

The Beacon

St. John's-Renfield Church

Magazine No 389

www.sjrchurch.com

2024

Feb

Mar

April

May

June

Sept

Oct

Nov

Dec



Minister's Letter

What is your earliest memory? Mine is going down a slide into a swimming pool. My parents told me that it must have been in Troon, when I was 12 months old. I suspect that having such a clear picture in my head it must have felt fairly traumatic at the time. Sometimes it is hard to decide what we actually remember, and what our minds have pieced together from stories that we have been told, and photographs that we have seen.

So much of our early life – at home, at school, on holiday – has now slipped from our memories. There may be some times we are glad that we cannot remember, but there are other little kernels tucked away that can be brought back to mind given the right trigger. One example for me was after I became a minister in Greenock and saw some published old photos of the harbour, and suddenly thought 'I remember that' from when we went through it in the car going to the coast many years before.

It is pure coincidence, but as the year draws towards its close, the nights become darker (and sometimes the days!), the weather turns colder and more miserable, and we want to recall the longer, sunnier, warmer days of summer, the month of November gives us trigger points to remember people and situations we might not otherwise think about.

The month begins with All Saints, encouraging us to remember and give thanks for people who have been part of our journey of faith, but who have now passed into the closer presence of God – ministers, Sunday School teachers, elders, friends, the lady who sat in the row in front etc.

We have Remembrance Sunday to help us to remember the pain and suffering so many went through to give us our freedom, to remind us that so many of the rights and privileges we take for granted came at great cost, that many lived with – still live with – physical and mental pain and hardship, to challenge us to think about difficult issues associated with our heritage, our national friendships and opponents, and questions about war and peace.

We have St Andrew's Day. Andrew never visited Scotland. He may well never have heard of the Atlantic coast of Europe, let alone islands offshore. But he was adopted as 'patron' of Scotland and has long been linked with this land. St Andrew's Day gives us an opportunity to think about this country, the people who live here, and the issues that they face. Andrew was a faithful follower of Jesus, and as such his 'Day' challenges us, as followers of Jesus too, to consider carefully what we can do to help to build God's Kingdom here.

Rev. Ian Johnson

Prayer for St Andrew's Day from Church of Scotland Book of Common Order

ST ANDREW

Lord Jesus Christ,
your apostle Andrew
inspires us as patron of our land.
May we show today
the same enthusiasm for your gospel
which he displayed.
Make our lives as attractive as his,
that the vitality of our faith
and the warmth of our love
may always point beyond us to you.



Like him, may we become
not only disciples
but witnesses;
not only your followers
but also your friends. **Amen.**

Pulpit Supply – November

3rd – Rev. Roger Sturrock
10th – Rev. Tom Pollock
17th – Rev. Ian Johnson
24th – Worship Team



HAVE YOU HEARD THAT...?

... the contact number for Glasgow Presbytery has changed to 07857 194 112.

... the Lodging House Mission were absolutely delighted with the huge carload of Harvest Donations delivered by John Allan and Andy McCrindle on Tuesday the 8th of October. Grateful thanks also to Kelvindale Mini Market for their donations.

... Crossreach Calendars are now available from Jim MacDonald for the fantastic price of £4.60 each (RRP is £5.50 plus postage). Find him in the large hall after service or they can be collected from the Church Office during the week.



... our Christmas Gift Service will be on Sunday the 15th of December and once again we will be collecting gifts for *Glasgow the Caring City* Charity. The appeal this year is for toys and games suitable for preschool to age 12 children. Please wrap your gift and label whether suitable for boy /girl / both and age range suitable for.

... Olive Tree Scotland returns to SJR on Sunday 24th of November with beautiful Palestinian crafts for purchase after service. Start your Christmas shopping early.



