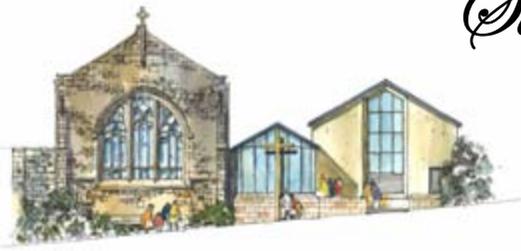


# *St Paul's Milngavie*

*Life Magazine*

*February 2008*



Dear Friends,

I've just finished recording a series for 'Pause For Thought' on Radio Clyde. I always enjoy doing radio work but this was particularly challenging for me. Each 'thought' had to be no longer than sixty seconds! I can imagine the laughter now breaking out in many a household within the congregation. How could Buchanan possibly deliver a message in that time?

Well, I wondered about that myself but the radio 'culture' at this time, especially channels like Clyde, is for the 'sound-bite', a short, clear statement which will stay in people's minds. So if you are given access to that 'culture' then you have to learn to adapt your style accordingly – and the opportunity is too good to miss.

Needless to say, I did not find it easy. How do you deal with profound truths in sixty seconds without compromising or trivialising them? What is required more than anything else is discipline, realising that there are limits and working within them. The apostle Paul was a master at this. If you read the Acts of the Apostles you will find him addressing politicians and soldiers, adults and children, kings and courtiers. Moreover, he was able to debate with philosophers, theologians and pagan idol-worshippers. There has never been just one way to communicate the Gospel. The truths are always the same but the style of delivery is always capable of being adapted.

With the season of Lent coming up soon perhaps this is something that we should consider more deeply. Lent is traditionally a time for self-examination, for the whole Church to consider those things in our lives that are holding back our discipleship and to pray for grace to overcome them. Generally this means homing in on our own personal failings but there is one problem that we all share and that is our failure to communicate the Gospel in a meaningful way to those who need it most.

Yes, the main burden of this failure must fall on those who have been set apart as preachers but the sharing of the Gospel was never meant to be the sole preserve of one group of people within the Church. We all have responsibilities in this respect. How will the people hear unless there are others who are willing to share what they know to be true?

## The Guild



The 2008 session began on **Monday 7th January** with a visit from St. Paul's member Mrs Maggie Conway, who gave a slide-show of her visits to Malawi, and spoke of the excellent work of the many volunteers who give aid to this country.

On **Monday 14th January**, Mrs R. Armstrong brought along a collection of hats purchased for various occasions over the years, giving a humorous story for each one.

On **Monday 21st January**, Rev. Gordon Kirkwood gave us the interesting background of the writers of some of our favourite hymns. Mrs Rosemary Fraser displayed her Traidcraft goods for sale that evening.

On **Monday 28th January**, Mr Julian May spoke of his Iona experience.

On **Monday 4th February**, Mrs Anita Manning will be giving advice on Auctions and Antiques.

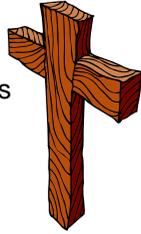
On **Monday 11th February**, Miss Dayer Colburn will be speaking of her Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

On **Monday 18th February** there will be a Bible Study by the Rev. Ken Macdonald. Mrs Rosemary Fraser will be displaying her Traidcraft goods for sale that evening. There will be a Musical Evening with Mark Donnelly on **Monday 25th February**.

Friends and visitors are very welcome to attend any meeting throughout the year which they feel would be of interest to them. A copy of the syllabus is displayed on the Guild notice-board in the Large Hall.

**Molly Pollock**

## Lenten Services



### Lent Services

Our traditional services during the season of Lent will take place in the West Transept from 9th February until 15th March at 9.30am.

The Service lasts for 30 minutes and will pursue an appropriate theme throughout the Season.

This is another opportunity for us to examine the nature of Christian discipleship and how best we can meet the challenges.

## Morning Tea

We would like to thank the congregation for joining us for fellowship after the morning service.

We are delighted to let you know we were able to give £800 to the following worthwhile causes:-

- £600 to Open Doors
- £200 to Mary's Meals, a food programme in Malawi via Scottish International.

