

CHURCH REGISTER

NEW MEMBERS

Joined by Profession

Miss Lucy Johnston, 70 Dougalston Gardens South	54
Mrs Heather Tracey, 34 Roselea Drive	7
Mrs Deborah Stark, 60 Clochbar Ave	24

DISJUNCTIONS

Mr Graham Boyd, 10/5 Wellington Street, Edinburgh	70
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr & Mrs Alex McEwan, 83 Ashburn Gardens now 1/11 The Riggs	33 14
Mrs Mary Cameron, Oakburn Gardens now Canniesburn Nursing Home	23

DEATHS

<i>Jesus said: 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'</i> 31.3.13 Mrs Jenny Morton, Buchanan Lodge	40a
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Please note copy date (the last date for submissions) for June Life is early—
Sunday 19th May if using church pigeon hole or Wednesday 22nd if emailing.

Email to rona.dawson@glasgow.gov.uk

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
12 May	E Izatt F Ireland	Cockburn Deuchar	A Begg J MacLean	Team 10 Sheila Harrison (EC)
19 May	A Gibson A MacLeod	Berry MacKinnon	J MacIntyre M Fewell	Team 3 Linda Muirhead
26 May	A Abbott K Hagart	Wallis Chapman	R Cameron M Thoms	Team 4 Marlyn Taggart
2 June	M MacLean R Cameron	McCreadie Stark	C MacKay R Fraser	Team 5 Iris Torbet

St Paul's Milngavie Life Magazine May 2013



Dear Friends,

Any anniversary is a time of thanksgiving. We think of the years we have been granted and the people who have featured largely. Over the last twenty-five years many precious relationships have been established, many with people now beyond sight, touch and call but who are still part of my inner landscape. People who have taught me much about moving with hope through illness and hardship and who faced the final challenge firmly in the faith of Christ. Thanks be to God for the Faithful Departed!

Many still remain who welcomed me as a relatively inexperienced minister, gave me space to follow my own inner promptings, and were generous in their understanding when things went wrong. It's all very well to say 'we're only human' but I have never found it easy to live with any hurt I may have caused. So I am grateful for the message received from so many that while there may be stumbles along the way we are never entirely finished in the Lord's service. Forgiveness and renewal are as much for ministers as anyone.

When a senior colleague heard that I had been called to St Paul's in 1988 he said: 'That's a great congregation.' Well, that was an encouragement to me but more than just a trifle intimidating. What could I bring to 'a great congregation'? I've learned that we can only bring to the Kingdom what we are gifted to bring and to trust that the Lord knew what He was doing when He called us to a particular area of service. Spiritual maturity is being content with that.

Someone once said to me that what was wrong with me was that I was trying too hard to make things happen instead of standing back and getting in touch with what was already happening. That was a great insight. Just to take time to see how individual people coped with illness and loss; to see how generous people are with time, talents and money; to see the loving support given to friends and family in times of need; to see ideas emerging for the benefit of disadvantaged people at home and abroad; to see living faith making a difference. It has all been an enormous privilege.

So the last twenty-five years have not been about me but a congregation seeking to work out the reality of Christ in its life in sharing the greatest truths anyone has ever stumbled upon and bringing the love of Christ to anyone in need. That is what made St Paul's 'a great congregation' twenty-five years ago and I have been blessed in seeing that continue until now.

Constant companions through these years have been my family. We've had more days of celebration than the other sort and I am grateful for that. It can't be easy being 'a son of the Manse'. It must seem at times as if you are living in a long shadow but Mark, Stephen and Paul have become their own men and I am confident that wherever they are and whatever they do the world will know the difference.

Of course they would not have been possible without a very special lady who has shared my life for the last thirty-five years. The Bible speaks of two people becoming 'one flesh' in marriage and I believe Gabrielle and I have lived that truth. No achievements unless she has contributed; no failure but that she has helped pick up the pieces; no hopes for the future that she has not shared. In many ways that has been the greatest blessing.

Thank you all for your kindness, patience and support. And now, the future . . .

Yours in Christ,

Fergus Buchanan

Life and Work—contents May 13

Interview with the Moderator Designate

Reports to the Assembly

Preview of Heart and Soul 2013

Assembly diary

Reflections from Ron Ferguson and the Very Rev

James Simpson

Visit www.lifeandwork.org for daily updates from the Assembly, from May 18

Below the Breadline

Jackie Macadam meets a young woman who will be living on £1 a day to raise money for Christian Aid.