SJR Welcome Team Door & Beadle Duties

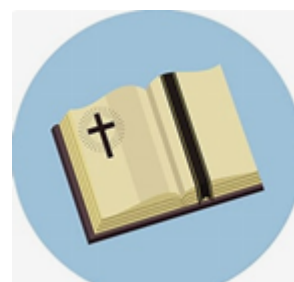
November 2024 – 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

Lead Elder: Shirley Maxwell with Sandra and Norrie McLeod

Beadles: Caroline Taylor (3rd) John Finnigan (10th) Roddy Watt (17th and 24th)

Reader Rota

3rd – Elma Boyd
10th – Maureen Christie
17th – Aileen Morison
24th – Grace MacKay



Looking for their Owners



Our clean-up efforts have moved from the Large Hall to the Brotherton. Do any of these bags, boxes or items belong to you?

Would you kindly remove them from the Brotherton Hall as soon as possible. Any unclaimed items will be cleared out by the middle of November.



If you are using a cupboard for storage, please label it so we know who to contact.



Arranging Your Flowers in November

Marion Dowling
Susan Finnigan
Grace MacKay



Energy Upgrades



The work of the property team never stops! On the horizon is work to the manse to upgrade its energy performance. At present it's rated "D" but the Church of Scotland require us to upgrade it to "C" if at all possible.

We would like to tap in to the combined experiences of our members and friends. Have you had work like this done on your home? If so, who advised you, who carried out the work and has it been successful? All comments by email to the office please or catch John or Jim at coffee time.

Jim Tassell - Property Convenor

Coffee Morning and Craft Fair 10.30-12.30

Saturday 16th November Crypt Café Wellington Church

The proceeds will benefit the Linda Norgrove Foundation, which gives grants to fund education, health and childcare for women and children in Afghanistan. The Trust is named after a young Scottish woman aid worker, who was kidnapped in Afghanistan and killed in a rescue attempt. 19 female Afghan medical students barred by the Taliban from completing their university studies have enrolled in Scottish Universities (including Glasgow) to train to become doctors. See more at <https://lindanorgrovefoundation.org/>

Please support the Trust by buying some of the beautiful items created by the Kelvinbridge/Wellington Craft Group. As recommended by Pat, Shirley, Wilma, Marjory, Roddy and others!

Future Proofing the Church



The upgraded toilets have been completed – and paid for!

The electrical upgrade is almost complete.
Two defective boilers have been replaced.
Painting has taken place, including at the manse.

A significant amount of time and effort has been expended on maintaining our property and grounds over the last year – and the need is ongoing.

It is not fair just to concentrate on property matters since they only account for a relatively small part of our expenditure - but that is what you can see.

We still have to pay our dues to the Church nationally and locally, pay our staff and also pay for all the other items like electricity and gas, printing and stationery, insurance, council tax etc.

Inflation is hitting us just like you at home. It is costing more and more just to keep us on an even keel.

So, you will shortly be receiving our annual appeal to ask you to prayerfully review your level of giving to your Church and, if possible, consider raising your level of contribution for next year so that we can meet our obligations and continue to serve the community of Kelvindale and beyond in Jesus' name.

Thank you.

Finance Committee

BONANZA

The Bonanza will take place on Saturday 2nd of November from 10am till 12.30 p.m. at St John's-Renfield Church.

Help us raise much needed funds for our Church. Tickets, available on a Sunday morning or at the door on the day, are £2.50, to include tea/coffee and a piece of home baking, and school aged children £1.

Donations of books, discarded treasures, jewellery, toys, unused toiletries, bottles and raffle prizes can be brought to the church at the following times:

Thursday 31st October between 7 and 9pm

Friday 1st November between 10 and 12 noon

Friday 1st November between 7 and 9 pm

Contributions of home baking will be gratefully received on either **Friday 1st November** between **10 am and 12 noon** and **7 pm and 9pm** or from **9 a.m. till 10am** on **Saturday** morning **2nd November** for both the large hall catering and the Home Baking stall.

We can only accept cash payments on the day. **No card facilities available.**

Further information or any queries to:

Isobel Digges - [REDACTED]

Shirley Tassell - [REDACTED]

We look forward to seeing you and your donations!

