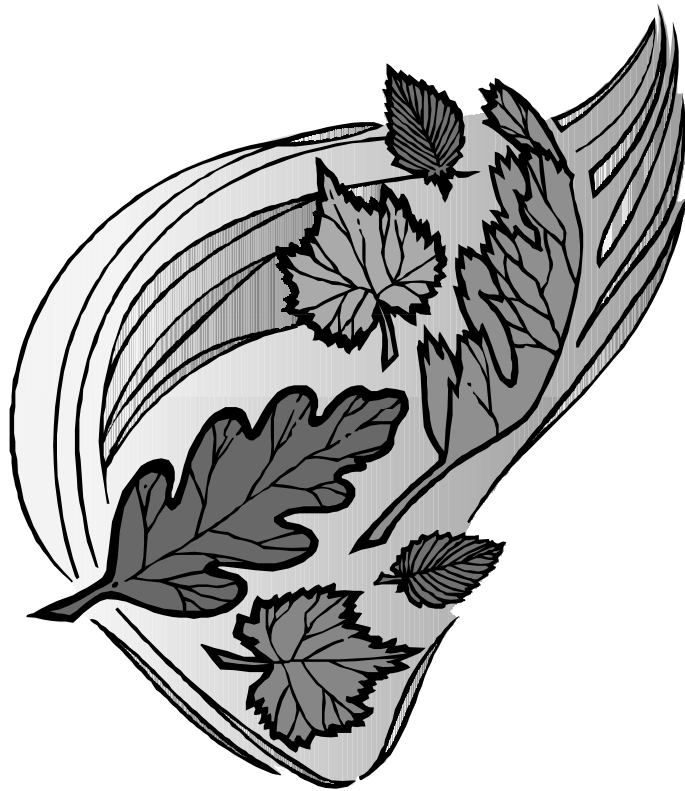


SteepleTalk



The Magazine
Of
Bourock Parish Church

Who's Who In Bourock

Minister	Maureen Leitch	881 1462
Session Clerk	Elizabeth McKenzie	880 5077
Clerk To The Board	Bruce Brown	571 6403
Treasurer	Ross Mitchell	881 4688
Roll Keeper	Billy Irvine	881 1638
Deeds Of Covenant	Jim Auchincloss	881 6143
WFO Envelopes	John McGarrie	571 6728
Junior Church	Linda Dye	876 1201
Guild	Margaret McKechnie	580 1322
Boys' Brigade (Company)	Graeme Manson	
Boys' Brigade (Junior)	Lawrence Webb	571 4330
Boys' Brigade (Anchor)	Mary Murray	881 1564
Guides (2nd)	Jennifer Stewart	881 7320
Guides (3rd)	Barbara Jones	881 0391
Brownies (2nd)	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Brownies (3rd)	Karen Auchincloss	881 6143
Tweenies	Elizabeth McKenzie	880 5077
Young Woman's Group	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Mother & Toddler	Debbie Mitchell	571 5536
Variety Club	Linda Dye	876 1201
Coffee Club	Jenny McLeod	881 3585
Craft Club	Dorothy Ramsay	571 5260
SteepleTalk	Ken Dye	876 1201
Life And Work	Angus Leitch	881 1462
Christian Aid	Marjory Brown	571 6403
Organist	Carolyn Suttie	881 7346

Kirk Session Committees

Care And Concern	Morag Brown	880 6466
Communication	Ken Dye	876 1201
Education	Linda Dye	876 1201
Mission	Agnes Brown	580 0059
Worship	Doug Swanney	876 1201

March 2001

Dear Friends,

Well, summer is nearly over -- has there been a summer? -- if so, it has come lately. Yes, the weather has been a bit of a disappointment but nevertheless, summer does bring times of relaxation for most people. Also, many people travel abroad in search of better weather. Whatever you did, now is the time for most organisations to start up again at the beginning of their new session. I hope that all those involved come back having been refreshed and re-created by their break.

Of course we started off the summer with a bang. As usual our Summer Club was a great success with, literally, hundreds of children coming along to join in with fun and games and teaching offered by this time of mission. Thanks are due to Doug Swanney and all the team for their time and effort in this venture. Thanks are also due to all who donated money and foodstuffs for the Club. The theme for the week was "Groundbreakers" and I feel that this would be a good theme for us as a church. We too could be Groundbreakers for God in our community. We need to help lay the foundations for others to come to Christ.

In order to do that we must be cemented together as a worshipping community in order to strengthen our own faith and convictions. This requires us to be present at worship services. I always find it most dispiriting when so many disappear over the summer months. Let's get together for worship and praise. Only in this way will we be strengthened both in community and individually.

