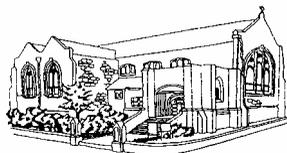


The monthly news from St. Paul's Church Milngavie
www.stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk

Life



October 2005

Dear Friends,

Everyone thinks they know about the Scottish Reformer John Knox. If you listen to the contemporary wisdom about the man you will get the impression that he alone is responsible for everything that is wrong with Scotland today.

In a well publicised pronouncement a few years ago the composer James MacMillan compared him to the Chinese dictator Mao Tse-tung. This is scarcely borne out by the facts.

In a recent biography of Mao it was estimated that something like 70 million people perished during the reign of Mao – 70 million Chinese people who were considered to be obstacles in the way of the onward march of the dictator's will. The revolution which was precipitated by Knox and other Scottish Reformers laid the foundations of a democracy which has extended well beyond our own shores. The most recent biography of Knox written significantly by an American scholar is called 'Knox The Democrat'. In many ways democracy is Scotland's gift to the world.

That is one reason why I look to Knox as an inspiration to my ministry. In the stained glass window which you can see in Knox's house in Edinburgh, you will find the words of the

Apostle Paul which were dear to the heart of Knox: 'Unto me, who am less than the least of all the saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.' (Ephesians 3:8).

Of course he was involved in the politics of his day and not everything that he said and did is wholly defensible but he was never in any doubt that his prior calling was to preach the eternal truths enshrined in the Gospel. Truths that the Church still needs to proclaim without reservation in our own time.

St. Paul's Centenary Appeal.

2006 is the Centenary year of our church building. We would like to celebrate this special occasion with thanksgiving to God for his faithful guidance through the decades.

We appeal to the congregation to contribute items, such as magazines, photographs of church events, graphic events in the life of the congregation Girls' Brigade and BB uniforms etc., etc.

Anything that is contributed will be returned; please make sure that these items will be marked with the owner's name, using one of the forms which can be obtained from the office.

On Sundays there will be a box at the back of the church for collecting the items.

Please make sure that they are marked 'Centenary Heritage Appeal'.

CHURCH REGISTER

BAPTISM

'In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit', Matt 28.8

Victoria Isabella Mary McLaren, 108 Main Street, Milngavie

Change of Address

Mr Keith Hart , 47 Craighdu Road, Milngavie now	32
14 Douglasmuir Place, Milngavie	66a
Mr & Mrs MacFarlane , 24 Buchanan Street, Milngavie now	3
58 Ellangowan Court, Milngavie	14
Mr & Mrs Wm Marshall , 2311 Gtreat Western Road, now	70
Flat 3, 40 Woodlands Street, Milngavie	15
Mrs Ruth Mathieson , 8 Campsie Drive, Milngavie now	9
34 Tannoch Drive, Milngavie	6
Miss Kirsty McKay , 77 Falloch Road, Milngavie now	
94 Delph Wynd, Tullibody	63
Mrs Mary Gourlay , 62 Craigton Ave., Milngavie now	23
24 Honeysuckle Lane, Heatherdale	

Weddings

10.9.05 Dr Dreena Kelly, 32 Tannoch Drive, Milngavie and
James Preston, 120 Garscadden Road South, Knightswood

Deaths

Jesus said: 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'

29.8.05 Mrs C McLaren, 11 Lynn Drive, Milngavie 11

The Men's Association

COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 29TH. October

10A.M. - NOON (donations of cake/candy acceptable)

Thankyou! Members who were fortunate enough to have a conducted tour of the very futuristic Katrine Water Project at Bar-rachan, take this opportunity to thank Mr. Ian Ferguson, most sincerely, for arranging and finalising the visit. A wonderful and most exciting experience, which will be long remembered.

David Ogilvie

World mission Diary for October

In our prayers this month we would remember all who work for the new World Mission Council. It is now a smaller department and the staff have been given new job descriptions and different spheres of responsibility . There is a new pattern of partnership. The Centrally Supported Partnerships are in Bangladesh, China, Israel and Palestine, Malawi , Nepal , Pakistan and Zambia for which the Council is responsible.

Other partnerships that had been in existence are to be sustained through Locally Supported Partnerships. This will mean that local congregations will be directly responsible for these partnerships

There is also Special Projects . One such project was action to arrest the advance of HIV/AIDS.

