

The Beacon

St. John's-Renfield Church

Magazine No 369

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2022

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Pastoral Letter

This is my first Pastoral Letter for the Beacon. However, I have been your Interim Moderator for three months already. Three months was time enough to realise how strong and vibrant the congregation of St. John's Renfield is. And when you have a committed and skilful group of volunteers and office-bearers the Interim-Moderator's work becomes easier and, certainly, more enjoyable. Thus, my first words are that you do not need to worry about the future as you have a huge amount of human capital which is the main resource needed to face the challenges ahead or, using the Christian language, you have leaders gifted by the Holy Spirit who will lead you faithfully towards the future that God is preparing for you.

I appreciate that being vacant in a time where the number of charges is being radically reduced, brings uncertainty and to be honest I wish I could offer you more clarity on when you will be allowed to call a new minister or how ministry will be shared. The SJR's team who is dealing with the Cluster Mission Plan has worked hard in the last months to prepare the Plan. But the Plan still needs to be approved by the Presbytery and then by the Faith Nurture Forum in Edinburgh. The more realistic timeline is that the plan will be approved by the Presbytery in October and then the Presbytery will negotiate the Plan's approval with the Faith Nurture Forum until January or February next year. In other words, only by February we will know exactly what will happen in terms of ministry. However, I hope we will have more clarity before that.

As Interim Moderator I am not only responsible for the business process and the Presbytery Plan but also for the Pastoral needs of the congregation. Unfortunately, I do not have time to attend all

congregation's pastoral needs as I have my own congregation and other duties. Fortunately, though, the other ministers in our cluster had kindly offered to help with pastoral care. I am also planning to lead more services at SJR so you can know me better and I can know you better and, thus, we can build a better pastoral relationship. I aim to be more than an Interim Moderator; I want to be your minister and friend.

Kleber Machado, Interim Moderator

SESSION CLERK NEWS

At a meeting of the Kirk Session on Sunday 31st July Bob Bradnock stepped down (for health reasons) from his duties as Session Clerk.

Bob has served as Session Clerk since October 2021. Although his time in office was short my goodness it has been eventful:

- we were still negotiating our way through Covid -19 and Omicron was just arriving
- by January 2022 we had the surprise news we were once again facing a vacancy
- Spring 2022 brought us the Clustering task set out by Glasgow Presbytery.

Bob led us successfully through these difficult times and, while we have been in a vacancy, he has liaised successfully with presbytery and our interim moderator ensuring our pulpit is filled week by week.

Bob also approached the five Elders, subsequently appointed by Session, to work on our behalf at the Cluster Mission Planning meetings. We are very grateful to Robin, Isobel, Graham, Jim and Pat for their dedication and hard work over these past 5 months.

Unfortunately, at the beginning of summer Bob was advised by his doctors to lead a less stressful life, hence, he has reluctantly decided to give up being Session Clerk.

Bob was thanked at the meeting for his dedication during his spell in office, being presented with a small token of appreciation for his work and given best wishes all round for his future.

As we seek someone to take up the reigns of Session Clerk on a permanent basis, Graham Moore has taken on the role for the forthcoming session.

We, as a Session and congregation are extremely blessed to have Graham who selflessly and despite his family commitments has taken on the role once again.

Graham took the *Oath de Fideli* at the 31st July meeting. We wish him every success as we begin Session 22/23

Susan Finnigan

PARISH RECORDS

Weddings

“To those whom God has joined, let no-one separate”

Heather Wilson and David Marshall on Saturday 18th June 2022

Funeral and Memorial Services

“Nothing can separate us from the love of God”

Mary Elizabeth Mackenzie of Manchester Drive, funeral held at Glasgow Crematorium in Maryhill on 20th June 2022

William (Bill) Waugh, Southampton Drive, funeral held at Glasgow Crematorium, Thursday 18th August 2022



HAVE YOU HEARD...

Roddy Watt and Fiona Robinson have joined the Leadership Team (to support Graham and Susan while we have neither minister or locum).

