St Paul's Milngavie

Life Magazine
April 2009

Dear Friends,

When I was studying theology in the late 1970s the Turin Shroud was big news. This was the shroud which allegedly was used to cover the body of Jesus after the crucifixion. It bore the imprint of the features and body of a man which was consistent with scorch marks which may have been made by a surge of power. Some people were eager to argue that this surge of power may well have happened at the moment of Jesus' Resurrection and therefore if genuine the Shroud could be proof of the Resurrection.

Some of my fellow students were impressed by this and one, seeing I was doubtful, urged me to break out of my 'Presbyterian strait-jacket' and look at the evidence. My skepticism, however, was given some theological weight by a remark made by Dr John Zizoulas, a Greek Orthodox theologian, who was one of our lecturers. He once told us that the only proof of the Resurrection of Jesus is the existence of the Church. Like many of 'Zizi's' comments this required a bit of thought – but I saw what he was getting at. How could the Church exist without the Resurrection? It began with this rag-bag of humanity which retreated into the depths of shock and depression after their leader's death. A short time after this, less than the normal time needed to come to terms with bereavement, they emerged from their hiding proclaiming that their leader had risen from the dead and promised the same blessing to all those who trusted in Him as the Son of God.
The same group went on to become a religious and social phenomenon in the ancient world famously said to be turning the world upside down. How do you explain this transformation which was remarkable not just for its suddenness but its radical nature? Obviously something tumultuous had happened. They themselves pointed to the Resurrection. They had met with the Risen Lord.

It was in the power of the Resurrection that the mission of the Church began and it is that same power which has sustained the Church over two thousand years. Paul prayed for the Ephesian Church that God would give each one the wisdom to know God better, to more deeply appreciate the hope of the Gospel and to experience God's power. Of the latter Paul writes: 'That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead … ' (Ephesians 1: 19-20).
It is this power more than anything else which has sustained the Church 'through many a day of darkness' and still she stands to proclaim the only sure hope for humankind which flows from the Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

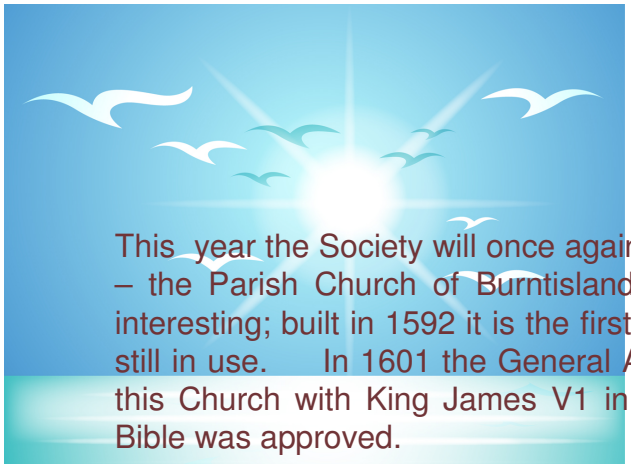
In the Resurrection faith,

Fergus C Buchanan

Lodging House Mission Calendar of events 2009

Mon 20th April	AGM
Wed 10th June	Thanksgiving Service to mark the LHM centenary
July	6th Annual Cycling event will take place
during	bike week
August	Social night including performances from
the	regular visitors to the centre
Wed 23rd September	Civic Reception in the City Chambers

If you would like to make a contribution to the LHM centenary appeal you can find leaflets at the back of the church or go online at www.lhmglasgow.org.uk



St Paul's Society Summer Outing 6th June 2009

This year the Society will once again, visit one of Scotland's little known 'gems' – the Parish Church of Burntisland; which is both historically and spiritually interesting; built in 1592 it is the first post-Reformation church built in Scotland, still in use. In 1601 the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met in this Church with King James V1 in attendance, and a new translation of the Bible was approved.

The arrangements are in hand, with a couple of confirmations to be received, and a total price to be agreed, which will include a guided tour of the Church and High Tea in Burntisland, with time to look around the town. - This is therefore an advance notice, in order for you to put the date in your diaries. Further details will be in next month's Life, and sheets for names will be at the back of the Church from May.

It is expected that coach will leave Milngavie Station at 12.00noon on Saturday 6th June, returning to Milngavie at around 8.00pm, and this too, will be confirmed as soon as details are available.

A warm welcome to all Members and friends is assured, and we look forward to another very enjoyable day!

