

The Beacon

St. John's-Renfield Church
Magazine No 377
www.sjrchurch.com

2023

Feb

Mar

April

May

June

Sept

Oct

Nov

Dec



Minister's Letter

January (named after the Roman two-faced god Janus), is supposed to be the month for looking backwards and forward, to the old year and the new one. But in some ways June can perform a similar role. On the one hand many people are looking forward to summer holidays (maybe even some warm, dry, sunny weather!), but on the other it is the end of school and university years (with celebrations and graduations), and many clubs and activities wind down for a summer break.



If you have just completed a gruelling academic year, if you need a break from a full-on work schedule, or if you have spent months as a volunteer running a club or youth organisation, a summer break is a boost, a reward, a lifeline.

But for some the summer months can be a long, lonely time. If you live alone, don't have many friends or relations, and attending a club, lunch-club or other organised activity is your sole opportunity each week to meet and converse with others, then resuming in the autumn can seem like a long time away. Similarly for parents, grandparents or whoever does childcare over the summer, school holidays can seem like a long, hard time to fill – especially if you cannot afford to go away, or pay for regular outings. Because of health or social care reasons, some people may not be able to go away to stay, or even for the day.

We offer congratulations to all those who are graduating, qualifying or otherwise moving on this summer. We hope that everyone who has a holiday find that it is a time to relax, unwind, enjoy yourself and be refreshed. Maybe we can also make the time to keep our eyes and ears open for those around about us to see if there is something we can do to help others through the long summer months.

Rev Ian Johnson

New Session Clerk



At the Kirk Session meeting on Wednesday the 3rd May, Graham Moore stepped down as Session Clerk. Graham was thanked for standing in just over a year ago when Bob Bradnock had to step down due to ill health. Bob has sufficiently recovered and with the Sessions approval he has once again taken on the duty of Session Clerk. We wish Bob well in the months ahead and know we will all give him every support.

PARISH RECORDS

Funeral and Memorial Service

“Nothing can separate us from the love of God”

Jean Walls of Chester Park Care Home, Glasgow

June Communion

The arrangements for Sunday, June 4th will be as follows:



Hand sanitizer is available in the vestibule.

Please pick up your little wine glass holder from the welcome team as you enter and place in the holder in front of your seat.

Communion elements will be served as we did in pre-pandemic times, by passing of trays person to person along the rows.

Bread first followed by wine.

Wine trays will have a dot to indicate the non-alcoholic option.

Please feel free to consume your elements as you personally receive them. ***There will be no direction from the minister when to consume.***

Refreshments and fellowship will be, as always, available in the large hall after the service.

The Leadership Team

HAVE YOU HEARD THAT...



... our gardening team have returned and they're looking for volunteers. Are you free Thursday mornings, from 9 a.m. - 12 noon? Anyone prepared to lend a hand will be made most welcome and a mid-morning cup of tea and cake is guaranteed!

... Youth Group for senior school age children has been running on a Sunday evening for many years with the same four leaders - Laura and Colin Calder and Carolyn and Nick Calder. After the summer two of the leaders will not be able to continue. We need at least four leaders to run the youth group. Two people need to do each evening and we run in term time, which means doing a Sunday evening roughly every fortnight during school term time. If anyone is interested in becoming a leader please contact Nick or Carolyn. No training is needed and it is a lot of fun.



...The church office will be closed from the 1st until the 13th July. Someone will be checking for urgent messages however services will be very limited.

... the Mackintosh Choir concert takes place on Sunday 18th June at 7:30 at SJR Church. Please come along and give them your support. Tickets at the door.

... our Sunday Club needs volunteer helpers. Are you free from 11am - 12 noon on Sundays? Anyone interested would need to go through Church of Scotland Safeguarding PVG procedure. Please contact the church office office@sjrchurch.com for further details.

... over 70 French teenagers, and their teachers, as part of their



school trip to Scotland, came to the church to learn some Scottish Country Dances - courtesy of the Scottish Country Dance association. The picture was taken at the end of Strip the Willow, and judging by the

hooting and cheering, they all seemed to have a great time.



CHRISTIAN AID

SUNDAY 14 MAY

Our Christian Aid service raised £2,282.50 including Gift Aid. Thanks are due to all who contributed so generously to this total and to the Worship Team who planned and delivered the service.

Flower Sunday



Just one of the many beautiful arrangements that adorned the building on May's Flower Sunday.

