

NETHERLEE AND STAMPERLAND PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025 EDITION



When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said: 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'
John 8:12

From the Editor

It's March – what lovely bright days we have been having! The deadline for the next newsletter will be Tuesday **15th April 2025**. Articles (and pictures in .jpg format) can be submitted at any time please to the mailbox nandsnewsletter@btinternet.com.

We are currently developing a new **community facing website** for the church. We are planning to 'go live' by the end of the month. If anyone would like to join a group to provide content, please send your details to the email address

above, or speak to me, Dagmar Kerr, Neil Planner or Anil George.

Karen McQueen

Services

Service times are 10.30 a.m. on Sundays and Wednesdays. The monthly lunch will be on Wednesday 26th March.

For Your Diary – Holy Week

Meeting each evening at 7pm for worship during Holy Week, the dates and venues this year are as follows. All are welcome.



Fill our hearts with Your light and strength, O God, as together in this place, we journey with each other through the questions of Lent, seeking always Your truth and love.
AMEN

Tuesday 15th April at Greenbank Parish Church, Eaglesham Road.

Wednesday 16th April at Busby Parish Church, Church Road, Busby

Maundy Thursday Communion 17th April at St Aidan's Episcopal Church, Mearns Road

Good Friday 18th April at Netherlee & Stamperland Church (N & S), Ormonde Avenue, Netherlee

The Good Friday Pilgrimage will reflect on the 22nd Psalm. Short services will be held on the hour, every hour, with the option to walk with others between the venues. We are delighted to be joined by Orchardhill Church this year. All are invited to share in any or all of the services. Refreshments will be served after worship at Greenbank and Orchardhill. /



8am	'Mocked by men'	Carmunnock
9am	'Verbally abused'	Cartsbridge Evangelical
10am	'Abandoned by God'	Busby
11am	'Leave Him to God Now'	Greenbank
Noon	'Desparately thirsty'	St. Joseph's
1pm	'To cruel nails surrendered'	St. Aidan's
2pm	'Robbed of His clothes'	N & S
3pm	'Delivered by you, so I praise you'	Orchardhill

Clarkston Churches Together

From the Session Clerk

A thank you

I wish to express, on behalf of the Kirk Session, sincere thanks for your generous and thoughtful responses to the recent letter asking you to consider a review of your givings in order to offset the projected budget deficit and to facilitate the continued fulfilment of our existing commitments as we seek to be a welcoming place of worship and hospitality in our local community and to play our part supporting the work of the wider church in our own city and indeed across the world. Each contribution has been, and will continue to be, most gratefully received.



An apology

As I hope you will now be aware, from the repeated weekly edicts, the Stated Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday 30th March after morning worship. Unforeseen delays with the necessary paperwork meant the date had to be changed and I can only apologise that the meeting now falls on Mothering Sunday and is perhaps not the sort of special treat to which mother figures might have been hoping to be invited on that day. Nonetheless I hope as many as possible will be able to attend.

An update

Matters of the vacancy are moving forward, and I am delighted that following the congregational meeting on 9th March, we now have a Nominating Committee in place. The members of the committee are Russell Brown, Stuart Buchanan, Barbara Cochrane, George Cowan, Peter Dale, Stephen Dunsmore, Dagmar Kerr, Gordon Lang, Marjorie Lang, Christine McGowan, Alison McKean, Sheona Moore and Bruce Young. We are grateful for their willingness to take on this important task and I would ask that you keep them in your prayers as they work to find the next minister for this congregation and the wider parish

Helen Illingworth
Session Clerk



With Thanks

The McCormick family would like to thank all members of the Church who participated in the service of remembrance for Roy McCormick who passed away recently. The day was very special for our family, and we appreciated all the help and support from Helen, Rev Ian, Neil Planner and the broader church community. Roy would have been humbled by the kindness shown by all. Many thanks.

Agnes McCormick and family.

Shrove Tuesday Pancakes

A big thank you to all who came along on Shrove Tuesday to enjoy freshly made pancakes and fellowship. A big thank you also to all the helpers who served coffee, pancakes and did the washing up! We



are able to donate £150 to each of the Lodging House Mission and the South-East Foodbank - we hope that they are able to use the money towards their Easter Appeals.