What of the future? Well, your Session has been working hard, both in a conference and at meetings, trying to form a vision for Bourock. Part of that vision includes the buildings. We are obliged by the Disability Discrimination Act to make some changes to our premises in order that we provide equal ease of access and use to people with disabilities. As you will know too, our kitchen facilities need upgrading. So we have been trying to look at a plan which will take all these considerations into account and allow us more flexible use of the building. You will be consulted about proposed plans as we go along -- your views are the important ones. We are just at the planning stage and the work will necessarily need to be phased.

On the subject of buildings, you will have noticed that much decorating has taken place over the summer months and the place is looking much cleaner and brighter now. Thanks are due to all who worked at this under the direction of Gordon Simpson, the Property Convenor.

Finally, as I write this, we are looking forward to Stripsearch, a Youth Event organised by two of our younger members, Deborah Irvine and Lorna Simpson. It is good to see our young people taking the initiative like this and working hard to put on an event for others. This church has so much talent among its members -- I have never doubted that, but let's remember that our talent is gifted to us by God and we have it so that others might benefit. My prayer at this time in the history of Bourock Church is that everyone is prepared to use their gifts to the glory of God. I remember the service taken by our delegates to the Youth Assembly and one of them saying, "we will only be church when everybody, young and old, plays their full part" There is much wisdom in that. So now is the time for everyone to play their part to the full.

I look forward to the months ahead and all the riches they will bring to us. I look forward to being part of a worshipping community that looks to be strengthened through meeting for praise and prayer. I pray that we may see even more of our members coming back to regular worship and offering their gifts and talents for the building up of our church

May God bless you all,



From The Editor



Isn't it strange how during the dark Winter days we look forward to Summer so eagerly, yet by this time of year it has already become a fading memory? I hope you all have had a wonderful Summer and are now ready to face the new session with renewed strength.

This has been one of the most difficult magazines to put together since I started as editor. Articles have now become so slow that I have had to move from a quarterly magazine to a triannual one. Although some of the articles in the past have been criticised, I feel that the more input I receive from the congregation then the better the magazine will be. In fact, if you submit an article and don't want your name published just let me know. You will notice that

SteepleTalk



The Magazine Of Bourock Parish Church

Autumn 2001

Ken

Dye (Editor)

for this issue I have received something from David Coleman, the minister at the URC as well as reprinting an article written by Doug Swanney for the BB Gazette.

This session promises to be as busy as ever. By the time you read this all the organisations should be in full swing. We will have had our homecoming service and will be getting ready for the run up to Christmas, so get writing those articles and let everyone know what is happening in our church.

The Guild

The 2001/2002 Session of the Guild starts on Tuesday 9th October at 7:30pm in the lower hall and on behalf of the committee and members I would like to extend an invitation to the ladies of the congregation to join us at this meeting

There will be a Welcome Tea and entertainment by The Minerva Singers.

The theme this year is Strength Through God's Presence. We have a varied programme planned which as always includes speakers from our congregation.

9th October welcome Tea

23rd October Eggsclusive

30th October The Fallon Group - This starts at 2:00pm.

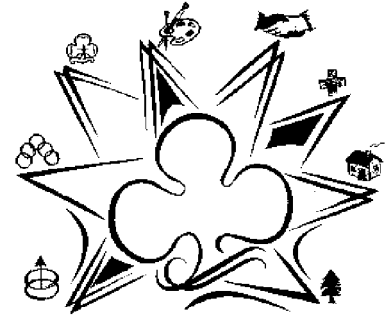
We look forward to seeing all our guild members and new members on our opening evening.

Margaret McKechnie
President



3rd Barrhead Guides

Our numbers this year have remained at about 30 and the attendance has been great over the session. Our badges started off very well then due to the change of programme, slowed down badgework slightly as the 'Go for it's' took over. The launch of the renewed programme in January saw a change in the uniform, change in set up, new and renewed badges not to mention the new G file and introduction of 'Go for it's', these include Parties, Health, Fitness, Teamwork, Peace, Flights of fancy and I will survive!! which have proved to be a great way for the guides to work together and choose their own activities, Trefoils have also been replaced with challenges and new guidelines were introduced.



We started the session in September which added new guides to our company, 4 of our guides helped at the senior citizens night and at the end of the month we held an Olympics theme night which everyone enjoyed.

In October we held a pancake morning when we raised money which helped to pay for various activities throughout the session and also had our Halloween party. November took us to GX Superbowl in Paisley, we also attended the Remembrance & Youth Dedication services which were well supported and we made Christmas Bugs & decorated picture frames to sell at the church Christmas Fayre to raise funds for the roof.