The flower team said thank you for the congregation's generous monetary donations that allow a display every Sunday. More photos

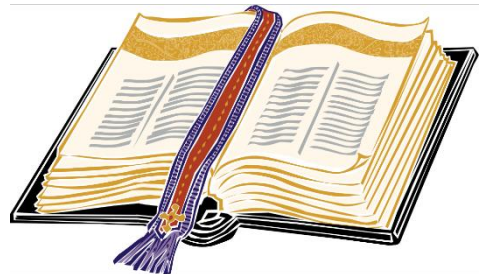
from this delightful event can be found at the end of this *Beacon*.

Reader Rota June, July and August

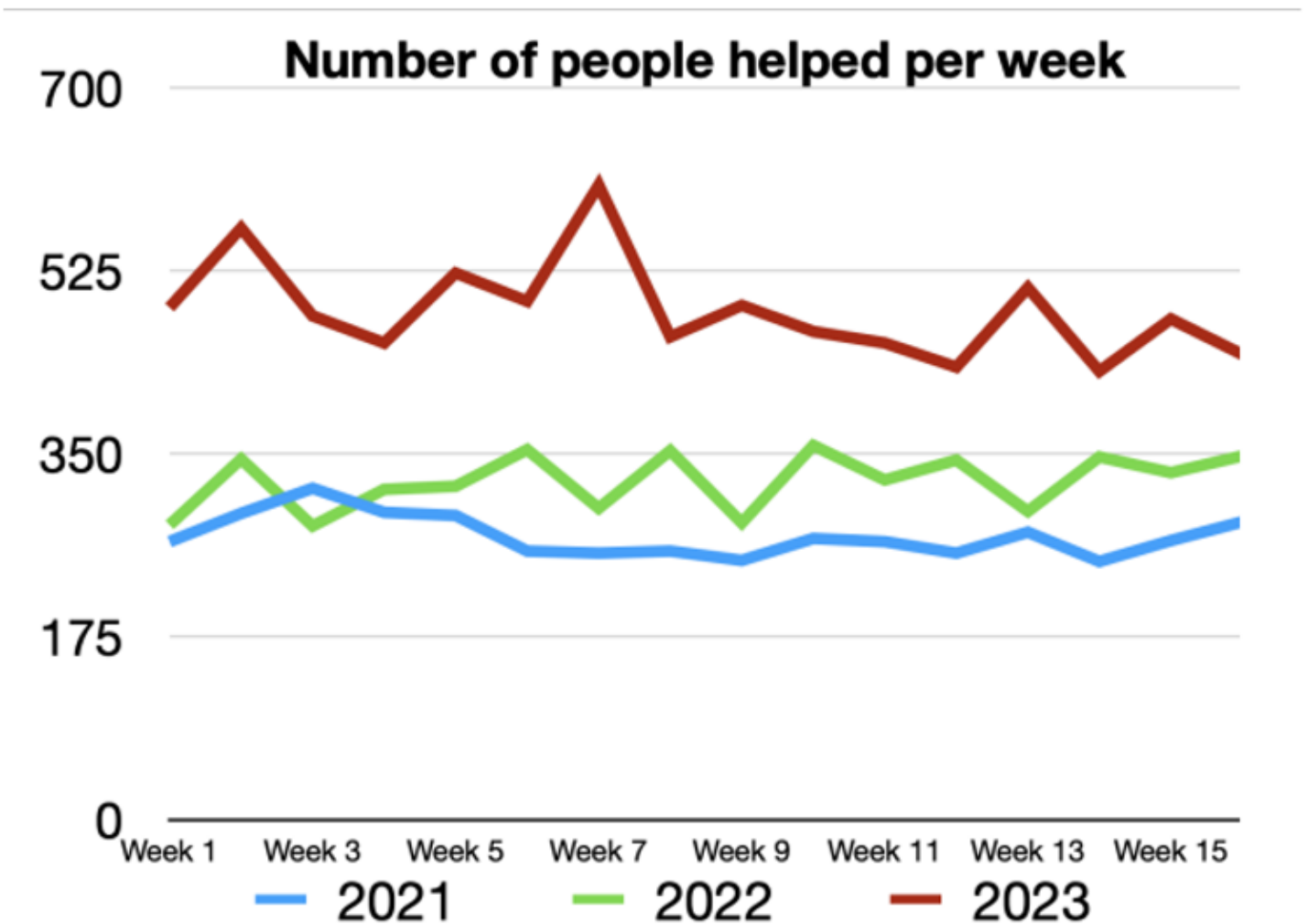
4th June – Graham Moore
11th June – Sarah Hamilton
18th June – Pat McGill
25th June – Jim MacDonald

