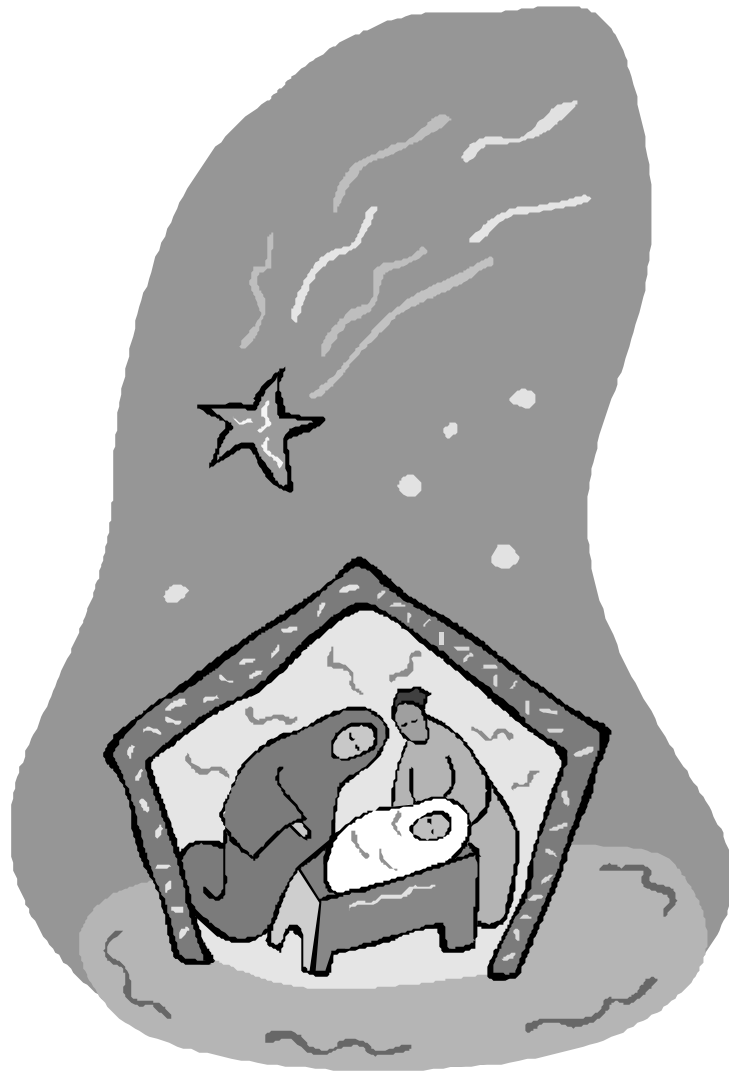


# SteepleTalk



THE MAGAZINE  
OF  
BOUROCK PARISH  
CHURCH

**Christmas 2003**

## **Who's Who In Bouroock**

Minister	Maureen Leitch	881 1462
Session Clerk	Elizabeth McKenzie	880 5077
Deputy Session Clerk	Karen Johnston	881 5115
Clerk To The Board		
Treasurer	Ross Mitchell	881 4688
Roll Keeper	John Whyte	
Halls Convener	Hazel McCarthy	880 7607
Deeds Of Covenant	Jim Auchincloss	881 6143
WFO Envelopes	John McGarrie	571 6728
Junior Church	Linda Dye	876 1201
Guild	Marjory Brown	571 6403
Boys' Brigade (Company)	Graham Manson	580 0871
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	Helen Grant	639 2602
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	Moira McCartney
Communication	Nancy Darroch
Adult Education	Angus Leitch
Mission	Dorothy Ramsay
Children & Youth	Susan Palmer
Congregational Support	Debbie Mitchell

November 2003

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner. It seems like only a few months ago that we were last celebrating this joyful time. Perhaps this quick passage of time is a result of age but I rather think that it is more a reflection on the pace of life nowadays. Everything and everyone seems to be caught up in such a rush.

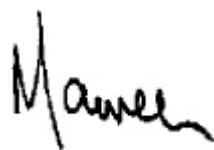
So that would be a good reason for slowing down during this Advent period and taking some time to look at our lives and re-assess what part God plays in our daily living. We should remember that we are celebrating the Good News of Christ's birth and all that should mean to the world. I suspect that we can easily forget what Christmas is all about. Well, let us be different! - we will celebrate Christ's birth! Why don't you invite some friends to come and join in the celebrations?

We have much to celebrate also in our church life. A beautiful new sanctuary which gives us so much scope to develop our worship and makes welcoming people to our fellowship much easier. We have a large and active Junior Church and our organisations are all thriving. Now we need to take out the Good News to our community and invite them to come and share with us. Indeed, it was good to welcome our elected representatives and Council Officers at the Kirking of the Council service. We would like to develop further our partnership with our local Council for the good of our community. We have so many gifted people in our congregation who could make a difference in the town.

On a personal note, we are much enjoying the new kitchen which you have put into the manse. The extra work surface space has made a considerable difference. I would like to thank all who were involved in this project and assure them that it is much appreciated.

I hope that you all have a Happy and Peaceful Christmas. Remember during this joyful season that there are people in our community for whom this is a difficult time because they are living with bereavement or illness. Keep them in your prayers and offer whatever support you can give. Remember, also, that our celebrations should be based in worship of the God who loved us so much that He sent His Son among us to show us a new way of living that is rooted and grounded in Love.

I wish you every blessing.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mance".