We pray that all the different strands of World Mission will be given support from the Church and we would also pray for God`s guidance as they begin to put these new ideas into practice

Brigade Blethers

Around sixty girls turned up to enrol in the Company at the end of August and we now have about 21 Explorers: (that's "wee red jumpers" to you.)

Our first "official" duty was to turn out in uniform for the Dedication Service of the New Halls and the girls all enjoyed taking part. It's good that so many of the young ones attend the Sunday Club each week. We will need to work a bit harder on the older girls.

We are taking Water as our theme this session and are busy sounding out some speakers on the subject so if you have any expertise you could share with us please give me a call on 956 1715.

We have planned our programme for the next few months and on Thursday 1 December we will be holding a St Andrew's Day Coffee evening. You will have the chance to purchase some good second hand books, some hand-made Christmas cards and to get up and dance the 6ay Gordons ! The proceeds of the evening go to The Meningitis Trust so look out for the tickets. Anne Soodlet

THE GUILD

The new session of the Guild begins on Monday 3rd October at 7.30p.m. in the Large Hall, when the members will be entertained by the Miltones, led by Margaret White and Sue Scordia.

We warmly welcome old and new members and any friends who would like to join us for the evening.

The Guild's Dedication is on Sunday 9th. October at 11a.m.

A date for your diary

To celebrate Guild Week we plan to have a lunch on Sunday 20th. November after the morning service. More in November issue of 'Life'.

THE WAY AHEAD GROUP (A STROKE CLUB FOR BEARSDEN)

The Way Ahead Group (A Stroke Club for Bearsden)

is a registered charity and was inaugurated by the Association of Bearsden Churches nine years ago. It has been going from strength to strength, meeting every Thursday afternoon (1.15pm to 3.45pm) from September to June, originally in the Red Cross Hall in Bearsden, and since October 2004 in Killermont Church Halls.

We have, at present, twenty-three members (thirteen from Bearsden, six from Milngavie and four from Glasgow) with varying degrees of disabilities. We have a cheerful, friendly group of fifty to sixty volunteers (some are helpers, some are drivers, and others do both) who are only "on duty" one Thursday in the month. At the moment, we are urgently in need of a few more drivers for our 2005/2006 session beginning in September, and we would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be willing to spare one Thursday afternoon in the month to convey one or two members to and from the meeting. They would find it most rewarding. For further information, please phone the Coordinator, Anne Wightman (942 4052).

CIRCLE of CARE

MAGAZINE OF **CROSSREACH**
(FORMERLY BOARD OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY)

★ CALENDARS —2006
★ NOW AVAILABLE
★
★ Christmas presents buy at
★ www.buy.at/circleofcare and
★ a donation will be made by
★ various retailers.
★
★ NEWS OF 'BRAVEHEART'
★ CHALLENGE 2006 -
★ in the current 'Circle of Care'
★ available at the back of
★
★*****

The Elms in Edinburgh held a strawberry tea in July, the highlight of which was the official opening of a new Summer House, complete with garden furniture and parasols. Staff and friends of The Elms are already working hard on plans for the home's Golden Jubilee in 2006. •

We're setting up local fundraising groups all across Scotland to raise money for **CrossReach**. You can volunteer on your own or with friends to organise and support fundraising events in your area. Support, training and resources will be given to each group to help with appeals. If this type of volunteering 'appeals' to you please phone Maggie on: **0131 657 2000**.

CrossReach has entered a new area of work in Dundee, Perth and Angus supporting the families of long-term prisoners. Head of Service, Paul Robinson says: "We were successful in bidding to work with Tayside Criminal Justice Forum and this project will not only signpost families to the services they need, but also support them and act as advocate on their behalf. As the project rolls out it will establish relationships with a local school and a health centre to explore how these agencies might better meet the needs of the families and children of people who are in prison. This is a small but significant piece of work. It reflects on the words of the popular hymn 'When I needed a neighbour were you there'. These families feel stigmatised and isolated and it's good that the Christian community is gathering round them."

The above are 'snippets' from 'Circle of Care' - current copies at the back of the church

DEATH IS NOT THE END

Life & Work tackles the taboo subject of death this month with a piece from former Moderator, the Very Rev Dr James Simpson. He explains why funerals should offer comfort to the bereaved, and gives an insight into the difficulties ministers face particularly when confronted by the death of a young person.

"When elderly people die, they take away a large part of the past. But when people die in the prime of life, they take away the future as well."

LIFE AFTER THE HOUSE

The winner of Big Brother 4 in 2003, Cameron Stout, is profiled this month. A committed Christian, Cameron describes how his faith and Bible has helped him cope with his time in the Big Brother house and describes how it has continued to help in the aftermath of the show which changed his life.