2nd July – Moira Eaglesham
9th July – Wilma Murphy
16th July – Seonaid Gibson
23rd July – Fiona Robinson

6th August – Grace McKay
13th August – Bob Bradnock
20th August – Isobel Digges
27th August – Laura Calder



A Shocker from the Foodbank



The graph shows the number of people helped in the first 16 weeks of the year, comparing 2021/2022/2023. **As you can see the number has almost doubled between 2021 and 2023.** We have calculated that each bag is now worth £10, reflecting our huge rise in costs associated with the ‘cost of living crisis’. Alongside this we are increasing the nutritional value of what we’re offering. Each bag offered now includes fresh fruit and veg, eggs and cheese and extra protein – meat or fish – which is paid for from donations.



About St Gregory's Food Bank

St Gregory's Food Bank is an independent food bank operating five mornings a week from the Chapel of St Gregory's RC Church in Wyndford, Maryhill.

We provide a range of grocery and store cupboard items with household cleaning and personal hygiene items available on request to the most vulnerable in society. No referral is required, meaning anyone can access support.

As we are blessed with the use of Fr Cameron's presbytery, we have no overheads: no rent, and no heating bills. The food bank is staffed entirely by a dedicated team of volunteers which means there are no staffing costs.

This means that every penny donated to the food bank goes directly to those in need.

How You Can Help

If you wish to assist the Foodbank, donations can be sent to the office for the attention of Mary Glassford, Asst Treasurer, or handed in on a Sunday to anyone on duty.

If you wish to donate regularly you can set up a standing order, same bank sorting code and account details as for normal giving, but please put Foodbank as the reference.

A box also sits in the East Vestibule for donations of food, toiletries, empty egg cartons and jam jars.



Spring Fair 2023

Our Spring Fair held on Saturday 29th April raised a spectacular £2000 for the Syria-Turkey earthquake Appeal and SJR Church. Many thanks to all.





SJR Welcome Team Door Duties

June, July and August

June '23 – 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th

Lead Elder: Fiona Robinson with Sarah Hamilton and Andy McCrindle. **Reserve:** Isobel Digges

July '23 – 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th

Lead Elder: Shirley Tassell with Marion Dowling and Robin Hutchison. **Reserve:** Jim Tassell

August '23 – 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th

Lead Elder: Shirley Maxwell with Grace McKay and Liz MacDonald. **Reserve:** Wilma Murphy

Arranging your Flowers in June, July and August



Marion Dowling
Liz McDonald

Susan Finnigan
Eleanor Murphy

Maureen McWilliam
Grace McKay



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

5th Glasgow Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys and Junior Sections

The Anchor Boys and Junior Section marked the end of a busy session by holding a Parents' evening on Tuesday 16th May. All sixteen boys and their parents were in attendance.

After the boys had demonstrated their exuberance while playing some of their favourite games, Mr Watt presented some well deserved awards.

Firstly, badges were awarded to recognise the boys' achievements in working through all the categories of the Boys' Brigade programme which includes, Get Active, Get Adventurous, Get Creative, Get into The Bible, Get Involved and Get Learning.

Awards were then made for attendance. We had two boys with perfect attendance, Caelan and Max and two with one absence each, Hamish and Zach.

Lastly, The Centenary Trophy was awarded to the "Best Boy." The Centenary Trophy was presented to the company for this purpose in 1984 by Eddie McLeod, a former Captain and Officer-in-Charge of the Junior Section. This year, the trophy was awarded to Hamish Meikle, whose dad is a previous winner of the trophy! Interestingly, Mr Watt's name is the first to appear on the trophy.



Mr Cumming, representing the Company Section, received three boys being promoted from the Junior Section to the Company Section. These boys are Ariel, Hamish and Ruben. Promotion certificates to mark moving from Anchors to Juniors were presented to Max and Oscar.

Finally, Mr Watt thanked the staff for their help and support highlighting the four company section boys who have been coming along every week, primarily to fulfil the requirements for their Queen's and President's badges but as Mr Watt pointed out, Andrew Watt, Christopher Watt, Alexander Bell and Cameron McGregor have each proved to be invaluable in their support, demonstrating their ability to interact with the boys, be part of a team, seeing where they were needed and being there and generally being excellent role models for the younger boys. They have attended every week while studying for Highers and Advanced Highers and are all a credit to their parents, the company and themselves.