*Is there something you'd like to tell us?*

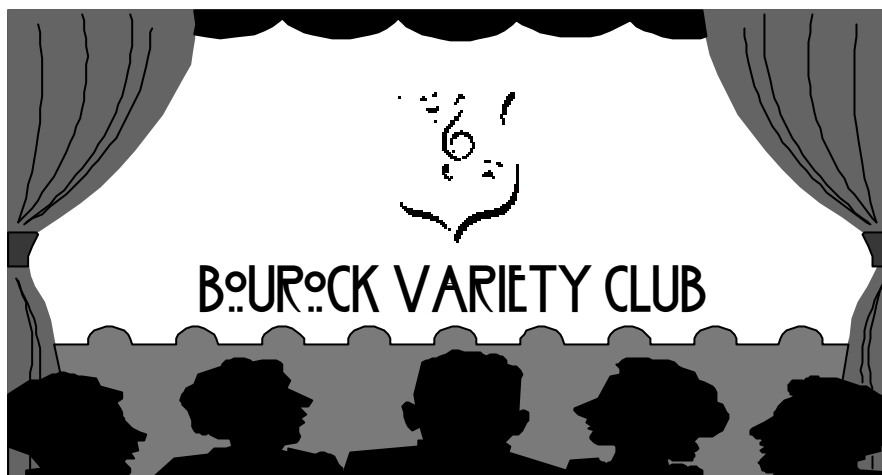
*Is there something we could do to help YOU get more out  
of YOUR CHURCH?*

*Is there something you'd like to ask us?*

*We are a new Session committee, called 'Congregational Support' and we are  
here for **YOU**. Please feel free to contact any of us.*

Debbie Mitchell (Convenor)	571 5536
Bruce Brown	571 6403
John McGarrie	571 6728
Ann McMillan	881 8348
Fiona Rankin	880 7132
Gordon Simpson	571 6420





Another year has just about passed and at the time of writing we are completing rehearsals for this year's show - "Pinocchio". This show will include the largest cast ever for the Variety Club with a total of 32 on stage. Combining cast numbers with stage and technical crews and you can see that the club is in a very healthy state.

Earlier in the year we once again staged "Joseph And his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" and this proved to be an overwhelming success. Two performances were enjoyed by packed houses and the total raised exceeded our greatest expectations. Lloyds TSB Charitable Foundation made a generous donation to the club and this combined with ticket sales allowed us to present a cheque to CHAS for £2,200. A huge "thank you" to all who supported us in any way during this venture.

After "Joseph" we had to concentrate wholly on this year's production, since we had less time than usual for rehearsals. Normally we would commence after our concert parties but this year it was the end of May before the songs were even chosen. Several new members - young and old - have joined the club and are enjoying a time of fun and fellowship as well as working hard on a Thursday evening.

Following last year's show, when we extended the stage for the first time, we decided that for comfort and safety, ticket numbers this year would be reduced. This was combined with a system of block booking discounts to allow organisations (or groups of friends) to make a saving on their tickets. This has proved to be very popular and tickets are in high demand for every performance.

Following "Pinocchio", we have been asked again to participate in the carol service on Christmas eve. This is something which has been enjoyed in past years by those who come to church for the countdown to Christmas. We would encourage everyone to come and join us in the singing of carols and songs (new and old) at this very special time.

It only remains for me to wish you all the compliments of the season and hope that you have a happy and prosperous new year.

Linda Dye

<h3><u>Dates for Your Diary</u></h3> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;"><b>TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER</b></td> <td style="width: 5%; text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="width: 65%;"><b>7:30PM SHOW</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td><b>7:30PM SHOW</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td><b>7:30PM SHOW</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td><b>7:30PM SHOW</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td><b>2:00PM SHOW</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td><b>7:30PM SHOW</b></td> </tr> </table>	<b>TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER</b>	-	<b>7:30PM SHOW</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER</b>	-	<b>7:30PM SHOW</b>	<b>THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER</b>	-	<b>7:30PM SHOW</b>	<b>FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER</b>	-	<b>7:30PM SHOW</b>	<b>SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER</b>	-	<b>2:00PM SHOW</b>	<b>SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER</b>	-	<b>7:30PM SHOW</b>	<h3><u>Costumes For Hire</u></h3> <p><b>The Variety Club has an extensive wardrobe for hire to church members</b></p> <p><b>Minimum Donation</b>  <b>£2 per item</b>  <b>£5 per costume</b></p> <p><b>Contact Morag Brown</b>  <b>Thursday evenings 8:00 - 10:00</b></p>
<b>TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER</b>	-	<b>7:30PM SHOW</b>																	
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# JUNIOR CHURCH



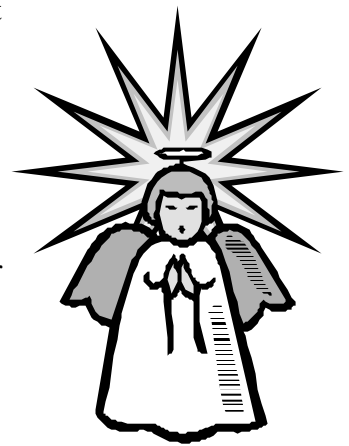
As Christmas approaches we have been reminded once again of the generosity of the Bourock Church family. This year's shoe box appeal has seen toys, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sweets and many other small gifts arriving in huge quantities on Sunday mornings. The cash gifts which have been donated are also most welcome, as it costs £2 to send each box. Having additional funds available allows us to buy any items we are short of to ensure that each box is a fitting gift. It makes everyone in Junior Church proud to know that we are all a part of something which matters and will make a difference to so many children on Christmas morning. We will be packing the boxes at the end of November and will then be able to announce this year's total at the start of Advent.