Barbara Cochrane



Sunday Club

At half term we looked at God's power in Jesus to heal, trying hard not to catch the 'illness' ball and making a model to remind us of the story of Jesus healing the leper. On the 23rd February, Sunday Club enjoyed a party! As well as celebrating a member's birthday that day and sharing food together, we learned to listen to God as he wants us to come to his party, and all we need to do is accept his invitation. Happy Birthday to our Sunday Clubbers who have been celebrating recently. On 2nd March we heard about the Good Shepherd and the lost sheep. We made sheep and had to find a teddy lost somewhere in the halls. Thank you to Marie Wilson who came along to help. On 9th March we heard the story of the Prodigal Son. We acted out the story with props, sound effects (mostly pig noises) and a cast of thousands - well, three children and a great many balloons with faces drawn on. The following week we were once again on the topic of the Good Shepherd and how his sheep recognised his voice and knew he was the one to trust, so too we should listen to Jesus. We made sheep pens from green iced rice cakes with Mikado biscuits for the fences and mini marshmallows for sheep, then we played a game.



We would love any young person from 3 years to P7 to join us on a Sunday morning to learn about Jesus through stories, games and craft.

The Sunday Club Team



Helpers Wanted

Our congregation always enjoys the fellowship that coming together over a cup of tea or coffee or soup brings. We could not do this without an army of willing helpers. Whether that is to set up, serve, clearing up and doing the dishes. There are many of us that also enjoy making soup, a sandwich or some cake.

We are looking for anyone of any age to help us out by going on a rota for the Sunday or Wednesday coffee after the service and / or to be part of the group of volunteers that help when able (via What's App poll) for the many events that take place within our church. If you are able to join us, please get in touch with one of us using the email addresses barbaracochrane857@gmail.com or marjorie35@hotmail.co.uk

Barbara Cochrane and Marjorie Lang

Glasgow Close Knit Exhibition

During 2025, Glasgow Presbytery will be celebrating Glasgow 850 with an exhibition of patchwork blankets, formed of individual squares, knitted together by churches, community groups, organisations, businesses and supportive individuals. The squares will be joined to form single bed sized blankets which will be exhibited in a series of five exhibitions across the Presbytery before being distributed to individuals experiencing homelessness across the city.



I believe that as a church, we could come together to create at least one blanket, each blanket being formed of approximately 70 squares. The squares can be knitted or crocheted. If this is something that interests you, please come along to the Small Hall on **Tuesday 25th March from 10.30 am until 12.30 pm**. Please bring 4 mm knitting needles or a 4.5 mm crochet hook. Double knitting yarn will be provided and all abilities can take part; tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. If you are unable to attend but would like to take part please contact me at e.mair1@ntlworld.com. I would hope that this could become a regular event in our church, representing the way we are knitted together as a community.

Elinor Mair



Poppyscotland News

Time is moving on at frightening speed! It is now time to look forward to the Spring Coffee Afternoon. This is taking place in the large hall on **Saturday 10th May from 2 - 4pm**. I am pleased to say that the popular Tombola will be there, donations for which can be left in the Poppy Box. I will put in in the Welcome Hall on 6th April.

Today, I received notification that your efforts raised the wonderful sum of **£5574.26** last year. In these times of inflation and price rises, this is a wonderful total. Thanking you all for your ongoing support for Poppy Scotland.

Anne Mann

Situation Vacant

Church Archivist

Got a passion for history? Enjoy reading old minutes and looking at old photos? This could be the very job for you! We are looking for someone who would be willing to take responsibility for the church archive. A great many documents and other items of interest were recently sorted and delivered to Edinburgh where they will be collated and stored by the Church of Scotland, so the archive cupboard is in considerably better order. That said, we need someone to catalogue any documents and items of interest to be archived in the future, and who would be willing to be a point of contact for people who may have relevant items to donate. If you are interested, please speak to Helen Illingworth or Marjorie Lang.

Helen Illingworth
Session Clerk



Fundraising for The Yard Adventure Playground at Linn Park

We are delighted to confirm that extensive refurbishments have started at the Linn Park Adventure Playground. The plan is that The Yard will open their doors to children and young people with additional needs at Easter time. Many of you have supported Lisa and myself in our fundraising efforts by buying chocolates twice a year (Easter and Christmas). For the first time, Chocoholics are not issuing a paper copy of their brochure. However, since you have told me that you would still like to buy their lovely and unusual chocolates, I am sharing their [online catalogue](#). Please send me your order by quoting the name and product number of the items you would like. You can write your order on a piece of paper and give it to me or Lisa on a Sunday, or you can email or WhatsApp it (Dagmar.kerr@ntlworld.com or 07969982621).

For those of you who don't have access to the internet, please speak to Lisa or Dagmar after church, and we can show you the catalogue on our computer or phone. We will accept orders up to Sunday, 30 March. With many thanks for your continued support.
Dagmar and Lisa Kerr

The nearly new shop at Cranhill Development Trust is 'open for business' on Saturday mornings. As you are aware it continues to fill a need for some of the folk in that area of Glasgow. Your donations of nearly new clothes and bric-à-brac are very much appreciated.



