

SteepleTalk



**THE MAGAZINE
OF
BOUROCK PARISH
CHURCH**

Easter 2005

Who's Who In Bourock

Minister	Maureen Leitch	881 1462
Session Clerk	Elizabeth McKenzie	880 5077
Deputy Session Clerk	Karen Johnston	881 5115
Clerk To The Board	Ann Craig	
Treasurer	Ross Mitchell	881 4688
Roll Keeper	John Whyte	
Halls Convener	Hazel McCarthy	880 7607
WFO Envelopes	Robert McKenzie	880 5077
Junior Church	Linda Dye	876 1201
Guild	Marjory Brown	571 6403
Boys' Brigade (Company)	Graham Manson	580 0871
Boys' Brigade (Junior)	Lawrence Webb	571 4330
Boys' Brigade (Anchor)	Mary Murray	881 1564
Guides (2nd)	Jennifer Stewart	881 7320
Guides (3rd)	Barbara Jones	881 0391
Brownies (2nd)	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Brownies (3rd)	Karen Stevenson	881 6519
Tweenies	Morag McKenzie	880 5077
Young Woman's Group	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Mother & Toddler	Helen Grant	639 2602
Variety Club	Linda Dye	876 1201
Coffee Club	Jenny McLeod	881 3585
Craft Club	Dorothy Ramsay	571 5260
SteepleTalk	Ken Dye	876 1201
Life And Work	Angus Leitch	881 1462
Christian Aid	Marjory Brown	571 6403
Organist	Carolyn Suttie	881 7346
Child Protection CoOrdinator	Wilma Lundie	

Kirk Session Committees

Care And Concern	Moira McCartney
Communication	Nancy Darroch
Adult Education	Willie Robertson
Mission	David Miller
Children & Youth	Susan Palmer
Congregational Support	Debbie Mitchell
Stewardship	Angus Leitch

Internet Addresses

Web Site	www.bourock.co.uk
Minister	minister@bourock.co.uk
Session Clerk	elizabeth@bourock.co.uk
SteepleTalk	editor@bourock.co.uk

Dear Friends,

We are on our journey through Lent at the moment, traveling alongside Jesus as he makes his way to Jerusalem and certain death. I wonder if he ever felt tempted to turn and run in the other direction? I know that we might have done just that. However, Jesus was committed to carrying out his Father's will.

From that awful death on the Cross came the glorious day of Resurrection - Easter Day! We are a Resurrection people - we live with that glorious hope of new life in Jesus Christ and with the promise of eternal life. These are not empty promises but the Word of God given to us.

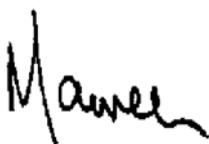
Being Resurrection people is a great gift but it brings responsibilities too. We must live our life in a way that demonstrates our faith and hope, so that other people see that we have something in our life that makes us different - and they might want to find out more. Also it means that we have to give of our resources to help spread the Good News which we have heard.

Elsewhere in this edition of SteepleTalk there is an article which explains how our givings are used to do just that. As Resurrection people we must always be reviewing our lives and that includes what we give of our resources to further the work of the church. As I review our work in the church over this past year I can see that we need some fresh impetus and Easter is perhaps just the time for people to decide to put some extra effort into the work of spreading the Gospel.

After all, if Jesus hadn't committed himself to dying on a Cross *for you*, where would you be today? Lost to sin with no hope of life eternal!. If you are grateful for what you have through Jesus, shouldn't you show it in practical terms? How long is it since you reviewed your *givings of time, money and talents*? Let me suggest that Easter should call forth just that response from you. As the Easter greeting says with such confidence

THE LORD IS RISEN
HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

Easter blessings

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mamee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping underline.



JUNIOR CHURCH



For Junior Church, 2004 finished on a real high. You will have seen from the last issue of SteepleTalk that 266 shoe boxes were collected by Samaritan's Purse for delivery to Eastern Europe. This was a marvelous effort and everyone is delighted that once again we have exceeded our expectations.

The Christmas party was enjoyed by everyone and Santa managed to come, parking Rudolf and all the other reindeer (with sleigh) on the low roof above the vestry. The nativity service was also a highlight, enjoyed by everyone who attended.

The new year has got off to a mixed start due to a variety of different reasons. I would encourage all the children of Junior Church to come along and enjoy our fun and fellowship on a Sunday morning.

We will be having some Easter fun on Saturday 26th March from 10:00am until midday and all children will be very welcome.