BONANZA

Saturday 2nd November 2024

10am to 12.30pm

St. John's-Renfield Church,
Beaconsfield Road, Kelvindale



Books * Bottles
Car Wash * Tuck Shop
Raffle * Toy Stall
Discarded Treasures
Jewellery * Toiletries
Time, Talents & Treats



Adults £2.50 * School Age Children £1.00
Includes Tea/Coffee + Piece of Homebaking

Please bring cash – we are unable to take card payments



Registered as a charity in Scotland.
Registration No. SC012920



@SJRCHURCH



@sjrchurch



**ST. JOHN'S-RENFIELD CHURCH,
BEACONSFIELD ROAD, KELVINDALE**



**SATURDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2024
FROM 4-6 pm**



"CARING FOR OUR PLANET"
THEMED CRAFTS, MUSIC, FUN,
GAMES, STORY TIME AND A SHARED
MEAL FOR ALL

**Children of all ages welcome but must
be accompanied by a responsible adult
who remains for the event.**

Free but small cash donations welcome if you can afford it.

FURTHER DETAILS AT www.sjrchurch.com or email: office@sjrchurch.com



SJR Walking Group – expect the unexpected!



The September outing of the walking group had a few pleasant but unexpected twists! Target destination was the new Govan-Partick pedestrian bridge followed by some exploration of Govan. Led by John McFadyen, a group of 12 made the bridge crossing, which is quite a spectacular sight and was pleasantly busy with pedestrians and cyclists. The bridge, which opened on 6th September, features two pillars from the old Govan Ferry ramp at the Govan end and opens on to a modern plaza surrounded by new flats in Water Row.



Coming across a riverside path heading west from the end of the bridge, we took this route direct to Govan Old Church. As we were coincidentally walking on Doors Open weekend, this presented the opportunity to take advantage of a tour of their famous collection of early medieval carved stones. The Viking hogback stones are particularly spectacular. <https://thegovanstones.org.uk/>

Next stop was a brief visit to Fairfield Heritage, a community museum dedicated to telling the story of Govan's outstanding role in world shipbuilding and housed in the former headquarters of the Fairfield Shipbuilding & Engineering Company Ltd. The man on the door was delighted to add 12 to his head count for the day, and a quick look at the displays had many promising to return soon for a proper visit. <https://www.fairfieldgovan.co.uk/>



Walking through the adjacent Elder Park, we looked at several monuments linked to the local shipbuilding history, including one to the 26 sailors and 6 Fairfield's workers who perished during the sinking of submarine K13 during sea trials in the Gareloch in 1917.

Next stop was Elder Park Library, where John had promised 'posh loos'! The building itself is stunning with lots of original interior features, despite offering the services of a modern library. While waiting on group members using the loos (I was expecting 'historic posh', but they are modern and, unusually, communal!), the group were asked if they wanted to join a community soup lunch! This was an unexpected treat, where we tucked into bread and homemade vegetable soup, made with veg grown in a community growing space just around the corner. The group, Urban Roots, host a soup lunch every Saturday, with a community meal once a month, all provided free of charge.

Having started the walk by crossing OVER the Clyde, we ended by crossing back UNDER the river. Not many of the group had previously walked through the pedestrian part of the Clyde Tunnel, which is divided into a walking path and a cycleway. The rumble of the nearby traffic and air extractors is constant and it seems a considerably longer journey by foot, with the changing gradient also much more noticeable than when in the car!



Thanks to John McFadyen for leading another enjoyable outing. Watch the intimations for news of another walk before we hang up our rucksacks for the winter - this will be dependent on how the weather pans out over the coming weeks.

Pop-in Café

Join the fun at our community café!

Wednesday 6th November

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



Valerie Taylor Trust

A Tribute to Bryan and Margaret Whitty



Bryan with Valerie's Daughter Poppy

Bryan and his wife Margaret were supporters of the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP) in Bangladesh and of the Valerie Taylor Trust for more than 50 years.

