

NETHERLEE AND STAMPERLAND PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

FIRST SUMMER 2026 EDITION

From the Editor

Well, here we are almost at the end of another school year. We wish all the children in the Parish a very happy summer recess. With holidays and the reduced office hours (see below) we have decided that we will return to a monthly Newsletter in September. Meantime we will have a second summer edition with a deadline of **Tuesday 28th July 2026**. As always, articles (and pictures in .jpg format) can be submitted at any time to nandsnewsletter@btinternet.com.



We have become aware of an issue with our newsletters and other large mailshots when sent to ntlworld and Virgin email addresses. These are bouncing back to the church office with a 'keep trying to send' message. Users have received these documents maybe two days later in the middle of the night; how random! Apparently, this is due to strict Virgin Media spam filters or outdated SSL/TLS settings (?). If this is your experience, could you maybe give Elspeth an alternative email address to use?

Karen McQueen



Church Services

The Sunday services will continue at **10.30 a.m.** throughout the summer. The Wednesday Services at 10.30 a.m. will take a break after the month-end lunch on **Wednesday 24th June 2026**. This lunch is a "drop in" any time from 11.00 a.m.; there is no necessity to have attended the service, all are welcome. Please call George Cowan on 07917 592667 if you require minibus transport.

Although there will be no service, there will be a **Wednesday Coffee Morning** throughout the month of July from 10.30 a.m. until 12 noon. Everyone is welcome; why not bring a friend? Please pop in for refreshments, home baking and a chat.

Summer Office Hours

The church office summer hours start this week i.e. week commencing **Monday 15th June** and revert back week commencing **Monday 17th August**. During this time, I will be working on a Thursday from home and on a Friday in the church office, both from 8.30am to 11.30am.

Elspeth Reid





From the Minister

Dear Friends,

As I sit down to write this month's newsletter article, there is certainly much happening around us. One thing that has been particularly encouraging has been seeing the sense of togetherness and excitement across our nation as Scotland competes in the World Cup. Having qualified for the tournament for the first time in 28 years, and with Scotland having just won their opening match, there is a real sense of optimism and pride in the air.

It has been lovely to see homes decorated with Saltire flags and to witness people of all ages getting behind the national team as they compete in America. In a world that can often seem divided, occasions such as this remind us of the joy that can be found when people come together in support of a common cause. Whatever the outcome of the tournament, it has been heartening to see our nation united in hope and encouragement.

The weather, however, has perhaps been less inspiring! We seem to have experienced more than our fair share of grey skies and rain in recent weeks. Yet we continue to hope that better weather is not too far away and that the summer months will bring opportunities to enjoy God's creation in warmer and brighter conditions.

Throughout June, we have held a weekly Vestry Hour on Thursday evenings from 6.30pm until 7.30pm. This has provided an opportunity for anyone wishing to speak with me about pastoral concerns, matters relating to church life, or indeed anything else they would like to discuss. Sunday mornings are often busy and do not always allow the time for more in-depth conversations. I have appreciated those who have come along, and while Vestry Hour will now pause over the summer months, it will resume again in September. I would also like to thank everyone who came along to the recent Manse Open Day. It was a pleasure to welcome so many people into our home and enjoy fellowship together. Bill and I greatly appreciated the opportunity to spend time with everyone who attended. We were also delighted to host the church choir at the Manse. It was an evening filled with friendship, good company, and plenty of laughter, which was enjoyed by all.

As we move into the summer period, many of our youth organisations and groups will be taking a well-earned break. We are blessed by the many young people who use our church buildings and by the dedicated leaders and volunteers who faithfully give their time and energy throughout the year. I hope and pray that all who attend and all who lead will enjoy a period of rest and recuperation over the summer and return feeling refreshed, invigorated, and ready for a new session ahead.

Please note that our Wednesday Mid-Week Service will pause for the month of July. However, the church halls will remain open each Wednesday from 10.30am – 12 for fellowship, friendship, coffee, conversation, and of course a few sweet treats. /...

From the Minister (continued)

I hope many will continue to make use of these opportunities to gather together and enjoy one another's company.