This has just been the culmination of another great year in Junior Church. At the end of last session we once again visited Kelburne Country Park where everyone had a good time in the sunshine.

After the summer break, we resumed using the "Seasons Of The Spirit" material. We are finding this material to be very challenging and most relevant. The children seem to enjoy it and are certainly learning. Working from the same lectionary passages as the adults means that the whole church family is learning together.

The children are, of course, looking forward to Christmas and we have already started planning their decorations for the church. Their party will be held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

The Nativity service will be held in the church on Christmas eve. This service has grown over the years and the sight of the children gathered round the manger singing reminds everyone of the real meaning of Christmas. We hope that you will join us at that service.



Linda Dye

## Prayer Of St. Francis

Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your healing power;  
where there is doubt, true faith in you;  
where there is despair in life, let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, let me bring light;  
and where there is sadness, let me bring joy.

O Spirit, grant that I may never seek  
so much to receive, as to give,  
to be understood, as to understand,  
to be consoled, as to console,  
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in forgiving that we are forgiven,  
and it is in dying  
that we are born to eternal life.

Amen

CALL ME 2 THE PLACES WHERE I MAY BEST SERVE U.



# 2nd Barrhead Boys Brigade

## Anchor Boys

The new session of Anchor Boys started on Wednesday September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The first night saw the arrival of 18 boys all but 4 of whom were returning boys. Since then 10 more boys have joined us taking the roll to 28 boys. The average weekly attendance is 23 boys.



Our staff has remained more or less the same. Jean Hepburn, at the time of writing is awaiting a happy event! We wish Jean all the best. We are happy to have Jillian Webb back as a helper from the Guides. The Company Section boys are also still helping with the exception of Gavin Cook who is attending university in St. Andrews.

Our programme provides a mix of games, craft and table games. We finish each session with a Bible story and a prayer.

The boys are divided into teams and team points are awarded during the evening. The members of the winning team get a prize at the end of the evening (usually a lollipop!). The boys are all keen for their team to win and do their best to win points.

On October 29<sup>th</sup> our Halloween party was held. The boys came in wonderful fancy dress and a good time was had by all. The party coincided with our first Elder's visit of the session. They also enjoyed the party (1 think!) even if it was a bit noisy!!

Upcoming events include a visit to the BVC matinee on December 6<sup>th</sup> and the Christmas party on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Our primary 3 boys will soon be starting on the Anchor Boy achievement programme and will be eligible for promotion to Junior Section in September 2004.

Twelve of our boys were promoted to Junior Section in September 2003 and have settled in well. They are very keen and seem to be enjoying the change.

Our Anchor Boys are lively, enthusiastic, have boundless energy and enjoy their Wednesday evenings.

Mary Murray (Officer in Charge)

## Church Flowers

<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>
4 Mrs. E. Thomson	1 Mrs. B. Eason	7 Mrs. A. Clark	4 Mrs. A. McCulloch
11 Mrs. R. Blair	8 Mr. J. Auchincloss	14 Mrs. J. McIntyre	11 Mrs. A. Brown
18 Mrs. J. Smith	15 Mrs. M. MacIntyre	21 Mrs. M. Gray	18 Mrs. I. Renfrew
25 Mrs. J. Duguid	22 Mrs. M. Pattison	28 Mrs. S. Irvine	25 Mrs. E. McKenzie
	29 Mrs. A. Aitken		

Thank you to everyone who has gifted the flowers for the sanctuary during the year.  
Thank you to the flower arrangers who put the flowers in the vases each week.

# Parish Register

## **BAPTISMS**

### **APRIL 2003**

ROBYN JOHNSTON 94 GRAHAMSTON PARK

### **MAY 2003**

ANDREW MILLER DEANSTON AVENUE

### **JULY 2003**

LUKE GILLIES 28 LARKIN GARDENS, PAISLEY  
KENNETH GILLIES 28 LARKIN GARDENS, PAISLEY

### **AUGUST 2003**

EILIDH STEWART 14 VICTORIA CRESCENT

### **SEPTEMBER 2003**

PAUL DONAGHY 5 GRAHAMSTON PARK  
CRAIG TORRENS 9 JOHN SMITH GATE  
APRIL COOK 9 JOHN SMITH GATE  
ROBBIE BARR NEWTON AVENUE  
MASON BARR NEWTON AVENUE  
JACK MALCOLM 31 WEAVERS AVENUE, PAISLEY

### **NOVEMBER 2003**

EUAN THOMSON 17 LYONCROSS AVENUE

## **MARRIAGES**

**26 APRIL 2003**

STUART MCDONALD AND ALISON MATHIESON

**17 MAY 2003**

MARK GORMLIE AND PAULA HAMILL

**24 MAY 2003**

DAVID GRADY AND LYNN WISEMAN

**8 JUNE 2003**

SCOTT MCKIE AND JAYNE ARTHUR

**20 JUNE 2003**

SIMON WATSON AND SHONA KIRKBY

**28 JUNE 2003**

GREG MCLAUCHLIN AND KAREN MCPHEE

**12 JULY 2003**

KEITH WALES AND LISA HAMILTON

**19 JULY 2003**

COLIN MULLIGAN AND KAREN MCBETH

**2 AUGUST 2003**

SCOTT STEVENSON AND KAREN AUCHINCLOSS

ALISTAIR BROWN AND LINDSAY MILLAR

**23 AUGUST 2003**

SCOTT KEENAN AND KIRSTY MCKAY

**12 SEPTEMBER 2003**

JAMES MCMURRAY AND LORRAINE LYNCH

**18 OCTOBER 2003**

ROBERT TODD AND SUSAN TICCIONI

**1 NOVEMBER 2003**

ROBERT BURNS AND HEATHER MAC DONNELL

## **FUNERALS**

### **APRIL 2003**

DAVID ROBERTSON  
WILLIAM DAVERS  
NEIL MITCHELL  
JAMES BEGG

PAISLEY CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION CENTRE  
NEWCASTLE  
GATESIDE CRESCENT  
2 SPRINGFIELD AVENUE

