

THE OPEN DOOR

The Newsletter of Greenhills Parish Church

July 2024

EARLY YEARS OF THE CHURCH

BY JOY MUNRO

Looking around the church I realised not many older members were left who know the history of our church. When I moved to Greenhills on 27 March 1971, Rev Tom McWilliam came to welcome us to the Greenhills and said he was going to hold a service in the manse, would I like to come along?

He held some services in his house and next we moved into Castlefield School. We were there for several years with Pat McWilliam playing the piano. The children went to Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade which quickly grew 'til we had 100 children in the GB and BB.

Then, in 1975, the building of the Church began. The chancel chairs, the communion table and font came from Pollock Street Church which was demolished to make room for building a bridge over the Clyde. This Area of Glasgow was called Plantation. The first organ was gifted to us all by Ibrox Church just off Moss park Boulevard and our rose window was saved from a skip! Sad to think that it was being thrown out, but we gave it new life.

WHAT'S ON

SUNDAY

11am MORNING WORSHIP

MONDAY

CENTRE STAGE SCHOOL OF DANCE 4pm – 7:30pm

RAINBOWS 6.20pm -7:30pm

COMMUNITY DOG TRAINING 7:30pm – 8:30pm

TUESDAY

COFFEE MORNING 10am – 12noon

UNITED KARATE CLASS 6pm – 7pm

WEDNESDAY

CRAFT CLASS (EVERY 2ND WED) 10am – 1:30pm

HIGH POINT SENIORS CLUB 2pm – 4pm

COMMUNITY DOG TRAINING 6pm – 8pm

REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD, BIBLE STUDY 6pm – 8pm

THURSDAY

GUILD 2pm – 4pm

LESLEY DUTCH DANCE CLASS 5pm – 10pm

SATURDAY

RUGBY TOTS 9am – 11:45am

CHRISTIAN AID

2024

Christian Aid week in May has past and we have good news to report.

On Saturday 18th, we were invited to a coffee morning hosted by the old Parish. Several of us went along with folk from other churches. And £900 was raised.

In Greenhills we've had a service led by Douglas Wallace and his team to focus our thoughts on folk, particularly in Africa who struggle on the brink of poverty. Our church donation enveloped raised £300, which includes Jessie Rae's efforts to collect from neighbours.

With thanks to everyone.

Mary Coles

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

Westwood Church will be joining us on 28th July at 11am.

Joint service in Westwood Church on 25th August at 10:30am.

No service at Greenhills that day



GREENHILLSPANTO CLUB

This Year's pantomime is..... PINOCCHIO!

Please come along and support the Greenhills Panto club.
20th Nov - 23rd Nov 2024 at The Village Theatre.

Tickets are now on sale!

Adults - £12 Conc - £8

Contact Flora Head on 07788562867

Hi Everyone,

Just a little catch up with our Women's Guild, since the pandemic our numbers have fallen to a very small number. That number varies between 10 and 8. We are all church members. We do try to have speakers, but we can not pay very much so visitor speakers tend to be once a month. These include: "Mary's meals" – which we supported for a long time. Some of the guild have bank orders monthly. "Care and Repair" – Again different. "Holyland" – Malcom McIntyre had slides about the leprosy mission and was very emotional and makes you think how lucky we are. Stuart smith often visits us too and we do a few quizzes.

We are hoping to remain a Guild and not an Afternoon chat/tea group.

Yours,

Ella Mathieson

FUN QUIZ

1. Who was king when Jesus was born?
2. What is the last book of the bible?
3. How did Delilah steal Samson's Strength?
4. How many sons did Jacob have?
5. How many plagues did God send to Egypt?
6. What language was the Old Testament written in?
7. Which Angel appeared to Mary before Jesus's birth?
8. Which King was known for being wise?
9. How long was Jesus tempted in the wilderness?
10. Which is the shortest Bible verse?

ANSWERS

On the last page!

A MESSAGE FROM IAN DOUGLAS

Recently, Margaret and I returned from 10 days on the Hebridean Island of Coll. This was the fourth visit to the Island, and for the first time we had wonderful weather, with only one day of rain. We visited the Treshnish Islands and said 'hello' to the puffins, witnessed a spectacular light show as the Northern Lights excelled themselves, and indulged in some fantastic, freshly caught seafood in the local Hotel. And of course, I preached in the beautiful Kirk on the Hill overlooking Arinagour.

On Our way back, our friends, who had joined us for 3 days commented on the glorious ferry journey back that the "Douglas Effect" had not kicked in during their visit. I've mentioned the "Douglas Effect" at our services – 'If anything can go wrong, it will go wrong if there is a Douglas present. The more Douglas's – the greater the effect'.

10 minutes later, the captain announced that 'Unfortunately, we have lost our starboard engine, and we have to slow down and reach deeper water while we sort things out!!' Even more important, we had just ordered our famous Calmac meals in the cafeteria. Coupled with the failure of the engine, there had been a power surge which knocked out all the kitchen appliances. Mcphail the engineer (remember the vital spark) managed to start the engine, and we did get fed. The Douglas Effect still lurks!!