December we again arranged a joint Christmas Ceiledh with the BB which was a great success and where we invited the junior section of the BB and the senior Brownies this year, so everyone was exhausted by the end of the night. January saw us introduce the new programme which included making up our Guidelines which each Guide and Guider had to agree to and sign and we also had a talk and demonstration from the Red Cross.

February was our thinking day night, which we always enjoy, especially the Guiders and we also made pancakes for Shrove Tuesday (although it was a Monday night) In March we managed to raise a total of £52 for Comic Relief when we said 'Pants to Poverty' great fun was had by all. The White Heather Patrol as part of their 'Go for it' held a beach party which was great fun and earned them their 'Go for it' there is now a queue to do this one!!

April we only had two Monday nights due to Easter when we had glass painting and started to prepare for the Parent's night show which the guides enjoyed practicing for.

Guide	Emma Burns		
Best Patrol	Thistle		
Perfect Attendance	Catriona Palmer	Emma Burrell	Alison Mitchell
	Kirsten Jones	Carol Glover	Jillian Lewis
	Karen Baillie	Jennifer Lewis	Emma Burns
	Amanda Burrell	Gillian McCulloch	Carly Jenks
	Catherine Sclater	Fiona Palmer	Heather Palmer

We all returned on Monday 3rd September and any new members will be made very welcome.

Jennifer Stewart



Here we go again! The summer holidays are now over for most of us and rehearsals are well underway for our Christmas show. This year's extravaganza is "The Sleeping Beauty" and will be a family pantomime with the usual goodies, baddies, songs and dance - so be sure to get your tickets which will go on sale from Sunday 23 September. These can be bought from any club member or by phoning Eleanor, our ticket convenor, on 881 4485.

This year we have been pleased to welcome back some familiar faces as well as some new members. We will soon be looking for budding scene painters and stage crew, so even if you feel you have two left feet and no singing voice, there is still a place for you at the Variety Club on Thursday nights.

Our costume hire has proved to be an overwhelming success mainly due to the expertise and organisation of Morag, our wardrobe mistress. With Hallowe'en coming soon, be sure to place your order early to avoid disappointment.

Linda Dye

Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 4 December (Gala Night)	-	7:30pm Show
Wednesday 5 December	-	7:30pm Show
Thursday 6 December	-	7:30pm Show
Friday 7 December	-	7:30pm Show
Saturday 8 December	-	2:00pm Show
Saturday 8 December	-	7:30pm Show



Costumes For Hire

The Variety Club has an extensive wardrobe now for hire.

Minimum donation
£2 per item
£5 per costume

Contact - Morag Brown
(880 6466)








Junior Church



Our new session has just started and we are delighted to welcome back all the children. This year we are planning to start a new section for the 12-15 year olds, with Crossroads now catering for 15+. It's great that we have so many teenagers and it is important that we meet their needs. We will again be using the usual SALT material, although we will be looking at new material for all sections as we feel that a change will be good for both the teachers as well as the children. There are so many good publications available as teaching aids and it is important that we investigate all sources in order to move with the times.

This is an exciting time for the children of the Church, with the launch of "The Year Of The Child" only a few months away, and Bourock children will be playing their part in this.

Operation Christmas Child 2001

This year Junior Church once again is planning on filling shoe boxes as Christmas gifts for children living in poverty. Last year, thanks to your generosity, we were able to send a staggering 238 boxes. At Christmas time it is so important that we share what we have with others who have so little. Please start collecting now and give your donations to any child in our Junior Church.

Do Include

small toys
sweets
chocolate
toothbrushes
toothpaste
soap
gloves
scarves
puzzles
crayons
coloured pencils
scarves

Do Not Include

any liquids
perishable food
toy guns
toy knives
aerosols
battery toys
second hand goods



We also need empty shoe boxes, Christmas paper and, of course, cash. It does cost £2.00 to send each box.

Junior Church will add a specially designed card and Christmas greetings to each box.

Life & Work

Life & Work has undergone radical changes in content and design over the last year and has enjoyed a much higher profile within the Church and the media.

A major new series begins in the September edition, when Life & Work will analyse the report 'Church Without Walls' the radical new proposals to reshape the Kirk approved by the General Assembly. This report will be debated by our own Kirk Session and at every level of the Church this autumn and winter. The series will look at the implications of the report for the church at local and national level, the leadership structure of the national church, the training of ministers, the acceptance of women ministers, and the meaning of membership. It is essential background reading for all members of Session as well as for every member concerned with the future of our church here in Barrhead and nationally.

