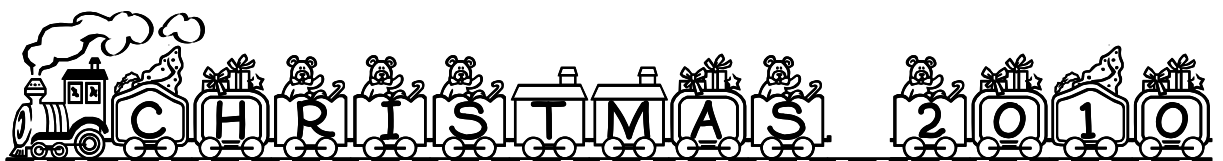


STEEPLETALK



The Magazine Of Bourock Parish Church



Who's Who In Bourock

Minister	Maureen Leitch	881 1462
Session Clerk	Elizabeth McKenzie	880 5077
Deputy Session Clerk	Linda Dye	876 1201
Treasurer	Isobel Lawson	881 9457
Roll Keeper	John Whyte	571 4787
Halls Convener	Bruce Brown	571 6403
WFO Envelopes	Robert McKenzie	880 5077
Junior Church	Linda Dye	876 1201
Guild	Irene Draper	881 6507
Boys' Brigade (Company)	Graham Manson	580 0871
Boys' Brigade (Junior)	Jean Hepburn	880 8492
Boys' Brigade (Anchor)	Katie Gibson	881 8362
Guides		
Brownies (2nd)	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Brownies (3rd)	Barbara Hughes	881 2119
Tweenies	Morag McKenzie	880 5077
Bourock Friends Group	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Mother & Toddler	Katherine Salmond	881 5586
Variety Club	Linda Dye	876 1201
Coffee Club	Ann McMillan	881 8348
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	Craig Weatherhogg	
Child Protection CoOrdinator	Wilma Lundie	880 5320

Business Committee Convenors

Christian Education	Linda Dye
Mission And Outreach	Angus Leitch
Pastoral Care	Moira McCartney
Property	Robert McKenzie
Finance	Derek Palmer

Internet Addresses

Web Site	www.bourock.co.uk
Minister	minister@bourock.co.uk
Session Clerk	elizabeth@bourock.co.uk
SteepleTalk	editorial@bourock.co.uk

14 Maxton Avenue
April 2010

Dear Friends,

Christmas is approaching! Once more we will be caught up in the frenzy that surrounds this season. However I hope that you manage to create some space to think about the meaning of Christmas.

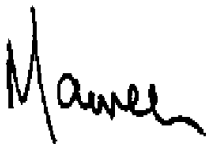
It is, of course, a time for celebration---but we have to remember also that for some people it is a difficult time. It is a time of hope. The coming of God into our world as a tiny baby was a message of great hope for the future.

In this time of economic recession and all that means for jobs, salaries etc it is good to have some hope; to believe that there are better times to come. In this season of winter, it is good to see the lights of Christmas. At this time of celebration it is good to worship within the fellowship of the church family.

We have much for which we should be thankful as we think back on 2010. We have continued to flourish as a strong and vibrant worshipping community with a busy and active Junior Church We have achieved much for our friends in Kibera; we have had an extremely successful Summer Club; we have sent off 314 Shoe boxes. Our organisations continue to be well attended and we reach out to the community through activities like the Soup Stop and the Mothers and Toddlers.

We recognise that there is always room for improvement and we have to continue to work hard to take out the Gospel message. This is a time of year when we have that opportunity—to remind people of God's love for them—to pass on the real meaning of Christmas. I hope you do just that!

May I wish you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mamee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

3rd Barrhead Guide Company

The Parent's Night was held on May 11 and the following Guides received awards:

Attendance Prize: Katie Allison, Jennifer McIntyre, Nicola McIntyre, Grace Richardson, Rebecca Campbell, Eve Pattison, Megan Watson, Hannah Lundie, Alexandra Limpitlaw, Amy Stewart, Jenny Mitchell, Olivia Gilmour, Lisa Caldwell, Rachael Cameron and Laura Kennedy.

The Best Patrol: Points for badges, Go-For-Its, Trefoil Challenge, Promise Badge: Two patrols had equal points -

Puffin Patrol: Rebecca Campbell, Olivia Gilmour, Kara Robertson, Jessica Christie, Katie Allison, Lisa Caldwell.

Polar Bear Patrol: Laura Kennedy, Pamela McQuillan, Erin Paterson, Pamela McQuillan, Nicola McIntyre, Grace Richardson.

Best Guide: Two girls achieved this award: Katie Allison and Grace Richardson.



Girlguiding UK

Points for games/stamps/cartridges/toners/phones.