We are also in the process of organising our outing to Kelburn Country Park – watch the notice boards for details.

Linda Dye

May Fayre

Saturday 14th May 2005

10:00am - 2:00pm

We are holding a May Fayre on the above date to raise funds for our new kitchen. There will be various stalls - indoor and outdoor (weather permitting), a tea room, face painting and lots more. Come along and join in the fun and fellowship on the day.

Norma Duncan

The Guild

Once again we are coming to the end of a very successful session of the Guild. During the year we have had a varied programme which has included speakers, entertainment and demonstrations. We have learned how to make fancy bows to finish off our floral arrangements and tasted delicious home made chocolates. We have sung along with music from the Music Halls and laughed at the things our Grannies used to say. We have also learned about the Guild projects which have raised over £318,000 in 21 months for the work of the Church.

This year also saw the first ever Guild Week when we took the news of the work of the Guild to the community in and out of the Church. This was very successful throughout the country and we plan to make it an annual event.



The Guild now has several male members nationally and although we do not yet have any in Bouroch we have been delighted to have had their support at several of our open nights during the year. We do appreciate the support we get behind the scenes at all times and would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks.

If *you* have not yet visited the Guild please do come along. You will be made welcome and will pass many interesting evenings in the company of friends.

Parish Register

Baptisms

January 2005

Jennifer Ann Tait 9 Cardell Avenue, Paisley

February 2005

William Hugh McGlynn 8 Braeview Road, Paisley

Funerals

September 2004

*Peter MacLean 54 Graham Street

November 2004

May Duncan 66 Barnes Street
Scott McDonald 47 Blackburn Square
*Molly Taylor 81 Gateside Crescent
Janet Fraser 17 Carlibar Road

December 2004

*Janice Strang 13 Gorse Drive
Linda Ramsey 26b Oakbank Drive

January 2005

Hugh Fraser 51 Rockmount Avenue
Anne Paton Millview
Christine Smith Paisley
Thomas Ferguson 38 Kirktonfield Road, Neilston
*Isobel Steel 20 Cogan Street

* denotes member

The Craft Club

We would like to thank everyone who came along to our Christmas Craft Sale. It was a very great success and the support we were shown made all our hard work worth while.

We are now hard at work with our Easter selection and we hope to have a stall at the Tea 'n' Toast morning on Saturday 12th March and also at the May Fayre. If you would like to purchase anything at other times please contact any member of the Craft Club.

We would also be pleased to receive any new ideas you may find on your travels as we need to have new items to sell all the time.

We meet on Mondays at 2pm in the Lower Hall and there are between 14 and 20 ladies present each time. We also call on the services of some gentlemen of the congregation from time to time and we are grateful to them for their help. We are always happy to have new members and if you would like to come along please let us know. We will be delighted to show you what we can do and also to learn from you.

Finance Report

March 2005

The following is a report on the Church's Accounts presented at the Stated Annual Meeting on Sunday 13th March 2005 and should be read in conjunction with these Accounts. In line with the General Assembly's guidelines, a summary is included on the opposite page.

We started off 2004 by carrying forward a deficit of £3,458 for 2003; this was offset by income earned by the Ferguson Bequest of £1,598. This meant on the 1st January 2004 the General Fund stood at £10,827. Unfortunately we incurred a further deficit during 2004, this time £672, bringing the General Fund down to £10,155. The deficit would have been higher had our water charges for 2004 not been reduced considerably.

During 2004 the total offerings rose by only £201, however the total offerings received via WFO and by Standing Order rose from £50,097 in 2003 to £50,972 in 2004 - the number of members who now contribute by standing order has again risen which is extremely encouraging. This is a trend the Finance Committee would like to see continuing.

As a consequence of this the number of members who make their offering by WFO fell considerably from 189 in 2003 to 161 in 2004.

Last year we recovered £10,180 in tax from the Inland Revenue via the Gift Aid scheme. This again shows how necessary and valuable the scheme is to churches such as ours. If you compare the General Fund figure carried forward with the amount claimed back under Gift Aid; it is apparent how valuable this scheme is for our long term existence - if this was stopped tomorrow think what the consequences would be to the long term future of Bourock.

Unfortunately there are still a great number of members who do not make their offering by either standing order or WFO who could do so - I would urge them to consider doing so. Assuming they are a tax payers most of these members could also sign a Gift-Aid declaration which would allow the church to claim back from the Inland Revenue a further 28p for every £1 received from them, at no extra expense to themselves.

