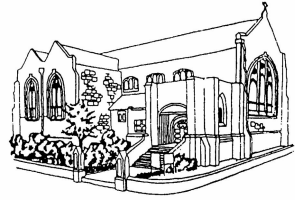


# Life



No 27 March 2005

Dear Friends,

R.S. Thomas wrote a poem called 'The Country Clergy' which speaks of dedicated men who worked hard in their own time but were unappreciated and soon forgotten. The poem ends, however, with the conviction that one day God will rectify this.

This came to mind as I was thinking about my mother who died on 15th February. She was not known beyond her own circle of family and friends. She won no awards and achieved no academic distinction but in the place where faithfulness, integrity and love are recorded her name will be honoured.

She was essentially a cheerful person but she never really recovered from the death of my father almost four years ago. Even at that time there were early signs of dementia and this, in my view, was exacerbated by her personal grief. They were married for sixty-five years and there is no doubt that with his death something within her died. Still, it is reassuring to know that the most vivid memory of her among the care staff at Ailsa Craig Nursing Home is of her smile.

My Monday afternoons will be different from now on. That was when I would take her for a 'hurl' in the wheelchair. Although conversation was often limited she enjoyed that contact with the outside world, especially if there were children around.

Many of you will know that at times like this you always feel that you could have done more but, in the end, I believe my mother knew she was loved and that those closest to her were doing their best for her.

I cannot adequately express my appreciation of the support my family has received in these past weeks. We have felt supported by your prayers and the cards and messages of sympathy have been overwhelming. There is no greater blessing than to feel cherished by God's people.

Fergus C. Buchanan

## **Holy Week Services**

This year's joint Holy Week Services will run from 20 March until Friday 25 March. The services will take place in St. Luke's Parish Church at 7.30pm but the Palm Sunday service will be in St. Paul's at 7.30pm and there will be a meditation for the Day of Silence on Saturday 26 March in the United Free Church at 9.30am.

The speaker will be Rico Tice, Associate minister of All Souls Church, Langham Place, London and the author of "Christianity Explored"

### **ORDINATION AND ADMISSION OF ELDERS**

The undernoted members of the congregation were ordained and admitted to the eldership on Sunday 30 January 2005.

#### **Ordained Admitted**

Scott Adair Aled Evans

Norman Barlow

Ross Deuchar

Michael Lang

Jean Scott and

Irene Strang

### **LONG SERVICE CERTIFICATE**

A Certificate of Long Service presented by the Church of Scotland and signed by the Moderator was presented by the Rev. Fergus Buchanan at the December meeting of the Kirk Session to Mr William Marshall in grateful appreciation of dedicated service as an Elder in St. Paul's for thirty years.

Ian Mackinnon Session Clerk

# CHURCH REGISTER

## NEW MEMBERS

### JOINED BY CERTIFICATE

Mr & Mrs R Kerr, 38 Crawford Road, Milngavie 21

### DISJUNCTIONS

Mrs Jessie MacAdam, Abbeyfield Killearn 5

### DEATHS

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

19/1/05 Mr Gilchrist Currie, 9 Dumgoyne Gds., Milngavie (St. Lukes)  
25/1/05 Mrs Jean Chambers, 37 Falloch Road, Milngavie (St. Lukes)  
01/2/05 Mrs Rachael I Barron, Burnside Nursing Home 57  
12/2/05 Mrs M Higgins, 28 Glasgow Road, Milngavie 55

### *World Prayer Diary for March*

Let us remember the people who work in different capacities in Malawi. Helen Scott, who is a teacher in Ektivendeni Girls Secondary School in Malawi.

Andy Gaston who works with the Livingstonia Synod AIDS Programme.

Bruce Ritchie lectures in Zomba Theological College.

Let us also remember all the people affected by the tsunami tragedy. Those who lost loved ones and those trying to rebuild their homes. We would also pray for all volunteers and charities helping them to have the basic essentials.