YOU EMAIL THE BEACON

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You (as we say in Brownies)

I would like to thank everyone for their support after my illness. I have been greatly supported by my Church Family, Guiding Friends, my Own Family, Work Colleagues and best friend Janice who all helped me through my chemo treatment thank you so much. When going to get my bloods done for last chemo I fell down the stairs at Bingham pond and broke my right arm in 3 places, However, now on the mend and getting physio.

Thanks too must go to Rosanne who ran Guides and Kirsty who ran Brownies when I could not go, Allison from Rainbows and Sarah from 25th A Pack helped Rosanne and Kirsty.

Thanks so much for everyone's support I really appreciate it.

Eileen Wilson

CHRISTIAN AID 2022



These are the totals raised, not including direct online donations from our parishioners to Christian Aid via their website.

Coffee morning 14/5/22	722.76
Church collection CAW	1640.00
Just Giving Page	340.00
Grand total for SJR	<u>£2702.76</u>
Gift Aid	337.50
Total including Gift Aid	<u>3040.26</u>

**Alison Craig CA convener
Roddy Watt**

SJR – Welcome Team Door Duties

September '22 – 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th

Lead Elder: Linda Moore plus Sandra and Norrie McLeod
Reserve: Margaret Paton



HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

This year's Service will be held on Sunday 9th October. I have received information from Lodging House Mission re their requirements and once again our donations will be delivered to them. The four items they are most in need of are:

Sugar

Chicken and Vegetable stock cubes

UHT milk

Jars of pasta sauce (but no pasta please)



Boxes will be available in the East Vestibule as usual. It is also planned that the Church will be open on the morning of Saturday 8th October between 10am and 11am when donations could be dropped off if that would be more convenient.

This year LHM have asked that cash donations might be considered as it would enable them to buy exactly what is needed and this will also help to prevent wastage etc. If you would like to donate in this way there will be LHM envelopes in the East Vestibule which can be picked up at any time prior to the 9th. There will be a box on Sunday 9th October in which to collect the donations.

As always, they are very grateful for our continued support and they really appreciate it very much. If I can be of any help re the above please give me a ring. **Eleanor Murphy**
0141 339 3345



WE THANK EVERYONE WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE FOODBANK AT ST GREGORY'S



During the summer donations have slowed but Father Cameron has advised the need for assistance to obtain food hasn't dropped and is in fact rising due to the effect of the increase in heating & lighting costs as well as inflation in general.

We are all suffering at this time but it is the people who can least afford it who are suffering the most. If you are able to increase your payment or if you would like to start contributing you can do this in the following ways -

The preferred method is for you to set up a standing order direct to the Church's account:

Sort Code 80-07-52

Account Number 00813139

(Just remember to put "Foodbank" as the reference.)

However, contributions, suitable marked "Foodbank" can be sent into the Church Office, deposited in the collecting plate on a Sunday or handed to any of the Office Bearers on duty.

Your continued support is much appreciated by many.



God Bless
Graham Moore

Pop-in Café

Our popular community café re-opens

Wednesday 7th September

From 2- 3.30 pm

At the Large Hall,

St. John's Renfield Church,

Beaconsfield Road, Kelvindale



Free Tea, Coffee, Cake

No booking required
Bring the kids - everyone is
welcome to join the fun
and chat

Contact us: office@sjrchurch.com or call
(0141) 334 0782 - www.sjrchurch.com



Mozart Visits Kelvindale

Opera Bohemia finally returned to the church on Wednesday 17th August with *The Marriage of Figaro*, Mozart's most loved comic opera - after a Covid delay of two years. The "Sold Out" notice was put up a few days before as tickets were snapped up by eager opera goers.



After a near sell out performance in Perth the previous evening, the set, props, tools and of course the people had to be transported to Glasgow. The major building work then

began. It is a huge exercise in our church as we have to remove the front seats, build a rigid stage, put together a complex set, instal lighting and much more.