Anyone who wishes to consider paying by standing order and/or completing a Gift Aid declaration should contact myself or any member of the Finance Committee and one of us will arrange for the relevant forms to be forwarded onto you. Doing so will not cost you anything extra, yet the church will benefit greatly.

Finally I would like to thank all members of the Finance Committee for their work over the last year and also to the WFO convener and his successor.

Derek Palmer
Finance Convener



BOUROCK PARISH CHURCH
SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2004

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
	(£)	(£)
Offerings	70,474	70,273
Other General Income	5,868	6,330
Total	76,342	76,603

EXPENDITURE

National Ministry & Ministry and Wider Work	44,447	45,533
Local Staffing Costs	8,434	8,988
Building Costs	13,755	17,320
Other Local Costs	10,378	8,220
Total	77,014	80,061
(Deficit)/Surplus	(672)	(3,458)

FUNDS AS AT 31 DECEMBER:

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
	(£)	(£)
Fabric Fund	2,433	1,936
Building Fund	4,193	1,276
Flower Fund	352	352
Reserve Fund	57,501	55,986
Kitchen Refurbishment Fund	1,600	1,000
Youth Fund	744	554

BUDGET FOR 2005:

EXPENDITURE

	(£)
National Ministry & Ministry and Wider Work	48,521
Local Staffing Costs	8,150
Building Costs	17,000
Other Local Costs	8,615
Total	82,286

INCOME

	(£)
Offerings	76,816
Other General Income	5,470
Total	82,286
(Defecit)/Surplus	0

These accounts are a summary of the full Congregational Accounts which have received an unqualified audit report. Both the full accounts and the summary accounts have been approved by the Congregational Board.

3rd Barrhead Guide Company



Girlguiding UK

A “Ready Steady Cook” Challenge, between Patrols, took place in January, the Guides had to set a table, prepare and serve food. Everyone had a good time and worked very hard. All the girls were rewarded with a super supper.

On Monday, February 21, the Guide Patrols set up tables with food, drink, facts and memorabilia from different countries ie America, Australia, Italy, Germany and India as part of Thinking Day celebrations (February 22). As well as the tables (and the sampling of the different dishes) the Guides performed Thinking Day plays which were enjoyed by everyone.

At the All-Age Service held on February 27, Michala Bokiach and Suzanne Morrison were presented with their Baden-Powell Awards. Congratulations from all Guides and Guiders for all their hard work. The following evening family and friends joined the Company for a celebration supper and the cutting of the BP cake.

A Thinking Day Service was held in St John’s Church on Tuesday, March 1 for all Brownies and Guides in the district.

On March 7, the Guides went on a Sponsored Bowling to Paisley in aid of “Comic Relief”. A fun time was had by all.

The Guides are holding an “Aerobic & Healthy Eating” Party on April 11. Guides are asked to bring at least one guest to this Party.

Used ink cartridges are still wanted. If you have any please leave in the kitchen for uplift by the Guides. These are passed on to Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Used postage stamps (with at least a one inch border) are still being collected. These are passed on to the Ardgowan Hospice in Greenock. Please also leave in kitchen or in box on window ledge at hail door.

Thank you to all the collectors who keep us supplied.

Barbara (3rd Company Guider)



Annual Camp

Tweenies

The Tweenies finish on 14th March after a very busy year. We have had 54 girls this year.

We have enjoyed games, music and crafts. We attended the Variety Club Show, Cinderella, which everyone enjoyed. We have had the usual parties at Halloween and Christmas.

This year has been very busy because of the numbers and we currently have a waiting list.

Helpers are needed for the start of next session in September. If you could spare some time on a Monday we would be very grateful. Please consider this and contact me if you can help.

Thank you to all the leaders for their work during this year.

Morag McKenzie (Leader) Tel. 880 5077.

Christmas At Bourock

(Solution)



Book Review

The Kirk Session's Adult Education Committee is keen to have book reviews as a regular feature in Steepletalk. We know that many of you read books on Christian or Christian related topics that others may enjoy as well. You don't have to write at length – just a few words to say what you thought about the book will do. If you don't want to write it yourself, just speak to a member of the Committee and we'll do it for you.