### **MAY 2003**

ROBERT CARRIE

139 GLASGOW ROAD

### **JUNE 2003**

META STIRLING  
MARY DOCHERTY  
MARGARET STRANG  
HANNAH DICKSON  
\*ELIZABETH PINCOCK  
JACK RICHARDSON  
MAY STIRRAT

NEWTON MEARNES  
30 LEVERN CRESCENT  
HILLSIDE VIEW  
41 TAIT AVENUE  
41 DIVERNIA WAY  
47 KELBURNE STREET  
107 KINARVIE STREET

### **JULY 2003**

JIM McCALL  
\*CHRISTY JOHNSTON  
MILDRED ROSS  
MARTHA CLEGG

NITSHILL  
PARKHOUSE MANOR  
15 GERTRUDE PLACE  
MANOR PARC

### **AUGUST 2003**

\*BESSIE MCFARLANE  
\*MAISIE DINNING

22 DALMENY DRIVE  
91 AURS DRIVE

### **SEPTEMBER 2003**

\*DOUGLAS PINCOCK  
THOMAS BLAIR  
\*BILL MCLACHLAN

41 DIVERNIA WAY  
19 EILDON DRIVE  
24 LEVERN GARDENS

### **OCTOBER 2003**

\*JUNE BRADFORD  
PAULINE MITCHELL  
\*VIOLET CARSLAW  
ARTHUR EDSER  
ANNIE JOHNSTONE  
SAMUEL FLOOD  
MARGARET GORMLIE

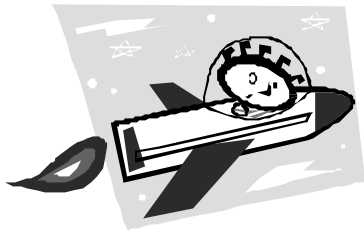
GRAHAM STREET  
20 SEAFORTH CRESCENT  
38 AURS CRESCENT  
MAXTON GROVE  
25 GATESIDE CRESCENT  
51 FENWICK DRIVE  
101 MAIN STREET

### **NOVEMBER 2003**

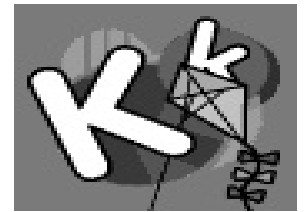
JOHN PAGE  
\*MARY BLAIR  
\*RITA FAULDS

54 BURNBANK DRIVE  
105D MAIN STREET  
BRAEMOUNT NURSING HOME

\*denotes member



# Bourock Toddler Group



The Toddler Group has enjoyed another super year.

Debbie gave up running the Group last October when she started in a new job and we wished her well in her new venture. I was approached to run the Group which I took on with much trepidation. Debbie had done such a great job running the Group I felt that it would be hard to step into her shoes. Nevertheless I took on the job and have since found this very rewarding, seeing the children playing and having a good time and talking to all the mums. My thanks go to all the mums who have supported the Group over the last year and also to those who have helped me since taking over.

We have around 20 children coming most Fridays along with their mums (and grans etc.) Last Christmas we had a party and Santa came and gave each child a present. We had some party games and some goodies to eat. The children also received Easter Eggs and rolled eggs outside at Easter. They all really enjoyed this. We had a party for the end of term and had great fun with games and prizes.

We lost my Stuart as he went off to School. Also some of the younger children have gone on to attend Nursery in the afternoons. We have had some children returning as they are now in their pre-school year at Nursery. It was good to see so many back after the summer break. We have been so busy that I have, on occasions, ran out of cups for the children !!!

The Mums and Grans etc., had a well deserved night out at the Ashoka at the Mill in Darnley in October. There was around 12 of us and we had a great night of fellowship and entertainment. There was a quiz and the Mums etc., were tested on how good they knew their Nursery Rhymes !!!

In November some of us attended the organised Firework Display at the Church which all the children who came thoroughly enjoyed. No tears !!!!!

Some of the children are hoping to come and see a certain "Blue Fairy" in the Variety Club's forthcoming production of "Pinocchio". I wonder who that could be !!!

We meet every Friday in the Upper Hall during term time between 1.15pm and 2.45pm and the Group is open to all children from birth to 5 years old. So why not drop in and have a tea or coffee and some chat and a laugh while the children play. All will be made most welcome.

Helen Grant

# I'd Like An Appointment Please

There's a message on the answer phone,  
I'll get it in a minute.  
I must get the ping pong table ready  
For the youth club.

There's a memo pinned on the board,  
I'll get it in a minute.  
I must lay up the table for  
The Women's Guild.

There's a letter come in the post,  
I'll get it in a minute.  
I have to get the agenda ready for  
The Church Council.

There's a knock on the door,  
I'll get it in a minute.  
I have to get the hymn books ready for  
The Sunday morning service.

There's a note on the altar,  
It says I have to read it now:  
Dear Friend, Can I have an appointment  
To talk to you?

