

Life at St. Paul's Milngavie

November 2014



Dear Friends,

I never knew my maternal grandfather, Archie Green. The only photograph I ever saw of him was in a Company of the Scottish Rifles that served during the First World War. Unfortunately, this is now lost but I still remember the moustachioed, rather earnest face. I have no knowledge of what experiences he went through but I am grateful for his contribution and his preservation.

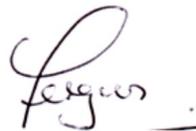
Archie's involvement is interesting since he was a great admirer of the Clydeside radical John Maclean who was imprisoned for his active opposition to the war. My mother remembered a photograph of Maclean on the wall of the family home. It is possible, of course, that Archie's sympathy with Maclean was as a result of his war experiences. Or, maybe he was like many of us who manage to filter out the things we do not like about people we admire. Probably he embodied the conflict we all feel within ourselves when we are faced with the prospect of war. There are times when it may seem to be necessary but questions will always remain especially when those we love are directly involved.

The concept of the Just War has had a place in Christian tradition since the fourth century. It sets out various criteria that have to be satisfied before war can be entered into. It has been argued that modern warfare has rendered some of these criteria obsolete. The debate will go on. What cannot be denied is that Jesus' vision of the future contained 'wars and rumours of wars'. This does not mean that he approved of all war but He saw this as part of the continuing crises of humankind before the ultimate renewal of all things:

'When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.'

(Mark 13: 7-8)

There is hope in the 'birth pains'. In their midst there is hope of new birth, a new creation when the justice, the compassion, and the peace of God will rule over all. This is where the whole of human history is leading. In the Season of Remembrance we have an opportunity to renew our commitment to the coming of this Eternal Kingdom.



Traidcraft

First of all a very big thank you to all who help in the fight against poverty in this way--both by helping on the stall & by being our customers. The latest products being developed are the "Clean & Fair" household items ---hand wash, laundry wash, kitchen surface cleaner, washing up liquid & soap. These have all been developed using Palm olive trees interspersed with coconut palms in West Africa, & do not involve the destruction of rain forest areas. All these are available on our stall, as well as many lovely Christmas items.

Please take time to look at the Christmas catalogue as well as the stall which is in the Large hall every week after the morning service. We also take orders & can usually supply them within a week. There are some lovely Christmas cards this year, some with a bible verse, & of course we stock the popular 'REAL' Advent calendar-- with or with out chocolates!

Finally I am just making up the stall rota for 2015, so if you would consider joining this team please let me know. It involves helping on the stall about once every 2 months.

Rosemary Fraser 956 3222



Advent Services

Our Traditional Advent Services will begin on Saturday 29th November at 9.30am in the West Transept.

Details will follow in our weekly intimation sheet.

Harvest Thanksgiving

Once again our Harvest Thanksgiving Service was a success. The posies on the pews, plants and flowers provided a splash of varied colour.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who donated items, gave up their time and energy to decorate the Church, deliver plants, flowers and gifts to members of our congregation and to deliver boxes of food to the Salvation Army and Lodging House Mission.

A special thank you must be given to the Sunday Club and Bible Class for their donations, creating the cards which are greatly appreciated by our members. The Bible class must also be thanked for the delicious pancakes which they made for after the service.

Once again the Girls' Brigade donated and created the beautiful posies which made the church so colourful. Well done girls, officers and helpers!!

The contribution to the work of Christian Solidarity Worldwide was £1,001.80 including Gift Aid.

Once again thanks to all those involved.

Thank You



Thank you for the kind donation of harvest goods from your church and congregation. These are much appreciated and will be distributed amongst our service users.

Yours sincerely, Margaret Tastard

Silent Auction

The Silent Auction in aid of the Preshal Trust will be held on 16th November 2014 in the Large Hall after the morning service. Many thanks to all those who have offered their time, services and/or valued possessions in order to make this event a success. A list of the Lots on offer is available separately. Even if you do not intend to make a bid, please come and join us in the large hall for tea, coffee, and further fellowship.

As of 2nd November 2014 a box will be available at the back of the Church. If you wish to make a bid(s), please complete one of the forms and return it to the box in one of the envelopes, also provided. All bids will be opened, and the name of the successful party announced at the Auction after the service. Mr. Buchanan will announce the total sum raised at the service on Sunday 23rd November.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Neil Rankine on – 0141-956-1453 or 07986 580116.