The Anchor Boys and Junior Sections will meet on 30th May for a games night before a well-deserved break prior to doing it all over again, starting on Tuesday 5th September!

If you know of any boys who are in P1-P6, do let them know that we'd look forward to welcoming them for all the fun of The Boys' Brigade.

Allan Watt and Aileen Morison

Company Section News

Company Section enjoyed hosting our short Open Evening & Presentation of Awards on Friday 19th May. It was great to see parents & families again, and we thank everyone who came along and supported the boys on the evening.

With the lighter nights, we will be out at Jordanhill playing fields for some outdoor games during June before we break for the holidays.

We also have our day out on Saturday 10th June at Castle Semple Country Park, Lochwinnoch where we will be participating in some mountain biking and canoeing. Let's hope the weather is kind!

Our Queen's Man, Sgt Andrew Watt is looking forward to Thursday 8th June, when he will attend the Glasgow Battalion Queen's Badge Presentation Ceremony at Glasgow City Chambers. This is a very prestigious evening and one which Andrew has certainly earned with all his work.

Over the summer please do keep a watch out for our flashbacks and memories on social media, and don't forget to 'like', 'share', and 'retweet' our posts if possible!

Company Section will return on Friday 1st September 2023 for another action-packed session. We can't wait!

Alan Rattray



CORONATION POP-IN CAFÉ



Thanks to all who have come along to support the café this year.

We've had some lovely afternoons with up to 40 folks attending and have celebrated themes from Halloween to the Coronation not forgetting Christmas and Easter.



The generosity of our attendees allowed us to give a substantial donation to St John's-Renfield and also to The Calman Trust.

Our last café of this season is on Wednesday 7th June. July and August see the pop in team off to the Bahamas 😎 (we wish!)

We look forward to seeing everyone back on Wednesday September 6th. Have a great summer.



Pop-in Café

Join the summer fun at our community
café

Wednesday 7th June

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

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



Sunday Club



Well, as we draw to the end of another session at Sunday Club, we are all looking forward to the summer months and a long-deserved holiday! May has been a crazy month with all the bank holidays – but we enjoyed learning all about Jesus’ ascension today. Important to know that it’s now our turn to spread the Good Word.

Our last session will be on Sunday June 18th and there is no cover over the summer months – but we will be back in September. It’s been another difficult year – but the children that come on Sundays have enjoyed the various activities and lessons we have been able to do. As always, we would like to say that we would always welcome any new members – so if you know if anyone that may like to attend, please let me know.

I would like to thank my fellow helpers this past year – Neil, Frances and Wei Ai – the Sunday Club simply couldn’t run without you. Even though the numbers are low, lessons and activities still need to be prepared! Your commitment is much appreciated by all.



All it goes for me to say is have a great summer – see you in September!

Caroline and the Sunday Club Team

Enjoy our wordsearch originally published in *The Beacon* in 2004. Rediscovered thanks to the cleaning efforts of Susan Finnigan!

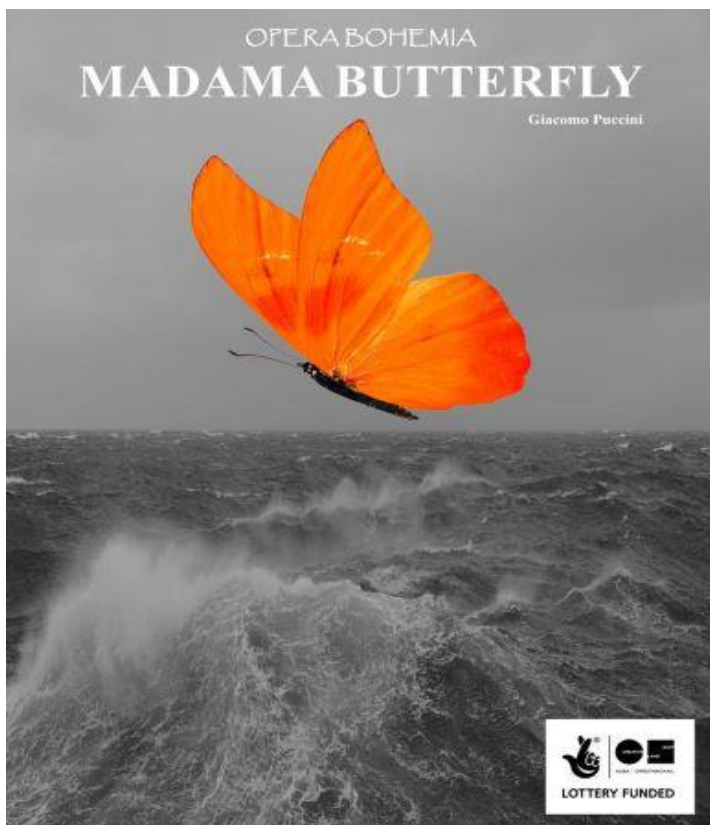


BIRD WORDS

Can you find all these words about birds and feathers? The words go up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally.