Especially for elders, a six-part series begins in October. It will explain issues around the eldership - its relevance for today and its part in the future of the church. This will revitalise the thinking of current elders and will be a useful insight into the eldership for anyone aspiring to be an elder.

Both these series should be read by all members holding a leadership role in the Church whether on Session or Board and by as many other members as possible. To facilitate this, new subscribers to Life & Work are being offered a special "three for one" price between September and March, i.e. 90 pence for three issues. As we discuss 'The Future of the Church', Jam sure many of you will want to take advantage of this offer. If you are interested, contact Angus Leitch who will be happy to receive your subscription.

How can anyone turn down such a bargain?

Prayer Pointers

Bourock Prayer Pointers is available each month [except July and August]. It contains daily prayer suggestions for you to incorporate into your own prayers. They include items of personal, church, local, national and international content. If there are matters for concern or thanksgiving that you would like added, especially with regard to church organisations, please let me know. Should you miss the 'hand out' day for the Prayer Pointers, extra copies are usually available at the church doors. Please help yourself.

Glenda Meikle

Is There Any Hope?

By Glenda Meikle

Northern Ireland
Catholics and Protestants
Inbred bigotry
Inherited hatred
Centuries old
Following in
Their fathers' footsteps
Name calling
Stone throwing
And worse, much worse
The Enniskillen bomb
The loss of innocent lives
Politicians talk and talk
And meet for talks yet again
Will the violence ever end?
Is there any hope of peace?
Remember in Enniskillen
There was a grieving
Father forgiving
His daughter's murderers
Reconciliation is
The only cure for
Inbred bigotry
Inherited hatred

Israel
Jews and Muslims
Inbred bigotry
Inherited hatred
Centuries old
Following in
Their fathers' footsteps
Name calling
Stone throwing
And worse, much worse
The busy market bomb
The loss of innocent lives
Politicians talk and talk
And meet for talks yet again
Will the violence ever end?
Is there any hope of peace?
Remember the Palestinian
A grieving father offering
His dead son's organs
For Israeli transplants
Reconciliation is
The only cure for
Inbred bigotry
Inherited hatred

Is there any hope for the world?
Will the violence ever end?
Not by politicians alone
But by more, many more
Following in
These fathers' footsteps

The Ten Commandments

How do the The Ten Commandments relate to the twenty-first century and in particular, to us as individuals? These are the issues to be considered, with the help of a study guide, by the house group meeting in the home of Glenda Meikle on alternate Mondays.

The evenings begin with praise, singing favourites from Songs of Fellowship and sometimes learning new ones. The discussions are very informal, but can lead to heart searching. We finish with a cuppa and friendly chat.

If you've never been to a house group, why not give us a try? No one will mind if you don't want to come back, but we'll be very pleased if you do. We meet usually on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7.30pm. For more information phone 881 4269.

Weekly Freewill Offering Envelopes

As it is my intention to re-order a supply of Weekly Freewill Envelopes for the year commencing January 2002 to December 2002. I wonder if any member would like to replace contributing by Envelope System to the Standing Order System, and if any member who contributes through plate system would prefer to have envelopes.

In order to have the correct number of envelopes ordered in time for the start of the year i.e. January 2002, could they please inform me or any elder as soon as possible.

John McGarrie
Weekly Freewill Convenor

Craft Club

The Craft Club has resumed meeting on Monday afternoons in the Lower Hall from 2pm - 4pm.

Already we have started preparing for our stall at the Christmas Fair and as always we are delighted to have any samples which allow us to have a large variety of goods for sale. We are also delighted to receive any wool, trims, materials etc. which we can use to make the items we offer for sale.

We would like to thank all those who have supported us over the years and have enabled us to make our donations to the church funds. We have had a great deal of fun and fellowship in the process and we would be delighted to welcome you should you wish to join us.