'CHARIOTS OF FIRE'SPIRIT LIVES ON •

A centre which glorifies God and celebrates the faith and commitment of Scotland's famous Christian Olympian, Eric Liddell, this month celebrates its 25th anniversary. The Eric Liddell Centre at Morningside in Edinburgh is opposite the church where the Olympic sprinter worshipped. From humble beginnings it has grown into a major care and community centre used by an average of 2600 people each week.

ELDERS OF TODAY

Kitty Mc Donald, an elder from Aberdeen, describes her experience in conducting funerals following a specialist training for elders in this field. Sheilah Steven offers advice to elders on visiting the bereaved. "

TRANSATLANTIC LINK

The Very Rev Dr Andrew McLellan describes the importance and influence of the Kirk's long links with Union Seminary in New York.

LAST WORD

Muriel Armstrong urges the Churches to develop a new and unified statement of faith that could be communicated in simple language.

**AND LOTS MORE... LIVELY LETTERS, BOOK REVIEWS,
TRAVEL, CROSSWORDS AND COMMENT...ALL FOR £1.50**

CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY WORLDWIDE

C.S.W ROADSHOW is coming to Glasgow on the evening of 28th.October at the International Christian College 110, St. James Road at 7.30 p.m.

At this meeting, there will be a number of speakers to give first hand accounts of persecution and current issues in other lands.

Please keep this date in your diary.

If interested phone Janice Archer 956 3877

Think about it.....(reprinted from Lamlash and Kildonan Church Newsletter)

A story is told about a soldier who was finally coming home after having fought in Vietnam. He called his parents from San Francisco. "Mom and Dad, I'm coming home, but I've got a favour to ask. I have a friend I'd like to bring with me." "Sure," they replied, "we'd love to meet him." "There's something you should know the son continued, "he was hurt pretty badly in the fighting. He stepped on a land mine and lost an arm and a leg. He has nowhere else to go, and I want him to come live with us." "I'm sorry to hear that, son. Maybe we can help him find somewhere to live." "No, Mom and Dad, I want him to live with us." "Son," said the father, "you don't know what you're asking. Someone with such a handicap would be a terrible burden on us. We have our own lives to live, and we can't let something like this interfere with them. I think you should just come home and forget about this guy. He'll find a way to live on his own." At that point, the son hung up the phone. The parents heard nothing more from him. A few days later, however, they received a call from the San Francisco police. Their son had died after falling from a building, they were told. The police believed it was suicide. The grief-stricken parents flew to San Francisco and were taken to the city morgue to identify the body of their son. They recognized him, but to their horror they also discovered something they didn't know, their son had only one arm and one leg. The parents in this story are like many of us. We find it easy to love those who are good-looking or fun to have around, but we don't like people who inconvenience us or make us feel uncomfortable. We would rather stay away from people who aren't as healthy, beautiful, or smart as we are. Thankfully, there's Someone who won't treat us that way. Someone who loves us with an unconditional love that welcomes us into the His family, regardless of how messed up we are. Tonight, before you tuck yourself in for the night, say a little prayer that God will give **you the strength you need to accept people as they are, and help us all be more understanding of those who are different from us!**

Japan Jottings



Dear Friends

We continue to enjoy pleasant late summer weather here in Otaru but it won't be long now till the snow arrives. The boys are well settled back into school and kindergarten routine, though mornings are always chaotic as we try to fit in English work before they head off just after 8 o'clock.

As you receive this, we will just be about to go on our annual church retreat. We leave after the service on the 9th and go to a place half way up a mountain, staying over there till the Monday which is a public holiday here. We hope that most of our people will be able to be there for some or all of the time. This year we will be focusing particularly on the transition to having a Japanese pastor by 2007. There are many important issues to be talked about and prayed about as we seek God's leading and seek to move forward with unity and vision. Do pray for us over that weekend!

At the moment David is meeting each week with a 74 year old man whose wife is a member. He has been coming on Sundays for a couple of years or so but agreed last month to begin studying the Bible together each week. He is open – but it's hard for him to change his ways. Please do pray for Mr Sasaki as we meet week by week that he would find faith in Jesus. We would love to see him baptised at Christmas time!

The more we are here, the more we appreciate just how difficult it is to share the gospel in this place; and the more we appreciate your prayers for us. It's a real battle. We pray on for you too as you carry on the work in St Paul's.