Book Group



This time we have been reading *The Prisoner of St Kilda* by Margaret Macaulay. Married to a Scots law lord, Lady Grange threatened to expose her husband's secret connections to the Jacobites in an attempt to force him to leave his London mistress. She was forcibly removed from her Edinburgh lodging and carried off to the Western Isles where she was held for the next thirteen years.

Who kidnapped Lady Grange? How could this prominent member of Edinburgh society simply vanish? Why did no one try to find her until 9 years after her abduction? The book is based on contemporary documents and Lady Grange's own letters.

From beginning to end you ask the question Why did no one look for her – where were her 6 children – where were all her friends? Probably running scared of the consequences of taking sides in a dangerous time for Jacobite sympathisers.

The group in general didn't enjoy this book and comments such as tedious, very disappointing, fell short of expectations and even boring were made. There is no doubt that different values exist between Lady Grange's time and the present day. Women had no rights and virtually belonged to their husbands, as did their children. It was perhaps easier for people to "disappear". The group felt the book contained all the facts and information but read like a textbook. Despite the fact that some of us had not heard of Lady Grange, her story is well known in the Western Isles.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 9 December when we will be reading *The Harper's Quine* by Pat McIntosh.

Joyce Clark

Remembrance Stories

As we are commemorating the centenary of the outbreak of the 1st World War, it has been suggested the congregation may wish to share their stories of those who are on the church's war memorial. These will then be published (space permitting!) over the next couple of months. Anyone who would like to contribute may e-mail the magazine at: st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com or leave their story in the Life magazine pigeon hole.



Life And Work

November Edition



Remembrance 2014

Last letters home from those who perished in the First World War
Remembrance Prayer from the Moderator of the General Assembly
Story by Kenneth Steven

Reforming the Kirk

In the second part of his series reflecting on the future of the Church of Scotland, the Rev Dr Doug Gay calls for a 'creative conversation'

Tears and Pride

The Rt Rev John Chalmers reflects on his mixed feelings watching his son take part in the Invictus Games for injured service personnel

Faith in the Face of Disaster

Twelve months on from the Clutha Vaults helicopter crash, Jackie Macadam meets the chaplains who supported emergency staff at the scene

Guild Annual Meeting

Lynne McNeil reports from the gathering in Dundee, which was addressed by the Moderator and the artist John Lowrie Morrison (JoLoMo)

A New Call

David McCarthy reports on the first year of the Church of Scotland's partnership with Fresh Expressions

'Reach Out and Listen'

The Rev Derek Hughes and Rosie Addis ask how churches can reach out to the deaf

Remember Syria

The Rev Maggie Lane describes how Tearfund is helping Syrian refugees in Jordan and Lebanon

Plus all the regular columnists, news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords – all for just £2.

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Brigade Blethers



November's blether is always more about looking forward than sharing what we have been up to and it looks like once again we have a lot to look forward to!

October 30th will be our fancy dress party and we are hoping that the girls will bring along a friend or two. Then just a few days later we meet with the Boys' Brigade for a joint Enrolment and Promotion Service here in St Paul's. There are not a lot of new "wee red jumpers" this year but they are so enthusiastic about everything they do. Most of the girls who were due to move up a section have come back again. One Junior who has not, told her pal that she would try to get her Mother to bring her on Thursdays. The family had moved to Stirling but the thought was there.

Our next big project is the annual fundraising quiz. It is on Thursday 20 November in the big hall and the letters will be going out shortly to all the organisations who support us every year. Neil Rankine is in the quizmaster's chair once again and we are looking forward to some serious (?) quizzing and some good laughs. More details on the intimations sheet. The proceeds from this will go to Tearfund this year.

The quiz is followed by the Christmas Tree Festival and we are already making our tartan decorations for that; letters and Christmas bags are going out to appeal for goodies to send to Chanan to help make it a happy Christmas for folks who are not as lucky as we are; and before we know it we'll be waiting for Santa to join us at our Christmas party. I'd better stop there or I'll be wishing you all a "Happy New Year" I'll keep that for next month.

God Bless



Boys' Brigade

You will be pleased to hear that our Anchor Boys have won the World Mission Cup for the fourth year running.

This is despite a much reduced effort so that other Companies could have a chance. 1st/ 2nd. Milngavie raised over £700 and the next sum was £250 so the Boys did well.