Dorothy Ramsay

Hidden Books

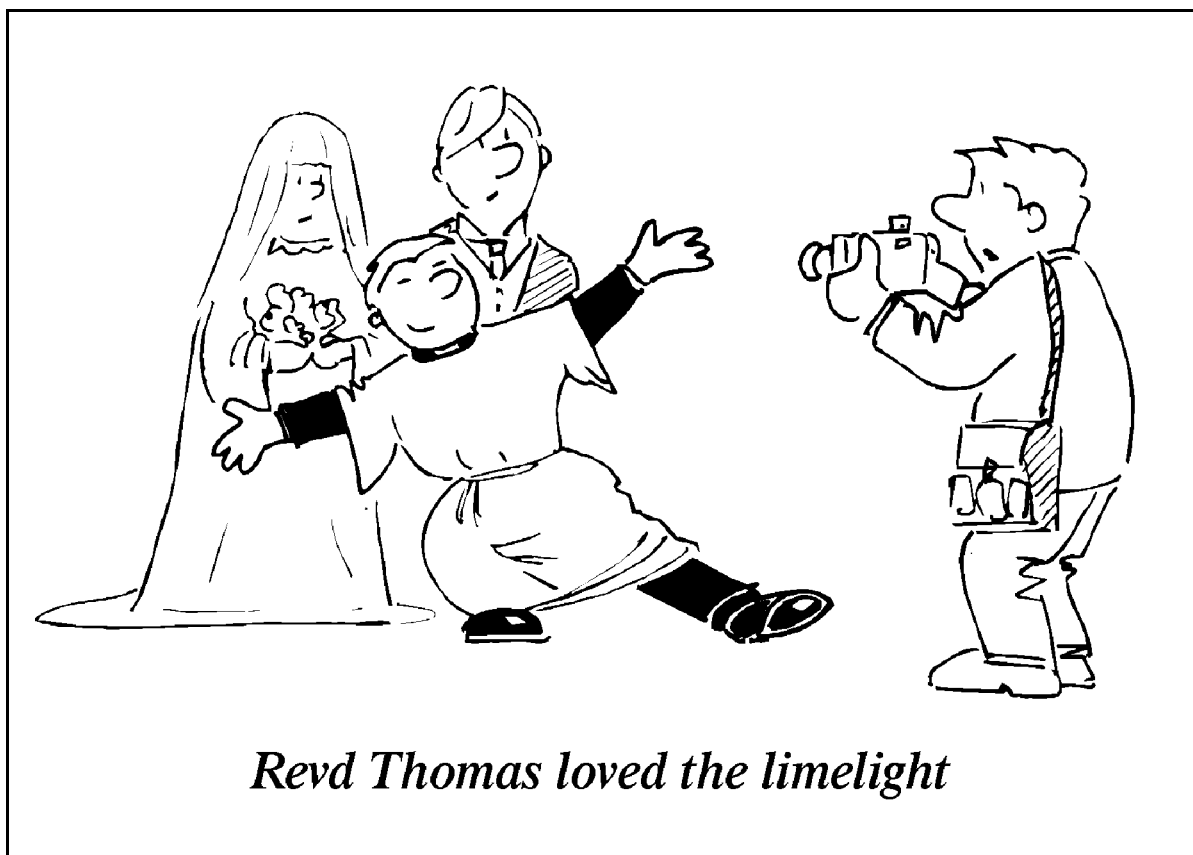
Can you find the 16 books of the Bible hidden in the paragraph below?

(One minister found 15 of the books in 20 minutes, but it took him weeks to find the last one.)

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts ... and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalised. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better.

See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph.

Rev David Coleman - URC





BOUROCK STRAVAIGERS



Bourock Bunny bags his first Munro!

On Saturday 25th August the Bourock Bunny and eight of his friends climbed Ben Vane, the first Munro (that is a mountain over 3000 ft). Two other members of the party took an easier option and walked from Inveruglas on Loch Lomondside to Arrocher.

Not all of our walks are quite so strenuous, as we try to include something for everyone in the programme of walks which take place once a month throughout the year. Some walks are suitable for every member of the family even for those younger members who still need to go in a pushchair and some, like the August walk, are a challenge to even those who are superfit. (We try to have an alternative for others on these occasions).

If you are interested in joining us on any of our walks, please feel free to do so. You can bring a friend along too, and you don't have to be a member of Bourock to come either. We have had walkers from Arthurlie, South and Levern, the URC and St Johns and we are delighted to welcome anyone who wishes to come along with us.

Details of the walks will be posted on the notice board and will be in the intimations sheet each month. Walks for the rest of this year will be approx 5 miles as we will not have enough daylight for any longer. In the meantime the dates of the walks until November are:-

SUNDAY 23rd September

SATURDAY 20th October

SATURDAY 17th November

Fund Raising Committee

Every Morning during June, July and August a coffee morning and car wash took place and as a result in excess of £1,000 was raised in aid of the roof fund.

Thanks to all those who assisted and/or supported in any way.

To further boost both the roof and fabric funds, we are holding a Christmas Fayre on 24th November 2001 between 1:00pm and 3:00pm and are looking for as much support as possible.

Derek Palmer
Convenor



Refusing Mrs Jacks a second biscuit was Phil's big mistake



Mable eventually got her husband to Church

PUSH

A man was sleeping at night in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light, and God appeared. The Lord told the man he had work for him to do, and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. The Lord explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might. So, this the man did, day after day. For many years he toiled from sun up to sun down; his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock, pushing with all of his might. Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain.

