

Life Magazine

October 2006



www.stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk



Dear Friends,

I am writing to you on a rather damp and dreary morning when the warmth and brightness of Summer seems very far away. Now and again people are remarking on how dark it is becoming around tea-time. ('The nights are fair drawin' in'.) Yes, we are now into Autumn and the Winter beckons.

I don't know what this means for you personally. Maybe you are looking forward to the traditional winter activities in Church and community. Maybe there is a happy family even anticipated which will keep the spirits light. However, there will always be those with failing health and increasing frailty who will find the winter months difficult to cope with.

Whatever the immediate future holds for us it is encouraging to know that we go forward together as the people of God. It was great to see the contributions of our organisations to the recent Flower Festival and to hear of the enjoyment that it brought to so many. The most inspiring thing for me personally was seeing people working so well together and enjoying one another's company.

I recently came across a verse in Psalm 16 which in the New Living Translation is rendered:

'The godly people in the land are my true heroes!
I take pleasure in them!' (Verse 3)

That seemed to express all that I felt as the Flower Festival and the following Harvest Thanksgiving unfolded. There is tremendous encouragement in seeing a people working together for the glory of Christ. Let's pray that as we move more deeply into the Church season that we will continue to inspire and support one another.

*Wishing you God's Bless,
Stephen Z. Buchanan*

Sins of omission and commission

It has become immediately apparent that a regular feature of the magazine will be the editor's apologies for mistakes, omissions and inaccuracies in the previous issue! We (that's the editorial "we") accept full responsibility for all these errata and offer apologies to everyone concerned in advance!

We are informed that last month Dorothy Thomson's name was missed out of the list of ladies who create the beautiful flower arrangements in the church week by week and we would like to set the record straight. The flowers are a great enhancement to the beauty of the sanctuary and it takes skill and imagination, not to mention time, to arrange them and we would like to recognise everyone who gives this service.

Rona Macdonald.

Book Group

We had two books to discuss at the meeting this month – **The Lincoln Lawyer** by Michael Connolly and **We Need to Talk** about Kevin by Lionel Shriver.

The majority of the group chose the latter title but those who read the Lincoln Lawyer did enjoy it, although they felt it was not one of Michael Connolly's best books. By contrast the group spent almost 45 minutes discussing the book by Lionel Shriver as it seemed to throw up more questions than answers to the argument of nature v nurture! Some of our group found it too traumatic and they couldn't finish it. Graphic, disturbing, compulsive reading were just some of the comments – try it for yourself and watch out for the ending!

Next meeting is on 24 October 2006 @ 8 pm, Please call Helen in the Church office for the venue. The book we are reading is **Weight** by Jeanette Winterson which is part of the Cannongate Myths Series. If you are interested we would be very pleased to see you.

JOYCE CLARK

Book Stall

The book stall will now open in time for Christmas for some literary presents, starting from Sunday 12th November for 4 weeks until Sunday 10th. December. All being well! Please speak to Glenys Ritchie if you have any particular requests. glenysoliver@tiscali.co.uk

Bible Society Sponsored Walk

The annual Bible Society sponsored walk will take place on **Saturday 28th October**. In previous years this has been a happy occasion and we have been fortunate with the weather. Why not come and join us for the fellowship and exercise – even if you don't want to be sponsored. More details from Grace Rogerson 956 5165.



The Guild

The new session of the Guild begins on Monday 2nd October 2006 at 7.30 p.m. in the Church, when we will be entertained by the Salvation Army Govan Songsters.

This meeting is open to all members of the Congregation. Tickets, priced £3, are on sale from Guild committee members or at the door on the night. All proceeds from the ticket sales will be divided between the Govan Songsters and the 2006/7 Guild project – 'Borderline'.

A warm welcome is extended to old and new members and any friends who may wish to join us for what we feel sure will be an enjoyable evening.

The Guild's Dedication Service will be held on Sunday 8th October at 11 a.m.

Brigade Blethers

Well, Brigade is back, - and it was good to catch up with the 'old' girls and to welcome some new faces to the Company. New beginnings are always exciting and we have quite a few ideas up our sleeves for this session.



Our first job was to produce 60 posies for Harvest Sunday and we had good fun fulfilling this important task. This year the Centenary Flower Festival was taking place at the same time and, much to the alarm of the Choir, the girls trooped in to the Church to see the wonderful displays which the different organisations had produced. The Brigade arrangement was planned around our badgework and for the many people who have asked, it was the work of Mrs Anne Christie. We have had lots of compliments to pass on to her. Thank you Anne!