Puffin Patrol – 1425 pts. Rebecca Campbell, Olivia Gilmour, Kara Robertson, Jessica Christie, Katie Allison, Lisa Caldwell.

Special Gift to all Guides for all their hard work in the past year.

Gayle made an appeal at the close of the meeting for help which was urgently needed as Barbara was leaving at Christmas and Gayle was taking time out for family reasons.

At the start of the new session in September three Brownies joined us.

On October 20 the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from Barrhead joined others from all over East Renfrewshire at Giffnock Athletic Club to renew our promise as this was the end of our centenary year. The date was 20.10.2010 and the time 20.10.

Seven Guides helped at the Senior Citizens evening in October and our Hallowe'en Party was a great success with plenty of new games and plenty of food. The theme was Witches and Wizards and the costumes were brilliant.

We are saving coins in Smarties tubes to be given to the Junior Church to help with postage for the 'Shoobox Appeal'.

In November we held two events: a PartyLite Candle Party on Mon Nov 15 to which everyone was invited and on Nov 22 we held a Fun Keep Fit night where all mums, grannies, aunties, friends joined us.

We are going to the BVC Matinee of The Christmas Show in December followed on Mon Dec 6 with our Christmas Party.

APPEAL: We are in **URGENT** need of a **qualified leader** to run the Guide Company. We have at present four Guiders who are training to be leaders: Jillian Cowie (01505 812 276), Heather Palmer (571 6730), Claire Davidson (580 0148) and Cara Richardson (589 6190). If you think you fit the criteria please be good enough to contact any of the above or by contacting the District Commissioners Elaine Wright or Pamela Davison, **we don't want to see the Company close.**

After many very happy years I am retiring from the Guides but would like to wish the Company my very best wishes for the future.

Barbara (881 0391)

Guider

Bearing The Name

Read: Acts 11:19-26

The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. —Acts 11:26

Hans Geiger, Marie Curie, Rudolf Diesel, Samuel Morse, and Louis Braille share something in common. They all invented or discovered something significant that bears their name. Their names, along with many others, appear in the “Encyclopaedia Britannica’s Greatest Inventions,” a list of “325 innovations that have had profound effects on human life.”

We who follow Christ bear His name. In Luke’s record of the early church, he said: “The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11:26). Later, Peter urged the early believers not to be ashamed of suffering as “a Christian” (1 Peter 4:16). The term Christian, once directed at Jesus’ followers in scorn, was embraced by them as a badge of honour, a mark of allegiance to Him.

E. M. Blaiklock, former Chair of Classics at the University of Auckland, wrote that in the first century the term Christian had “a certain appropriateness, for it implied loyalty and acceptance of a person, and that person, the Messiah (Christ). . . . The true modern use of the word follows the same tradition. . . . The Christian is one who accepts, with all its implications, the lordship of Jesus Christ.”

As followers of Christ today, we gladly bear His name as our Saviour, Lord, and Friend.

Just what do Christians look like?

What sets their lives apart?

They’re ordinary people

Who love God from the heart. —D. De Haan

Don’t be a Christian in name only.

Different Goals

Read: 1 Cor. 1:18-31

In 1945, professional golfer Byron Nelson had an unimaginable season. Of the 30 tournaments he entered, he won an amazing 18 times—including 11 in a row. Had he chosen to, he could have continued his career and perhaps become the greatest of all time. But that was not his goal. His goal was to earn enough money playing golf to buy a ranch and spend his life doing what he really loved. So, instead of continuing on at the peak of his career, Nelson retired at age 34 to become a rancher. He had different goals.

The world may find that kind of thinking to be foolish. It doesn’t really understand the heart that looks beyond trying to gain more wealth or fame to real satisfaction and contentment. This is especially true when it comes to our choice to live for Christ. But it is in the world’s perception of our alleged foolishness that we might best represent the Master’s different goals to this world. Paul wrote, “But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty” (1 Cor. 1:27).

A commitment to living according to kingdom values might brand us as foolish in the eyes of the world, but it can bring honour to our God. - Bill Crowder

What Christ will say on judgment day

Will finally make life’s values clear;

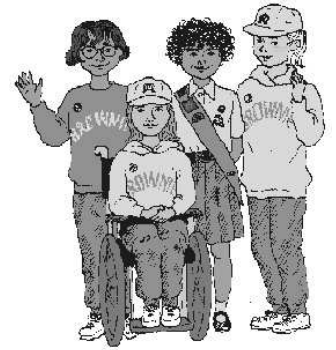
He’ll show that we were rich or poor

By what on earth we held most dear. —D. De Haan

Core values are of no value unless they reflect God’s values.