This would not be possible without the help of our trusty tea makers and we would like to thank them for their help during 2007.

We hope you all continue to enjoy this time of fellowship and we look forward to seeing you in 2008.

Many thanks once again.  
**Margaret and Margaret**



## Japan Jottings



### Dear Friends

As we write this, we have just over two months to go here in Otaru. Time will no doubt pass by very quickly with all the packing, farewells and other preparation needed to be done before we head back to Scotland for a year. As you read this, Daniel and Matthew should be on their way back to India – they are due to arrive on 6th February for the start of the new term. We are all looking forward to visiting them in April on our way home when Calum and Alistair will be able to see for the first time where their big brothers are.

This month we are busy not only with preparations for leaving Otaru but also with various OMF matters and beginning to think through with our co-workers the new work in Sapporo to which we will return in spring 2009. It is exciting to be part of a church start right at the outset. Within OMF, we have been asked to lead a group whose task is to think through and provide training for all of the missionaries here on aspects of culture and how best we can communicate the gospel message in this land. These are big questions which need lots of thought so that we can effectively relate the teaching of the Bible to a complex culture and worldview.

One of the joys of being here in Otaru is to see people change and grow, and to see others coming to know Jesus. One lady, Mrs Yoshida, will hopefully be baptised before we leave – a good way to end our time here. She is already facing up to issues such as what to do with her large Buddhist altar and the worship of ancestors which has so long been part of her life. It's great to see how God works in the heart to reveal his truth and bring change.

We are still on the lookout for a suitable house. We are due to arrive back in Scotland on 22nd April. We are keeping tabs on what comes on the market locally, but if you hear of anything please do let us know.

**Many thanks for all your love and prayers  
David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair**

### **CHERRY BLOSSOM FAIR SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 10.00 -12.00pm**

This is our annual fundraising event for the Ferguson family in Japan. There will be the usual games and stalls and our special extra of freshly-made pancakes to have with your coffee!

Tickets will be on sale after the morning services - adults £2 and children £1.  
Please keep the date free and try to come along!

### Flower Donations - February

Mrs J Wilson, Mrs T Hamilton, Mrs E Farmer,  
Mrs J Ferguson, Mrs S Morrison, Mrs Knaggs, Mrs Adair, Mrs  
Pirie



## Book Club



This month's book is the *Boy in Striped Pyjamas* by John Boyne. This book is about 9 year old Bruno's friendship with Shmuel and is set at the time of the Holocaust. An extraordinary tale of friendship and the horrors of war, this powerfully written book will stay with you for quite some time once you have finished it. The book is quite small and could easily be read in one sitting.

The author seemingly wrote the book in the course of a day and although it is meant for the teenage market, it can be read on two levels. We did feel that this book was one way of informing the next generation about the Holocaust. Highly recommended but prepare yourself for the last few pages which are all the more frightening because of Bruno's obvious ignorance of his surroundings.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 4 March 2008 at 7.45pm when we will be reading *Claudine's House* by Collette. This autobiographical book was originally written in 1922 and has just recently been republished. As usual please phone Helen for the venue.

Look forward to seeing everyone then.

**Joyce Clark**

### **Hearing Dogs for Deaf People 1982-2007:25 years of changing lives**



7<sup>th</sup> January 2008.

Dear Miss Ireland,

It is with pleasure and very sincere thanks that I write thanking you for your letter of 3rd enclosing a wonderful cheque (s) totalling £564. 50p for hearing dogs for deaf people.

I note that this sum was raised at a collection at the Coffee and Mince Pies Event held after the Church Service.

The official receipt is enclosed.

Just before Christmas unfortunately two of our long serving dogs had to be put to sleep. Their owners of course were distraught but comforted by the fact that new dogs would be available for them as soon as possible. Without interest and support of groups such as yourselves this would not be possible and the service to deaf people not as satisfactory as at present.

With Best Wishes to the Congregation of St. Pauls for 2008 and renewed thanks for your interest in the work of the Charity.