## **THE GUILD**

On Monday 7th. February, the Rev. George Vidits led us in a very interesting Bible Study. The following week, on the 14th. we held our St. Valentine's Dinner, followed by entertainment provided by the Committee. There was lots of fun and laughter on a most enjoyable evening.

On the 21st. Mr. John Scott of Robert Wiseman Dairies gave us an outline of the success of the well-known company, and on 1st. March we shared a meeting with St. Luke's Guild.

### ***FUTURE EVENTS***

7th March. Mr. J. Little from Caurie Organic Soaps

14th. March A.G.M. Mrs. Margaret White, our President will entertain us.

### ***WORLD'S DAY OF PRAYER***

St. Paul's will host this annual event on Friday 4th. March at 10.30 a.m. We hope that as many members as possible will be able to attend.

### ***COFFEE MORNING***

Don't forget to support this special event to be held in the Church Halls on Saturday 12th. March

# CIRCLE of CARE

## NEWS FROM SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

### Great Sunflower Challenge

(the fund that supports children affected by drug misuse)



Volunteer Development Co-ordinator Maggie Hunt said: "We have never organised such a wonderful fun competition! We received almost 150 phone calls, e-mails, letters and photographs from all across Scotland telling us about the height (and in some cases the lack of height!) of sunflowers grown by local Guilds and Church groups. The weather wasn't particularly conducive to sunflower growing but many of you did a fabulous job and some amazing heights were recorded. The South region winner was the tallest of all - a massive 13 feet - grown by Southwick and Kirkbean Church Guild in Kirkcudbrightshire.

West Winner: Mr. & Mrs. Burchill of Lenzie Union Church;

A unique entry came from St. Luke's Guild in Milngavie. The photo shows the sunflower with a heart in the middle. Guild President Mrs. Helen Smith told *Circle of Care*: "It was a chance of time that I arrived to take the photo when the heart was so prominent. A few days later, it had almost disappeared as the centre growth became more fluffy."

### Celebrations at The Mallard

On a snowy day in March 1995, a new service opened in Springburn, Glasgow. The Mallard (named after the famous steam locomotive built at Cowlairs) and now celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> birthday, is a purpose-built bungalow for children with learning disabilities. The house has two distinct areas - one for long-term care and the other for short breaks. More than 140 children have been welcomed and cared for in The Mallard's friendly surroundings in the past decade.

Sandy Russell, who has been Unit Manager since the beginning, comments: "The Mallard was a new venture for the Board in Glasgow - but it is encouraging to know that children who come to the Mallard either long term or for short breaks are getting the best possible care. A programme of special events is planned, including a Service of Thanksgiving in Springburn Parish Church on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm**. It is hoped to invite all those who have been involved with and supported The Mallard. Local MP and Speaker of the House of Commons Michael Martin and Glasgow's Lord Provost Liz Cameron have accepted invitations to attend." (excerpts from current Circle of Care Newsletter)

## **PRAISE GROUP.**

The Praise group which has been leading the evening worship every 1<sup>st</sup>. Sunday of the month for 15 or 16 years (we're not quite sure how long,) is taking a sabbatical.! This group was originally started by David Graham, when he was the assistant minister, and has flourished ever since. It has introduced many new worship songs, some successfully, some not so, & has been greatly enjoyed by all of us who have had the privilege of serving our Lord in this way. There is always difficulty when deciding when a 'cut off point has been reached . We thank you all for the appreciation shown for our efforts over the years, & who knows, like the phoenix, it might rise again.

### **THE BOOK CLUB**



This month we have been reading two books – Dissolution by C J Sansom and The Heart of the Matter by Graham Greene. Dissolution proved an unqualified success with everyone who read it. It is a murder mystery set in the time of the dissolution of the monasteries and the tension gradually builds up to make it a real “who dunnit”! Highly recommended. The other book by Graham Greene did not prove so popular and those who read it struggled to finish it. Not one of his best was the general opinion on this one.

Next month we are reading the Red Tent by Anita Diamant. We are meeting on Wednesday 13 April and as usual please phone Helen in the Church Office for the venue. We all look forward to seeing some new members joining us for chat and coffee!