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

Blackbird ~ Canary ~ Dove ~ Feather ~ Heron ~
 Jay ~ Owl ~ Parrot ~ Peacock ~ Plume ~ Quill ~
 Raven ~ Robin ~ Skylark ~ Tern ~ Wren





Wednesday 2nd August – 7.30pm*
St John's-Renfield Church,
Beaconsfield Road, G12 0NY
Tickets from Shaun Digges
shaun.digges@gmail.com

First performed here in the Church in 2012, Opera Bohemia will reprise Puccini's wonderful opera Madama Butterfly on Wednesday

2nd August at 7:30, when our Sanctuary will once again be transformed into a theatre. Some of the original cast - Catriona Clark, Louise Collet and Whitaker Mills - return to their original roles. This time the music will be provided by the Opera Bohemia Ensemble, conducted by Alistair Digges. Tickets for this performance are available from Shaun and Isobel Digges (shaun.digges@gmail.com) or the RCS website - <https://www.rcs.ac.uk/box-office/event/madama-butterfly-opera-bohemia-353605/>

Other performances around Scotland in July and August are detailed on the website – www.operaboemia.co.uk/madama-butterfly/



M The Mackintosh Choir



Summer Concert

Musical Director - Au Arias
Accompanist - Alan Kitchen



Sunday 18th June 2023 at 7pm

Admission £10/Children under 12 free

Tickets available from tickets@mackintoshchoir.com
or from choir members

St John's Renfield Church

22 Beaconsfield Road Glasgow G12 0NY

www.mackintoshchoir.com

CHARITY NUMBER SC049999



LIFE AND WORK

JUNE 2023

‘Knowledge Feeds Our Souls’

Interview with Brother Guy, one of the Papal Astronomers

Letter from the Holy Land

In the start of a regular series from the Church of Scotland’s ministers in the Holy Land, the Rev Muriel Pearson reports on an event bringing together bereaved Israeli and Palestinian families

Assembly 2023

Four pages of reports to the Assembly

The Procurator and Service

The outgoing Procurator to the General Assembly, Laura Dunlop KC, reflects on her 18 years in the role

View from the Pulpit

The Rev Dr Marjory MacLean reflects on what two and a half years in Orkney have taught her about the things that matter in worship.