Yours sincerely,

MARGARET ARTHUR  
SCOTTISH REGIONAL FUND RAISER

Thanks to everyone who supported the coffee and mince pies event!

## Church Visitors and W.F.O. Envelopes - Advance Notice

The new W.F.O. envelopes for the coming year will be available at the back of the Church on Sunday 2nd March and the W.F.O treasurer would be grateful if the Church Visitors, as in previous years, would deliver them along with Life.



### Keep aff the Girss

Ye ken hou thae Gaelic place-names discryve the places?

Aweill, Ah speir'd of a man that has the Gaelic,  
whit wad be the names, wad dae fir thon estate:

to win thair, ken, ye oar owre Loch Private,  
or soom owre the River Keep Out,

syne ye're at liberty to sclimm Ben Nae Trespassing,

And if ye see a rabbit, or a bit stag,

Just mind it's no yours, nor Gode's;

It langs til Lord Muck of that ilk,

Or til a London company, mair like.

Wad ye believe it?-

He cuidnae gie me the word fir *Private*,

And Gaelic had niver heard tell of *Trespassing*.

The anerlie word of that naitur,

Sae he tellt me,

Was niver yaised, binnar fir yae thing:

To fence the Heathen out of Free-Kirk prayer meetings.

### Robert Garioch

#### Kirk pushes for action against global warming

Scottish eco-congregations gathered in Stirling at the end of January with the hope of progressing religious engagement on climate change. The Church of Scotland strongly supports eco-congregations and is urging them to take action against global warming. Speakers at the event include SEPA's (Scottish Environment Protection Agency) John Ferguson, and Fred Edwards from Scottish Environment Link.

Adrian Shaw, climate change project officer for the Church of Scotland, said:

"The Kirk is concerned about the implications of climate change not just in Scotland but across the world particularly because of the threat it poses to the poor. Eco-congregations have a vital role to play in addressing this challenge."

Eco-congregations have rapidly emerged over the last five years - in Scotland there are currently 172. The term is awarded to churches that have made a commitment to address environmental issues in worship, in the management of church property and through community action.

The event was sponsored by the Church of Scotland and Keep Scotland Beautiful.

**Could St Paul's work towards becoming an eco-congregation?**

# St Paul's Children and Youth Page

## And the rain keeps falling.....

As I write this I can hear the rain falling and falling and falling. We seem to be getting lots of rain these days which is not so good for people who have to walk to work or to school!

When it rains it always reminds me of Noah. I don't know if you know the story of Noah but it goes something like this.

Noah was told by God that there would be a huge flood that would take over the world, and God wanted Noah to build a big boat. So Noah made the boat and took animals and people on board, and saved them from the flood.

This story always makes me think about what people must of thought of Noah. Can you imagine your next door neighbour one day starting to build a boat in their back garden. People would think they were crazy. But Noah did what God told him to do and it saved lots of people's lives.

If God is saying something to you obey it because God knows best.

Enjoy the rain.

Gem



## What's on in FEBRUARY?

### Children:

**Sunday club** – Pre and Primary age  
During Sunday morning service  
All Halls

**Sunkids** – Primary one to Primary five  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> – 4.30pm till 6.30pm  
Large Hall

**Girls Brigade** – Primary and Secondary age  
Thursday – 7 till 9pm

### Young People:

**JT Social** S1-S6  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> 5.30 – 8pm Italian Theme Night  
Allander Evangelical Church

**Jump** – P6 – S1  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 4.30 till 6.30pm  
Jubilee Hall

**Bible Class** – S1-S5  
Sunday morning – 10 till 11am  
Centenary Room

**Joining Together** – S1-S6  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> – 8.15pm till 9.30pm  
Centenary Room

Read about the story of Noah in

Genesis Chapter 7

Can you draw some of the different animals you think Noah would have taken on his boat?

For information about anything to do with the Children or Youth Work in St Paul's please don't hesitate to contact me (Gemma Stoddart) on 07751477583.