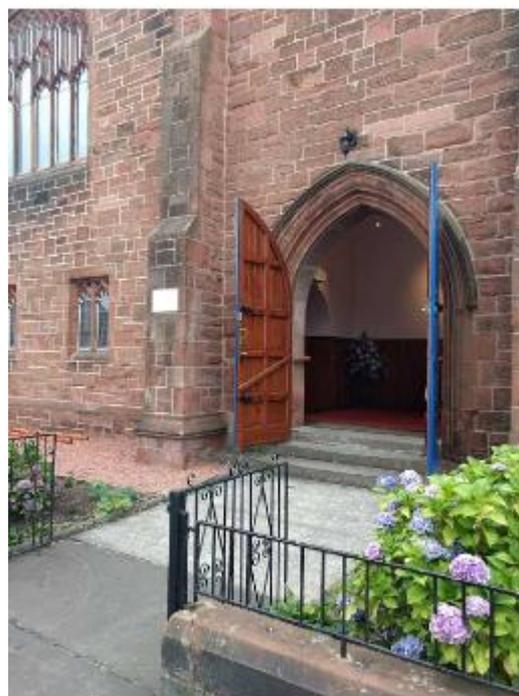
Once the orchestra started however, all of that was forgotten as the audience of around four hundred were treated to the delights of Figaro. It is a long time since we had a wedding in the Church, so it was great to have two for the price of one with Figaro marrying Susanna, and his father and mother tying the knot too. All the hard work by the directors, cast, musicians, designers, stage managers and builders etc was more than rewarded by the appreciation of the audience and their smiling faces as they left the church after a fabulous performance. Then the set had to be taken down, van loaded, the staging taken apart, and our

sanctuary restored ready for the Sunday service. A wee break on Thursday then on to Stirling on Friday and Eastwood Theatre on Saturday.



At the interval about £440 was raised for Ukraine from donations for refreshments.

Jordanhill Church Café will be opening its doors once more on Wednesdays - starting 7th September from 11:00 am until 1:30 pm. Tea, coffee, home baking and toasties will be available.



Jordanhill Church is also holding a Macmillan

coffee morning on Saturday 1st October from 10:00 am until 12 noon. All profits to Macmillan.

Jordanhill is one of our cluster partners and will make visitors very welcome.



The Boys' Brigade
5th Glasgow Company
<http://5glasgow.boys-brigade.org.uk>
5thglasgow@boys-brigade.org.uk

follow us on social media



Boys' Brigade News

The **Company Section** summer break has passed by in a flash since our excellent weekend camp at Stillaig, Tighnabruaich in mid-June, and now we're recharged and raring to go for the new session! We are happy to report that the midges stayed away for the weekend which was an absolute joy!

Our first Parade night will be on Friday 2nd September 2022 at 7.30pm. Exact details are currently being finalised, and we will be in touch with the boys soon. However, we are always very welcome to receive new members from P7 up to S6, therefore please keep watching our social media feeds for more information in the coming days.

We are keen to resume a full and active programme with lots of our much-loved activities and outings. The Partick District competitions will be resuming too which is an added bonus.

A final glance over the shoulder is to the Glasgow Battalion Queen's Badge Presentation Ceremony at Glasgow City Chambers on Tuesday 14th June. It was a great evening that lives in the memory of our two Queen's Men, Sgt Grant



Maclennan and Sgt Jack McClelland, who received their certificates

Anchor Boys and **Junior Section** will restart on Tuesday 6th September at 6.15 pm in the Large Hall. All boys from P1-P6 are most welcome to come along. We would love to see new faces, and can promise a session full of games, crafts, activities, and - most of all - fun.

STEDFAST



Monday Evening
Brotherton Hall
6.15pm - 7.15pm
5 - 7 Year olds

Starts Monday 5th
September



Friday Evening
Church Hall
6.00pm - 7.30pm
7-10 Year Olds
Starts Friday 2nd
September