Willie Robertson (Convenor)	571 4338
Russel Auld	Glenda Meikle
Lindsay Simpson	Jim Pert

Sunshine Through Shadows By Alex B Noble

(St. Andrew Press 1999)

This may, at first, seem to be an odd book to review as it contains material that has been used by the author, a Church of Scotland minister, at funerals. However, many of us will have encountered times of bereavement and also had to console family and friends who have endured such times as well. If you are like me, you will have struggled to find the appropriate words to say and found yourself sitting in silence as the person you are visiting does all the talking. This, of course, is no bad thing as it is often said that an attentive listener is far more valuable than a visitor who won't stop talking.

I'm not saying that this book will provide you with all the answers to every situation you may encounter. However, as most of the entries are written as themed parables (such as occupations, bible characters and hymns), and are never more than two pages long, it represents a resource that you can dip in to from time to time. It is also probable that a complete entry may not appeal to you but one small section might.

There are also some commonly used entries such as "Footprints", "The Yacht", "The Pilot Psalm" and Canon Scott Holland's Poem "Death is nothing at all". (Though my understanding is that the last one, regularly quoted on sympathy cards, was used by Scott Holland in a sermon to highlight the wrong attitude that people have to death. I'll need to discuss this with Alex, now minister at Saltcoats North Parish Church, the next time I meet him.)

With this proviso I would recommend this book to people who care for the bereaved or whose pastoral work takes them in to these situations. (If you wish to view the book first, please contact me to borrow my copy.)

Willie Robertson.

The following extract is from the book, *Sunshine through Shadows*. It does not represent a typical piece from the book as each funeral talk and parable is different. However, it stands on its own as a marvelous Easter reflection.

The Old Rugged Cross

There is never really a good day to have a funeral but some days are definitely worse than others. Today, Easter Saturday, is just such a day because we mourn while the rest of the world celebrates the Easter holidays.

On the other hand, I would argue that this is the best day out of the whole 365-day year in which to have a funeral – for yesterday was Good Friday and tomorrow is Easter Sunday. On this Low Saturday we remember the words of the Apostles Creed:-

*He was crucified, dead and buried;
He descended into hell.
On the third day He rose again from the dead ...*

This weekend, of all weekends, is all about death and Resurrection and the God who has done both himself for us.

Christians surprise many people by calling yesterday “Good Friday”! How can the day that Christ our God was crucified be in any sense “good”? Yet Christians celebrate the Cross and positively rejoice in it; we wear it on our lapels, hang it up in our churches, place it on our mantelpieces and, strangest of all, sing heartily about it at our loved ones’ funerals. Although we feel crucified, stretched to breaking point, tortured and torn with grief, we sing “There is a Green Hill” or “When I survey the Wondrous Cross” or “The Old Rugged Cross” and many other such hymns. How can we do this?

The Cross was used in the days of the Roman Empire as a cruel instrument of torture and death. It was not only physically barbaric, it also carried with it shame, degradation and distress in every way imaginable. The Jews, following the Old Testament, believed that anyone who died on a cross was cursed by God forever. It is one of the worst examples of man’s inhumanity to man – a symbol of all that is bad in the world.

Worst of all, when God came to Earth, his creatures crucified Him on Cross! The Cross of Jesus is the worst injustice in an unjust world; and yet, ever since it happened, the Cross has become a symbol of hope and a badge of honour. How can this be?

It is because that Old Rugged Cross, “so despised by the world”, has become the symbol of God’s presence with us. Like the Cross, he was rooted to the earth, down among us at our level, shoulder to shoulder, as somebody said, “standing in our shoes until his feet hurt”. It has become the symbol of God’s identification and sharing with us.

It is also because that Old Rugged Cross, with its “shame and reproach”, symbol of man’s inhumanity, has become the symbol of God’s divine love. As Jesus said, “The greatest love a person can have for his friends is to give his life for them” (John 15:13 GNB). In this case it was for us “while we were still sinners” (Romans 5:8 GNB), far less friends! The dimensions of the Cross are the measurements of God’s love for us – it comes down from heaven to earth and reaches out to embrace everyone from east to west.

It is also because that Old Rugged Cross, that “emblem of suffering and shame”, now empty, marks the spot in terms of time and geography where Jesus conquered death once and for all. In dying and rising again, Jesus defeated death – our last enemy – and won the decisive victory for us. The Cross is worth celebrating because it marks the way by which Jesus can raise each of us in turn to eternal life. It marks the way by which Jesus has forgiven our sin, wiped our slate clean and offered a whole fresh new life with him.

The Old Rugged Cross proves that our God Jesus can transform the very worst into the very best, death into life, endings into beginnings, tears into laughter and sighing into singing.

