

# The Beacon

**St. John's-Renfield Church**

**Magazine No 370**

[www.sjrchurch.com](http://www.sjrchurch.com)

**2022**

**Feb**

**Mar**

**April**

**May**

**June**

**Sept**

**Oct**

**Nov**

**Dec**



## **Pastoral Letter**

The word that we hear most often these days is, probably, crisis. Cost living crisis, energy crisis, healthcare staffing crisis, Ukraine crisis, and so forth; there are so many crises that it is hard to tell which one affects us more. To live in our current context, we cannot simply ignore them. Instead, we need to see what tools we have to cope with them.

The Bible's authors, interestingly, do not use the word crisis in their writings, but, of course, it does not mean that there were no crises in the biblical times. On the contrary, the whole narrative is built on how the people of God ended up in different crises and how God used these crises to teach them some significant lessons and, more importantly, how he rescued his people from those crises. The words that are used to indicate a crisis in the Scriptures reflect the way that people deal with their crises. Thus, in the Bible, instead of crisis, we find words like trial or temptation. These terms highlight that God was testing them. Nowadays, we have other ways to express God's involvement in our times of uncertainty and difficulty. Instead of saying that God is testing us or even punishing us, we can say that we can learn from these experiences, develop more sophisticated strategies to cope with them, and grow and flourish as we respond to them.

In the Bible, the emphasis is on the attitude that we should have in times of trouble. 'Do not worry,' 'do not be anxious,' or 'do not fear,' are examples of expressions frequently used to tell us how to live in a period of crisis. For instance, Jesus' core

message to those living in crisis is: 'do not worry.' Faith, trust, patience, and hope are the main fundamental tools we have to overcome adversity. Jesus' life was a life of struggles, however, the strength he showed throughout his life was precisely what made his message so vivid and convincing to his audience.

When facing a crisis, people react differently. Some people become anxious or even despair. Others become angry and upset. Still others ask for or demand solutions. And, finally, there are those who try to adapt to the new situation, looking for alternatives or trying to see opportunities or lessons to learn from the crisis. The best way to react to a crisis is given by Jesus Christ. He is a teacher and example of how to deal with phases of uncertainty and confusion rather than a distant saviour or redeemer.

Bringing this reflection to us, in our current context, I would say that we need to look at what is happening around us with faith that God is not absent from our suffering, with trust that he gives us wisdom and strength to overcome all challenges, and with hope that the future will be bright and full of opportunities to grow and flourish. And this message is true to each of us in our personal struggles, but also true for St. John's Renfield as a whole. We are facing a period of uncertainty, knowing that change would be necessary and inevitable, and we do not even know how to prepare for it as it is not clear yet what is going to happen. But in times like the one that we are living in is good to go back to the basics: 'do not worry about tomorrow.'

**Rev. Dr Kleber Machado, Interim Moderator**

## **FROM THE DESK OF THE SESSION CLERK**

While we have been in vacancy Rev Howard Hudson has had the task of finding us a minister for each Sunday. This is no mean feat as there are over 40 charges in the Presbytery of Glasgow without a minister at present. I am pleased to say Howard has arranged for the following ministers/reader to be with us during October.

2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Rev Donald MacLeod
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Rev Kleber Machado
16 October	Rev Allan Loudon
23 October	Rev Dr Doug Gay

Our previous locum Rev Eric McLachlan, who led us in worship on 18th Sept, has kindly offered his services on a more permanent basis and we are hopeful Eric will be with us most Sundays in November and December.

We are greatly indebted to Howard for all his hard work in arranging cover each Sunday.

We are currently working on plans for our Christmas services: Gift, Nativity, Nine Lessons & Carols, Christingle, Watchnight, Christmas Day and hope to provide details next month.