3rd Barrhead Brownie Pack

After many years of service Lorna Moran has “retired” from the Brownies. We would just like to thank her for all the years she committed to the pack and Guiding. We would also like to welcome to the pack Lynne Grant and Rachel Fairbrother who have volunteered their services. On the 20/10/2010 we celebrated the end of our Guiding Centenary Celebrations by gathering with the county and renewing our promise at 2010hrs with the rest of the Guiding members throughout Britain. At the start of term we welcomed eight new girls to our pack who were treated to a lovely Promise party by the rest of the Brownies who gained their Hostess Badge for hosting the party for the girls and their relatives. Thank you to our elders for all the tea and coffee made and the dishes they washed. The girls enjoyed a Halloween party with the 2nd Barrhead Brownies and are looking forward to joining them at the Bourock Variety Club pantomime, for a St Andrew’s night and a Christmas party. Presently the girls are having a lot of fun (and making a lot of mess) whilst completing their Cook Badge and will be taking part in Christmas craft activities in December. We are always looking for more helpers so please don’t hesitate to contact us if you can help in any way. (No Guiding experience required). Merry Christmas to everyone and Best Wishes for 2011.



Barbara Hughes

Tweenies

Why not come and join the fun!

All girls between the ages of 4 and 7 years will be very welcome.

This year has started off well and there are 24 girls attending each week.

We have games nights, party nights, making nights and lots more.

We had a Halloween Party which was great fun and then the next week for Bonfire Night, we made chocolate finger sparklers. Lovely mess!! The elders came to visit that night and ended up with chocolate sticky fingers.

Children in Need week - the girls dressed in their pyjamas and raised £50 for this worthwhile cause. Well done!

We are looking forward to our Christmas Party and a visit to the Variety Club Christmas Show.

We have a new uniform, red polo shirts with our Tweenies logo which was designed last year. The girls look very smart and the leaders do too.

If you would like to come along on a Monday evening from 6.30pm until 7.30pm you will be very welcome.

Contact Morag McKenzie Tel 880.5077 for more information.





JUNIOR CHURCH



We are all busy preparing for Christmas – to the children the most exciting time of the Church year. The children have made all the animals decorating the back windows of the church and each week they will be working on crafts to decorate the Christmas tree.

The party for all ages will be on Saturday 18th December from 5.00pm to 7.00pm and we hope lots of the children will be coming along. The nativity Service on Christmas Eve will be at 7.00pm and the children will be running through their lines on Sunday 19th December from 2.00 till 4.00pm.

Our numbers continue to be good and we are delighted that we have had a quite a few new children joining us on a Sunday. We are still happy working with ‘Seasons of the Spirit’ with the teenagers using ‘Roots’ material also. Our Advent programme this year is a combination of both and we hope will be interesting and exciting for all ages.



The response to Operation Christmas Child this year has been fantastic and we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone in our church family who has contributed in any way. We are really hoping to send over 210 boxes this year because if we do, Bourock will have sent 3000 boxes since we started in 1998 when we sent 6 boxes! This is an amazing total and wonderful when you consider that we have provided a gift for all these children who otherwise may have received nothing. So thank you to all the knitters, shoppers, generous givers, wrappers and packers. Give yourselves a pat on the back.

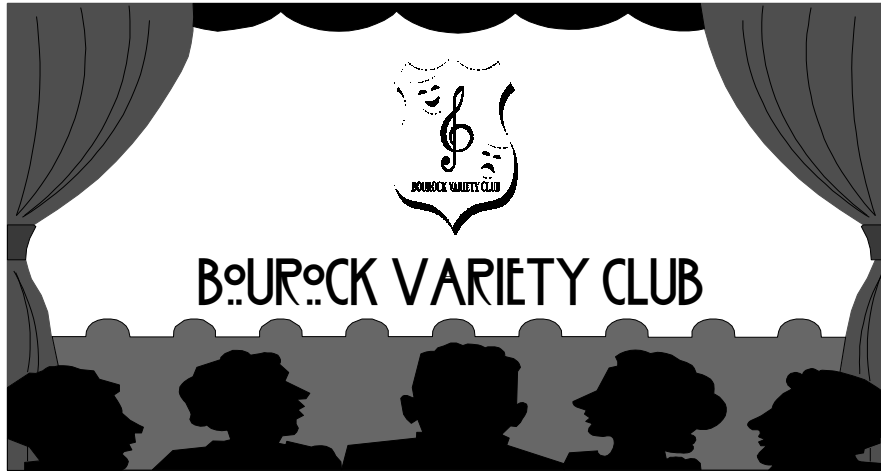
Christmas Blessings
Linda Dye



Stop Press

Thursday morning saw 314 boxes filled by Bourock Church uplifted by “Operation Christmas Child”, bringing the total sent since 1998 to 3104 - a tremendous effort!