Margaret Russell

Guild Week 16th - 23rd November 2014

Every year, towards the end of November, Guild Week celebrates the Church of Scotland Guild; by various activities it seeks to extend its outreach and publicise its existence.

The history of the Guild is a long one, going back to its inception in 1887, fully 39 years before women achieved equal voting rights with men. It was formed by the Rev. Archibald Charteris 'to unite all women who were engaged in Christian service'. These aims have been extended to include service in the wider world, where Guild projects have supported a variety of schemes, giving each of them a reliable source of income over a three year period.

The great thing is that Guild members themselves have a say about which projects they want to support. These have included work overseas, like Mission Aviation Fellowship and Mary's Meals. More local schemes were also helped, for example, the visitor centre at Perth Prison; it had been shown to be vitally important to the families of prisoners.

For the past two years, St. Paul's Guild has been supporting WEvolution, a charity which gives micro loans to Self Reliant Groups. Some members from a SRG in Provanmill spoke at a Guild meeting and voiced their optimism about the scheme which has empowered them and changed lives.

To celebrate Guild week, we are holding an afternoon tea on Monday 24th. November at 1.30 p.m. You are cordially invited to join us for tea, and to learn more about the importance of the Guild's role in the Kirk's life today.

Morag Thomson (Guild President)

World Mission - HIV Programme Advent Calendars

Christmas chocolates are already lining some Aspect of the supermarket shelves, which means Advent, describes that Advent and Christmas are only one of the projects around the corner! we support around the world, and

The Church of Scotland HIV Programme Advent Calendar is back, aside for the HIV Programme. and available for use by individuals and Only available while stocks last – so congregations; with each day of get your order in quickly by Advent on a separate card, it highlights e-mailing hiv@cofscotland.org.uk



World Mission



Christian Aid: 70 Years of Moving Mountains

Christian Aid turns 70 in 2015 and you are being invited to take part in the 70 Munros challenge to mark this anniversary!

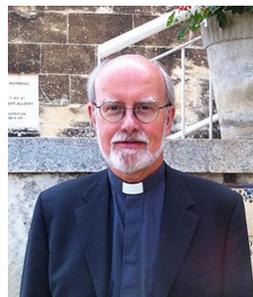
Martin Luther King's words, from his final sermon, invite us to not only look back at the past but also to the future. Christian Aid hopes that as we venture into Scotland's wilderness, as we connect with nature and each other, we will get a refreshed view of how the world can be, where all are free from the scandal of poverty.

For those of you who don't fancy the hike, Christian Aid hope to raise £70,000 from this challenge - that's £1000 per Munro, so you can get involved by sponsoring a group, church or individual. For more information visit:

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/events/trekking/70-munro-challenge.aspx>

A new blog from our minister in Jerusalem

Rev Paraic Raemonn, the new minister of St Andrews Scots Memorial Church, Jerusalem, has launched a brand new blog 'Witness in Jerusalem' to keep members of the Church of Scotland around the world up to date with what is happening in Palestine and Israel.



With first hand experience and close observations of what is happening on the ground, this informative and insightful blog will help you and your congregation learn more about Palestine and Israel as well as the life of our congregation in Jerusalem.

Read Paraic's blog at:

<http://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/blogs/witness-in-jerusalem/>



Dear Friends

It is hard to think that soon we will be back in Scotland for a short time. With all that is going on here in Japan, it is not easy to make plans while at the same time we are also preparing to hand over our own roles here temporarily.

Even though we have been living in Japan for over 16 years now, there are still so many challenges with language, culture and ways of doing things. We seem to have had a fair share of these in recent months. Sometimes we just lack that 'intuitive sense' of knowing just what to do in any particular situation. We are ever learning!

One feature of our present role is travel. Even getting around Tokyo can take quite some time and two or three changes of train/subway. David is often on the move by bullet train or plane as there are people to visit and ministry opportunities in Tohoku (northern part of the main island) or Sapporo in Hokkaido. It's amazing how many people in Japan are on the move every day, whether squeezed into one of Tokyo's rush hour trains or shuttling between Tokyo and Sapporo which is one of the busiest air routes in the world.