**Graham Moore**

# PARISH RECORDS

## Funeral and Memorial Services

*"Nothing can separate us from the love of God"*

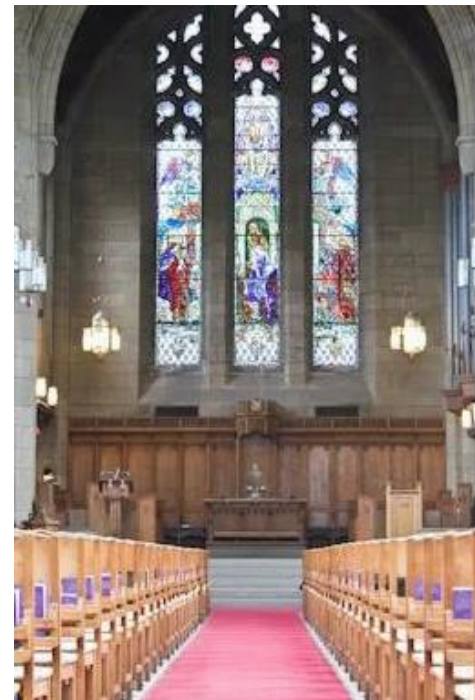
Irene Frame of Balmanno House and formerly Manchester Drive,  
on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Sept at Clydebank Crematorium.

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## Sanctuary Seating Arrangements

With effect from Sunday 2nd October the restrictions on sitting on the prayer desk side of the sanctuary have been removed and you can therefore sit on any seat.

On the pulpit side the ribbons have been removed but you are only allowed to sit in alternate rows. Some members are still wearing masks and we would ask that if you sit on the same row as them you give them additional space, by leaving two or three seats between you and them.



Your cooperation in this is much appreciated.

**Graham Moore**

# Church Transport

We are exploring the possibility of re-starting Church Transport.

If you are someone who would be prepared to drive people to church on a regular rota or occasionally or someone who thinks you would make use of Church Transport on a regular or occasional basis, could you please let me know so we can decide whether there is a possibility of re-starting this. Thank you.



Maria McFadyen  
[maria@thedale.net](mailto:maria@thedale.net)

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## SJR – Welcome Team Door Duties



**October '22 – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Lead Elder:** Moira Eaglesham with Andy McCrindle and Elizabeth Arthur

**Reserve:** Shirley Tassell / Choir Members



# **Bonanza 2022**

## **Saturday 12th November**

Good news - there will be a Bonanza!

Thanks to the response to our email looking to see how many would be prepared to help out over the Thursday, Friday and Saturday to run a 'Bonanza', it looks as if an event again will take place.

Once we know how many helpers we have, we will be able to decide what stalls to run.

As always, everything is subject to Covid staying away. However, the important thing is –

**The Bonanza is back!!**

Get the date in your diary. Look out for fuller details in the November Beacon which goes out electronically at the end of October plus there will be social media and email publicity too.

More helpers would be good!

**Isobel, Shirley T and the Ways and Means Team**



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Mrs Juliet Robb is coming to the Service on Sunday 27th November, under the auspices of **The Olive Tree**, selling Palestinian gifts for Christmas

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The 2023 calendar available at special price £4.60

Copies available from Jim MacDonald while stocks last



# HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

This year's Service will be held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be a box on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> 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

# ARE YOU A CARER?

Are you looking after family members, friends or neighbours, and might like to know about the support that's available as a carer? I'm the Carers Information Worker based in Glasgow North West Carers Team. My work involves raising awareness of the role of unpaid carers and encouraging carers to access the range of advice and support which is available to them.

You can check out our website:

<https://www.yoursupportglasgow.org/carers>

I'm also able to meet with individuals and groups, either in person or online, to provide information about the support which is available to carers and how to access this.

If you would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to contact me and I would be happy to talk more with you about it. Please be aware that communication by internet email is not secure as messages can be intercepted and read by someone else. We therefore strongly advise you not to email any information which, if disclosed to someone else, would be likely to cause you distress.

Catherine McLeod  
Carers Information Worker  
Glasgow North West Carers Team  
Partick Area Team  
35 Church Street, Glasgow, G11 5JT

Email: [Catherine.McLeod@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.McLeod@glasgow.gov.uk) / [catherine.mcleod@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:catherine.mcleod@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)

Phone No: (0141) 276-1066

# Pop-in Café

Join the autumn fun at our community  
café!

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October**

**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](mailto:office@sjrchurch.com) or call  
(0141) 334 0782 - [www.sjrchurch.com](http://www.sjrchurch.com)



# Cluster Group Activities

Broomhill Hyndland Parish Church



# QUIZ



# NIGHT



Max  
**6**  
per team


**Hyndland Community  
Hall**

24 Novar Drive

**Oct 22 2022**

**7pm**

£**4**  
per player



Registration starts sept 25

**BYOB and Glass**

Broomhill Hyndland Parish Church is a registered  
charity SC007820



The Boys' Brigade  
5<sup>th</sup> Glasgow Company  
<http://5glasgow.boys-brigade.org.uk>  
[5thglasgow@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:5thglasgow@boys-brigade.org.uk)

follow us on social media



## Boys' Brigade News

The Company Section kicked-off the new session on Friday 2nd September in the Large Hall. It was fantastic to see all the boys again.