In addition, 59 boxes were sent from the United Reform Church - their first year so a big “well done” to them.



By the time you are reading this, 'The Christmas Show' will have taken place and we hope will have been a great success. It has been a real fun show to do and I am pleased to report that the attendance at rehearsals has been excellent. If you like singing, a bit of dancing and have always wanted to be onstage why not come along and join us? We meet every Thursday night at 7.30 and even if you don't like the limelight we have plenty of backstage work as well - and everyone is welcome. Our next theatre trip is to see John Barrowman in Aladdin which may give us some ideas for next year's show!

We haven't decided what we will be doing for our spring performance - this will be decided at our AGM which will take place on Thursday 27th January 2011 at 8.00pm.

We are looking forward to leading the carols before the Watchnight Service on Christmas Eve – see you there.

Linda Dye
Producer

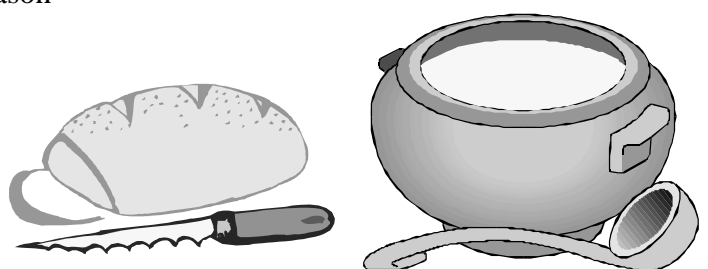
Bourock Soup Stop

The ladies and gentlemen of "Soup Stop" would like to thank all our customers for their support over the last year. We have been absolutely delighted with how popular a lunch venue "Soup Stop" has become. We have been able to support many charities as well as providing good food and fellowship. Each month we choose a different charity and our donations to them are very much appreciated. One of our busiest days so far was 'Children in Need' day on Friday 19th November when we raised £350 for this worthwhile cause. We are looking forward to our Christmas Lunch on Friday 17th December and just a wee reminder – you need to make a booking!

We will be closed for 3 Fridays - 24th & 31st December 2010 and 7th January 2011.

Wishing all our customers the Compliments of the Season

The Soup Stop Staff



Finance Report - Christmas 2010

At the time of writing I only have income & expenditure figures up to the end of September 2010 and at this point our expenditure exceeds our income; this was expected as a result of necessary work done to the church and the manse during the year.

At this stage it is anticipated that our income will fully cover 2010's expenditure, due in no small part to the income from our Gift Aid claim plus income received from hall lets.

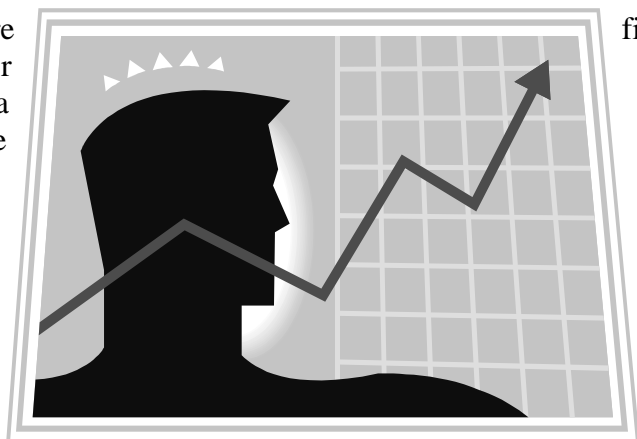
This year's Gift Aid claim has been assessed and will shortly be submitted to HMRC; it is expected that the claim will be for a significant sum. Again this highlights the importance of members giving by either Standing Order or WFO envelopes. I will once again ask anyone who currently contributes by either Standing Order or WFO envelopes, pays sufficient income tax, but hasn't signed a Gift Aid declaration to now consider doing so; this enables us to claim back the income tax on the value of all your givings. Any claim can be based on the previous 6 years contributions for any new Gift Aid declaration.

If you have not yet done so it will take you less than 2 minutes to complete the form. If you do Bourock will benefit accordingly. If you wish to pursue either of these options please contact either Robert McKenzie or myself.

I will again repeat the importance of this source of income, one that we must continue to take full advantage of. We would struggle to meet our annual commitments without this income, a factor that could affect our long term viability.

Finally, on a personal basis, I thank all members of the Finance Committee and the WFO convenor for their assistance during 2010.

Derek Palmer
Finance Convenor



fi

Oberammergau

This year I managed to fulfil a childhood ambition! I went to Oberammergau to witness the Passion Play. I don't know where I first heard about the Passion Play but I have known about since I was in Primary School and have always dreamed of visiting it.