Our badgework this year is all centre round "Self Heal". One of the older girls came up with the clever name for the project and we aim to help the girls to Detox spiritually, physically and educationally. The service element of our badgework will be a coffee evening in the Spring to raise money for the Marie Curie nurses. We will be up to lots of other things too so watch this space!

Anne Goodlet

Child Protection

The Child Protection training course postponed from August 14 will be arranged for a later date. Apologies to those who said they were able to attend.

Douglas Martin,

Child Protection Co-Ordinator

Flower donations for October – Mrs Strathdee, Mrs R Hutchison, Mrs M Farquhar, Miss A F Niven, Mrs Collar.

Departure of George and Sue Vidits

As the congregation will know, George Vidits will be inducted as the minister of St Columba's Church, Sinclair Street, Helensburgh on Wednesday 18th October. It is intended to run a coach for those wishing to attend. Please add your name to the list at the back of the church if you wish to take up on this offer.

During his 3 and a bit years in St Paul's George has made a great contribution to the life and witness of St Paul's and will be much missed. We wish him all the best for the future. George (never one to be stuck for something to say) has written a few words about his time here and a fuller article will appear in November.

One of the most well known Transylvanian writers (Áron Tamási) was searching for the answer to the question: "To what purpose are we in this world?" And he identified that purpose as "That we might be at home in it." It is not easy to find a home, and it is even harder to create one.

I feel there is much truth in this answer. After all, Christ came into this world to take us home, into the kingdom of His Father, where we can be indeed at home, in safety, comfort, and loving company.

Coming to St. Paul's just over three years ago we found a spiritual home, tremendous support and much love among the congregation. We just have no words to express our gratitude for the kindness and generosity of the people at St. Paul's and in the wider community of Milngavie. We instantly felt at home "in the village." At once we felt that we had known people for a long time. We gained many good friends, whose friendship means a lot to us. It was like indeed coming home. And somehow this was not just a passing feeling, it continued throughout the years and it just got better.

We just hope that we were able to contribute to the life of St. Paul's and the community in such a way that other people arriving here could also say "*We found a lovely home amongst you.*"

With God's every blessing,
George and Sue Vidits.

Centenary Updates

One of Chris Scott's first jobs as Church Archivist has been to take photos of many of the St Paul's organisation leaders. We hope that these are helpful in allowing you to identify who's who.

Ceilidh

As part of the centenary celebrations we are having a ceilidh on Saturday the 25th November from 7pm to 11.30pm.

There will be something for everyone, from a live band in the Large Hall to a film show for kids in the Centenary Hall. There will be snacks in the Jubilee Hall and a chance to buy some goodies later on. Watch out soon for Liz Traill and Jean Scott with booking forms and then the tickets will go on sale soon after.

Tickets are £5 for adults and £2.50 for children

Remember and put this date in your diary folks this is one occasion you can't afford to miss!

Heritage Exhibition

We are continuing to enjoy the history of St. Paul's as it unfolds in our Heritage Exhibition. For those who have missed any of the instalments there will be an opportunity to see the full exhibition on Saturday 9 December from 10am-4pm. Tea and Coffee will be available through the day.

Church Society Centenary Gift

At our very happy summer outing to Greenock/Largs, the committee was delighted to receive extremely positive comments on the drawings of the lamp which will be sited above the Strathblane Road entrance doors and which the Society is pleased to commission as our centenary gift to St Paul's church. The designer of the lamp is Mr John Creed who has designed the impressive new entry gates at the newly refurbished Kelvingrove Art Gallery.

Youth Event – Saturday 28th October

A fantastic day of activities in different "zones" within the Church including games, food, a short service and lots more! £5 per child. Contact **Gemma Stoddart** for more details gstoddster@yahoo.co.uk

Latest news from CrossReach

The latest **Circle of Care Newsletter** is now available. It gives news of activities and projects throughout Scotland.

2007 CrossReach Calendar, with views of Scotland. Very good value at £3.95

Order it from Morag Thomson

2007 Executive Calendar with stunning photographs of Scotland by Donald Ford.

Price: £8.95

Christmas Catalogue - calendars, Christmas cards, toys and gift ideas.

All these items are on view at the back of the church. By supporting Crossreach, you are helping the Church of Scotland's programme of social care.