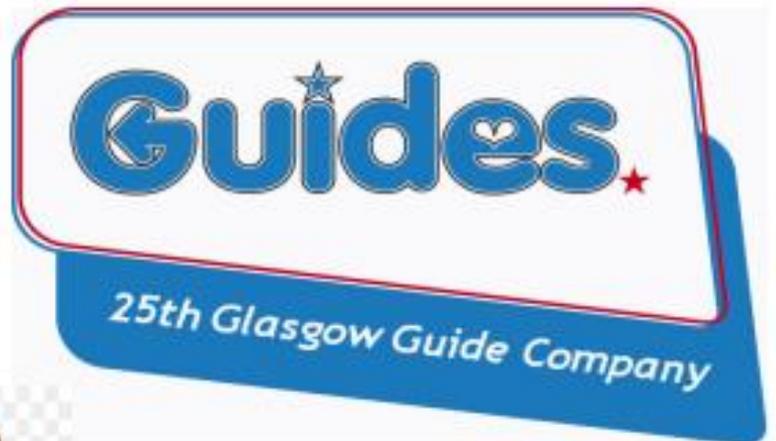
**Tuesday Evening
Brotherton Hall
6.00pm – 7.30pm
7 – 10 Year Olds
(Formally FRIDAY Unit
at 6.15pm– 7.45pm)**

**Starts Tuesday 6th
September**



**Tuesday Evening
Brotherton Hall
7.30pm – 8.45pm
10 – 14 Year Olds**

**Starts Tuesday 6th
September**



Contact: District Commissioner

kelvinsidedistrictguiding@btinternet.com

SUNDAY CLUB NEWS



Welcome back everyone – September is almost with us! Our first Sunday Club will be on 4th September with an informal session to find out what the children have been up to over the summer and have some fun and games! We are hopeful that we will have some new members and are looking forward to seeing them each Sunday. We continue to work with Roots and find games, crafts and activities to link with the lectionary. It was lovely to be able to be back in the church last session and the children will continue to be in for the beginning of the service each week.

As mentioned in the June Beacon, we will have a smaller team this year and are always looking for more helpers! If you are able to help – or know someone who would like to be involved with our young people, please contact Cathy in the office or speak to a member of the team on a Sunday. Also, if you are aware of any young people who you feel would like to attend the club, we would love to see them!

We will be in the Brotherton each week from 10.50am (apart from the September weekend – 25th).

See you there!

Sunday Club Team 😊

LIFE AND WORK

SEPTEMBER 2022

Support and Dignity

The work of the Italian refugee charity behind last winter's 'Operation Orange'

'God is Good to Us Wherever We Are'

Jackie Macadam learns about Anna Mackinnon's upbringing on Lewis, and her work to preserve the island's Gaelic language and heritage

Green Shoots

The Rev Muriel Pearson reflects on the new life for one congregation which took a radical decision

A Source of Comfort

Nathan Hood argues that the Church has historically faced, and overcome, similar problems to those it is facing now

Love and Unity

The Very Rev Albert Bogle argues that a spirit of generosity is the key to renewal in the Church of Scotland

Supporting the Agricultural Community

Celebrating the 125th anniversary of RSABI, a charity with major links to the Church

'Back to Normal'

In this month's youth column, Kirsty Hamilton describes how the Ukraine crisis has spurred her church into action