This year, that dream came true. Our friends in Renfrew North Church were arranging a trip to see the Passion Play and invited us to join them. So in July this year Angus and I were in their party that flew to Munich. From there we were taken by coach to Maria Alm, a small village in Austria. We were spending the first few days there before travelling to Oberammergau, which is in Bavaria.

The play is so popular that you are only allowed to stay in the village of Oberammergau for a maximum of two nights. This is to allow others the opportunity of staying in the village.

Although we enjoyed our time in Austria, the main attraction of the trip was the Passion Play and it did not disappoint! Set in a purpose built auditorium which seats about 4,000 people, with an open air stage which can accommodate up to 600 people and animals, it has a great atmosphere.

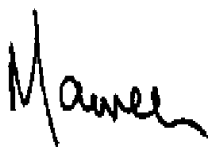
In order to participate in the Play you have to be a resident of the village. So all actors, musicians, singers, stage hands, costume makers, front of stage personnel are villagers. As you can imagine, the Play takes over their lives. It only takes place once every ten years - and that is just as well!

I don't want you to think that it is just a little village production - this is a fantastic production. The sets and scenery are fabulous, the singers are highly trained, the orchestra very professional and the acting is superb; which is just as well, because the Play lasts for 5 hours. From 2.30-5.00 in the afternoon and 8.00-10.30 in the evening - with a break for dinner! I can't begin to tell you how good it is. It is something you really should experience.

The Play dates back to 1633. At that time a plague raged through Europe and many people died. Oberammergau closed off the village to any visitors in order to keep the plague at bay. Unfortunately someone crept in unnoticed and brought the plague. Many of the villagers died and a vow was made in church that if God stopped the plague, the villagers would put on a Passion Play every ten years thereafter. The plague killed no more people so, hence, the Passion Play. It has gone on ever since then with only two exceptions - one when all Passion Plays were banned and the other because of war.

As I have said already, it was a fantastic experience - the music, colour, acting, atmosphere all combined to entrance - you just did not notice the time passing! It gave a new perspective on the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ and all the scenes were skilfully linked together with "Tableaux Vivants" or living images from the Old Testament.

My advice to you is to make plans to visit in 2020. It is not to be missed!



Property

During the summer months, a large amount of property work was carried out in the church, the halls and the grounds.

The major jobs have been redecoration of the upper hall & annex and repair or replacement of all faulty light fittings, replacement of hall entry door & screen plus subsequent plastering & redecoration, repairs to the church East door and all church doors redecorated, upgrading of the access ladder to the belfry, roof repairs to the upper hall entry porch roof and upper hall guttering, installation of carpet tiles in the church, vestry & area outside meeting room, servicing of the boilers & replacement of a faulty gas valve, inspections have been carried out on the fire & emergency lighting system and the fire extinguishers throughout the halls and church and the clockmakers have carried out the annual maintenance on the clock.

In addition to this work, some members of the property committee have repaired the church gates, painted the gates & fence, refurbished the main noticeboard, carried out a lot of weeding & tidying in the grounds, cleaned, inspected and stacked all chairs in the upper & lower halls, cleaned the mats used by the crèche & repaired the mat stowage. There have also been a lot of smaller jobs carried out involving cleaning tidying & minor repairs. A proportion of this work was carried out by workparties on Monday evenings but the support for these workparties was poor and a lot more could have been accomplished with more support.

There are always minor jobs & running repairs to be carried out and most of these will be carried out by members of the Property Committee, however if anyone has the appropriate DIY skills and are willing to assist the Property Committee with this work, please contact me.

I would like to thank the members of the Property Committee and the members of Session and the congregation who assisted with the workparties over the summer months.

Robert McKenzie
Property Convenor

The Best Of Gifts

Read: John 1:10-13

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! —2 Corinthians 9:15

Having trouble selecting that perfect gift for someone? A friend shared with me a few suggestions:

- The gift of listening. No interrupting, no planning your response. Just listening.
- The gift of affection. Being generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, and pats on the back.
- The gift of laughter. Sharing funny stories and jokes. Your gift will say, "I love to laugh with you."
- The gift of a written note. Expressing in a brief, handwritten note your appreciation or affection.
- The gift of a compliment. Sincerely saying, "You look great today" or "You are special" can bring a smile.

But as we begin this special month of celebration, why not pass on the best gift you've ever received? Share the fact that "the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:23). Or share this verse from John 1:12, "As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name." Remind others that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

The best gift of all is Jesus Christ. "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" (2 Cor. 9:15). - Cindy Hess Kasper

The greatest Gift that has ever been given
Is Jesus Christ who was sent down from heaven.
This Gift can be yours if you will believe;
Trust Him as Saviour, and new life receive. —Hess

The best gift was found in a manger.

2nd Barrhead Boys' Brigade Company Section

This year sees the section in good health with twenty four boys and nine staff - giving us the best numbers for several years.