The Way Ahead Group – a Stroke Club for Bearsden

The Way Ahead Group is a registered charity and was inaugurated by the Association of Bearsden Churches ten years ago. It has been going from strength to strength, meeting every Thursday afternoon. There are 21 members with varying degrees of disability. We have a cheerful, friendly group of around 60-70 local volunteers (who are each on duty only once a month) who bring members to and from the meeting and involve them in games and exercises and serve afternoon teas. We have a paid physiotherapist in attendance each week and, occasionally, have outings or entertainment.

Thanks to grants from various sources, the generosity of local church organisations and, indeed, some of our own helpers and members, we have so far managed to cover our expenditure. The members pay £4 on attendance (our only regular income) and our outlays are a donation to Killermont Parish Church for the use of their halls, payment to the physiotherapist and hire of the occasional coach for outings.

From September our expenses are increasing and will now be greater than our income. We are making applications to various trusts but meanwhile, we would be very grateful if any of your organisations would consider giving us a donation next time they are raising money for charity.

Yours sincerely,

Greta Paterson.

Anyone who thinks they can help contact Greta on 0141 563 7938 or m.paterson1@ntlworld.com

International Christian College

The autumn series of Monday classes at International Christian College starts on 23rd October.

10.15 – 11.15am ***Let the Old Testament Live*** – Dr Ted Herbert
An overview as well as focusing on the Prophets, Psalms, Proverbs and Law.

12.00 – 1.00pm ***Six of the Best*** – Drs Rory MacKenzie and Tony Sargent
A look into the lives of some of God's heroes with special reference to Scotland.

7.30 – 9.00pm ***Managing Youth Work*** - Neil Pratt

Contact the college for further information 0141 552 4040

Tribute to the Late Robert Hutchison

In the week leading up to Robert's funeral, it was said more than once, that he may have been small in size but he was a giant in stature. We all recognise that and his death has brought a deep sense of loss.

Robert's gifts were recognised in every sphere of life in which he was involved. He gave loyal service in his work for Erskine Tractors and eventually became Managing Director. His family believe that probably Robert would have liked to be a farmer, so perhaps he did the next best thing and supplied machinery to farmers. He certainly knew every farm between here and Perth; he had plenty of farmer stories; and the country life was always very close to his heart.

Freemasonry was a big part of his life. Robert had a life long association with Lodge Buchanan, Killlearn and eventually became Provincial Grand Master of Stirlingshire. His particular interest was in the welfare side of the organisation and he gave a lot of time and energy to the Benevolence and Masonic Homes Committee, which dealt with matters, often involving difficult decisions. In this connection, he was sometimes likened to a Jack Russell terrier in his pursuit of truth and justice.

We know something about that in St. Paul's of course. For all his involvement in other spheres of life Robert always made it plain that the Church came first. In fact, it was his faith that enabled him to give so much to so many. He was an elder here for over forty years and he was more than willing to bring all his gifts to bear on the work of the kingdom.

The hymn we sang at the funeral service was so appropriate - 'Almighty Father of all things that be, our life our work we consecrate to thee' He was a valued member of many committees; a conscientious visitor to his district; and a wise counsellor to his brother and sister elders, not least to the Minister.

We can pay tribute to Robert from so many different perspectives, but if his faith was the centre of his life, the first movement out from the centre was family life. He himself enjoyed a happy childhood in the family of Jimmy and Agnes Hutchison and his own family followed that same positive pattern. He and Mary were married for 53 years and that relationship was the solid foundation on which the whole of their family life was built. Sheena, David and Christine are well aware of everything Robert has contributed to their lives. He has celebrated their achievements and to his great delight they have been many. And he has also supported them through the difficult days whenever they have fallen.

It was one of his greatest pleasures to see the family grow and there was surely no one who was more proud to be a grandfather. Peter, Findlay and Tom have all benefited from Robert's football coaching skills and Hannah had many happy times in her early years drawing with Robert and listening to his stories. Most of all though, they have the memory and example of a life, that was driven by a desire to serve, a life that was made strong by faith in the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Dear Friends,



As you know, family life has changed for us since August. Daniel is now at Hebron School in India where he seems to have settled really well so far. He has made good friends – though adjusting to the food is taking a little longer! David visits him for the first two weeks of this month for half-term. The first few days are spent around the school and for the second week, most of the parents and children head off to the beach on the south-west coast of India for a holiday. We'll give a fuller report on life at Hebron next time.

The other boys are now back into the swing of school and kindergarten life. Alistair also started at Calum's kindergarten last month so it is rather quiet around the house in the mornings.