Since the man was showing discouragement, the Adversary (Satan) decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into the weary mind: "you have been pushing against that rock for a long time, and it hasn't moved." Thus, giving the man the impression that the task was impossible and the he was a failure. These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man.

"Why kill myself over this?" he thought. "I'll just put in my time, giving just the minimum effort; and that will be good enough." And that is what he planned to do, until one day he decided to make it a matter of prayer and take his troubled thoughts to the Lord. "Lord," he said, "I have laboured long and hard in your service, putting all my strength to do that which you have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimetre. What is wrong? Why am I failing?"

The Lord responded compassionately, "My friend, when I asked you to serve Me and you accepted, I told you that your task was to push against the rock with all of your strength, which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push. And now you come to Me with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed. But, is that really so? Look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back sinewy and brown, your hands are callused from constant pressure, your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. Yet you haven't moved the rock. But your calling was to be obedient and to push and to exercise your faith and trust in My wisdom. This you have done. Now, My friend, I will move the rock."

At times, when we hear a word from God, we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what He wants, when actually what God wants is just a simple obedience and faith in Him. By all means, exercise the faith that moves mountains, but know that it is still God who moves mountains.

When everything seems to go wrong ... just P.U.S.H.!

When the job gets you down ...just P.U.S.H.!

When people don't react the way you think they should... Just P.U.S.H.!

When your money looks "gone" and the bills are due...just P.U.S.H.!

When people just don't understand you ... just P.U.S.H.!

P	=	Pray
U	=	Until
S	=	Something
H	=	Happens

Parish Register

BAPTISMS

APRIL 2001

RACHEL ALICE WARD
ZACHARY GEORGE DAVIS

FENWICK DRIVE
11 PENTLAND DRIVE

JUNE 2001

CALLUM JAMES McKELVIE
AMY McGONIGLE MORRISON
DAVID MARK McGONIGLE

44 MARBLE ARCH CRES., TORONTO
30 MULL CRESCENT, IRVINE
94 KERR STREET

MARRIAGES

APRIL 21st 2001

KAY MAHON TO GRAHAME RAYMOND

APRIL 28th 2001

CLARE CARSE TO GARY SKENE

JUNE 2nd 2001

SHONA McLEOD TO MARK BIRD

JUNE 30th 2001

TRACY DEVINE TO STEVEN MURRAY

JULY 28th 2001

CLAIRE RICHARDSON TO STEVEN HUGHES

AUGUST 18th 2001

LORNA McKENZIE TO GARETH THOMSON

FUNERALS

APRIL 2001

*MRS NANCY BLAIR
MRS BETTY LOCHRIE

17 ST. MARY'S GARDENS
206J MAIN STREET

MAY 2001

MISS ELLA DOWNIE
MR ROBERT CAMERON
* MR. ROBERT HOPKIRK

COGAN PLACE
1 VICTORIA ROAD
31 ST. MARY'S GARDENS

JUNE 2001

MR. ALEC PERCIVAL
*MR HARRY BUTCHART

10 BELLFIELD CRESCENT
230A NEILSTON ROAD, PAISLEY

JULY 2001

* MR. ALEX BROOKS

83 STEWART STREET

AUGUST 2001

MR. JOHN ARMSTRONG
*MRS . HELEN Mc ALPINE

32 WEIR AVENUE
45A GRAHAM STREET

*denotes member

Firmly Anchored?

The seas of faith are rarely smooth; the ups and downs of life contribute towards the voyages that we make. For any of us in the church, there will be times when we feel that the storms are unbearable and that we will perhaps just batten down the hatches and wait for the calm. At other times we feel that we are floating along and enjoying the feeling of support and community we gain from the communities we call church. This is perhaps as true for the feelings we have about the journeys we make through the BB.

I remember as an Officer in my local Company there would be times I felt I was getting no where with the classes I taught, and other times I felt I was really achieving as I built relationships with the boys. But when I look back I realise one of the things I never did was to ask the boys how they felt about the classes I was teaching, and about what they wanted to be doing. This was the norm for the time and was paralleled with the life of the church. For in church we never stopped to ask the young people what it was they cared about, what they thought of worship, in short we never took the time to find out who these people were. We were so firmly anchored in the wrong ideal that church was something done to young people as opposed to something they themselves shaped and steered.

Today in the Church of Scotland we stand at a crossroads. It is not a new crossroads, but one we have stood arid puzzled at for a number of years. The choices that lie before us are both stark. One is to radically alter the way we work with children and young people, the other is to maintain the status quo and hope that everything will be all right.