Love,

God.

(From an Open University message board)

## Why Not Give It A Try?

The House Group meets at 7.45 pm on alternate Mondays in Springhill House at the top of Springhill Road. This session we've started considering different character traits, as illustrated in various Bible passages, using a study guide. It's a very informal, friendly group that's always pleased to welcome newcomers. Why not give it a try? We won't mind if you don't want to come back, but will be delighted if you do. Transport can be arranged if required.

Phone Glenda Meikle on 881 4269.

# 2nd Barrhead Boys Brigade

This year sees us together again for another busy session.

We have an attendance of 17 boys and around 10 officers including 3 new staff sergeants. Although this is a slight imbalance on last years numbers hopefully this will adjust itself to a more proportionate number as the next couple of years pass.

However, we are well underway with our programme and enjoying the usual mix of drill, badge work and physical recreation. We are proud to have Sgts. Stewart Ferguson and Gordon Pollock going forward for their Queen's Badges and are confident that they will complete the rigorous tasks they have to fulfil in order to gain this award.

We have a total of 5 officers completing Basic Training this year and this will help to strengthen our already experienced staff.

At the start of the session we were disappointed to lose Lt. Willie McKinnon when he moved to Aberdeenshire to start a new job, and Sgt. Gavin Cooke to start his course in History at St. Andrews University. We wish them both well and of course will miss them both.

Again at the start of the session, along with two other representatives from Paisley & District Battalion, I attended Brigade National Council at Tulliallan Police College. This was a full, busy and somewhat disappointing weekend in as much as that the Brigade's financial state seems to be at a seriously low level with no apparent solution on the horizon. When I look at our own company and the officers we have, I am encouraged that we at least can go forward as a competitive and involved company. One step we have taken is to take part in the relaunch of the Glen Shield competition which takes place between 1st Neilston, 1st Uplawmoor and the two Barrhead companies. This should give us a focus within at least our own area as well as cementing the good relationship between our companies.

We will continue to enter as many Battalion competitions as possible and hopefully will have another successful year.

Graham Mason  
Company Captain



## Women's Group

We have had a very successful and varied start to the year. Shiela and Alison kindly organised a murder mystery evening for us, "Murder on the Med" and we had a fabulous night dressing up and discovering who had committed the dastardly deed. It will come as no surprise to those of you who know her ability to assume another personality (as shown in the Variety Club performances) that it was none other than Susan Palmer, in her alias as Bernie Brinksmatt, international jeweller.

Our next event was to the Climbing Centre where a few of us reached for the skies and surprised ourselves at our climbing prowess. No surprises however, at the aches and muscle pains which we experienced a couple of days later!

We have also had a "pampering" evening. Some adventurous members tried out acupuncture and thoroughly enjoyed the benefits. Others took up the offer of a facial or manicure. The cup of tea and cake which often ends these evenings offers us the chance to catch up on what has happened to us all in our busy lives whilst enjoying the spirit of true fellowship.

It was disappointing that no new members attended despite us issuing many invitations.

See what you are missing! Why don't you join us? You **will** truly be made most welcome.

Contact:-	Karen Johnston	881 5115
	Susan Morrison	580 5292
	Susan Palmer	571 6730

# 3rd Barrhead Guide Company

Thinking Day was celebrated with the Guides choosing a country and bringing food and memorabilia from that country. Very interesting and tasty tables of food!! The Thinking Day Service was held in South and Levern Church.



## Girlguiding UK

The Guides took part in a Sponsored Bowling in Paisley in March. They managed to raise £224.72 for Comic Relief An excellent effort.

Parents Evening was held on Monday, May 12 where the Guides took part in a singing competition, marching, dance routine and games. Prizes were awarded to the following girls:

VG Attendance - Nicola Barton and Suzanne Morrison. Good Attendance - Catherine Ellis, Gemma Paton, Kirsty MacLaren, Pamela Walker, Jillian Cowie, Elizabeth McDougall, Lynne Blair, Gemma Wallace and Rachel Taylor.

Games/Stamps/Ink Cartridges: Canary Patrol - Nicola Barton, Jillian Cowie, Suzanne Morrison, Catherine Ellis, Gemma Paton and Rachel Taylor.

Best Patrol: Nightingale Patrol - Fiona Corrigan, Michala Boklach, Lisa Johnstone, Elizabeth McDougall, Lynne Blair, Rosemary Speir and Hollie McKenzie.

Best Guide - Nicola Barton.

At the end of May, ten Guides from 3rd Company and seven Guides from 2nd Company joined Guides from Glenburn at a Fun Camp at Lapwing Lodge. This camp was an indoor camp with all mod cons. A full weekend of activities took place ie raft building (and sailing it), crate building, obstacle course, outdoor cooking, crafts, parachute and wide games, dry skiing and bungy run were only some of the many activities. Plenty of sun, good food and good company and a super Campfire with singing was enjoyed by all who went.

Nicola Barton and Fiona Corrigan have now completed all the requirements for the Baden-Powell Award. A final challenge is being held on the weekend of November 15-16 at Guide Headquarters, Elmbank Street, Glasgow. There, they will meet up with other Baden-Powell Guides.

The Guides and Guiders of the 3rd Barrhead Company would like to send all our best wishes to Nicola and Fiona for all their hard work.

The Guides meet every Monday from 7.30-9.30pm, where new members are made very welcome.