Adapted from the book *Sunshine through Shadows* by Alex B Noble.
(St. Andrew Press 1999)

The Road To Readership

Having now been Set Apart as a Reader with the Church of Scotland, I thought you might like to know the work that Geoff Orry (who was Set Apart last year) and I had to complete to get to this stage.

My own road to the Readership is long and complicated so I will not bore you with that story now. However, for a number of years, I was fascinated by the fact that “ordinary” people could be trained to lead worship. I even thought that this was something that I could do, though I have never had any idea where that thought came from (though I suspect I know someone who does!).

Wherever it did come from, it would not go away but it was not until the beginning of 2001 when personal circumstances provided the opportunity. The application procedure was that, following a meeting with Maureen, I applied to Presbytery explaining my journey of faith that had led to my decision to apply for the Readership. Maureen had also to submit a report supporting my application as well as Session passing a minute of approval. I then had to attend an interview with representatives from Presbytery before my application was successful and my training began in September 2001.

The training falls in to three strands – Church, Readership and academic. Church training is divided into three six-month attachments – one in each of the three years. The first is always in your own Church and the second and third in Churches appointed by Presbytery. My second year attachment was in Kilbarchan West Church under the guidance of Rev. Arthur Sherrat and was a marvellous experience. The congregation were always very helpful and supportive with one lady in the choir even providing Arthur and I with sweets every Sunday morning (Bourock choir take note!). And, just in case the congregation’s positive comments made me feel too big headed, Arthur was always ready with some much needed constructive criticism!

The third year attachment was in Castlehead Church in Paisley with Rev. Esther Ninian. Again, the congregation were very encouraging (though no sweets from the choir this time) and my worship leading skills were considerably improved under Esther’s patient guidance. (Some might say they couldn’t get any worse!)

The point of the three attachments is that the amount of involvement in leading worship is increased in each one. Also, in the second and third years (subject to work commitments), training should also be given in funerals, school assemblies and pastoral visits. However, these are optional so it didn’t matter that I was unable to participate in any of them.

Readership training is run by Parish Education and involves one weekend conference in each of the three years (usually in February). An example of some of the topics covered are public speaking and preparing prayers, sermons, and children’s’ talks. At present, the third conference is devoted entirely to child protection legislation and bereavement counselling.

The academic study was organised by Scottish Churches Open College (SCOC) which, those of you who read the small print in Life and Work will know, closed in October 2002. I have no idea what was going on behind the scenes to precipitate this decision so I will make no comment here. I will just give you a brief outline of the course content – which, in fact, was a new course first introduced when I started training.

It was split in to six modules and you were expected to complete two per year. However, I naively attempted four in the first year thinking that the academic standard would be similar to the previous course. It turned out that the new course was validated by Napier University and was, generally, of first year university standard. Consequently, I struggled badly with the workload but, somehow, managed to complete it. On the positive side is the fact that I successfully completed all six modules before the College closed. Academic courses are now provided by Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities.

The following is an outline of the content of each module.

<i>Creating Worship</i>	Considers different forms of prayers and their uses, the nature and role of preaching, constructing sermons and creating orders of service for specific needs.
<i>Understanding Worship</i>	Considers the history of Christian worship, analysis of different models of worship and the relationship between worship and culture.
<i>People of Passion</i>	Looks at the different perspectives in each of the four Gospels, the nature of discipleship and the relationship between discipleship then and now.
<i>God on Trial</i>	Considers the relationship between God and suffering.
<i>Prophets and Pilgrims</i>	Looks at Old Testament pilgrims and prophets (with specific emphasis on Jeremiah and, to a lesser extent, Amos) and compares it to our role today as Christians who are modern day prophets whose journey of faith is their pilgrimage.
<i>Spirituality and Worship</i>	Examines different forms of Christian spirituality and how they are expressed and asks us how we could include them in our worship today (e.g. Catholic, Iona, Taize, Quaker, African, feminine etc.)

All of the above is a brief outline of what is required to train for the Readership. From this you will see that the road to the Readership, once you are accepted for training, is a long and arduous one and must beg the question, "Why do it?" A call from God is the most obvious answer but, in my case, there is another one. Despite all the hard work, and the fact that I really struggle to write a sermon far less deliver it, when I stand up to lead worship – I actually enjoy it!!

Willie Robertson.

Tsunami Appeal

Subsequent to the news from Malaysia in December, a yard sale was held to raise funds for the tsunami appeal.