We've started the session with our usual mix of games, classwork, and activities, which we hope will keep the boys well engaged over the coming weeks. Amongst other things, we've been looking at Human Rights and Survival Skills, and coming soon we'll have our Indian themed night, and will practise our Juggling Skills too!

Do keep watching our social media feeds to see what we get up to. Please do 'like', 'share', and 'retweet' our posts if possible!

We have four Queen's Badge candidates this session - Cpl Andrew Watt is now into the second year on his journey to gaining the highest award the Brigade has to offer in May 2023. Pte Alexander Bell, L/Cpl Christopher Watt, and Pte Cameron Gregor have just started their work towards the award after gaining the President's Badge at the end of last session.

Lastly, if you know of any boys from P7 upwards who would like to join us then please don't hesitate to get in touch. They will be made most welcome.

**STEDFAST**



# SUNDAY CLUB NEWS

Hi everyone! Well, it was good to see some familiar faces – along with some new ones – when we started up again in September.

We began with a games day and had a scavenger hunt, along with some fun games in the Brotherton Hall. It's lovely to be in the sanctuary again too – listening to the children's address each week. The variety of talks from each of the visiting preachers has been great and links in with our sessions in the Brotherton. We also remembered the Queen the day before her funeral.



As we head into October, we have the Harvest service on the 9<sup>th</sup> and then have a 2 week break for the school holidays (16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>). Back on the 30<sup>th</sup> for normal service – and throughout

November.

The Church Bonanza will be upon us before we know – so please start rooting out your old toys, games, soft toys and jigsaws for our stall. Make some room for the new ones coming soon!



If you know any children that would be interested in joining our merry Sunday gang, please let us know! Always happy to see some new faces.

Sunday Club Team 😊

# Times Past

*Link*, the magazine of Jordanhill Church, dived into its history in the September edition. The following newspaper cutting caught the eye of our Editor:

## ***June 1909 – 250 children by train to Cardross***

*Jordanhill U. F. Church Sabbath School children, to the number of 250, had an enjoyable picnic on Saturday afternoon, when they were taken per North British Railway Co from Great Western Road Station to Cardross.*

The Station remains familiar to us as 'GWR'. The rails are no more. However, platforms can still be seen at the rear of the building.



Cardross Today

Easy to imagine the returning 250 scholars (yes 250!) spilling on to the platform, tired, happy and with a little sun burn from the bracing sea air of Cardross

# **LIFE AND WORK**

***OCTOBER 2022***

## **The Legacy of Slavery**

As World Anti-Slavery Day approaches, Jackie Macadam learns how the Church is reflecting back and looking forward

## **'I Was Given This Priceless Gift'**

Thomas Baldwin meets songwriter and worship leader Steph Macleod and learns more about his struggles with addiction and the importance of faith

## **The Heritage of Chogoria**

Alison Wilkinson reflects on the history and mission of Chogoria Hospital in Kenya, which celebrates its centenary this year

## **A New Set of Clothing**

In the continuing journey through the book of Colossians, the Very Rev Dr Martin Fair urges us to wear the qualities of Christ

## **'Do Not Put Yourself Into a Box'**

The Moderator of the General Assembly argues it is important not to believe there is only one way forward

## **A New Design**

The Very Rev Albert Bogle emphasises the need to explain why restructuring in the Church is necessary