We are running our usual varied programme with drill and Christian Faith at the centre of our activities.

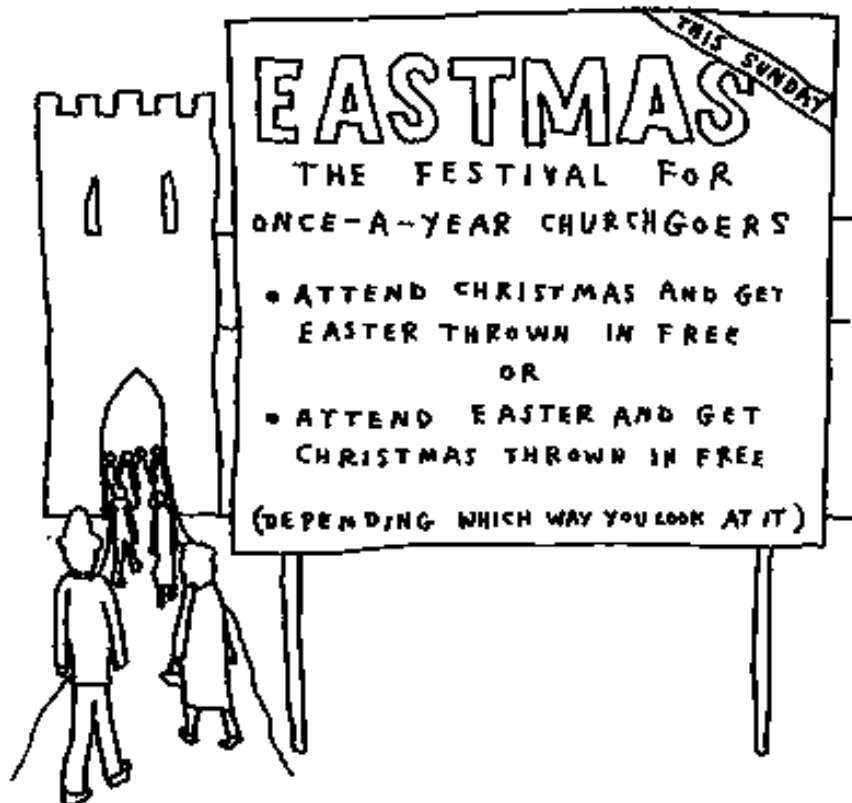
Six new recruits will be gaining their target award soon and this will then allow them to join the award scheme proper, which in turn will hopefully lead to them eventually gaining the Queen's Badge. We are pleased to have Alex Diez-Neill and Cameron Gibson working towards this very award and with the effort they are putting in, they should have no problem in receiving their badges at the display.

We have participated in Battalion competitions including quiz and basketball, where our senior team came third. There are many more to look forward to including volleyball, Christian Faith, badminton, drill and five-a-side football.

This year, fund raising sits high on our agenda. We hope to have a coffee morning, a dance at Feenze Golf Club and a sponsored walk round the dams to Darnley Country Park. The ever increasing costs of running the company has made it necessary to run these events but we very much look forward to organising these various fund raisers and have parents and friends of the company involved.

Finally, we were pleased to participate in the Armistice Day Service which is a very important event in our calendar.

Graham Manson
Company Captain



African Partnership

PCEA Kibera Parish Update

“HIV/Aids/Orphaned and Vulnerable Children” Clinic Opens At Silanga.

The Church of Scotland’s Awards and Monitoring Group awarded a grant of £12,000, to be distributed over 3 years, to the Kibera Parish HIV/AIDS and OVC program. The HIV/AIDS and Orphaned and Vulnerable children (OVC) program aims to provide 50 children with a balanced diet each day, with support for school fees and uniforms. They also work with adults, running education sessions on economic empowerment. They also hope to open a Voluntary Counselling and Testing Centre, and train 150 HIV peer educators.

Marjorie Clark, Church of Scotland’s HIV/Aids Project Coordinator visited Kibera Parish during her trip to Kenya in October. Members of the African Partnership Committee met with her in November to discuss the project. A report of this meeting will be in the next issue of Kibera Project News.



Silanga High School Update

There are now 147 pupils in the school. We have sent ‘best wishes’ from everyone here in Barrhead to the pupils in Form IV who are currently sitting their Kenyan National Exams.

A photograph of the 10 pupils that are currently sponsored by us here in Barrhead is on display on the Kibera Project notice board in the Lower Hall. If you would like to take out a standing order, and help another child to receive a secondary education, please contact Jim Mitchell (Convenor), or David Miller (Treasurer) who can supply you with the details.