Barbara Jones (Guider)

Used postage stamps are still being collected for Ardgowan Hospice in Greenock. No need to trim stamps but please leave a large amount of paper round stamp. Also, used ink cartridges are collected for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Please leave any of the above at the doors to church or halls. Thank you to all who regularly collect.

# 2nd Barrhead Guide Company

## Bag a Badge Day

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2 of our guides went to Bag a badge day, where they had a whole day of fun and completed 2 badges at the same time!

## Baden-Powell Challenge

4 of our guides have just completed their Baden-Powell Challenge, which is the highest award in Guides and is completed over a 12 month period. This included taking part in the Baden-Powell Challenge Adventure, which involved the girls staying over night and faced with various challenges had to completely think for themselves. These girls were awarded their badges at the guide AGM on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November along with other guides from East Renfrewshire.

A huge congratulations go to Hayley Burrell, Fiona Palmer, Heather Palmer & Catherine Sclater, well done girls for all your hard work.

Below is a poem written by one of our new Guides which shows how much fun they have...

I'm glad that I've now become a guide  
When we say our promise we step to the side

Every Monday is a good night out  
We have fun, play games and run about

Half past seven till half past nine  
We're all having a jolly good time

Each troop has a turn in our tuck shop  
Selling sweets, crisps, cakes and pop

We play some games in the big hall  
Like snakes and ladders or dodgy ball

We all get badges for things we do  
There's some for me and some for you

Six of us make the penguin group  
The others make a different troop

When there is no more to come  
We sing our song called Day is Done

By Rebecca Duff



# Revelations Of A Rev

By  
Glenda Meikle

You have to come early  
To sit in the back row  
After triple "Amen"  
They're the first ones to go

But shaven head Harry  
Has arrived much too late  
The back seats are taken  
Perhaps that seals his fate

He walks along the aisle  
To a place halfway down  
And finds himself sitting  
Next to pretty Anne Brown

The service has started  
In creeps Anne's boyfriend, Jim  
Obligingly Harry  
Moves to make room for him

Jim whispers a "thank you"  
Harry just beams and beams  
He's closer than ever  
To the girl of his dreams

It's not just on his face  
Where Harry is beaming  
Reflecting the bright lights  
His pink pate is gleaming

Above leaning over  
The gallery front pew  
With a glint in his eye  
The dreaded Tam Mulgrew

In his pocket he'd found  
A very sticky sweet  
This time the wrapper he'd  
Not dropped at his feet

How's this for a laugh, Pete,  
His pal hears him mutter  
Watch where the paper lands  
When I let it flutter

'Though aiming at Harry  
Young Tam misses his mark  
But it sticks to Jim's nose  
So is still quite a lark

Some children behind Jim  
Have started to titter  
At this new deposit  
For unwanted litter

Jim cannot bear being  
Seen a target for fun  
His face turns bright scarlet  
He stands, then starts to run

From out here at the front  
High up in the pulpit  
I see all that goes on  
So I know the culprit

At the end I shake hands  
By the door to the street  
And hear Anne and Harry  
Arranging where to meet

The moral of this tale  
Is never turn up late  
But don't come too early  
If looking for a mate

Sit at the back or front  
But whatever you do  
Don't ever sit below  
My young son, Tam Mulgrew

# Come Spirit Sing

Come spirit sing my Saviour's song  
That all may know the source  
Of tuneful grace.

Come sing my soul a sweeter song  
Taking discords from my heart  
In sounds of love,

The Great Composer wrote the words  
That now unfolds within my soul  
And I surrender.

Now my tuneful voice tells of hope  
And enjoins a song of truth  
As I find joy.

A famous statement of faith and a confident hope by Julian of Norwich happily tells us that, "All will be well - all manner of things will be well". Being people of faith we trust God and we accept his promises with a blessed assurance.

In this life we will never really know much detail of the beautiful mystery we call heaven - but when we step beyond this life of time and space and enter the eternal "now" - our faith will have reached fruition and we will find our destiny.  
We will be with God.

Surely we can go forward together as the unified Body of Christ towards this promised destiny with a song of joy on our lips!  
The Gospel is so clear and its clarity comes from God who fulfils his every promise.  
If this is not a cue for a song I don't know what is!

J.B.A.



# Summer Club News

2003 has been a busy, busy year for the Summer Club team, with not just one Summer Club but two being run in Bourock.

January saw us quickly into the year with the test week for the 2004 Holiday Club material - entitled Xpedition Force.

This material was commissioned by SU for international release of January 2004. Along with the written material comes a DVD/Video and a specially adapted Gospel of Matthew.

This is the first time one of the Holiday Club programmes that is used all across the world has been written in Scotland, and certainly the first time it was tested at Bourock!

Many of the ideas from the team here went into the final book, and it certainly would never have been a possibility without the great talent and commitment of the Summer Club team here.

Xpedition Force will be unveiled in several launch events across Scotland in January, be appearing live on stage at the SECC in May, and will then hit Bourock at the end of June 2004.

The summer of 2003 saw us take a trip to the beach as we joined in with Seaside Rock. This was another hugely successful week, with well over 500 children attending through the week.

Thanks go to all who supported the Club in any way, through donations, prayer, or just being there!

As we prepare for 2004 we need more leaders than ever and hope that we see some new faces along. We will be having a Recruitment Event early in the New Year to get us started!