In 1969, Bryan was the anaesthetist at the Chandraghona Mission Hospital, near Chittagong. It was here that he and Margaret welcomed Valerie Taylor to work as a physiotherapist. He returned to

Glasgow in 1973 where he worked as a GP for many years.

In 2004 he visited CRP and was impressed by what he saw and in 2009, he became a trustee of the recently formed Valerie Taylor Trust.

Bryan and Margaret were energetic and imaginative fundraisers, organising annual stalls at their Church and the 'Essential Gift Scheme' run by Elizabeth Arthur. Fundraising involved the whole family, Bryan, Margaret, their children (and grandchildren), their niece Yvonne and their nephew Alistair. All contributed their



gifts and skills to fundraising events, often sponsored by their friends. Since Bryan's death in 2023, his family has created a JustGiving page as a Memorial Fund for him which has so far raised £1,800.

CRP are developing a 'Standing Wheelchair', a wheelchair which can support the user into a standing position, providing pressure relief and many other benefits. Bryan's Memorial Fund will be used to make several more of these Standing Wheelchairs.

Bryan was a lovely man and great supporter and we honour his memory.

Ben Clackson (Valerie Taylor Trust)

www.valerietaylortrust.org

(Extract from Spring 2024 VTT newsletter)

Safeguarding in the Church of Scotland

Protecting children and adults at risk

Safeguarding is about preventing harm and abuse and making a timely and appropriate response if it occurs. We have a duty to Ensure a Safe Church for All.

This means protecting children and adults at risk.

Volunteers and the Data Cleanse Project

From April 2025 it will be unlawful for an organisation, such as the Church of Scotland, registered with Disclosure Scotland to hold 'an interest' in a volunteer/worker's PVG Scheme membership if that volunteer/worker is *not actively* carrying out regulated work.

This is about legal information sharing and people's rights to privacy. If we keep your name on the Safeguarding Congregational Roll, it means that Disclosure Scotland or Police Scotland might give the Safeguarding Service information about you that they shouldn't.

To comply with this Act, we need to remove the names of volunteers from the Roll if these people are *no longer actively* carrying out regulated work.

We are not allowed to keep people on the Roll 'just in case'.

We will be contacting those volunteers involved in the near future. Volunteering is such an important part of Church life and the work of all volunteers is valued and appreciated so if your name has to be removed from the Roll, it is purely to comply with the law.

Volunteers Safeguarding Training

For those volunteers who continue to carry out *active* regulated work and still require to update their Safeguarding Training, the list of courses sent to you in September is still valid. Please get in touch with either of us to book a place on any of these courses.

Remember, if you are worried or have concerns about any Safeguarding matter, or suspect that harm or abuse is taking place, you should contact Moira Eaglesham or Marion Dowling as soon as possible. (Our contact numbers can be found on posters at various points throughout the Church buildings.) If the issue is urgent or immediate, contact Police Scotland or Social Work.

Thank you.

Moira and Marion



The Church of Scotland
Safeguarding Service



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

follow us on social media



5THGLASGOWBB

Boys' Brigade News

Anchor Boys & Junior Section

The Junior Section and Anchor Boys continue to enjoy a busy session.

We have still not managed to enrol any P1 boys so please look out for opportunities to remind P1 boys and their parents where and when we meet and of the exciting opportunities on offer.

Following on from their successful participation in the Partick District Football tournament, six Junior Section boys attended the Partick District sports competition at Scotstoun where eight companies entered a variety of track and field events. We were second overall with Angus Matheson being awarded senior (P6) champion. Well done, Angus and all the boys who gave up their Monday evening to represent 5th Glasgow Boys' Brigade and who gave their all to achieve the success they did. The next competition will probably be Ten Pin Bowling, always popular.

We have our Hallowe'en Party to look forward to on Tuesday 29th October 6.15 - 7.45pm and will be working hard to meet our achievement targets throughout November before dabbling in some Christmas activities.

Allan Watt and Aileen Morison (Officers-in- Charge)

Company Section

October was a bit of a stop-start month for Company Section due to the school holidays, however we returned to action late in the month with an evening filled with Halloween games.