As we enter the summer months, I am reminded of the words of the Psalmist: "I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord" (Psalm 121:1-2). Whatever joys, challenges, opportunities, or uncertainties lie before us, we can take comfort in knowing that God walks beside us, strengthening and sustaining us each day. May we continue to trust in His faithfulness and discover His presence in both the ordinary and extraordinary moments of life.

Finally, thank you for your continued support, kindness, encouragement, and prayers for me and for Bill. Your friendship and care are deeply appreciated, and it remains a privilege to serve alongside you in the life and witness of our church.

With every blessing,
Jillian x

On behalf of the Christian Aid Committee I would like to thank all who contributed in any way to the collection during Christian Aid Week whether it was an envelope in the pew, the brunch or a door to door collection We raised the magnificent sum of **£1640.71!** This has been sent to Christian Aid where it will be making a difference to those who need its support.

Thanks again

Marjorie Lang for the Christian Aid Team



From the Hospitality Team

It has been a joy to be part of celebrating a special birthday or anniversary of members of our congregation at coffee time with a cake. If you know of anyone who has a special event coming up (with an O!), please get in touch and we will arrange for a cake that can be shared at coffee on a Sunday or Wednesday. We do love a cake and helping celebrate a special day.

On the subject of hospitality, if you feel you would be able to join our team who provide hospitality on a Sunday morning, Wednesday morning or at the events that are held throughout the year. We use a poll for your availability for events, so there is no pressure. If you have any time to spare and can make a pot of tea, we would love to have you join us. Please get in touch with me or Marjorie Lang.

Barbara Cochrane

From the Kirk Session

Our recent Kirk Session meetings, as always, have involved lively discussion and decision-making regarding various aspects of our church life, some of which I would like to highlight to you for your consideration.



We continue to work on our five-year mission plan which is required to be submitted to Presbytery in the autumn and will be based upon the responses to the congregational survey which many of you were kind enough to complete earlier this year. The responses were generally very favourable and indicative of a congregation in good heart with much enthusiasm to further God's kingdom in our local community and further afield.

The survey responses were particularly positive about the excellent condition and maintenance of our property. We are fortunate indeed to have such a beautiful sanctuary in which to worship, and to have halls which provide practical and attractive accommodation for our own use and, importantly, for community groups and local people running various activities and functions, making our church a welcoming focal point in the area. Stewardship and maintenance of the property is therefore a priority, and with this in mind Session unanimously approved much needed work to refurbish the windows in the large hall which date back to 1928, and are definitely showing their age, at a cost of £43,074.



Discussion also took place regarding the BB minibus. The bus, currently owned by the BB, has become an integral part of our church life. It provides essential transport for many members who would otherwise be unable to attend Sunday or Wednesday worship, and without it the Monday Lunch Club for people living with dementia would be unable to operate.

Unfortunately, the bus is coming to the end of its viable life and must be replaced. Session, recognising its vital importance to our congregation, voted to purchase a replacement vehicle, which will be under the ownership of the congregation rather than the BB. A new electric vehicle, able to be driven by a larger pool of drivers, and which will be more economical to drive and maintain, has been ordered at a cost of £64,445 plus VAT and is due to be delivered during the summer.

Clearly, the refurbishment of the windows and the new minibus are two items of considerable expense. We are extremely fortunate, thanks to the generosity of past and present members, to have financial reserves which can meet these costs. However, I would invite you to give prayerful thought to the benefits of these two projects to our mission, and whether you might feel able to make a one-off donation to contribute to the cost of either of these projects. Donations can be made via the card reader in the Welcome Hall, or by labelled cash or cheque in the offering basket. Any gift will be received with much gratitude.

/...

From the Kirk Session (continued)

A flavour, then, of some of the recent work of the Kirk Session...two particularly significant matters, yes, but only part of what Elders do in their service as office bearers in our Church. There is much to be done, (as we read on a recent Sunday: 'the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few') and we would like to ordain some new Elders to serve on the Kirk Session and be part of the team. Perhaps this is a calling you have felt and would like to explore further? If so, please speak to myself or Jillian. We would be delighted to chat further with you.