*With our love and prayers for you all
David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair*



FRIENDSHIP HOUSE has just celebrated its 21st birthday.

We all gathered in Cairns Church for a short a service of worship led by the chairman for this year, Rev. Andrew Frater, who then conducted the A.G.M. There have been many changes over the 21 years, but the ‘raison d’etre’ of the house remains the same –to be the open door of the Christian church in Milngavie throughout the week, offering a welcome cuppa, a listening ear, friendship and fellowship. When giving the vote of thanks Rev. Fergus Buchanan remembered not only the present helpers but also those who had the foresight to start this work 21 years ago.

All the volunteer helpers were invited, as well as the clergy and leaders of the eight congregations who make up Milngavie Churches Friendship House Association, and 86 sat down to a lovely buffet meal in the large hall, prepared and served by Muriel Findlay and her willing and expert team. We then enjoyed a short entertainment given by Margaret White who sang two songs and Val McIntosh whose monologues caused much merriment .All in all a good evening !

NEVERTHELESS we need new helpers all the time, so if you can commit just 3 hours once every 4 weeks, morning or afternoon, drop in & see us at F.H. (Or phone me—Rosemary Fraser 956 3222)

BOOK CLUB

Our book this month was Pompeii by Robert Harris. Although the book was enjoyed by everyone the general opinion was that this was an “easy read” and would be a good book to take on holiday or make into a film. Some of us had expected the subject to be dealt with in more depth, especially given the comparison between the devastation in New Orleans and the eruption in Pompeii.

Next time the book choice is “Reading Lolita in Tehran” which is a true story by an English literature professor in Tehran during the revolution when books like The Great Gatsby, anything by Jane Austen and Lolita were banned under the Taliban.

Traidcraft

The new autumn catalogue is now available.

This includes the range of items we always have on the stall in the Large Hall and also many new gift items suitable for Christmas.

The lovely ceramic & glassware items are very popular & sell out quite quickly, so get your order in early to avoid disappointment. There is also a good selection of wines which can be ordered. We obviously cannot re-sell these, but they can be delivered to you direct.

**To check out any of the items go to the
website www.traidcraft.co.uk**

Make Poverty History must not be allowed to lose its momentum & by buying ethically produced goods we are making a small contribution towards that goal.

Have you tried our Geobars? They are delicious cereal bars, which even passed the fussy grandson test!! There are 3 varieties, apricot, cranberry or chocolate and the ingredients are all derived from fairly traded sources around the world, benefiting growers & producers in places as diverse as Chile, Ghana, Malawi, Pakistan, Paraguay & South Africa.

Come to the Large Hall after the morning service; enjoy a refreshing cup of tea or coffee

(fairly traded, of course) & further fellowship.

Want to know more? Want to help?—Just chat to any one at the Traidcraft stall



FLOWER ROTAS- OCTOBER

DONATIONS

DELIVERIES

Dr. N. Conn(September)

Mrs. R. Fraser

Mrs. D. Frame

Mrs. J. Townson

Mrs. R. Gilmour

Miss M Hamilton

Mrs. Clark

Oct.2 Mrs. J. Anderson Mrs. A. Gibson

Oct 9 Mrs. T. Douglas Mrs. M. Abbott

Oct 16 Mrs. L. Hughes Mrs. R. Buchanan

Oct 23 Mrs. M. McDowell Mrs. P. Barlow

Oct 30 Mrs. A A. McLean Mrs. J. Ford

Nov 6 Miss M Mckenzie Mrs. I. Reid



CRECHE ROTA- OCTOBER

2 Oct	MacAulay, Lawrie, K Deuchar
9 Oct	Goodlet Smith Cockburn
16 Oct	Fleming Richell McFarlane
23 Oct	Reid Bolton J. Deuchar
30 Oct	Kerr Whitelaw Moffat
6 Nov	Baxter MacKinnon Hughes

TRAIIDCRAFT

Oct.9th. B.Frame L Cowie

" 16th. B Watson M Conway

" 23rd. M Thomson M.Jenkins

" 30th. A.Begg J.MacLean

Nov.6th. S.Rollings J.MacIntyre

I am just making up the new rota. If anyone else in the congregation would like to help, please let me know.

****READ MORE ABOUT TRAIIDCRAFT ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE *****

The magazine is published on the first Sunday of every month. Contributions for NOVEMBER'S issue should be handed to the Editor or left in the box in the Waiting Room by 22nd October Editor- Morag Thomson, 36, Roselea Drive (956-2801) e mail mthomson@beeb.net