The latest issue of the Kibera Project News can be found on the website: - www.bourock.org.uk/kibera

If you would like to receive your own e-copy, please contact deb.mitchell@ntlworld.com



Men’s Breakfast

The second season of our monthly meetings is now well under way. We meet together to enjoy a time of Christian fellowship and support over breakfast. Following a short opening act of worship, we usually have a guest speaker then the breakfast itself during which there is always lively discussion. Part of the purpose of the group is to outwardly show Christian mission in the town, and our hope is not only to provide a men's ministry but also to attract men from both inside and outside the ‘church circle’ to join us.

Already this session we have covered such topics as Overcomers (addiction support), prison ministry, Revival FM radio station, a "revival tent" week in Paisley, Healing Rooms Scotland and Glasgow street outreach to the needy. We have a diverse agenda planned for the remainder of the session and look forward to welcoming a couple of "well kent faces" back to the town.

We meet on the first Saturday of each month at 9.20 in the Coffeehouse in Robertson Street and extend an invitation to all men to join us then. We are usually finished by 11 o'clock.

I'd like to thank Scott, Lorna and all the staff in the Coffeehouse for looking after us so well.

Kenny Rankin

Parish Register

BAPTISMS

May 2010

Harry John Calderwood	7 Rankin Way
Niamh Harvey Edgar	31a Fenwick Drive
Ryan George Kerr	82 Alloway Grove, Paisley
Rebecca Browning	7 Cowan Crescent

June 2010

Zara O'Neill McAdam	1f Cogan Place
Elliot Kirk	2 Stewart Crescent
Freya Jacqueline Reynolds	50 Whitehaugh Rd, Parkhouse

July 2010

Poppy Whitelock	358 Househillmuir Rd, Pollock
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August 2010

Caitlin Elizabeth McGill	89 Newton Avenue
Elise Paterson McGill	89 Newton Avenue
Keiran Darren David Robert Morrison	36 Mull Crescent, Irvine
Robbie Scott Anderson	26 Bourock Square

October 2010

Millie Isla Craig	18 Tower Avenue
Aaron John Millan	58 Blackbyres Court

November 2010

Jack Peter Laird	8 Crompton Grove, Paisley
Skye Rose Murray	13 Netherton Drive

WEDDINGS

May 2010

Ewan Grant to Lynn Robertson
Gordon Brophy to Lynn Wallerstein

July 2010

Andrew Bain to Alison Dannfald

August 2010

Barry Miller to Ailie McKinnon

FUNERALS

June 2010

E. Zoe Findlay
William Buchanan

c/o4 Divernia Way
3 Linnhe Drive

July 2010

David McFarlane
Greig Parkhill
Mary Edser

66 Rowan Street.Paisley
49 Balgray Crescent
17 Maxton Grove

August 2010

Archie Stirling
Sutherland Goodlet

27 Lavern Crescent
26 Kirkton Road, Neilston

September 2010

Brian Connelly
Diane Crapnell
James Montgomery
William Baxter

55 Lyoncross Avenue
13 Fern Drive
16 Kirkstyle Crescent
Norwood House

October 2010

Ann Stirling

4 Braeside Crescent

November 2010

Hetty Rowand
Robert Todd
John Hamilton
Elizabeth Yuill

24 Rockmount Avenue
12F Aurs Road
20 Craigton Drive
Whitecraigs Home

Kirk Session

How can you become more involved in the work of the church?

Within the Session there are Committees looking at different areas of church life. We would welcome some input from the congregation. If you are interested in the work of any of the Committees and would like to find out more please speak to the relevant Committee Convenor, the Session Clerk (Elizabeth McKenzie) or Depute Clerk (Linda Dye).

The Committees are as follows:

Christian Education	Convenor Linda Dye
Finance	Convenor Derek Palmer
Mission	Convenor Angus Leitch
Pastoral Care	Convenor Moira McCartney
Property	Convenor Robert McKenzie

Welcome Teams.

Over the last year it has been great to see some new faces on the welcome teams but we would still like to have more people involved. Can you do this?

Contact Elizabeth McKenzie telephone 880 5077 for more information.

This church belongs to everyone.

Quinquennial Visit

In January there will be a visit from Presbytery.

Congregations are visited every five years by a Visiting Team from the Presbytery. The Visiting Team will meet with the Minister and the Kirk Session. They may also meet with members of other groups within the congregation. The Convenor of the Visiting Team will conduct morning worship on Sunday 23rd January. It would be great to see as many of our church family as possible on that day.

The object of the Visit is to strengthen the hands of the Minister, Kirk Session, Office-bearers, and Members, to advise them should anything appear unsatisfactory in the state of the Congregation or not in accord with Church law and order.

Following this they will submit a report of its Visit to Presbytery.