JOYCE CLARK

# BRIGADE BLETHERS

You are getting two months for the price of one this month because I missed January's deadline.

Maybe it was the excitement of coming back home to nice new halls !

Our visit to the Pantomime was a great success and we came home wishing we could raid their costume store for our Display.

Then it was all hands on deck for the annual Jumble Sale. We booked the ever popular Bouncy Castle again this year. (You know adults can have a go as well. Keep that in mind for next year !!)

Our thanks to everyone who donated goods to sell then found time to come along for a coffee.

Plus a special thank-you to the parents and friends who worked away on the stalls and helped us raise £750.

This means we have raised more than enough to cover our Display costs.

This coming week we have a Candle Party Fundraiser for other Companies in our Division, then sixty of us are off to Auchengillan Scout Camp for the weekend. Tell you all about that next month.

Anne Goodlet

# LIFE&WORK

## MARCH ISSUE

### **EASTER ISSUES**

An insight into the mystery of Easter is offered by the Rev John Munro while the Art of the Resurrection looks at meaningful depictions of the Easter story by artists old and new.

### **SPIRITUAL DISCRIMINATION**

Ron Ferguson highlights the difficulties of interpreting the Bible. "Spiritual discrimination , with all its attendant risks, is necessary within the community of faith, and all of us need to come clean about this."

### **TSUNAMI REFLECTIONS**

The Rev John Purves, Kirk minister in Colombo, Sri Lanka, describes how friendships have been strengthened as a result of the Boxing Day tsunami. Leading geologist and Kirk elder Stuart Monro offers a scientific perspective on the disaster.

### **A MODERN CRUSADER**

On the eve of the 50th anniversary of his Scottish crusade, Muriel Armstrong looks back on the life of Dr Billy Graham and the Tell Scotland campaign.

### **A SAFE HAVEN**

Lynne McNeil meets Sally Daghlian, Chief Executive of the Scottish Refugee Council, in this month's profile.

### **A GOSPEL PRAGMATIST**

Professor Donald Macleod, Principal of Free Church College, reflects on the life of Thomas Chalmers, on the 225th anniversary of his birth.

### **AND MORE...**

**Sixty pages of news, features, reviews, travel, finance, lively letters and crosswords are on offer for only £1.50. If you are not yet a subscriber speak to your local congregational distributor.**



# CHRISTIAN AID NEWS

## *CHRISTIAN AID SILENT AUCTION*

**A Silent Auction in aid of the Tsunami Disaster Fund** will be held in St. Paul's Church Main Hall on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March from 2 pm to 4 pm with the last bid at 3.15 pm.

Tickets are £1 and include tea or coffee and biscuits. Tickets available from Gordon Campbell, Graham Greig, Alison McFarlane or pay at the door on the day.

The committee is appealing for donations of items for auction preferably table-top items, no clothes, electrical or large furniture items.

Items can be brought to the hall from 10 am on the day or alternatively by arrangement with committee.

Support for this event in the past has been excellent and hopefully this year it will be even better.

*NB There will be a Traidcraft Stall in the Jubilee Hall, well stocked with fairly traded goods, including chocolate goodies and cards suitable for the Easter Season*

## *CHRISTIAN AID LENTEN LUNCH*



This annual event will be held in the Large Hall immediately after morning service on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>. March . Your support will be greatly appreciated.

## ***ERSKINE BRIDGE WALK***

This sponsored walk which annually raises many thousands of pounds for Christian Aid will take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>. April. Further information, sponsor sheets etc. can be had from Graham Greig or any member of the Christian Aid Committee.

**TRAIDCRAFT** — started 25 years ago as a Christian response to poverty

The new Spring Catalogue is now out & available either from the back of the Church or at the Traidcraft stall (with the T. & coffee after the morning service.)

Please take one to peruse at your leisure, & if you wish to order from it, we will gladly do that for you.