Over the summer we had an outdoor worship service (followed by a barbecue) and our annual Sun Kids Festival. It was great to see many people around the church, including a number of new kids. Lorna takes an English class for mothers and kindergarten kids as well as a class for primary school children each week and these are great opportunities for building up contact with people and each time gives the chance to share a simple Bible story.

Just now we are looking to call a Japanese pastor to Otaru Church, hopefully by next April. We would then have a year to work together before we return to Scotland for a year from spring 2008. We have a candidate at the moment – please pray for us as a church as we seek God's leading at this important time for the church.

We value your prayerful and financial support of us here. As we work in partnership, we trust that God will draw people to know him here in this land where so many have so much, but inside have so little.

**With our love and thanks for your partnership with us
David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair.**

The Ferguson File, giving more information about the Fergusons' work in Japan can be found in the overseas section of the church website.

www.stpaulsmilingavie.org.uk

Lodging House Mission

A bit of advance warning... The LHM will be collecting shoe boxes again this year for distribution to homeless people at Christmas. Please fill these with toiletries, chocolate, sweets, socks etc and label 'man' or 'woman'. More information about the LHM Christmas Services in the November issue. In the meantime, for more info speak to Ann Begg.

Magazines/Catalogues



Despite the fuddy-duddy title, the Kirk's own magazine is actually quite up-to-date and vibrant. Main features in October include The Kirk's Big Debate on the subject of Civil Partnerships (various views); Profile of Elaine Duncan the new CEO of the Scottish Bible Society; Christian Denominations in Scotland (part 2); Erskine Hospital's 90th birthday; Letter from Doug Campbell; Thoughts of the Moderator on Advent and all the usual readers' letters, crosswords, adverts, etc. The Digest is available online at www.churchofscotland.co.uk/lifework The mag can be obtained in St Paul's by subscription (£1.60 per copy).

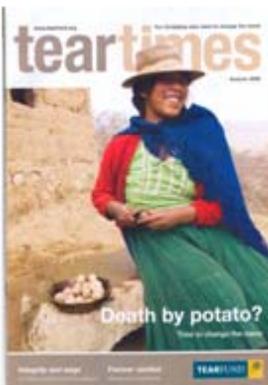
Readers' letters are actively encouraged (keep them brief!) and you can write to Life & Work, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN or email magazine@lifeandwork.org



The Leprosy Mission is an international Christian charity. Our overall mission is to minister in the name of Jesus Christ to the physical, mental, social, spiritual needs of individuals and communities disadvantaged by leprosy; working with them to uphold human dignity and eradicate leprosy.

The aim of the TLM Trading is to sell products made by leprosy affected people, to help provide them with the social and economic status that allows a dignified life; to raise funds for The Leprosy Mission helping raise awareness of The Mission and its work.

Buy beautiful, affordable gifts & cards online at www.tlmtrading.com or phone **0845 166 2253** to receive a catalogue.



Tear Times is Tearfund's free quarterly magazine. It shows the world in sharp focus: Unreported crises, forgotten wars – and the local church bringing hope to broken lives. Plus campaigns, fundraising news and features about Tearfund's work worldwide. Braille editions are available free of charge, as are audio cassettes for the visually impaired: call Supporter Enquiries on 0845 355 8355 for more details or apply online at www.tearfund.org Christmas catalogue now available in the Church – but be quick!

Milngavie Churches

Prayer Breakfasts

Breakfast 8am, Prayer 8.45am

Close 9.30am

7 th October	United Free Church
4 th November	Allander Evangelical
2 nd December	St Paul's
3 rd February	St Andrew's Episcopal
3 rd March	United Free
31 st March	St Luke's
5 th May	St Paul's
2 nd June	St Andrew's

Church Visitors

Six church visitors are URGENTLY required for Districts 17A, 57, 22, 32, 39 and 2.

May I appeal particularly to members who live in these districts to contact me if they can help. I will explain the duties and time commitment to anyone interested.

Elizabeth Bragg 956 2480

District 61 – The visitor for this district is Miss A Ritchie, 18 Castlemains Road. 956 5027.

The Open Door Trust Glasgow

The Open Door Trust is a Christian charity which St Paul's supports. The Trust was founded in 1997 to help people imprisoned by a lifestyle of despair, often involving poverty, homelessness, alcohol, solvent and drug abuse, and family breakdown. The Trust's staff and volunteers draw alongside those in need and help them rebuild their broken lives, and in this way demonstrate the love and compassion of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Activities include :

- street work, where men and women are provided with soup, rolls and sausage, sandwiches, cakes, fruit and tea and coffee, and sleeping bags and warm clothing where appropriate;
- a lunch club, where a nutritious two course lunch is served and guests are able to access shoes, clothing, toiletries and groceries;
- family back-up through a crèche, outings and the provision of clothes and other essentials;
- prison work to support those in addiction into recovery and to provide back-up support once they leave prison;
- the work of recovery, the centre-piece of the Trust's work, which involves a Monday-Friday structured programme for those wanting to break with a past of alcoholism or drug abuse.