## **Faith in Action**

Official monthly update from the Faith Action team

## **Plus**

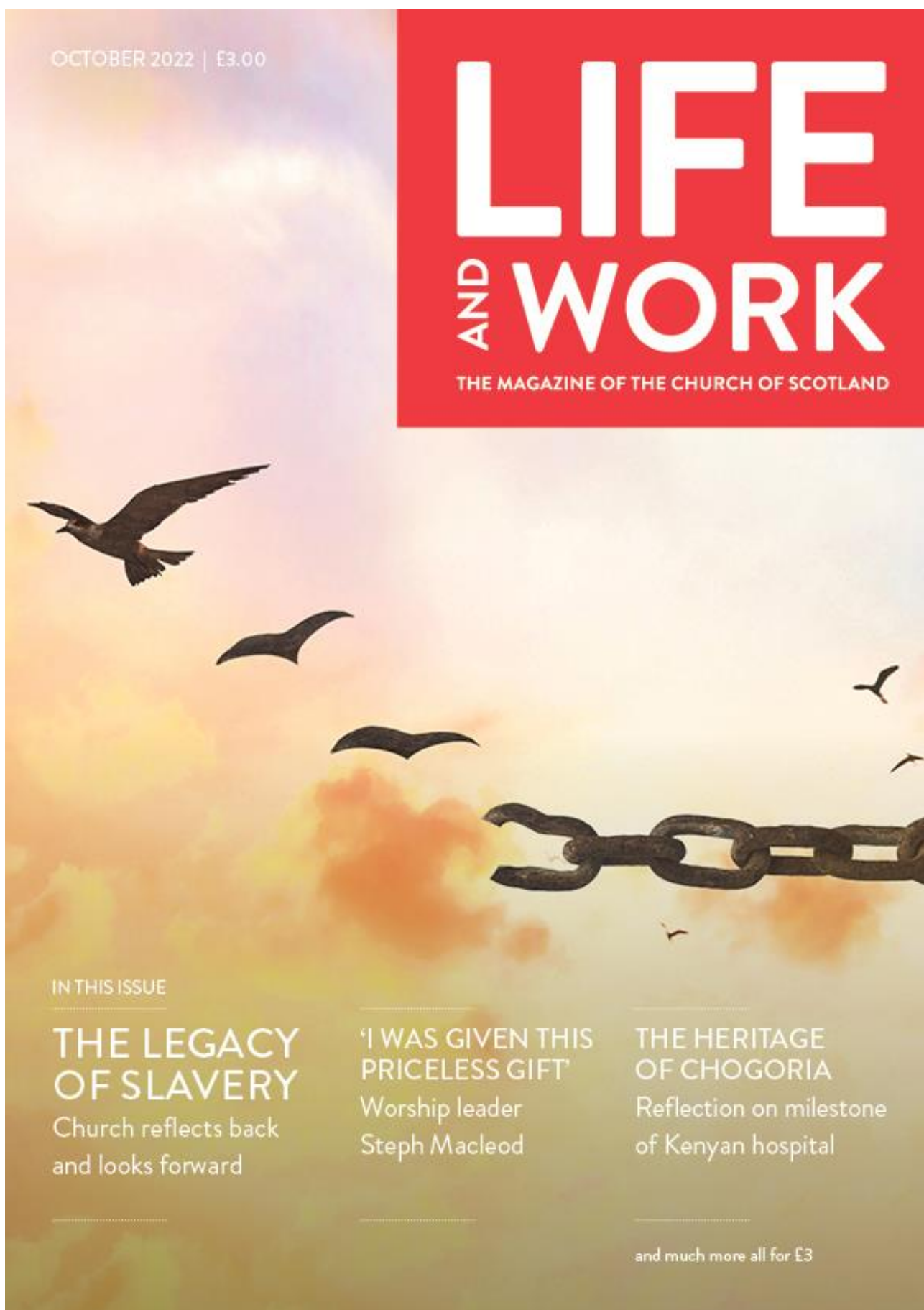
News, letters, readers' pictures, crosswords and registers

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# WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

## OCTOBER 2022

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Jordanhill Church Coffee Morning 10am to 12 noon. All profits to Macmillan Cancer Support
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Morning Worship – 11 a.m. Communion
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Pop In Café – Autumn themed SJR Large Hall from 2.00 to 3.30 p.m.
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Church open between 10 am and 11 am for Harvest Donation Dropoff
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship – 11 a.m. Harvest Service
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship – 11 a.m.
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Broomhill Hyndland Parish Church Quiz Night, Hyndland Community Hall, 24 Novar Drive, 7pm. Register your team by 10 <sup>th</sup> October ( <a href="mailto:office@broomhillhyndlandchurch.org">office@broomhillhyndlandchurch.org</a> )
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Morning Worship – 11 a.m.
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship – 11 a.m.

**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 November 2022 Beacon is required by

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022 midnight**

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

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