Iris T. Torbet, Secretary/Treasurer

Noticeboard

CHURCH OUTING
Saturday
30th May 2009
Note the date in your diary NOW

Booking Forms at the back of the Church from mid-April

ALL WELCOME

Further information from Graham Mill (956 5155)
g.mill@ntlworld.com

Flourish Women's Conference
Kirkintilloch Baptist Church
Saturday 25th April 2009
This annual conference features a day of teaching and worship incorporating a guest speaker and a choice of seminars. The event is open to all women. There is a small charge of £5 to cover costs. Registration starts 9.30am with welcome at 10am and close at 4.30pm.
For further information, details of speaker and seminars visit www.flourish-kbc.co.uk or phone 0141 578 6006.

Scottish Bible Society
The total amount raised by the Bible Sunday Appeal was £949.
Thank you to everyone who contributed.
Thanks also to those who completed the Gift Aid declarations as the tax recovered by the Bible Society will add to the total sum.
Frances Ireland.

The Guild fund raising concert was held on the 16th March and was a resounding success. Mark, Aileen and the Choir produced a wonderful sound in the Church.

The two charities which we were supporting, i.e. The Preshall Trust and Live Music in Hospitals benefited that evening, where the total raised was £2,850.00 which was a marvellous result.

The Committee wish to thank all who helped and supported us on the evening."
Morag MacKenzie

Klimb for Kimo

We are planning a sponsored climb of Ben Lomond in aid of the Kimo Peru Project.

Date for your diary: Saturday 9th May

This is for all the family and should be a great day out! Even if you think you can't get to the top you will be very welcome to come and do as much as possible. Sponsorship forms and more information available now at the back of the Church. Please join us!

Dixieland Jazz Concert

THE ALLANDER JAZZ BAND a re giving a concert of Dixieland Jazz in aid of the Kimo Peru Project.

This will be held in St. Paul's Church on Friday 15th May at 7.30 p.m.

The Band's performance during the Christmas Tree Festival was warmly received and the members have gladly agreed to return in May.

Donation tickets will be available after Easter and will cost £5.

Please try to come to what promises to be a memorable evening!

Milngavie in Bloom

Milngavie in Bloom started in April 2008. Its aim is to bring flowers and planting of various kinds into the precinct and beyond. We believe that Milngavie can become a place to be proud of – experience shows that as communities get involved in planting and the care of flowers then problems of litter lessen.
To achieve its aims, MiB needs people to join in!

We need members with a wide range of skills such as:

- Above all people who enjoy plants and planting and who will help to maintain the containers that we intend to place and fill. The more planting, the more people will be needed
- People interested in developing links with schools and pre-school groups
- Links with churches and other groups in the village
- Anyone with experience of fund raising or making a website
- Do you wish that the area where you live could be brightened up?

Do you know of others who feel similarly? If so why not get in touch?

Leave your details at the Fraser Centre, the Library or the Bookshop and a committee member will contact you with a membership form.

Boys' Brigade

1st/2nd Milngavie Company

Congratulations are due to our Junior Section who took first place in the recent Lennox and Argyll Battalion Figure Marching Competition. As it was the first time the Section had participated in the Competition for a number of years, it was a tremendous achievement. We wish the Boys well in the PE Competition which will be held later this month.

Following their success in the Battalion Cross Country Competition the Boys of the Company Section also performed well in the Table Tennis Competition, being placed 3rd in the team event. Congratulations go to Craig Anderson who came first in the Under 15s.

Our end of session Parade will be to St Paul's on the morning of Sunday 10th May. This will be a very special service for a number of reasons. To commemorate the 125th anniversary of the founding of The Boys' Brigade, each Boy will be presented with a Bible. Also during the Service, two of the Senior Boys will be receiving the President's Badge. The Badges will be presented by Professor Sir Kenneth Calman, Brigade President (UK and the Republic of Ireland).

Euan McKay

The Guild

We have reached the final month of our 2008-09 session and have had many interesting talks on various topics.

On March 2nd we visited St Luke's and the speaker's topic was "Hymns" which was excellent. We were made very welcome and the tea and tray bakes were very much appreciated.

On 9th March we had a talk on Mission Aviation Fellowship by Andrew Martin which was also most interesting.

Our concert by Mark Donnelly, Aileen Sim and the Bothwell Philharmonic choice was a huge success (More about this elsewhere in the magazine).

On Monday 23rd March we had Alan Campbell to speak to us from the Scottish Bible Society and we concluded our session with the AGM and home night.