This involves physical, mental and vocational elements, with spiritual recovery promoted through Bible study, discussion and programmes such as Alpha and Christianity Explored. The Trust works in the voluntary sector, receives no public funding and offers free help etc to those who use its services.

For more information contact Norman Barlow

Church Society

Autumn Visit to Charles Rennie Mackintosh Church

As the Rennie Mackintosh church is still in the midst of renovations and refurbishment, our autumn visit will now be a winter one! It has been booked for Sunday 12th November and we will be leaving the station carpark at 2.30pm. Transport will once again be generously provided by our members.

Even if you are not a member of the Society please come along, we always guarantee an interesting time and a cuppa at the end of the afternoon!

If you wish to find out more about St Paul's Church Society and how to join, contact Iris Torbet 956 2164.



Impact News (Summer Mission)

Over the school holidays throughout the length and breadth of Scotland, Impact teams were running holiday clubs and youth events presenting the Good News of Jesus. Many churches ran missions using members of their own congregations, while in other parishes teams of volunteers were invited in to assist in the work of outreach.

One of our church elders, Douglas Martin, led a team of young people to Dalgety Parish in Fife. Over the course of the week, around 30 children attended a holiday club programme of games, songs and crafts based on the life of Joseph using material from the Scripture Union programme, Pyramid Rock.

In the afternoons and evenings a group of secondary school folk attended "No Limits", a club that used crafts, music and sport to present the message of Jesus. Both programmes were enthusiastically attended by children and young folk.

The week ended with a family barbecue night. Despite the rain, there were a good number in attendance allowing parents and others an opportunity to see what had been happening over the course of the week.

Impact teamers are looking forward to the Thanksgiving Service and ceilidh on Saturday 2 September, a fitting way to give thanks to God and to enjoy fellowship at the end of a busy summer of mission.

The Men's Association

The Men's Association meets on alternate Tuesday nights from October to March in the Centenary Room at 7:15 for tea, biscuits and fellowship. We have a varied syllabus and we would be delighted for any of the men in the congregation to join us – age is no barrier – and you would be made most welcome. Our first meeting is on Tuesday 10th October. when our speaker will be Rev. William Shackleton and his topic will be "Keeping it Cheery"

Church Register

BAPTISM

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

Kendra Murray, 8 St. Andrews Drive, Bearsden 62

New Members

Joined by Certificate

Mr & Mrs Hugh Adie, 42 Garvel Road, Milngavie 61

Disjunctions

Mr & Mrs David Kelly, 12 Edgehill Road, Bearsden 48

Weddings

9.9.06 Nicola Caroline Mackie, 67 Croft Wynd Uddingston and
Tony Damian O'Rourke

Deaths

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

24.8.06 Mrs Catherine Walker, 103 Kingsway Court, Scotstoun

24.8.06 Mr John Nelson, 24 Braeside Ave., Milngavie

27.8.06 Mr Roger Gray, 10 Dougalston Crescent, Milngavie 52

Rotas - October

Date	Traidcraft	Vestibule	Crèche	Flower Deliveries
1 Oct	Communion	Team 1 Rod Barlow (C)	Baxter, MacKinnon, Reid	Mrs L Hughes, Mrs R Buchanan
8 Oct	C Mackay R Fraser	Team 4 Ian MacCalman	Bolton, J Deuchar, Smith	Mrs A MacLean Mrs J Ford
15 Oct	S Dunlop L Cowie	Team 5 Graham Greig	Sillars, MacAuley, Lawrie	Mrs J Clark Mrs M Taggart
22 Oct	B Barr H Reid	Team 6 Jean Y Scott	K Deuchar, Chapman, Goodlet	Mrs I Torbet Mrs P Barlow
29 Oct	B Watson M Conway	Team 7 Ross Deuchar	Cockburn, Martin, Richell	Mrs S Anderson Mrs K Edwards
5 Nov	M Thomson M Ure	Team 8 Robert Rutherford	Hughes, Wilson, Whitelaw	Mrs M Conway Mrs M McPherson