There are many new products — including 2 types of snack bar — one, a chocolate covered wafer priced at 20p, & the newly marketed Geo-Active bar, aimed at those who need a high energy snack.

Please continue to look for the 'Fair trade' logo when you do your shopping.

The more people who demand it the more pressure is put on the suppliers to look for Fair trade sources.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **TRAIDCRAFT**

### **HONEY FROM ZAMBIA**

*Have you tried our new African Forest Honey?*

*Selling the honey provides valuable income for more than 6000 bee keepers in North West Zambia.*

*They use traditional methods of bee keeping, placing their bark hives high in the trees of the unspoilt Biombo forests where passing swarms inhabit them.*

*Bob Malichi, general manager of the N.W.Bee Products Ltd.said on a visit to Traidcraft*

*"We are in a remote area ; the roads are poor and the employment is not there,*

*The only option people have is bee keeping or charcoal burning in order to make a living. So we make a co-existence between the insect, man and trees.*

*By buying our honey you will be supporting us to earn an income but you will also help us to protect our environment, on which we depend, as well as protecting the bees."*

*I think this is quite a powerful argument for buying the HONEY*

# *Japan Jottings*

## **Dear Friends**

Here in Otaru we have certainly had our fair share of snow this year. One day we think we will take some video as we are driving along. Unless you've experienced it, it's hard to imagine. In places it's like driving through a tunnel with banks of snow piled high on either side. The road surface rises as the snow accumulates over the months – and then if you have a day when the temperature suddenly rises, the car sinks down into it. Great fun!

This month should see us reach the end of winter. It's also the time for new starts as school, business and church years all begin in April. Daniel will go into 5<sup>th</sup> grade and Matthew into 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Every two years, the children change classes and teachers. Please pray for the boys that they would be in good classes and that they would have understanding teachers.

In the church we are making various changes from April. Our kids' work will take on a new shape – rather than weekly, we will have a monthly outreach club but also do weekly English classes, one for 6-7 year olds and the other for pre-school kids with their mums. The aim is to build up relationships with local kids and each class will end with a simple Bible time. We will do a separate time for the mums, sometimes a Bible message, other times simple sharing of Christian principles or values related to the family and childcare.

We continue to care for many in the church who face serious or terminal illness. We do value your ongoing prayers for us as we work here and seek to introduce many to Jesus.

**With our love and thanks**

**David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair**



# FLOWER ROTAS MARCH

## Donations

Mrs. K. Butler  
 Mrs. S. and J Lindsay  
 Mrs. M. Ingram  
 Mrs. Campbell  
 Miss D. Dickson  
 Mrs. Tanner  
 Mr. R. Bone

## Deliveries

Mar. 6 Mrs. A. Galloway Mrs. J. Townson  
 Mar 13 Mrs. M. McIntyre Mrs. M. Spencer  
 Mar 20 Mrs. P. Dudgeon Mrs. S. Lindsay  
 Mar 27 Mrs. M. Phillips Mrs. E. Law  
 April 3 Mrs. J. Anderson Mrs. A. Gibson



# CRECHE ROTA MARCH

|         |                                     |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Mar 6   | Bolton, Baxter, Robertson, Knaggs   |
| Mar 13  | Martin, Whitelaw, MacKinnon, Hughes |
| Mar 20  | MacAulay, Moffat, lawrie, Goodlet   |
| Mar 27  | Smith, Cockburn, Fleming, Buchanan  |
| April 3 | Richell, McFarlane, Reid, Bolton    |

# TRADICRAFT STALL

|          |               |                 |
|----------|---------------|-----------------|
| March 6  | Barbara Frame | Buntu Barr      |
| March 13 | Betty Watson  | Margaret Conway |
| March 20 | Morag Thomson | May Jenkins     |
| March 27 | Anne Begg     | Janice MacLean  |
| April 3  | Sue Rollings  | Jean MacIntyre  |

*The magazine is published on the first Sunday of every month. Contributions for the next issue should be handed to the Editor or left in the box in the Waiting Room by the 22nd March*  
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