Faith in Action

Official monthly update from the Faith Action team

Plus

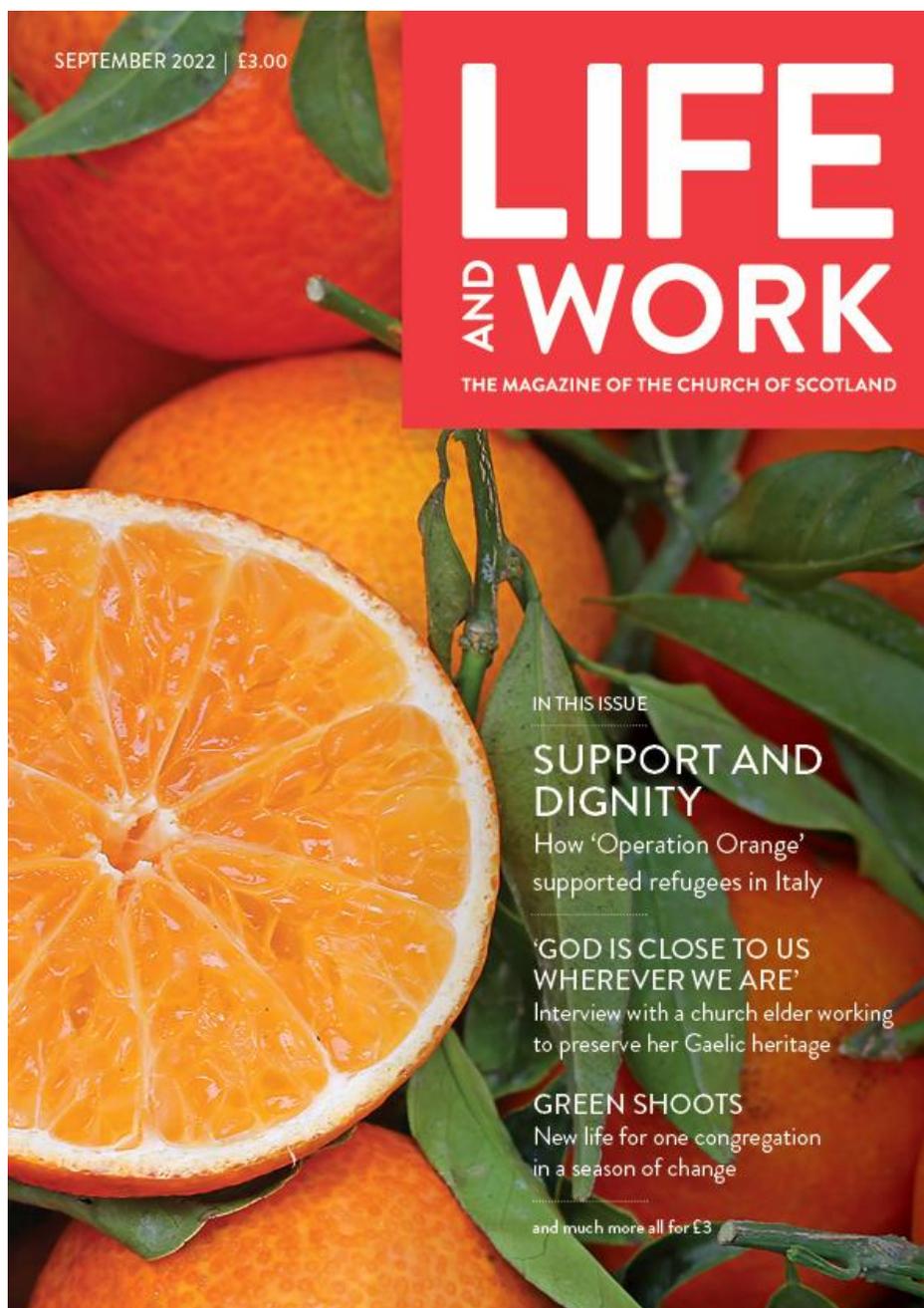
News, letters, readers' pictures, crosswords and registers

Online

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Buy or subscribe, in print or digital, at

www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe, or speak to your church's Life and Work promoter.



WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2022

Friday 2 nd	25A Brownies Pack & BB Company Section return Main Hall 6.00-7.30pm then 7.30pm
Sunday 4 th	Morning Worship – 11 a.m. Sunday Club returns
Tuesday 5 th	Rainbows restarts Brotherton Hall 6.15 -7.15pm
Tuesday 6 th	Craft Group returns from 7.00 to 8.30pm. 25 th Brownies Pack and Guides Restart Anchor Boys and Junior Section return
Wednesday 7 th	Pop In Café Large Hall from 2.00 to 3.30 p.m.
Sunday 11 th	Morning Worship – 11 a.m.
Sunday 18 th	Morning Worship – 11 a.m.
Tuesday 20 th	Kirk Session 7.15pm in the Sanctuary
Sunday 25 th	Morning Worship – 11 a.m. No Sunday Club this week

Please note: Events are subject to change following any new Covid guidance.

OFFICE BEARERS

Minister – Position Vacant

Interim Moderator – Rev. Dr. Kleber Machado

Session Clerk

Graham Moore

Assistant Session

Clerk

Susan Finnigan

Editor of Beacon

Alan Christie

Material for the October 2022 Beacon is required by

Friday 17th September 2022 midnight

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

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www.sjrchurch.com

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