At the Board of Parish Education, the department responsible for the training and education of those involved with children and young people, we have decided to take the more radical option, and change the perceptions of the church in regard to our work with young people. From the decision has grown a process called "Year of the Child".

December 2001 through to December 2002 has been designated the Church of Scotland Year of the Child. During this year we are calling all our churches to examine and evaluate the work that we do with children and young people. We are asking churches to take on new initiatives and revitalise work they have not focused on before. Much of the planning for the special year has been done by children and young people themselves. Through our Children's Forums

across the country we are starting to find out what children and young people think about God, their faith, and their church. These thoughts will be fed into the project in all sorts of ways during the year. This significant new development in the way church works will soon be enlarged to include an Internet based forum for the younger to mid teens.

Through the Year we hope to equip churches to launching new initiatives, to take work with the under 16's to new heights. One key aspect of this work could be churches re-examining their relationship with the Brigade and how they feel supported. I asked my home church's Company Captain, Alistair Smith of the Second Barrhead, how he felt the whole Church could better support the work of the Brigade.

"The relationship between the Church and their Boys' Brigade Company should be one of closeness. We do need the involvement of the Church, there are Companies that struggle for Officers, and the Church has a responsibility to ensure a Company has the Officers, or help, that it needs. The members of any Church who do get involved with the youth of today and stick with it will see the character of a person develop from a child, through the difficult teenage years to become a young adult who is graced with the skills that will make them an asset to the Church and society. That is the personal reward, get to know the young, listen, encourage and accept them as having valid opinions, you never know they may even solve some of the more complex political debates within the Church."

Through this year we hope to take our call to be an inclusive church seriously, to stretch the minds and hearts of all those involved in the lives of the young people of our church, and to lift the anchor grounded in tradition and place it firmly in God. I hope that the local Companies can use the Year of the Child to extend their work at all levels and ensure that the significant voice of the children and young people involved in church through the Brigade can have their voices heard.

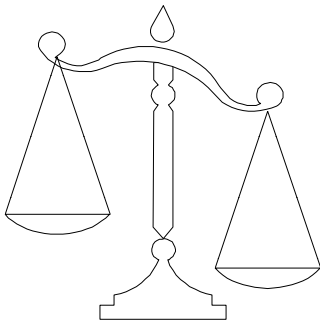
Doug Swanney
Section Head: Children's And Youth Services
The Church Of Scotland

Finance Report

The work on the church roof is now complete and most of the contractor's final invoices have been received. There are some payments still to be made and there is some work required on the organ which we are experiencing difficulty in obtaining quotations for but, at the moment, it looks as though all the work will be contained within the budgeted figure. Hopefully I will be able to give the figures in my next report.

We received grants towards this work, from a number of sources, totalling £38,500 and all these grants have now been paid to us. The Roof Fund currently stands at £60,500 and we can take some pride in the fact that we have managed to raise this amount in addition to our regular giving to the ongoing work of the church.

By now everyone who has completed a Gift Aid Declaration will have received a statement detailing the total amount that they have contributed to the church in the tax year 2000-2001 and this can be used to complete your self-assessment tax return. One or two points should be noted - this statement covers ALL givings to the church, WFO, Roof Fund contributions, extra donations etc. and only covers the tax year to 5 April 2001 - any contributions made after that date will appear on next year's statement. It is also important that any changes of name or address are notified to Heather Boklach, the Gift aid Co-ordinator, to allow the records to be updated and to allow statements to be sent out. As our records can be subject to Inland Revenue audit, it is essential that they are kept up to date.



There have been 126 Gift Aid Declarations completed to date but I think that this figure can be significantly increased, so if you require a Declaration, wish to check if you already have one or wish more information please speak to me, Heather or any member of the Finance Committee. Preparation of the returns to the Inland Revenue are almost complete and in my next report I hope to be able to tell you the amount recovered under this scheme, indications are that it will be a considerable sum.