It was decided to postpone the coffee morning until Sat 14th November.

Isabel Lyle.

Flower Donations - April

Mrs. H. Lindsay. Mrs. C. MacKay. Mrs I. More. Mrs M. Rae.
As always contact Wilma Douglas on 0141 956 2630

Brigade Blethers

Our Church Parade on 1 March was well attended and the girls enjoyed Mr Buchanan's guessing game with his lucky dip prizes. We tried to catch him out at his own game when he came to show the girls his Negev slides but he guessed right away! We'll need to pick something more difficult next time.

Only about 7 weeks till Brigade's D-Day. That's the display so the panic will be setting in any day now! Badge work is more or less finished but some of the bulbs that the girls planted are a bit straggly. Too long under the bed I think. (The bulbs not the girls.)

We have a closing down sale on at the moment at our Kimo Peru bookstall so now is your last chance to pick up a good read and help Brigade to reach our target.

I am very grateful to all our regulars both for their custom and all the wee blethers every week. Meantime our Company weekend to Auchengillan is coming up fast and we are all looking forward to that. Every year there are new activities on offer and this year we will try out The Equaliser. I am told that it is like a tug-of-war on a bouncy castle while connected to a bungy rope.

Tell you all about it next month if we survive.
Anne Goodlet

Book Group

Based on a true story, The Pure Land re-lives in fiction the life of Thomas Glover, a young clerk from Aberdeen who takes the opportunity to work in Japan in the mid 19th century. Within ten years he is a successful businessman, learns the ways of the samurai and is instrumental in the overthrow of the Shogun. The book takes us on a hundred year saga that culminates in the annihilation of Nagasaki in 1945.

This sweeping story depicts the progression of Japanese culture into the 20th century very well. Although quite an easy read, it was felt that the book would have been so much better if it had been written in greater depth. There were times it was almost superficial in its story telling. Reasonable story tackled reasonably well and enjoyed by everyone in the group.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 21 April 2009 @ 7.45pm when we will be reading The Secret Scripture by Sebastian Barry. If you would like to come along and join us please phone Helen in the Church Office for the venue.

Joyce Clark

Think About It with Anita McAulay

www.think-about-it.org

In the course of her day job, the editor organises Women into Business networking meetings for start-up businesses owned by women in the Glasgow area. Anita McAulay is one of the members and she has written a short article about what she does which we hope you will find interesting.

I have worked in Christian circles for over 45 years, pastoring a church with my husband for 25 years; running a children's club in a needy area of Glasgow; leading women's events and church services; speaking and teaching at churches, groups, events; working with Aglow International for many years and counselling.

A year ago I started this new ministry-business where I produce self-help talks on CDs. They are helpful and relevant for both churched and non-churched people. They are designed to help develop the listener's spiritual, emotional, mental, social and physical well being!

I believe this new venture was a 'God–idea'! It certainly was a challenge – to look beyond my normal Christian communication, and speak about issues from a secular point of view, giving help, advice, and emotional management steps, as well as the spiritual dimension. People today are very conscious of a changing and less secure world and need help.

The CDs are professionally produced, in 3 parts, illustrated with stories and quotes, and accompanied by professional guitar music.

Part 1 is practical, thought provoking, shows how to admit to and face life's problems and difficulties, and make the changes necessary.
Part 2 is an opportunity to consider a more spiritual outlook, introducing the connection you can experience with God Himself – and a prayer to receive the gift of eternal life, and strength and answers to life's issues.
Part 3 is relevant verses from the Bible for the subject in mind. It is powerful - because it is the word of God - giving hope, courage, peace, strength, comfort and value to the listener.
My goal is to inspire my listeners to rise higher and achieve their goals; to bring those who are spiritual seekers, looking in many different types of places and groups, to Jesus who is the answer to their search; to help Christians sort out their issues and also give them wonderful relevant verses for the subject chosen; and to just spread the good news of the gospel all around the world.

Everyone can benefit from these CDs! This is a short summary of them:

Forgiveness

'Forgiveness' is for those who need to forgive someone and are finding it impossible, those who have not forgiven themselves, those who blame God for things, and those who need the assurance of God forgiving them.

Grief and Loneliness

'Grief and Loneliness' is for those who have not let go the past, those who need help in their journey of grief, those who are lonely, and those who need assurance of the Lord always being with them.

Anger

'Anger' is for people to learn to be assertive or have slower reactions!, those who need to look at the roots, excuses and consequences of anger seriously. The change takes place from the inside out!