World mission Diary for February

## Kenya

Church leaders fear more violence. The call for mass action by the biggest opposition party in Kenya, the Orange Democratic Movement, following the deaths of more than 600 people in post-election violence, has religious leaders fearful of more killing and destruction. "The country is hurting and bleeding. It needs calm. People have lost lives. This is not the right moment [for protests]." Roman Catholic Bishop Martin Kivuva of Machakos told Ecumenical News International on 11 January, "We want them to give dialogue a chance."

Kivuva, one of a number of Christian and Muslim leaders trying to get political opponents to talk one another, said ordinary citizens were those most affected by the situation, adding that the people had voted, but the electoral institutions messed things up. "In the past people have said protests would be peaceful, but they have turned out to be violent with property being looted, destroyed and people killed."

The All Africa Conference of Churches called in Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu from South Africa to Nairobi in an attempt to persuade the conflicting sides to talk. But his efforts and urging by the general secretary of the World Council of Churches, the Rev. Samuel Kobia, himself a Kenyan, have so far failed to bring the two sides together.

**Please pray for:** a peaceful end to the violence and steps taken towards democracy by Kenya's political powers.

Our friends and colleagues in the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, as they seek to show a Christian presence in the present turmoil

**Zimbabwe** is a country in crisis. Thank God for churches reaching out to communities struggling to survive. Church leaders have been threatened so give thanks for their courage in continuing to meet. According to Tear Fund's Prayer Diary, one of their partners is distributing food and targeting vulnerable children for help. Food supplies in the country are critically low and very expensive so many people are malnourished. Thank God for TF partners who are training farmers to use mulch (found naturally in fields) to retain soil moisture and small harvests where none have been expected. Pray for real change in Zimbabwe – a miracle is needed.

Pray for our **own ministers** as they prepare for the lenten services which provide a quiet time of reflection for many in the run up to Easter. Help them to find new insights into the central events of our faith.

Also continue to pray that a house will become available for the **Fergusons** who return from Japan in just over two months. Time is getting short now and it would make their return much easier to know they have a house to return to.

<b>Milngavie Churches Prayer Breakfasts</b>	
Start time 8am for Breakfast, 8.45am Prayer	
1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	United Free Church
5 <sup>th</sup> April	St Luke's
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	St Paul's
7 <sup>th</sup> June	St Andrew's

## Vine Trust, Peru

A series of programmes will be shown on STV about the work of the Vine Trust. This is an interdenominational Christian charity doing very valuable work amongst the poorest people in South America.

Some of you may have seen an earlier series last summer about the Vine Trust's medical work on the Peruvian Amazon.

This series will be more concerned with the work amongst orphaned and street children. There will be twelve 30 minute programmes showing twice weekly starting at the beginning of February.

If you are able to watch them, we hope you will find them worthwhile.

**St Paul's Overseas Committee.**

## Lenten Coffee Morning

The St Paul's Church Society is again arranging a Coffee Morning (tea, coffee and hot cross buns) at 10am on **Saturday 16 February**, following the Lenten Service, to help fund our latest project. There will also be stalls with books, bric-a-brac and hand made cards.

Admission £2.00, which includes coffee etc.

## Bible Sunday

Bible Sunday is on **Sunday 24th February**. This year the Scottish Bible Society are supporting work in Peru.

"Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope." Romans 15v4

Many children in Peru are living in abject poverty, with minimal prospects and little hope. The Bible Society in Peru is continuing their programme of "Scripture breakfasts" providing what is often the only daily meal some youngsters receive. Through Scripture materials they can learn a different way of life and can develop reading skills that offer better opportunities for the future.

The Scottish Bible Society will also supply Scriptures for the Vine Trust and Scripture Union Peru as they reach out to the children on the streets of Lima and in the communities along the Amazon river (via the "Amazon Hope" vessels featured on S.T.V.)

Money donated on Bible Sunday will help the Scottish Bible Society provide food and hope to children in Peru, giving them the assurance that God loves and cares for them.

*Erav Rogerson*



## Brigade Blethers



## Church Society

Brigade is back and raring to go! As usual we started the new year with a visit to the pantomime. The girls really enjoyed it but we had a few sleeping beauties of our own on the bus back home.

The Collage competitions where our girls get to meet up with other companies from all over Glasgow comes up soon and I will let you know next month if we have any budding Michelangelos in the Company!