If you could leave any such items clearly labelled for Cranhill and left in the cupboard in the Welcome Hall opposite the ladies' toilet. Clothing (no underwear or socks please) considered as rags can also be left in bags and labelled accordingly. If the cupboard is full, please get in please get in touch with me so I can make alternative arrangements regarding storage and or collection. Again, many, many thanks for your kind generosity.
Gordon Lang



The staff and clients of the South East Foodbank would like to thank everyone at Netherlee and Stamperland church for their continuing support.

As always, they are looking for donations of UHT milk, tinned fish and meat, coffee, tea, and tins of beans. As we are approaching Easter, they would also be grateful for donations of Easter eggs.

There are a few ways of donating to the foodbank

- Firstly, you could bring donations to church and leave in the basket
- Secondly you could put a donation in the tin attached to the basket
- Thirdly you could make a donation via the card machine in the welcome hall
.....this option was missing for a while but it is now back.

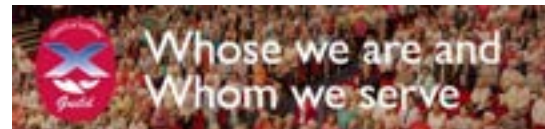
Thanks as always for your continuing support.

Marjorie Lang and Catriona Gomez

The Guild

On 13th February we heard about St. Valentine an early Roman priest. In folklore

he cured a child's eyesight on 14th February, so she sent him a card thus it being known as Valentine's Day. Jan, one of our members, gave us the history of the Victoria Infirmary. In the 19th century Glasgow had two voluntary hospitals for the poor - the Royal Infirmary and the Western Infirmary; the Southern General was a poor house and lunatic asylum. In 1844 GPs on the southside of Glasgow formed the Glasgow Southern Medical Society over their concern at the lack of facilities for the growing southside population. In 1881 permission was granted to build an infirmary and land was purchased in 1887. This being the Golden Jubilee of the Queen she consented to it being named The Victoria Infirmary. The Infirmary was formally opened by the Duke of Argyll accompanied by the Lord Provost, the Town Council and Magistrates on 14th February 1890 - St. Valentine's Day. Various events were organised to mark the centenary in 1990. An interesting piece of Glasgow history.



Sheila Gordon, Director of Children and Families Service of Crossreach came to speak to us on 20th February. Her talk was about their work at The Daisy Chain and The Bluebell Perinatal Service in Glasgow.

The Daisy Chain in Govanhill is primarily there to help mothers of young children. A large proportion of them are struggling to cope financially compounded by a lack of family support. The Daisy Chain assists them by helping them spend time interacting with their children and giving both the opportunity to meet and interact with other children. The Bluebell Perinatal Counselling Service in the Tom Allan Centre is a counselling service for adults. They encourage and offer advice in caring for their young children.

/...

The Guild (continued)

Crossreach also have a campus called Erskine Waterfront where parents are encouraged to spend time with their young children. Rev. David Nicholson of Erskine Parish Church is involved. The basis of the work of all three initiatives is helping parents to spend time talking to and playing with their babies and young children as research has shown that this has a positive impact that lasts a lifetime.

On 27th February we thoroughly enjoyed sitting down to lunch at Williamwood Golf Club. It was nice to relax over a meal and chat together - especially since we would not be doing the washing up!

The life and work of a remarkable Scots lady Dr Elsie Inglis was the subject of our speaker Liz Allan on 6th March. Elsie Inglis was born in Nainital, India on 16th August 1864 but came to Edinburgh at the age of 12. Her father John was a man with progressive views who believed girls should be educated up to and including further education. She lived and attended school in



Edinburgh New Town and was one of the first women to graduate in medicine from Edinburgh University at the age of 28. In 1904 in Edinburgh Old Town, she opened The Hospice for Women and Children which later merged with Bruntsfield Hospital where she was senior consultant by 1907. By now she was interested in the Suffrage Movement. She did not agree with Emmeline Pankhurst's aggressive attitude, but she became Secretary of the Scottish National Women's Suffrage Society and in 1914 with them she formed the Scottish Women's Hospital for Foreign Service. On offering service to the War Office, she was patronisingly told to "just go home and sit still". She of course did the opposite! In 1916 she and her women were sent to Serbia to deal with the dreadful outbreak of typhus there. They worked in a prisoner-of-war Hospital in horrendous conditions. They were repatriated but Elsie returned and spent the rest of her working life there. In 1917 she came home, landing at Newcastle on 26th November. She died the next day 27th November 1917. For her dedication and service, she was awarded the Order of the White Eagle by a grateful Serbia. Using funds from the disbanded Scottish Women's Hospital for Foreign Service the Elsie Inglis Memorial Hospital was opened in Edinburgh in 1925 - a fitting tribute to a truly redoubtable lady.