Let me end by thanking you for your continuing support and encouragement and wishing you all God's rich blessings in the weeks ahead.

Helen Illingworth
Session Clerk

Sunday Club

On Ascension Sunday, we considered Jesus's ascension into heaven. We made 'cloud' biscuits which we shared with the congregation at the Christian Aid Brunch. The following week we learned about Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit. We harnessed the power of the wind (well our breath through drinking straws) and created images of the flames using coloured cellophane and lolly sticks.



On Trinity Sunday a *trio* of us explored what can be three in one, discussing lots of examples. To celebrate we made *trio* of ice cream sundaes, with a *trio* of ingredients, and of course a *trio* of scoops in our bowls. Sadly, these would have melted before we could have shared with the congregation. Maybe next time...?

On Communion Sunday our meeting was brief as we rejoined the congregation for the sacrament. We thought about Jesus as a healer and played a game of 'Operation'. On Sunday 14th we talked about what motivates us to do the things we do, and then thought about how Jesus shared his motivation for having disciples and teaching them as he did: He wanted them to be able to share God's love, care and compassion with all his 'lost sheep'. And guess what? Jesus' motivation for his first disciples is for us today, and we are called to share His love too. One of the ways we will do this is to once again spend some of our 'brown pennies' on items to support [Starter Packs](#). We'll report on how our shopping expedition goes soon.



As ever we welcome all children into Sunday Club so please let any visitors know we are here for their children. Our last Sunday Club meeting of the session will now be **Sunday 28th June** and we will start back on **Sunday 6th September 2026**.

The Sunday Club Team



Thanks to the Knitting Group

The babies, parents, and staff at the Neonatal Unit at the Royal Alexandra Hospital Paisley would like to thank Elinor and all of the ladies at the Netherlee & Stamperland Church Knitting Group for the beautiful blankets knitted and donated to the Unit to mark International Kangaroo Care Day, celebrated every year on the 15th of May. Kangaroo care is when sick, premature and newborn babies are held skin to skin with their parent. This close contact helps with bonding, attachment and regulates temperature, heart rate and breathing. It lowers stress levels and supports brain development. The blankets are the perfect size for covering the babies during Kangaroo care sessions and for helping them snuggle in an incubator. The knitting group have also been knitting beautiful cardigans for our tiny babies.

Dawn Zuberi

Ladies' Group

Calling ladies of all ages! We were thinking of setting up a ladies' group similar to the men's association (can't see green cheese) for social evenings/days away. The ideas would be led by the group. If you are interested in being part of this, please either e-mail (marjorie35@hotmail.co.uk) or message me (07732938631) your name and phone number and I will set up a WhatsApp group and go from there.



Marjorie Lang



'Marmite' Housing

Did you ever live in a Glasgow tenement? Did you love it or loathe it? I have never lived in a tenement although for 27 years, the management of many along the Dumbarton Road corridor was my occupation, so I was fascinated to listen to some of the testimonies on the [Marmite Housing website](#). I was directed to the website by one of the contributors, our very own Muriel Baker. I hope you find Muriel's interview interesting and go on to explore some of the others.

The Editor

The following is the [Foodbank](#) wish list which does not have many items on it:- tinned meat, instant coffee and bars of soap. Let's see how many of each we can collect in a month!!!



Always remember if you don't go to the shops, you can always donate to their fresh food initiative through the card machine in the welcome hall or hand cash to either Catriona or myself on a Sunday. Thanks as always for your support.

Marjorie Lang and Catriona Gomez



17th Colombo St Andrew's Netherlee Scout Group

Every Saturday afternoon you will find the Scouts at work in our Church Garden. The group has been led by Scout Leader, Upul Ranasinghe since 1982 and Lal Premaratne joined the team as Group Scout Leader in 2005. 17th Colombo Scouts was formed in 1927 as part of the Toc H Boys Club at

Ambewatte Mills which belonged to James Finlay & Co. in Vauxhall St. but in 1971 these premises were closed.