Self image

'Self Image' is for those who want to improve themselves, those who need to know their great value and uniqueness to God and to the world, and also how much God loves them.

Where do you live

'Where do you live?' is an explanation of body, soul and spirit. It is for those who need peace of mind, and helps the listener take the first vital step to being healed, free and at peace by admitting the truth.

Fear or faith

Fear or Faith is for those who find themselves afraid of doing things, taking steps forward, afraid of what might happen, and those who just wish they could have a living and working faith. With the right focus.

My website is user friendly. It's worth a look! You can sign up for my monthly email newsletter which will encourage you.

God bless.
Anita McAulay

PASSION PLAY
SCOTLAND

We are grateful to Frances Ireland for reminding us to feature these events.

The Life of Christ
A production of The Easter Passion Play 'The Life of Christ' is to be staged by The Cutting Edge Theatre Group in

Kelvingrove Park on
Friday 15th May – 10.30am
and Saturday 16th May – 2pm.

Edinburgh Princes St Gardens on
Saturday 11th April 10.30am
and 2.30pm

Passion plays were started in the Church in Medieval times, and were used as a means to communicate the Gospel to the general public and were known as Mystery Plays, telling the Bible stories from Genesis onwards!. As the success of the plays increased, the Church gave responsibility to the local tradesmen to produce the plays and people such as the Fishmongers took on sections like the Feeding of the 5000 and the Shipbuilders took on the Flood! Very creative producing! The plays then began to take on an educational stream and began to introduce moral teaching, becoming known as Morality Plays and so Theatre in Education was born!
Today there are many plays around the world continuing this tradition of both teaching the Gospel and of course, Theatre in Education has continued in Schools and throughout the world.

THE PLAY: Will be a 2.5 hour version of the life and times of Jesus from his teaching from the Sermon of the Mount, through to the Trials, Crucifixion and Ascension.
PRACTICALITIES: The play is performed in the open air and will be a promenade production, so audiences should come prepared for all weather! Some walking is involved and whilst there are paths available, they are not always wheelchair friendly!

Church of Scotland Ministries and Mission Contributions 2009.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At last year's General Assembly, it was decided that all who belong to the Church should be given more information about Ministries and Mission contributions – the money your congregational treasurer sends to the church offices in Edinburgh. What happens to this money? How does it enable the worship, mission and service of the church?
The information below shows how your congregation's contribution is used to support parish ministries, mission and renewal, general support and services provided for congregations and the councils of the General Assembly. Please note that the cost of your minister is not what he is paid. This cost is the total for stipend and employer's national insurance and pension contributions and is based on a minister with ten years' service.

Total Contribution		**£117,818.00**
Parish Ministries (87%) The cost of ministry in your parish is: Contribution to the cost of ministries in other parishes and training for ministries	£39,100.00 £63,402.00	**£102,502.00**
Mission and Renewal (5.5%) This supports the church's work in resourcing congregations for Christian education and outreach, in caring for society's vulnerable in partnership with churches in some of the poorest parts of the world, and in providing a Christian perspective on issues of today		**£6,480.00**
Support for Services, Councils and Congregations (7.5%) This provides financial, legal, safeguarding and other services and meets the cost of the General Assembly and Moderator.		**£8,836.00**

Please note that M&M contributions only provide part of the total funding required for the work of the church listed above. A fuller picture is given in the leaflet *Belonging to a Sharing Church* copies of which are displayed on the Strathblane Road noticeboard.

Yours sincerely,

Vivienne Dickson,
Convener, Stewardship and Finance Committee.

Tribute to the Late Jean Scott

At her funeral service Jean was described by her daughter Lorna as “a very well organised and efficient lady” and we all know the truth of that. Whatever she did as a member of the Congregational Board, and later as an Elder, was always done with attention to detail and desire to do her best for everyone. She was a prime example of someone who was eager to use her own personal gifts for the glory of god and the benefit of others. She was always at home with numbers and calculations, so it was no surprise to see how well she did as our Deed of Covenant Convenor.

None of this should undermine her essential warm heartedness. She was devoted to her Elder’s District, enjoyed her visits and kept in touch with those who were sick or bereaved. The sense of loss which some of her people have expressed to me is testimony to the place she had in their hearts.