We had a thoughtful and enlightening talk on the work of Release International on 13th March by James Fraser. The Christian Church in Egypt, founded in the first century AD, is a 10/12% minority located mainly in the rural area of Upper Egypt where they suffer persecution, extreme poverty and lack of education. Working with local partners, Release International provide basic living needs such as beds, toilet

facilities, kitchen appliances, food and funds to help fund construction. They also help families establish micro-businesses so they can support themselves. Through regular visits they provide psychological and spiritual care to all who need their help. On hearing of the extreme difficulties they face, we are fortunate to live here in Scotland /...

The Guild (continued)

We are coming to the end of our programme for the 2024-2025 year.

March

20th Holy Beetledrive and
Annual General Meeting Guild

May

15th Annual Outing Guild

Margaret Fear
Secretary

Netherlee and Stamperland Forum

The Forum has met twice since the last edition of the newsletter. On 17th February, Thomas Mooney and Debbie Carroll from Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire (VAER) talked to us about volunteering and society with reference to their organisation. On 17th March, Anne Mann recalled her recent visit to Antarctica, complete with many beautiful photographs.



Thomas and Debbie spoke to us principally about the work of VAER, which is based on Busby Road at the heart of East Renfrewshire. VAER aims to involve people in the community in various ways, bridging the gap between Citizens Advice and a befriender service without competing with them. From Talking Points to the Choose Kindness and Thrive Under Five initiatives, they emphasised the point that VAER facilitates participation. Initiatives like the East Renfrewshire Climate Action Hub, for example, harness the power of localism to tackle the effects of climate change, a global problem with local implications. One of the main tasks of VAER is, of course, to connect prospective volunteers with organisations and individuals that would benefit from their help, 'matching' people based on a needs, suitability and safeguarding assessment conducted by VAER.



The lodestar of VAER seems to be that communities thrive when people look out for one another, and it encourages and enables people to do that in various ways. Efforts are also underway to reverse a decline: eighteen per cent of Scottish adults volunteer in some way, down eight per cent since the covid pandemic. With £400 million removed from the local economy in recent years and downward pressure on local authority budgets, need is greater than ever. When asked what distinguishes a good volunteer,

Thomas and Debbie explained that flexibility, kindness, and a willingness to get involved in anything are key characteristics. Volunteering is beneficial for the volunteer as much as anyone else. One of the terms they used is *social health* – volunteering is good for the health of everyone in society, as well being a sign of a healthy, functioning society. By sharing their personal stories, Thomas and Debbie gave us a sense of what motivated them to volunteer and, eventually, begin working for VAER. /...

Netherlee and Stamperland Forum (continued)

Alan Fairlie, who is a trustee of VAER, also shared his experience of volunteering with some local walking groups. From personal experience, he underlined the point that volunteering is highly rewarding, bringing him into contact with new people from different walks of life and sharing new experiences with them. The talk was stimulating and inspiring in equal measure.

Anne delivered a light-hearted – but just as inspiring – talk about her recent trip to Antarctica. Her reason for visiting the coldest, windiest, and driest continent on earth was simply that she could. From Puerto Williams in the southern tip of Chile to the Antarctic Peninsula via the Falkland Islands and South Georgia, Anne explored a part of the world that is not dissimilar to the west coast of Scotland – all except for the wildlife!



As she recalled her voyage, the highlight of Anne’s talk was the magnificent photographs she took, particularly of the various species she encountered, from albatrosses and penguins to leopard seals and humpback whales. Her photographs of the landscape were also impressive, capturing the sense of a natural world that eclipses the human civilisation that dwells within it. The Falklands, South Georgia and, to a lesser extent, Antarctica are inhabited but human life seems almost insignificant amidst such an awesome environment. There was a strong sense from Anne’s talk that her journey, by sea, was as important as reaching the destination because of thrilling nature of everything she experienced along the way – truly, an expedition. Anne concluded her trip to Antarctica with the ‘polar plunge’. Wearing just her swimming costume, she jumped into the ocean and recalled not just the frigid temperature but also the magnificent turquoise colour she saw as she returned to the surface of the water – the perfect way to round off a very exciting adventure.

We are extremely grateful to Thomas, Debbie, Alan, Anne and all our speakers for addressing us this year. The Forum will resume in September, and we hope that you will join us again – and do, please, bring along a friend!

Fraser McGowan
For the Forum

Our 2025 Annual General Meeting
‘Together we can’
Strengthen Relationships, Transform Lives



With our Guest Speaker

Margaret Fraser
 Director of
 Together Leading Communities

 Time
 Date
 20th April 2025

Advert



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