Dates for Summer Club Leaders are -

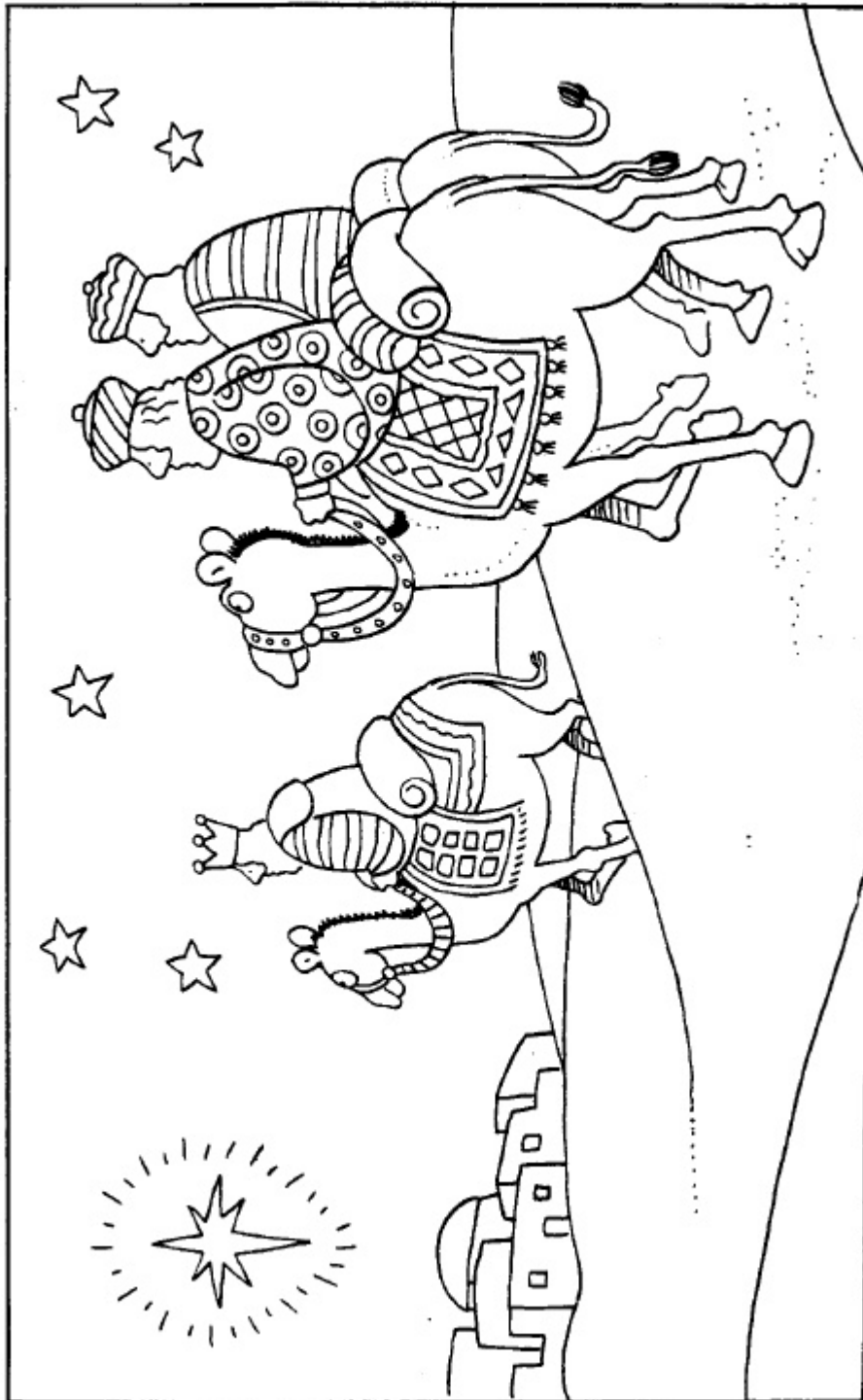
Friday 16th January 2004 – Launch of Xpedition Force, Wesley Owen, Glasgow  
Wednesday 24th March 2004 – Children’s Service for UK Church Children’s Workers  
Sunday 23rd May 2004 - SECC Event – Xpedition Force Live!  
27<sup>th</sup> June 2004 – Xpedition Force training Night  
28th June to 2nd July 2004 – Xpedition Force Summer Club

For further information on any Summer Club activities please contact Angus Leitch ( 881 1462 ) or Doug Swanney (589 6127)



# Colouring Competition

If you are under 12 and would like to win a prize, enter this colouring competition. All entries should be placed in the SteepleTalk box at the rear of the church by Christmas Eve at the latest. The box will be emptied after the Nativity Service and the winner announced on Christmas morning. The editor's decision is final.



Name .....

Address .....

Age .....

## The Guild

The new session of the Guild began in the October with Mr Ernie Speirs giving us an insight into the life and music of Gershwin followed by a Welcome Tea. We have also been entertained by three gentlemen from the East Kilbride Speakers Club who regaled us with light hearted stories. We also have had a trip down memory lane with Hugh Nisbet who talked on Barrhead when he was growing up and the many local "worthies" whom he remembered. We are looking forward to a night with the Compass Band and a Christmas visit to a Garden Centre in Kilmarnock. Our own Youth Choir are entertaining us at our Christmas Party. We have many more interesting evenings arranged for next year. New members are always made most welcome.

Our Guild is supporting two Projects for the next three years, Growing with Care - Sunflower Garden Project and Walking with the displaced. The Sunflower Garden Project helps children affected by drug misuse in their family. Around 50,000 children in Scotland are affected by drug misuse in their family. The Sunflower Garden is an indoor play area with a painted courtyard for safe outdoor activities based at Simpson House in Edinburgh. It aims to support children living in these circumstances by providing play therapy, children's groups, infant massage, counselling for parents and parents' groups. With Guild support, fewer of these children will become adults who misuse drugs.