I look forward to preaching in the beautiful wee church on Coll. The organist is Lady Lavinia MacLean-Bishop and lives in the oldest castle on the island. I await with Interest her choice of music in the lead up to the services I conduct. When I preached on the 12th May it was:

Yellow bird up in the Banana Tree

When I'm 64

I love to go a wandering

Edelweiss

As always – an interesting selection of pre-worship music! However, I chose some 'belters' of hymns (the Church on Coll has just moved from CH3 to CH4) which got the 'seal of approval' from Lavinia!

Talking of seals, there is a small rocky outcrop just off one of our favourite beaches in Coll, inhabited by a colony of seals. We walked out one evening and lost count when we got to 50 seals. One of our friends indicated to us that if you sing to them, seals will show interest and swim towards you. We tried this out. Margaret began singing her favourite hymns at the top of her voice, and true enough, some of the seals descended off the rocks into the sea... and immediately headed off in the opposite direction out into the Atlantic! Perhaps they were more disposed towards the Free Kirk, and the Psalms might have worked better.

Recently we celebrated the Day of Pentecost, and Trinity Sunday, ending Easter season in the Christian Calendar. I always find preaching during the Easter season so stimulation, reflecting on the way in which the Christian Faith blossomed and flourished following the Resurrection. For the early Christians, life was not easy, and many of the trials and frustrations experienced by them, we are seeing today. The history of the Church throughout the centuries has always been fraught with difficulty. Christ himself said it was never going to be easy, and to put our faith and trust in God. He will take away from us many

Embrace the Stillness

In the quiet of the evening,
hush falls soft,
Beneath the sky where stars
aloft,

There lies a peace, a gentle
nod,
Be still and know that you are
with God.

The world may spin with frantic
pace,
But here you find a sacred
space,

In whispering winds, in the
calmest stream,
You touch the essence of a
dream.

No need to rush, no need to
strive,
In this moment, you are alive,
Breathe in deep, let worries
wane,
Feel the sunlight after rain.

Mountains tall and valleys low,
In every place, His presence
shows,

Through rustling leaves and
ocean's tide,
He walks with you, right by
your side.

Be still, and let your spirit free,

Feel the love that flows
endlessly,
In the silence, in the peace
you've sought,

Know you're embraced in every
thought.
As night descends and
shadows play,
Trust in the guidance of each
day,

With quiet heart and open
mind,
Know in this stillness, you will
find,
A timeless truth, a gentle nod,

Be still and know that you are
with God.

By Eleanor Hamilton



of the burdens, the anxieties, and worries we carry, and give us that unique sense of peace.

Through God's gift of the Holy Spirit, we are energized, given guidance, and strengthened to focus with confidence on the way forward and to spread the Good News of the Gospel.

As we go forward into this summer season and, for many, prepare for a well earned break, let us give thanks to God for the ways on which he strengthens and guides in these difficult times.

I look forward to being with you all in the months ahead and to be part of the Greenhills Church Family.

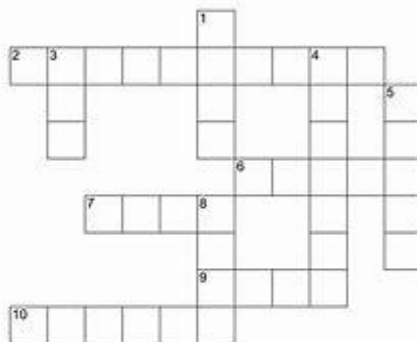
God Bless You All

Ian



People in the Bible

Genesis



ACROSS

- 2 Oldest man in the Bible
- 6 His name means laughter
- 7 Killed his brother
- 9 First man
- 10 Was a dreamer

DOWN

- 1 Sold his birthright for a bowl of soup
- 3 First Woman
- 4 Father of many nations
- 5 God changed his name to Israel
- 8 Built an ark

LEPROSY MISSION BLUE TUBS

Over the past seven years, members of the congregation have donated to the work of the leprosy mission by using the blue tubs. I have been counting each tub and returning them with a little receipt acknowledging each person's gift. I have records of each time they were opened starting on the 11th June 2017.

In these past seven years, users of the blue tubs, yourselves among them, have by my reckoning, contributed £4,547.33. That is an average of nearly £650 per year. And this year, since the beginning of January, already the total is £532.75. This is a great support for a Vital area of Christian concern in the wider world and I'm sure we want to continue to use the blue tubs to such good effort.

The reason for this letter is to say that the arrangement for the blue tubs is changing a little. The branch of my bank in EK town Centre is closing in a few months, and the system I have used in the past is no longer suitable.

So, the tubs will be counted by the duty team and Des Laverty, our church treasurer, will let me have a note every six months or so of the amount the blue tubs have yielded.

But individual receipts won't be available anymore, not least because the receipt books have in the past been issued by Leprosy Mission Scotland.

The Scottish office in Stirling has been closed and separate offices are now centralized in Peterborough, under the name of Leprosy Mission Great Britain. I will from time to time put a note in the EKO giving the figure for the preceding months. Please let me know if there is anything in this new arrangement, you're not sure about.

The Blue tubs will still be available, and they are usually on the shelf in the porch at the front door of the church. We will still receive copies of the magazine "New Day" and I will circulate these. And of course, we will continue to observe World Leprosy Day at the end of January.

Once again, very many thanks for your support with this important work. Our small change, can really make a big difference in the lives of the people affected by leprosy.

Yours Sincerely,

Stewart Smith

*"No act of
Kindness, no
matter how small,
is ever wasted." -
Aesop*

