British people spend around £30 million on flowers and plants, 99% of which is spent on flowers. Well over 9 million red roses are given in the UK.

News and Updates

ARTICLES FOR THE MARCH ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO GREENBANK OFFICE AT: office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk & JILL LIDDELL AT: liddell.jill@gmail.com BY SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY PLEASE

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 office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk or leave a message at the church office on 0141 644 1841

BUSHIDO KARATE CLUB

At the Association Black Belt Grading we had the most successful night for our club with 100% passing their grading, with the following – Eileen Cowey and Chris McCabe (3rd Dan), Aracelli Clark (2nd Dan), Karen Kirk, David Graham,, Rhudie Buchanan , Cailin White, Arianna Voukelatos, (1st Dan)

We then finished off another great year with grading success with our Juniors and Seniors. At their grading they showed great skill in performing their techniques and showed true Bushido spirit. We have also been carrying out female only classes which have had great success with a great group of female coaches and students. As we have more coaches going through the Coaching programme, we will soon have more coaches to keep pace with our growing club.

Always an exciting time is where we ask students across our Association to design the BKA Calendar for 2024. We received many entries and they are judged by our very own Austin Lafferty. Not only is Austin a 4th Dan Black Belt, well-known Solicitor in the UK but is a very accomplished artist and every year takes time out to judge all the entries and gives personal feedback to each one. This year we had double success with Arun Sing (Winner) and Niamh Hutchison (Runner-up) both from our Greenbank Club. You can download the calendars from our website- www.bka.scot

Best wishes

John

Bushido Karate Association Chairman

HAPPY 102ND



Congratulations to Mrs Jean Strachan who celebrated her 102nd Birthday on 19th December with family and friends and received a lovely visit from her elder, Douglas Carswell, who brought her beautiful flowers. Jean recently moved into Bonnyton House after suffering a fall at home where she broke her collar bone and her wrist but, as we can see, she has recovered well and is looking forward to her 103rd year.

GIFFNOCK SOUTH CONCERT SERIES

The Giffnock South Concert Series presents monthly concerts in the beautiful sanctuary at Giffnock South Parish Church, featuring a huge variety of solo performers and chamber groups from around Glasgow and beyond. Concerts take place on the first Saturday of each month from 1-2pm, and tickets cost just £5 (available on the door, under 18s free). The next event on 3rd February will feature the Scholfield-Clarke Duo, performing a 'red, white and blue' programme of original music for saxophone and piano from British, French and American composers. Future concerts include a newly filmed ballet with accompaniment from the Willow Trio (2nd March) and RES Percussion Trio (6th April). For more info, or to stay up to date with the concert, like the Giffnock South Concert Series page on Facebook, or email us to join the mailing list at: giffnocksouthconcertseries@gmail.com

Donations for the LHM can be put on the trolley in the Link building on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am-12noon; Sundays 9.45am-11.30am. UHT milk is particularly requested. Clothing, toiletries and bedding are 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, place in an offering bag during the service or post in the 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.

Volunteering to help Greenbank help LHM

Would you like to join the rota in 2024 to deliver the donated items to the LHM on a suitable day during the week? If you would like to help, please speak to me at church or give me a phone.

Christmas cards and Winter Gift Packs Very many thanks to all those who supported the LHM by buying Christmas cards this year. A total of £564 was raised comprising sales of £508.50 and donations of £55.50. Thanks also to all those who donated items and money for the winter gift packs. Your generosity is always greatly appreciated.

On Christmas Day the LHM welcomed 92 guests, who enjoyed a 3 course Christmas lunch and were given a gift bag each. Afterwards they participated in a quiz and sang Christmas songs. Photos can be seen on the LHM's Facebook page.

You may be interested to know that the LHM provided 32,688 main meals in 2023. (Starters and desserts are not counted, so this does not take account of everyone who uses the service) This was 7633 more than in 2022. In 2024 the LHM is hoping to expand its activities programme as well as bring more IT provision into the hall. They are looking at getting work done that will modernise the building whilst keeping its traditional look.

LHM was delighted to receive a portion of donations of non-perishable grocery items taken as part of a festive collection at the place of work of one of our members. Suggestions had been invited for suitable recipients, and LHM's name was put forward. It is always good, whenever the opportunity arises, to spread awareness of the existence of LHM and of the wonderful work being done there.

Shawls from Greenbank's Shawl Ministry were among the items on display at the Knit-Together Exhibition, which was held at the Carol Service on 13 December. The blankets and shawls were sold afterwards to raise money for people who suffer from homelessness. So far over £500 has been raised.

Liz Smith (571-2676)



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Greenbank Players
present

Return to Grimley
A Two-Act Play

Friday 15th and Saturday 16th March.
Tickets cost £8 and will include wine and nibbles.
They can be purchased from
Liz Smith (571 2676) and Jill Liddell (638 7870)
or any club member.

GOOD NEIGHBOUR CONTACTS

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