'Different Voices' United

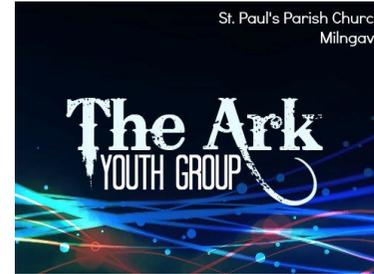
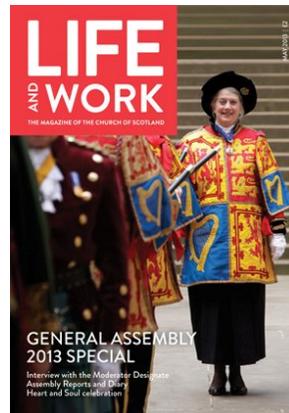
Thomas Baldwin reports from a major Church of Scotland conference focusing on music and worship

A Blueprint for the Future

Kenny Roger reports on anniversary celebrations at the Church of Scotland school in the Holy Land

Changing Church

A Café Church in East Kilbride



St. Paul's Parish Church,
Milngavie

The Ark

I would like to introduce you to The ARK. The ARK is a youth outreach group which started on 3rd March 2012.

At the time of going to press, we will have had our third successful meeting. The name was decided by the group themselves. Someone suggested "Noah's Ark for big boys and girls"! so The ARK was born from that..

The ARK is aimed at all young people in S1 – S6 and meets once a month, at the moment, on a Saturday evening 19:30 – 22:00. If it proves to be as popular as we hope it will, the aim is to introduce more activities.

We have a mix of ages at the moment which is great. The first evening we had 18 come along and on the second 11 even though it was the Easter holidays. Interestingly we have discovered that computer based games are less popular than we had anticipated, and are regularly sidelined to kick a ball about or play table tennis on our makeshift table. We have also discovered some challenging and fun games like Crossing the Swamp, Splat and Prisoner, not forgetting the ever popular Mafia and we have had a request for giant Jenga.

The ARK is about friendship, fun and relaxation in a Christian environment. We eat crisps and cake, drink copious amounts of Fanta and Coke and generally chill!

As with any group we will always need volunteers to help out every now and again, there have been many people who have offered their help and I am grateful for this, but we will always be on the lookout for more. So if you don't mind doing a stint in goal or being brutally 'murdered' by the Mafia! We would love to have you.

For more information on The ARK please contact **Janice Maclean** on Tel: 07711361936 or by Email: Janice.maclean2@ntlworld.com or as always just grab me after the morning service.

If you have Facebook we can find @ <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-ARK/495426510519225?ref=hl>

Janice MacLean

World Mission Matters

Fears of underage marriage in Syria
According to World Vision, girls as young as 12 are being married in Syria. Erica Hall, Senior Child Rights Policy Advisor, explained: "During a conflict like the one in Syria, families lose everything. They've been stripped of their homes, jobs and savings - but also community structures like schools, friends and family that helped keep their children safe. It's hard for parents to know where the next meal is going to come from and how they can protect their children from danger, including the very real threat of sexual violence. Parents will feel incredibly vulnerable and may believe a husband will be able to protect their daughter from these threats and to better provide for their remaining children too. But early marriages have long term, negative impacts on girls' health, well-being and future."
Please remember this in your prayers.

Desmond Tutu wins Templeton Prize
Archbishop Desmond Tutu has won this year's Templeton Prize which honours people who have made "an exceptional contribution to affirming life's spiritual dimension". The Archbishop was chosen for the Award for his efforts in 'advancing spiritual principles such as love and forgiveness'.
The prize will be presented at a ceremony at the Guildhall in London on 21 May.

Prisoner released in Pakistan
CLAAS (Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement) which has been advocating for justice in the case of Younis Masih, has secured his release from prison and transferred him safely to an unknown place. After 8 years in prison, Younis who had been sentenced to death was cleared of fake blasphemy accusations. On his release, he declared, "Praise the Lord, he is great." CLAAS is a partner of the Church of Scotland.



Christian Aid

Week 2013 is from 12th to 18th May and as usual we are looking for collectors - a sign-up sheet is at the back of the church.

If you have never collected before and would like to do so please speak to any member of the committee (Gordon Campbell, Betty Watson, Margaret Bonis, Alex McEwan, Marylyn Taggart) and they will tell you what is involved. Counters will also be required in the main hall on 15th, 16th and 17th May.

Gordon Campbell

Cherry Blossom Fair

On Saturday May 11th we are holding our annual event to raise money for the work of the Ferguson family in Japan.

This is from 10 a.m. till 12 noon in the Large Hall and is for all the family. There will be stalls with baking, books and bric a brac and activities for children.

The hall will be open on Friday evening from 6.30 till 7.30pm to receive contributions and other donations can be handed in on the Saturday morning.