Robert McKenzie
Finance Convenor

Church Opening

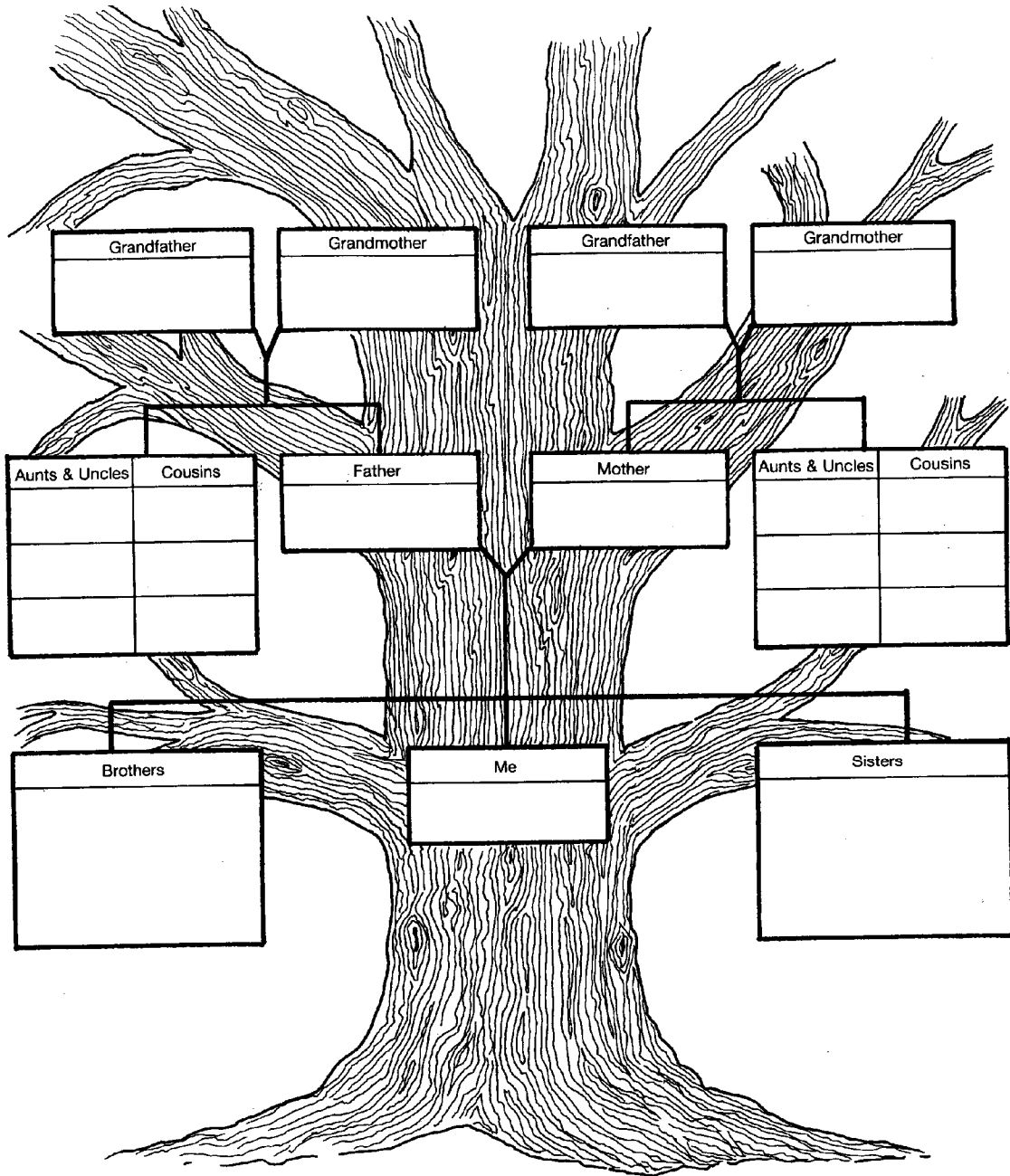
The Kirk Session have been discussing the possibility of having the church open during weekdays so that anyone who wished to visit the church or to have a time for reflection would be able to do so.

Obviously we would only be able to do so if we had a team of volunteers who would be willing to be present in the church during the times when it would be open. The times of opening and the length of time on duty would depend on how many people were available to help.

If you think you might have some time available and you would like to find out more about this proposal please put your name on the list in the Lower Hall. No-one is committed to anything by doing so as we would have to have a meeting of all those who were willing to help before we could proceed with the opening.

Many people have expressed regret that churches today have to be closed. This is an opportunity for Bourock Church to something about this and to provide a service not only to the folks in our own church but also to all the people in the town who may feel in need of a place to be quiet and reflect. Please give serious consideration to becoming involved with us in this way.

Dorothy Ramsay



The Family Tree of _____

FAMILY

WORD CIRCLE

How many words of three letters or more can you make from the letters in the circle? When you have found as many as you can, try and make one word of seven letters using all the letters. This word means some very important members of the family.

- | | | | |
|--------|------|------|------|
| CHIDE | DINE | HID | LINE |
| CHILD | DIRE | HIDE | NICE |
| CHIN | END | HIRE | RED |
| CINDER | HEIR | IRE | RICE |
| CRIED | HEN | LICE | RICH |
| DEN | HER | LIED | RID |
| DIN | HERD | LID | RIND |

18

CHILDREN