Playlist for Life at 10

A milestone anniversary for the dementia charity supported by many churches

Regulars

The Rev Dr Martin Johnstone on leadership

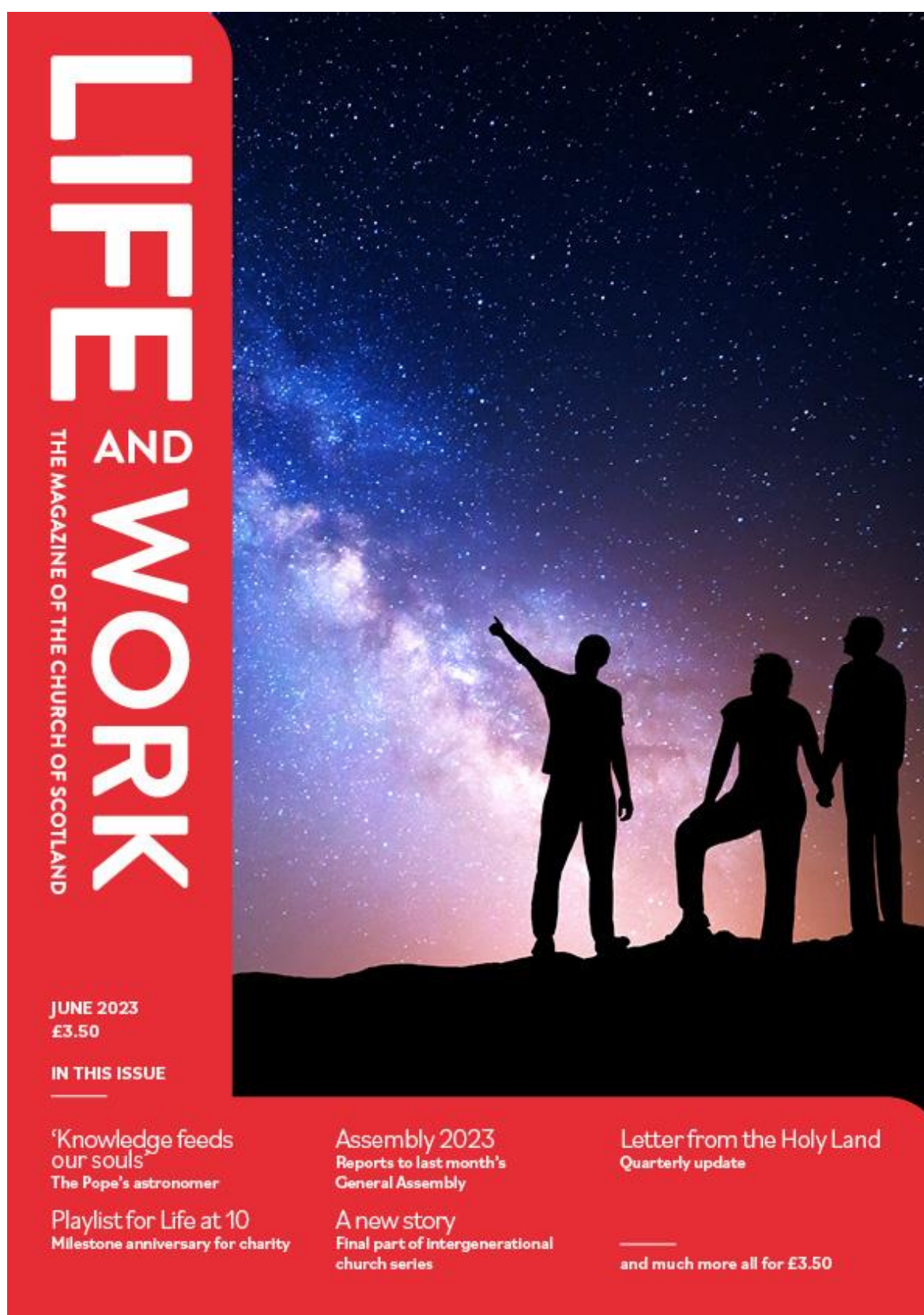
The Very Rev Albert Bogle on digital church

John L Bell on worship

Reflection by the Rev Dr Richard Frazer

Bible Study by Ruth Harvey

Plus: official updates from the Assembly Trustees and Faith Action Programme, readers' pictures, news, letters, reviews and puzzles – all for £3.50. Visit www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe or speak to your church's Life and Work co-ordinator.



WHAT'S ON

JUNE – AUGUST 2023

Sunday 4 th June	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. Communion (Livestreamed)
Wednesday 7 th June	Pop-In Café – Summer Fun SJR Large Hall from 2.00 to 3.30 p.m.
Sunday 11 th June	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.
Sunday 18 th June	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. (Livestreamed) – Final Sunday Club until September Mackintosh Choir Concert – 7.30 p.m. at SJR Church
Sunday 25 th June	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.
Sunday 2 nd July	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. (Livestreamed)
Sunday 9 th July	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.
Sunday 16 th July	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. (Livestreamed)
Sunday 23 rd July	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.
Sunday 30 th July	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.

Wednesday 2 nd August	Opera Bohemia – 7.30 p.m. at SJR Church
Sunday 6 th August	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. (Livestreamed)
Sunday 13 th August	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.
Sunday 20 th August	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. (Livestreamed)
Wednesday 23 rd August	Annual Wine and Nibbles 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday 27 th August	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.

Please note: Events are subject to change

Flower Sunday Beauty



OFFICE BEARERS

Minister – Position Vacant

Interim Moderator – Rev. Dr. Kleber Machado

Session Clerk

Bob Bradnock

Assistant Session Clerk

Susan Finnigan

Editor of Beacon

Alan Christie

Material for the September 2023 Beacon is required by

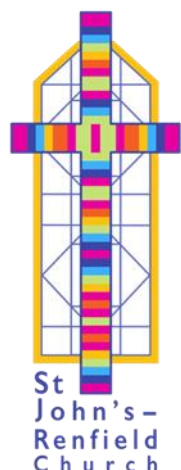
Friday 18th August 2023 midnight

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

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Email: office@sjrchurch.com

www.sjrchurch.com



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No.SC012920