Delicious, freshly-made pancakes will be on offer, always a great treat. The cost is £2 for adults and £1 for children. Everyone is welcome.

Eleanor Easton

St Paul's Church Society Summer Outing - Saturday 18th May

We will have a 2-course meal at the Riverside Restaurant in Stirling before returning home.

This year the Society will visit Bridge of Allan's Holy Trinity Church of Scotland which has an interesting Charles Rennie Macintosh history, and beautifully CRM designed chancel furnishings.

The Coach will leave Milngavie Station Car Park at 12.20pm, and the cost will be £26.

The town also has historical links with Robert Louis Stevenson. There will be time to explore the town, shop and enjoy a coffee at one of the many tea rooms.

A sheet for names is at the rear of the Church. The Outing is not restricted to Society Members only, and you will be made most welcome to what promises to be another interesting and happy day.

For further information contact **Iris T. Torbet, Treasurer & Secretary.**

Editor's note

If you have any comments, criticisms or queries regarding the content of Life magazine, we respectfully request that you address them in the first instance to the editor, Rona Dawson, as she is responsible for all articles featured. Contact details on the back page.

Japan Jottings



Dear Friends

We are gradually getting used to life in the Greater Tokyo area. Journeys on trains are usually quite an experience – squeezing into carriages that are full to overflowing and negotiating stations which can be like large shopping malls. We have on occasion also borrowed the OMF car for reasonably short journeys and wondered afterwards whether we would have been faster cycling through the crowded streets. There is in many ways a completely different atmosphere to what we had become used to in Hokkaido.

By the time you read this Matthew will have returned to Hebron for his A Level exams and Daniel should soon be finished his first year at Glasgow and on the way back here for the long summer holiday (and hopefully a job). Calum and Alistair seem to be enjoying their new schools so far. As a new first year student at his Junior High School Calum paraded in at the opening ceremony with over 200 others. Everything was carried out with meticulous precision, with lots of bowing. Calum stuck out, not only because of his height but because he was the only one who did not have black hair. Any hair dye is strictly forbidden in Japanese secondary schools and with the compulsory uniform, there is an uncanny sameness about all the students.

There are many challenges and opportunities for us as we take up the task here of leading the OMF Japan team. We have around 120 missionaries along with a large number of children, coming from all sorts of countries and engaged in different types of ministry in different parts of Japan. Some are involved in planting new churches. Others are seeking creative ways to reach Japanese people who would never find their way to a church (not that there are many churches in this land anyway). We have many new missionaries in the pipeline so we will increasingly find ourselves overseeing a young and inexperienced team here in Japan.

Thank you for all your support for us and for your prayers for Japan.

With our love
David, Lorna, Daniel,
Matthew, Calum
and Alistair

Flower donations—May

Miss E. Izatt, Mrs. M. Robertson, Mr. T. Scott

Please make cheques payable to St. Paul's flowers and put donations in Flower Rota pigeon hole at the back of the church or send to Mrs. Wilma Douglas, 34 Braeside Ave, Milngavie G62 6LJ Phone 956 2630



Bearsden Baptist Church are holding their annual Coffee Morning in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship on Saturday 11th May from 10.00 am - 12.30pm. Admission is £2.50 for adults and £1.00 for children.

There will be plants, home produce, books, face painting, children's toys and clothes, bric-a-brac, hand massage, art prints and, of course, the flight simulator.

Brigade Bletthers

Just a short bletcher this month because after three weeks holiday for Easter we have only been back for one week.

Our Display is on 2nd May and the girls are being great. They are working hard to get everything right. It is their officers who are slipping into "panic mode." Never mind it happens every year!

Read all about it next month
Anne Goodlet



Heart & Soul 2013
Celebrating the life of the Church

The Church of Scotland

HEART AND SOUL SUNDAY 19th MAY 2013 PRINCES STREET GARDENS, EDINBURGH A celebration for the whole Church!

In recognition of the 1450th anniversary of Columba landing on Iona, Heart and Soul 2013 will be inspired by Celtic Christianity, with all the richness of its themes: hospitality, pilgrimage, journeying, deep peace – healing and wholeness, creation and its care, celebrating the good earth, contemplative prayer, Trinity, representing Christ to the world, inclusive community,

Christ in the stranger's guise, rhythm of the seasons, prophecy, soul-friends, being 'on the edge'.

So come along and bring your friends to celebrate the life of the Church in Princes Street Gardens. Come and meet friends old and new, enjoy kids and youth fun, music, drama, interviews and seminars, learn more about how God is at work in His Church. Come and sing for all you're worth along with thousands of others at closing worship...

www.heartandsoul2013.org.uk