Within OMF many events are being planned for next year which marks the 150th anniversary of the start of OMF. In those days it was called China Inland Mission started by Hudson

Taylor. There will be special media projects, celebration events and anniversary publications. God has been faithful to CIM/OMF down through these years and we look forward to seeing how he will work in the years to come in the various places where OMF missionaries work. That includes many countries in the West where OMF missionaries can reach out to the many thousands from China, Japan and other Asian nations who live or study abroad. As we live in an increasingly international and multi-cultural world, so many opportunities open up to share the message of Jesus with peoples of every nation, sometimes without even leaving our own town.

With our love

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

Flower Donations - November

Mrs. E. Gray,
Mrs. M. Hamilton,
Mrs M. Hutchison,
Mrs. A. Murray,
Miss A. Ritchie,
Mrs. F. Dorral,
Miss S. Sheret



Please 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 Tel. 956 2630

Christmas Tree Festival November 29th - December 5th



This year's Tree Festival is fast approaching and plans are well advanced; this year we hope to raise money for Chanan Glasgow, a charity which works among the homeless in Glasgow, in which some of our own members are involved. The other good causes are the Fraser Centre and Friendship House, both in Milngavie and both of which cater in particular for the older members of the community. Each year we need volunteers to help in a variety of ways and forms will soon be on display for you to indicate your willingness to take part. Each of the other churches will help on one of the days but we feel it is necessary for a St. Paul's member to be there all the time in case a stranger might struggle in an unfamiliar setting.

As before, we will ask for bakers to supply the tearoom. helpers to serve there and also stewards to be on duty at the back of the Church to welcome visitors and give any necessary information. The sign-up forms will be displayed at the back of the Church very soon and we will be most grateful to have a good response from the congregation. If you wish any more information about any aspect of the Tree Festival please do not hesitate to contact Jean Scott on 956 5251 or Eleanor Easton on 943 0368.

Men's Association

We have two meetings scheduled for November. On Tuesday 4th, Dr Jonathan Cossar will give a presentation entitled " Robert Louis Stevenson - Travel, Health and other Ephemera" . A fortnight later, on 18th., one of our members, Dr David Lawson will talk about the "Death of a City" describing the aftermath of the earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand.



Do try to come along and support our speakers and enjoy the company and fellowship of our association.

The Guild



6th. Oct. Our New Session began with an Open Invitation to all.

The pupils from Douglas Academy School of Music, under the direction of Mark Evans, accompanied by Claire Heston, entertained & enthralled us by playing a wide variety of instruments in addition to a soloist. Our sincere appreciation to them for giving their time and talent and we wish them every success in the future.

13th. Oct. Liz Cotton from Fair Trade spoke to us about their involvement in working with smallholders and processors in Ghana to produce Fair Trade Palm Oil and doing it in a way to protect the environment. Combined with Fair Trade Coconut Oil from India, they are now producing a cleaning range aptly named Clean & Fair. Why not try it to help this worthwhile cause.

20th. Oct. Gill Aitkenhead MBE, Vice-Lord Lieutenant of the County described some of the duties of the Lord Lieutenant and his deputies, giving us an insight into the work they do on behalf of the Queen. She entertained us very well with anecdotes from her experience with the Lieutenancy, making it a most enjoyable evening.

Diary Dates

Nov. 3: Jill Scott – Grand Central Hotel

“ 10 Rev. Fergus Buchanan – Bible Study

“ 17 Rev. Ian Miller – former Minister of Bonhill Church

“ 24 “ A little bit of this & a little bit of that” **N.B. (afternoon 1.30 – 3 p.m.)**

Dec 1 Allyson Flett – Christmas Decorations.

“ 8 Christmas Dinner

Margaret Stirling

Intentionally left blank

Copy date for October issue is Sunday 16th November if using church pigeon hole or Wednesday 19th November if emailing. Please send to st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
2nd Nov	J. Clark S. Stenhouse	Berry Richell	M. Ure J. Mill	Team 9 J. Macpherson
9th Nov	P. Barlow S. Robertson	Stark Tracey	A. Begg J. MacLean	Team 10 I. Strang (EC)
16th Nov	S. Anderson M. Adams	Wilson Bates	J. MacIntyre M. Fewell	Team 3 M. Ure
23rd Nov	M. Conway K. Edwards	McKinnon Goodlet	R. Cameron M. Thoms	Team 4 D. Lawson
30th Nov	A. Galloway J. Townson	Chapman Wallis	C. Mackay R. Fraser	Team 5 I. Torbet