Seed Of Hope

As you know, the **Bourock Friends Group** and the **Junior Church** sponsor two girls through the Seed of Hope programme.

The last few months have been busy for Seed of Hope. Both the first and second year students have been sitting their external trade exams and in September three out of the four centres held their graduation ceremonies. These two events are closely linked – traditionally, Seed of Hope has held graduations in December but since the second year students started sitting their trade exams, a number of them were able to find employment and put their skills to good use before their graduation ceremony. So, this year, it was decided that graduations would be held shortly after the exams so that all students who had completed their course at Seed of Hope would be there.

Nairobi Class of 2010

The graduations were held at Kisii, Kitui and Nairobi centres, and the Kariti ceremony took place on the 6th October. As always, the graduations were colourful events with the girls wearing outfits they had designed and produced for themselves. At the Nairobi centre there was a fashion show as each girl made a grand entrance to show off her creation. At the end of the ceremony two of the students put on bridal outfits they had made as first years and gave the crowd an extra treat as they walked “up the aisle” together and had their first dance.

At each of the centres, the income generating activities are becoming more established and the three rural centres provide their feeding program through cultivating their shambas (land used for farming). Despite the arid conditions, Kitui centre in Kangweni has even managed to grow some sukuma (kales) and cowpeas this year.

Check out the noticeboard in the Lower Hall; regular updates are posted there, and you also find information about the two sponsored girls and their photos.

Christmas Services

Advent Bible Studies each Sunday during Advent.

6:30pm starting 28th November until 19th December.

Sunday 12th December

3pm Hope and Healing Service

Sunday 19th December

11am All Age Worship

Christmas Eve.

7pm Nativity Service led by Junior Church

10.30pm Informal Communion Service

11pm Carol Singing

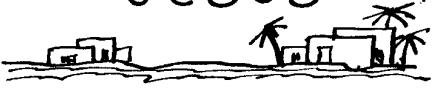
11.30pm Watchnight Service

Christmas Day

10.30am Informal All Age Service

Come along and bring one of your presents

The Wise Men visit Jesus



SOME TIME AFTER JESUS WAS BORN, WISE MEN FROM THE EAST FOLLOWED A STAR - TO GIVE THEIR GIFTS TO A VERY SPECIAL CHILD



THEY ARRIVED, AT FIRST, IN JERUSALEM.



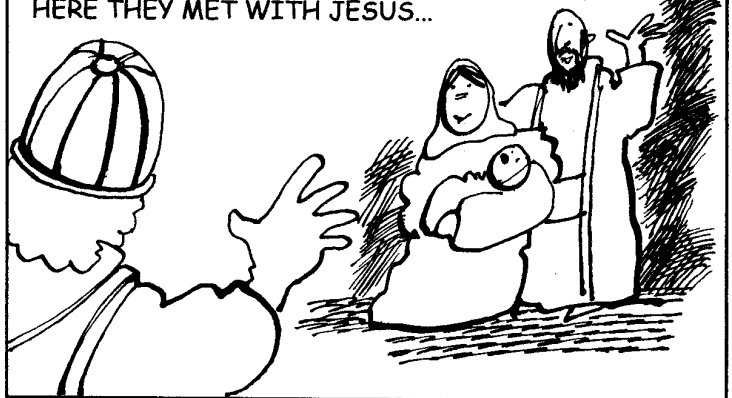
THEY MET WITH HEROD, THE RULER, AND ASKED HIM WHERE THE CHILD WAS - WHO HAD BEEN BORN "KING OF THE JEWS"?



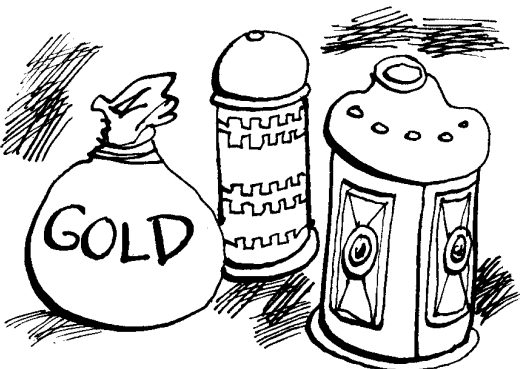
HEROD WAS DISTURBED BY THIS NEWS, BUT ENCOURAGED THE WISE MEN TO CARRY ON SEARCHING



THE STAR LED THE TRAVELLERS TO BETHLEHEM. HERE THEY MET WITH JESUS...



...AND OFFERED GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH.



THESE GIFTS MAY HAVE HAD A SPECIAL MEANING



FORTUNATELY - THE WISE MEN DID NOT TELL HEROD WHERE JESUS WAS. OTHERWISE HEROD MAY HAVE HAD HIM KILLED!
Read Matthew 2.1-12