Jean was no stranger to the tragedies which sometime threaten to overwhelm us. In 1981 her husband Graeme was killed in a car accident. The children at that time were in their teens and hard decisions had to be made about the future. Jean found the strength that was needed for the time, and with all her practical skills to the fore she made a new life for herself and the family in Milngavie.
Jean was very soon involved in the life and work of St. Paul’s, and it was no surprise when she was asked to join the Congregational Board, and then to join the Kirk Session.

The last year of her life was largely taken up with her own personal battle with cancer. She was realistic about her condition, but was determined to make the best of every day, and to make things as easy as possible for the family.
It was a time when she engaged in a lot of personal reflection, and what her faith meant to her in the present circumstances. As I said at the funeral, she was always honest about this and there were questions which inevitably arose in her mind. But she never ceased to hang on in faith and to trust in the God who has been revealed to us in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

The care given to Jean by her family during this time was an inspiration. For the last few months she stayed with Lorna and her family in Edinburgh, with Fiona and Alan living nearby. She benefited enormously from being part of the daily life of those who were closest to her. It is to them that our hearts go out at this time. We offer the prayer that the faith that sustained Jean would be their strength and comfort.

FCB

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, we should be well settled into our new home in Sapporo. As many of you know, we had a rather eventful end to our time in Scotland, being delayed a week due to Alistair catching chickenpox just three days before we were due to board the plane! This is being written before we leave and hopefully we will have been on board this time. The events of the weekend of 14th-15th March 2009 will remain in our memories for a long time. We thought that all we would be doing would be moving out of our house in Milngavie and then enjoying our Re-commissioning Service at St Paul's the next morning. But there as few twists an turns in the tale which unfolded!

On the Saturday morning, an e-mail came in from Japan with a possible house for us which looked just perfect. We had to react quickly and managed to secure the house by the Monday. On that same Saturday in the afternoon we discovered Alistair's spots which led to a busy couple of days sorting our flights. We were able to rebook internal flights within Japan free of charge. But changing the long-haul flights was more problematic and we needed to pay to make the change. Yet on the evening of that never-to-be-forgotten Saturday, a friend wrote saying that he sensed that he should be giving us a certain amount of money – which was almost exactly what we needed to change our flights! God is good and has plans even when we wonder what's going on!

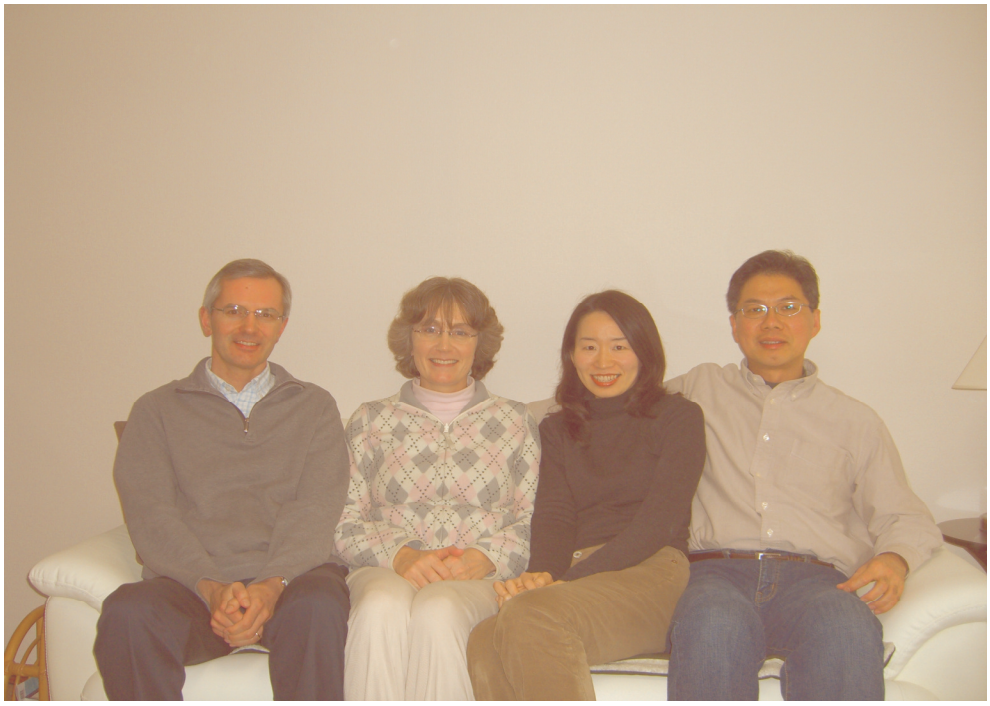
As Calum starts school in Japan and Alistair returns to kindergarten for a year, David will be off to India from the 4th to the 20th visiting Daniel and Matthew for half-term a Hebron. These are times of big adjustment for us all. As we settle down later in the month, we will begin to think through just how we should be starting this new work to which the Lord has called us.