Walking with the displaced is a project which aims to help the Joint Relief Ministry in Cairo which works with over 20,000 urban refugees from Africa - most of whom have fled Sudan during the civil war. Two of Cairo's churches have been working together for 10 years to assist this vulnerable group of people: They are All Saints' Cathedral (Anglican) and St Andrew's Church (now independent but formerly the Church of Scotland). As well as advocacy efforts, both churches offer a safe environment, educational opportunities and spiritual nurture to the displaced. All Saints has focussed on medical care and established a clinic while St Andrew's has emphasised educational and training programmes. The Guild funding would help provide and run a second clinic in a slum area, at present with limited facilities. Further services could then be offered to more pregnant women and the sick. In addition, St Andrew's Church aims to expand its education programme and renovate classrooms to offer hope and a future to the refugee children.

Marjory Brown  
President.

## Tweenies

There are 52 Tweenies this session. We are enjoying lots of different activities such as games, singing and crafts. There is a lot of noise on a Monday evening in the Upper Hall between 6.30pm and 7.30pm.

The Tweenies are looking forward to Christmas and their party will take place on 15th December.

If you can spare some time on a Monday, come along and help.

I will be leaving the Tweenies in December and Morag McKenzie will take over as leader.

I have enjoyed working with the children for many years and would like to take this opportunity to thank all the leaders and helpers for their assistance during that time.

Elizabeth D. McKenzie.

# Finance Report

## November 2003

Having recently taken over as finance convener, now is perhaps a good time to review where Bourock currently stands financially.

During the summer the sanctuary was refurbished utilising the surplus funds from the roof fund.

Approval was also given for a refurbishment of the manse kitchen; this work should have been completed by the time you read this.

In the near future alterations will require to be made to various areas within the church and its buildings, in order that we comply with the Disability Discrimination Act which will involve considerable expenditure. Much of the funding for this will have to be raised through various fund raising initiatives.

At the end of October offerings for the year to date was £47,944, equating to £1,115 per week. At this stage last year our income was £45,958, equating to £1,069 per week. whilst any increase is welcomed we are still anticipating a deficit at the year end although the amount, at present, is uncertain.

This figure would be considerably higher if it were not for the “gift aid” scheme; this year we claimed back in excess of £10,500 from the inland revenue, which is a considerable increase on the amount claimed last year. This scheme allows the church to reclaim tax already paid by an individual so long as they have already paid at sufficient income tax.

Again this highlights the importance of having as many gift aid declarations completed as is possible and I will continue a familiar theme by recommending that anyone who currently makes their offering by either monthly standing order or through the weekly freewill envelopes, and who also pays sufficient income tax, completes a gift aid declaration.

If you wish to pursue either of these options please complete either of the forms which can be found at the end of the magazine i.e. monthly standing order form or gift aid declaration.

Should you already have WFO envelopes and now wish to give by monthly standing order please advise John McGarrie in order that he can discontinue your envelopes before the start of the next financial year. If you are completing a gift aid declaration then please return it to either myself or John McGarrie.



Derek Palmer

# CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

ANGELS  
 BETHLEHEM  
 INN  
 JESUS  
 JOSEPH  
 KINGS  
 MARY  
 SHEPHERDS  
 STABLE  
 STAR

A	T	U	Q	V	X	Y	R	U	O
J	E	S	U	S	T	H	R	E	J
S	F	H	S	B	P	P	D	A	N
P	B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M
K	D	P	G	O	C	S	N	I	S
Q	L	H	E	M	T	O	H	L	V
F	R	E	L	A	W	J	E	I	Z
K	C	R	R	W	S	G	N	I	K
M	X	D	B	I	N	N	Y	A	Y
G	B	S	T	A	B	L	E	H	J

## Children's Solve Search Solution

### WORDS

- |                 |              |                |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1 RUTH          | 2 PAUL       | 3 HIS MOTHER   |
| 4 BENJAMIN      | 5 JACOB      | 6 MEPHIBOSHETH |
| 7 HANNAH        | 8 EGYPT      | 9 STEPHEN      |
| 10 COMMANDMENTS | 11 JERUSALEM | 12 SHEPHERD    |
| 13 RAVENS       | 14 JOSIAH    | 15 CALF        |
| 16 MARY         | 17 OLIVES    | 18 NILE        |

# Getting ready – Elizabeth and Mary

Read the story in Luke 1



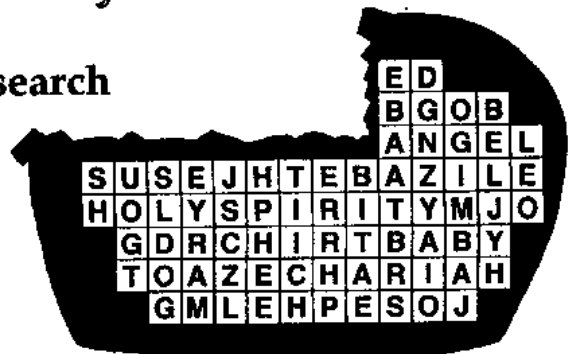
Getting ready for the baby



An angel visits Mary

## Word search

- ANGEL
- BABY
- ELIZABETH
- GABRIEL
- GOD
- HOLY SPIRIT
- JESUS
- JOSEPH
- MARY
- ZECHARIAH



For there is nothing that God cannot do (Luke 1:37)

Help Mary find Elizabeth by answering the questions correctly