Next big thing on the agenda is our annual coffee morning/jumble sale on Sat 2nd Feb, but by the time you read this the sale will be done and dusted.

After the successful chocolate evening in November, we donated £180 to the Riding for the Disabled group at Summerston. We have been invited to take the girls there on a Thursday evening to watch a lesson in progress. They are all excited about this and, who knows, some of the older girls may decide to volunteer to help a worthwhile cause.

We still have a lot of hard work ahead of us this session but hopefully we will also manage a couple of fun outings. Thursday evenings are always good fun anyway and if we can bring girls to follow Christ in a happy atmosphere we will be well content. Please remember us in your prayers.  
Anne Goodlet.

During the period of Lent over the past few years the Congregation of St Paul's have collected tea, coffee, sugar and tins of fruit for Open Door Trust Glasgow who feed the people who are homeless and in need of support in their life. This year it is intended to continue this during the period of Lent and this will begin on **Sunday 17th February 2008** for five Sundays. Boxes will be placed at the back of the Church for anyone who wishes to make a contribution.

**The AGM of the Society will be held in the Centenary Hall on 9 February. 10am; tea and coffee prior to the meeting starting at 10.30am.**

**The Committee look forward to welcoming existing and new members.**

## Open Door Trust

Opendoor Trust Glasgow would like to thank Mrs Goodlet, her leaders and all the girls in the Girls Brigade at St Paul's Church for the kindness with the presents for the children and people who will not get many Christmas presents.

Your kindness is really appreciated by the workers and volunteers when it comes to giving out the presents to see what it means to those who are less fortunate than we are. May everyone at the Brigade have every blessing from the Lord in the future.

**Norman Barlow**

**Glasgow's People: Transcending Poverties.**  
**A one day conference on 20 February 2007**  
**At Glasgow City Chambers, George Square.**

In association with

**The Herald**

The transformation of the City of Glasgow, being pursued by the City Council and its partner agencies, business people and local communities, now provides an opportunity to examine remaining intractable problems of a social, cultural and spiritual nature... and to take remedial action for real improvement.

This Conference will look at how the city should tackle the many different aspects of deprivation (environmental, health, welfare, cultural and spiritual) but will also present Glasgow as a case study reflecting the global challenge of urban renewal.

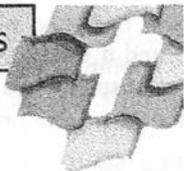
The Conference: - promises to be a frank analysis of the historical and present state of Glasgow society - will examine the root causes of its present and past social difficulties - will place these issues within the context of an awareness of the wider global perspective. This is a very real challenge. It aims: - to engage participants from a wide background and experience - academic, professional, governmental, social work, education, medical, community activists, including citizens of Glasgow. Those taking part include: - Helena Kennedy, QC - Archbishop Conti - The Very Rev. John D Miller - Alf Young

Book now: to participate in this very important conference, exploring the way forward for the City of Glasgow and its people.

Conference Fee. £45 full, £25 concession. More at

[www.royalsoced.org.uk/events](http://www.royalsoced.org.uk/events)

## International Christian College Monday Courses



Monday Morning & Evening classes are aimed at those who would like to explore specific topics at a deeper level, but do not want to study for a degree award. Topics range from Biblical Studies, to theology, to exploring the Christian faith in the world today.

Classes take place on either Monday mornings or evenings, and run for 6 weeks. They are open to everyone, and no previous experience or qualifications are necessary. To view the latest Monday Classes programme go to [www.icc.ac.uk](http://www.icc.ac.uk), or for more information or contact the college on 0141 552 4040.

# New Year on the Danube

28th December, 2007- 4th January, 2008

Here are Rachel Douglas's impressions

There were many highlights for me:

**Budapest**, where I really felt at home. The river helped me to get orientated. I had a short walk pre-breakfast on the first day, then a tour of Pest, followed by Buda, both excellent. By the afternoon I felt quite confident. I left the group, who all went to Godollo, and walked myself to the Gellert baths, a real experience. Then Suzanne and I walked over the bridge to Pest, where we attended the Downtown Parish Church. It was a beautiful service conducted in Hungarian. A very small congregation, mainly older females like ourselves. For the sermon, we had as good as Fergus – it lasted over an hour!