Revd Andrew Baillie, Minister at Scots Kirk at the time was also Chairman of Toc H and invited the Scouts to St Andrew's Scots Kirk. The Scouts thrived with the support of Scots Kirk and Netherlee Church in Glasgow hence they dropped the Toc H name and adopted the name of 17th Colombo, St Andrew's



Netherlee Scout Group. Through Revd Andrew a link was established with the 91st Glasgow Scout Group. This link enabled the 17th Colombo to equip itself with a patrol tent, troop colours and name tapes and in return 17th Colombo St Andrew's adopted the name of 91st Glasgow's home, Netherlee Parish Church, becoming 17th Colombo St Andrew's – Netherlee.

FIRE AND SAFETY PROGRAM

Under the leadership of Senior Scout Manuthi Akithma, a specialized Fire and Safety program was conducted to educate our scouts on essential fire prevention and emergency response. The session focused on identifying potential hazards and teaching practical precautions to ensure all members are equipped to act swiftly and safely in the event of a fire.



ERABADU WASANTHAYA 2026 – SINHALA AND TAMIL NEW YEAR CELEBRATION.

On the 9th of May, our Scout group came together to celebrate *Erabadu Wasanthaya* 2026, a fun filled celebration of the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. /...

17th Colombo St Andrew's Netherlee Scout Group (continued) The event was filled with traditional games, laughter, teamwork, and enjoyable activities that brought everyone closer together. It was a great opportunity for scouts to celebrate our culture, make memories, and enjoy the festive spirit with friends.



AWARDING OF PRESIDENT'S SCOUTS

It is with great pride and happiness that we congratulate Chenuli Omalja, Tharul Dissanayake, and Thathsilu Ranmira on being awarded the prestigious President's Scout Award on the 17th of May 2026. Achieving the highest award in scouting is no easy accomplishment, as it represents years of dedication, perseverance, leadership, discipline, and service. Their journey through scouting has been filled with hard work, challenges, and countless contributions to both the troop and the community. This outstanding achievement brings immense honour to our troop and serves as an inspiration to every scout striving to follow in their footsteps. We warmly appreciate and celebrate their success, and we wish them continued excellence in all their future endeavours.

Gillian Mailler

The Great Netherlee and Stamperland Bake Off

A reminder that the Bake Off will be taking place on **Saturday 29th August**. We hope your baking practice is going well.

Look out for the next edition of the Newsletter in July which will include all the details you need to know about how to enter.

Alison McKean for The Planning and Communications Group





Appeal

The Lodging House Mission is reaching out to our supporters with an urgent request for help. Our supplies of sugar and diluting juice have completely run out and with several months still to go before our usual harvest donations arrive in October, we are facing a significant shortage.

If you are able, we would be deeply grateful for donations of bags of sugar of any size and bottles of diluting juice. Donations can be left in the Welcome Hall at your convenience. Many thanks.

Christine McGowan.

Capelrig Trefoil Guild (Guiding for Adults)

The Trefoil guild has enjoyed a varied program this year from speakers on the East Renfrewshire Food Bank to the Changing Face of our Community Library. We have been out and about, took part in the Christmas Tree Festival and celebrated our 15th Birthday too. We would like to thank Netherlee and Stamperland Church for your



hospitality this session; we very much appreciate the use of your premises. New members are always welcome. You can find out more at www.trefoilguild.co.uk or contact our group via the Church Office.

Elaine Murray



**CRANHILL
DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

The nearly new shop at Cranhill Development Trust (CDT) is open for business. As you know it continues to satisfy a real need for some of the folks in that area of Glasgow. Your donations of nearly new clothes and

and bric-à-brac are most welcome.

As I mentioned previously the CDT have a 'Bra Bank' within the shop. Monies received from this and all other donations are used to help with the running of the Trust. Please label any such bags accordingly. Similarly, if you are donating items considered as rags please mark those bags appropriately. As always items should be labelled for Cranhill and left in the cupboard in the Welcome Hall opposite the ladies' toilet. If this is full, please get in touch with me so I can make alternative arrangements regarding storage and or collection. For more information click the link to their website above.

Many thanks.

N & S Coordinator Gordon Lang

Published on behalf of

[Netherlee and Stamperland Parish Church](#)

Scottish Charity Number: SC015303 Congregation Number 161065