We value your ongoing partnership in prayer as we look forward to sharing with you the next chapters in this adventure.

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

The new house in Sapporo

Hiragishi in Winter



David and Lorna with How Chuang and Kaori Chua with whom they will be working in Hiragishi

God At Work Course

Launch Event

Renfield St Stephen's Church,
260 Bath Street
Wednesday 22 April 2009

Business in Glasgow is delighted to promote the God At Work course, launching in Glasgow on Wednesday 22 April in Renfield St Stephen's Church Centre.

This course is based on Ken Costa's book, *'God at Work'*, and aims to equip Christians to find purpose in every aspect of their working life and to empower them to live this out with the utmost integrity. The course provides a Christian perspective on how to approach common issues familiar to many such as:

- Purpose at Work
- Ambition & Life Choices
- Work-Life Balance
- Stress
- Failure & Hope
- How to Make Tough Decisions

The 6 week course is interactive, containing teaching slots, individual and group exercises and discussion with other guests where experiences can be shared.

For further information, or to book a place at the launch event on 22 April, please call 07532 021215 or visit www.godatwork.org.uk/launch/glasgow

Milngavie Prayer Breakfasts

8am breakfast, 8.45am prayer

4th Apr St Luke's

2nd May St Paul's

6th Jun Allander

World Mission

Sri Lanka children victims of conflict

The conflict in Sri Lanka has killed hundreds of children and left many more injured United Nations' hildren's agency, Unicef, has said. Moreover, thousands of children are at risk because of "a critical lack of food, water and medicines," the agency says. Intense fighting is going on between Sri Lankan troops and Tamil Tiger rebels in north-eastern Sri Lanka. The Tigers have been driven from most of the territory they held by the army. They are now cornered in a small patch of jungle and coastal area in the Mullaitivu district. It is estimated that between 70,000 and 200,000 civilians are caught up in the conflict zone.

"Children and their families caught in the conflict zone are at risk of dying from disease and malnutrition," news agency AFP quoted Unicef executive director Ann Veneman as saying.

"Regular, safe access for humanitarian agencies is urgently required, so that life-saving supplies can be provided, and civilians must be allowed to move to safe areas where essential humanitarian support is more readily available," she added. "The rights of children caught in the conflict must be fully respected and every effort should be taken to prevent civilian casualties," Ms Veneman said. Meanwhile, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said that the condition for civilians in the north was "deteriorating by the day".

We would bring this very serious situation to God in prayer and also pray for all who are trying to bring aid to these people

CHURCH REGISTER

NEW MEMBERS

JOINED BY RESOLUTION

Mr & Mrs James McIlree, 26 Beech Ave., Bearsden 43

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mrs Marion Weir, Flat 9 Homebrae House now
Abbotsford House, Bearsden 3a

DEATHS

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

22.1.09 Mrs Marion Miller, 21 Roselea Drive 8
26.2.09 Mrs Margaret Cowan 45 Keystone Quad., Milngavie 42
05.3.09 Mrs Margaret McCormick, 7 Clochbar Ave., Milngavie 57

Copy date for April issue is Sun 19th April if using church pigeon hole or Thurs 23rd if emailing to rona.dawson@go.uk.com Posted articles to 123 Garscadden Rd, Old Drumchapel, G15 6UQ please. 0141 944 4198.

The editor apologises if she has missed anyone's article this month – things were a bit fraught around copy date. Please let her know and if possible it will be rectified next time! As always thanks for your contributions.

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
5 Apr	J Ford C Tanner	Goodlet, Bates, Cockburn	L Cowie, C McKinnon	Team 5 Brian Adair
12 Apr	J Clark M Taggart	Richell, MacKinnon, Whitelaw	B Barr H Reid	Team 6 Jean Scott
19 Apr	P Barlow R Buchanan	Wallis, Berry, Baxter	No stall	Team 1 (c) Fiona Anderson
26 Apr	S Anderson R Fraser	Chapman, Smith, Wilson	B Watson M Conway	Team 7 Barbara Lawson
3 May	M Conway M McPherson	McAuley, Reid, Bolton	M Thomson M Ure	Team 8 Lachlan MacNeill