**New Year concert in Vienna.** A wonderful concert but it was also an occasion. Transported there; the orchestra so beautifully dressed; it was just for us; shared the venue with Mozart; memorable.

**Fireworks** and general togetherness at New Year in Vienna, then a Scottish Hogmanay an hour later with Auld Lang Syne and Scottish dancing.

**Melk Abbey** Baroque - not for me but seeing how it developed from the single Benedictine establishment removed my prejudices. Over the years the Benedictines were adding to the offerings of their church and to God, hence the elaborate décor of the church. Then came the Reformation! I can see myself as part of that, but there my religious education stopped. Then there was the Counter-Reformation, which we Presbyterians do not take account of. An amazing abbey.

A day to be remembered with **Durnstein, Weissenkirchen** and a sail along the Danube. A very special coffee stop on our last day in Vienna for Sachertorte in the Sacher Hotel. Good company and inexpensive. The loo was memorable!

An introduction to **Klimt** and the alternative lead-up to World War Two. Both to be followed up.

## Any downsides?

Not enough time to feel at home in Esztergom and Bratislava. Crowds spoiling special places like Vienna and Salzburg....although others loved the buzz of these cities.

**NOBLE CALEDONIA** (the tour company) Care of clients is down to a fine art. Three outstanding occasions: the first lunch in Budapest, the concert in Vienna and the lunch in Salzburg....all top quality; cabins were wonderful; guides all good; some a delight; excellent meals : food was light and attractive; staff at all levels were wonderful.

**Added Bonus:** The people in our party: lovely to get to know them more.

**Our leader:** just let her take the strain. A lot of planning etc was undertaken in the lead-up to this wonderful holiday. Thanks.

## What have I learned?

History and Geography of that part of Europe. I should get to grips with it while the holiday is fresh in my mind.

## Pertinent Lesson :

Always make sure your health insurance is adequate. Sheila's broken wrist proved that and Noble Caledonia bore the brunt of the three hospital visits.

COME WITH US NEXT TIME!

## CHURCH REGISTER

### BAPTISM

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

Ellie and Georgia Hume MacCalman, 18 Kilmardinny Ave., Bearsden

### Disjunctions

Miss Gillian Bett, 102 Murrayfield Gardens Edinburgh

Mr & Mrs Allan Ogg, 10 Ardoch Road, Bearsden 46

Mr Douglas Turner, Faiview Court, Milngavie 18a

### Deaths

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

24.12.07 Mr John Corner, 18 Braeside Ave., Milngavie 36

05.01.08 Mrs Diana Caldwell, 53 Norwood Park, Bearsden 69

03.01.08 Mrs Christina Lawson, 42 Campsie Drive, Milngavie

11.01.08 Mrs Jean Jack, Wyndford Locks, Shuna House 48

12.01.08 Mr David Scott, South Mains Road, Milngavie

15.01.08 Miss Winnie Clark, Blanefield House 4

Copy date for March issue: Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb if using the church pigeon hole or Wed 27<sup>th</sup> if emailing. Please note another change of details for the editor – email now [rona.dawson@go.uk.com](mailto:rona.dawson@go.uk.com)

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
<b>3 Feb</b>	S Anderson R Fraser	Wilson Smith McAuley	C McKay R Fraser	Team 4 John McArthur
<b>10 Feb</b>	M Conway M McPherson	Reid Bolton J Deuchar	L Cowie C McKinnon	Team 5 Frances Ireland
<b>17 Feb</b>	A Galloway J Townson	Lawrie Sillars K Deuchar	B Barr H Reid	Team 6 Jean Y Scott
<b>24 Feb</b>	M McIntyre M Spence	Chapman Goodlet Cockburn	B Watson M Conway	Team 7 Jean McIntyre
<b>2 Mar</b>	P Dudgeon S Lindsay	Richell McKinnon Martin	M Thomson M Ure	Team 8 Marlyn McKay