The Partick District competitions started with the 5-a-side football at Scotstoun in September. Our Juniors gained silver medals and our Senior team won gold in their respective competitions. The Company Section boys also enjoyed participating in the District Sports athletics competition which was held in Scotstoun Stadium early in October. It was a great evening of action, and our boys did well to achieve third place overall. Our next District competition will be LazerQuest in November.

Our Seniors have been set the task of leading one Friday parade night towards the end of November. We await with bated breath to see what they deliver!!

An important announcement - we are delighted to say that the renowned BB Quiz & Chippy Night will return again on Saturday 18th Jan 2025 in the Large Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets will be on sale soon. Ticket enquiries should be directed to Allan Watt at the following email address: allanwatt74@gmail.com

Finally please remember, 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



25th Brownies - We welcomed 5 new Brownies and 3 moved on to Guides, Brownies will be making their Promise in the next few weeks. Also doing interest badges e.g. Dance, Mindfulness.

Eileen Wilson

25th A Brownies – We are looking for new Brownies to join our Pack on Friday Evenings in the large hall.

Sarah Cartwright

25th Guides – We welcomed 12 new Guides, over the last few weeks we made empire biscuits and look forward to doing interest badges of Fitness, Meditation, Natural Remedies.

Eileen Wilson

All Units are looking forward to helping at Bonanza on Saturday 2nd November.

Any enquiries to Eileen Wilson, District Commissioner or Unit Leaders.



LIFE AND WORK

NOVEMBER 2024

Remembrance

Islands Under Occupation: the wartime experience of a Channel Islands church

Remembrance Prayer from the Moderator of the General Assembly

‘Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things’

The Guild’s Annual Gathering

Presbytery Focus

Clèir Eilean Ì, the Presbytery of the Highlands and Hebrides

Care for Buildings

The Rev Scott Rennie of the General Trustees offers some tips on care for buildings in winter.

Walking the Camino

Anne Edwards describes the experience and lessons of a Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage.

‘No Room for Comfort and Joy’

The Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

Regulars

The Moderator of the General Assembly on Remembrance

Worship column by the Rev Roddy Hamilton

Reflection by the Rev Dr Richard Frazer

The Rev Ruth Kennedy on digital church

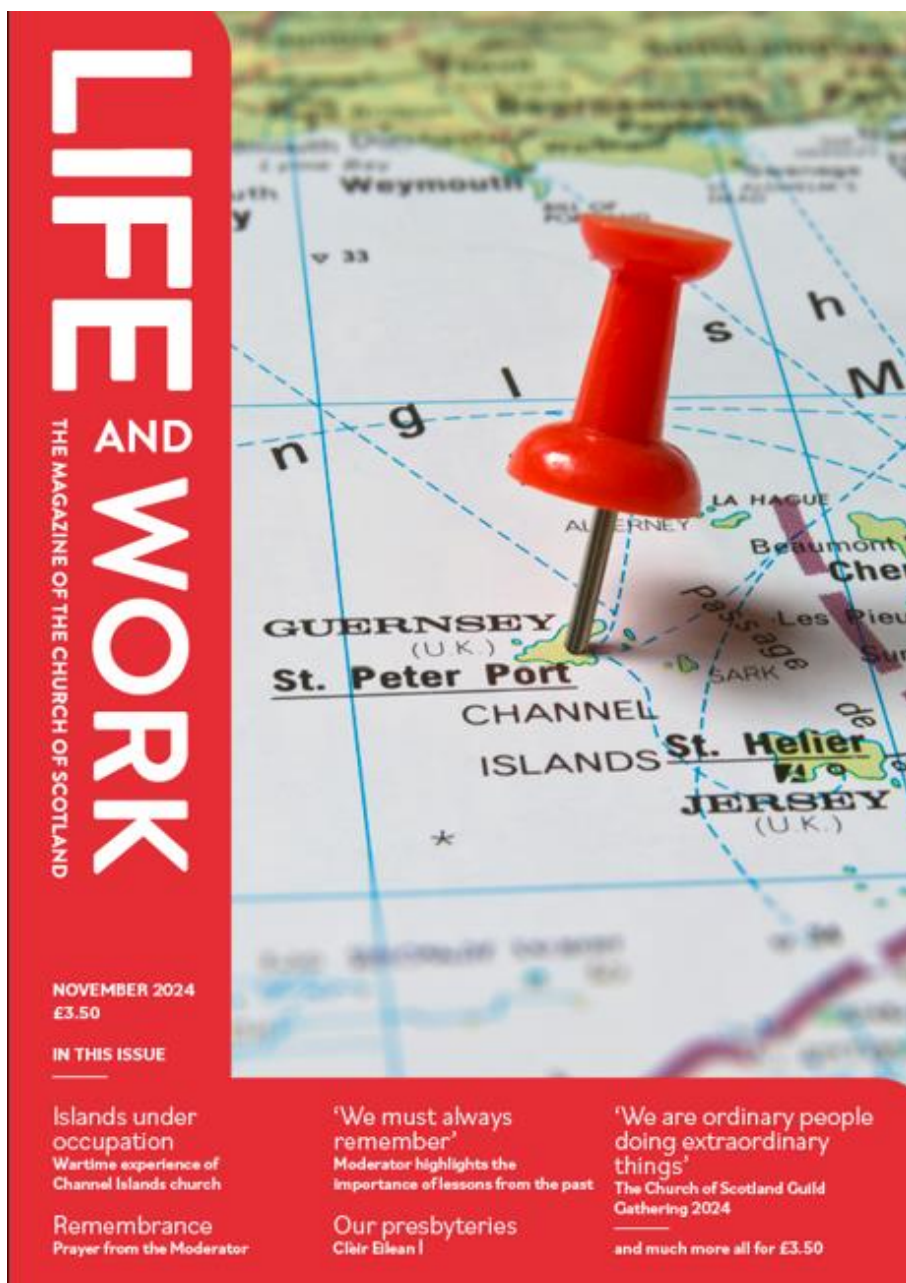
Bible study by the Rev Richard Baxter

My Church: Gillian McLean of Corby, Northamptonshire

Youth: Joe Liddall looks back on his experience as a summer intern at an Edinburgh church

Plus: official update from the Assembly Trustees, 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

NOVEMBER 2024

Friday 1st	Bonanza set up – 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon then 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.
Saturday 2 nd	Bonanza 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Sunday 3 rd	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.
Wednesday 6 th	Pop-In Café SJR Large Hall from 2.00 to 3.30 p.m.
Sunday 10 th	Morning Worship – 10.50 a.m. Remembrance Sunday Service
Saturday 16 th	Messy Church – 4.00 p.m.- 6.00 p.m. Coffee Morning and Craft Fair 10.30-12.30 Crypt Café Wellington Church
Sunday 17 th	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m.
Sunday 24 th	Morning Worship – 11.00 a.m. Olive Tree Visiting
Wednesday 27 th	Kirk Session – 7.15 p.m.

Please note: Events are subject to change

OFFICE BEARERS

Minister – Position Vacant

Interim Moderator – Rev. Audrey Jamieson

Leadership Team

Susan Finnigan, Fiona Robinson, Shirley
Maxwell and Roderick Watt

Editor of Beacon

Alan Christie

Material for the December 2024 Beacon is required by

Friday 22nd November 2024 midnight

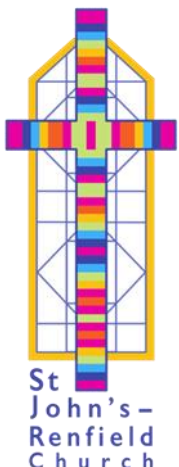
Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Tel: (0141) 334 0782

Email: office@sjrchurch.com

www.sjrchurch.com

Follow us on social media



@SJRCHURCH



@sjrchurch

Registered as a charity in Scotland Registration
No.SC012920