This was the idea of Duncan McGregor age 8 of Cross Arthurlie School (second from the right) and Andrew Mavers age 8 also of Cross Arthurlie School but not in the photo. The event raised a total of £108.33 which was given to the Bourock Church to be added to the main appeal. The sale was in Duncan and Fiona's Garden at 24 Fern Drive, Barrhead. The mums of the children as well as Debbie Mitchell are all thanked for their donations.

The photo shows left to right.

John Faulds age 8 of the 2nd Barrhead BB and Junior Church.

Ross Diamond age 5

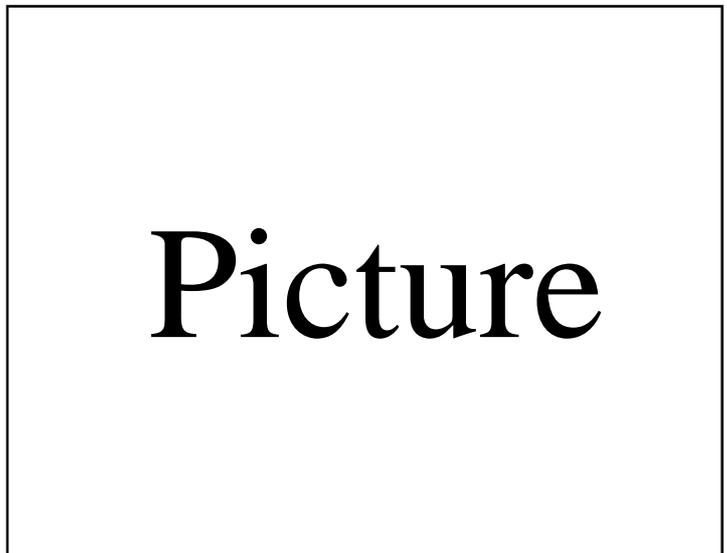
Ross Ferguson age 6

Fiona McGregor age 4 of the Bourock Tweenies & Junior Church.

Duncan McGregor age 8 of the 2nd Barrhead BB and Junior Church

Alexander Elliot age 8

Everyone put a lot of effort in to this on a very cold day and have to be congratulated on such a successful venture for a very worthwhile cause.



Christian Stewardship

"IF PEOPLE SEE A NEED THEY WILL BE HAPPY TO GIVE"

It is a well established fact that if there is a specific need e.g. organ or roof repairs, then church members will generously support the project. But, what is the church's core business? Surely it is sharing and spreading the gospel. God's greatest gift to us is the gospel and the world's greatest need is the gospel. Our Christian giving has to be explicitly linked with the Christian spending project to share and spread the gospel.

- How does our expenditure contribute to this project?
- Do we all give as generously to this project as we could?

The table below attempts to provide an answer to the first question by analysing our expenditure for 2004 under slightly different headings from those found in the Congregational Accounts.

QUESTION: HOW DOES BOUROCK'S EXPENDITURE CONTRIBUTE TO THE SHARING AND SPREADING OF THE GOSPEL?

ANSWER: BY FURTHERENCE OF WORSHIP, MISSION AND SERVICE

This may take the form of:

- A Investment in people which is designed to further the worship, mission and service of the local church here **in Bourock**.
- B Investment in buildings. This supports the activities which take place in the buildings which further the worship, mission and service of the church **in the community**.
- C Our payment to the National Stipend Fund invests **in ministers** who will provide worship leadership, preaching, pastoral care, school and hospital chaplaincy and general spiritual leadership in our congregations and communities. The actual cost of a parish minister on Point 10 of the stipend scale is about £35,000. So we are supporting 93.3% of a minister, our share of the total cost of parish ministry.
- D Our payment to the Mission and Renewal fund supports **the wider work of the church both at home and abroad** through the Boards and Committees of the General Assembly. The leaflet "What Happens to the Money we send to Edinburgh?" which will be available at the Stated Annual Meeting, gives more detail about the ways in which contributions to this fund are used.

QUESTION: DO WE ALL GIVE AS GENEROUSLY TO THIS PROJECT AS WE COULD?

ANSWER: THE ANSWER LIES WITH EACH OF US INDIVIDUALLY AND TAKES THE FORM OF TWO MORE QUESTIONS:

- Do we all adjust our regular givings as our circumstances change?
- Do all of us "Gift Aid" our donations if we are in a position to do so?

**HOW BOUROCK'S EXPENDITURE CONTRIBUTES TO
THE SHARING AND SPREADING OF THE GOSPEL.**

BY FURTHERANCE OF WORSHIP, MISSION AND SERVICE

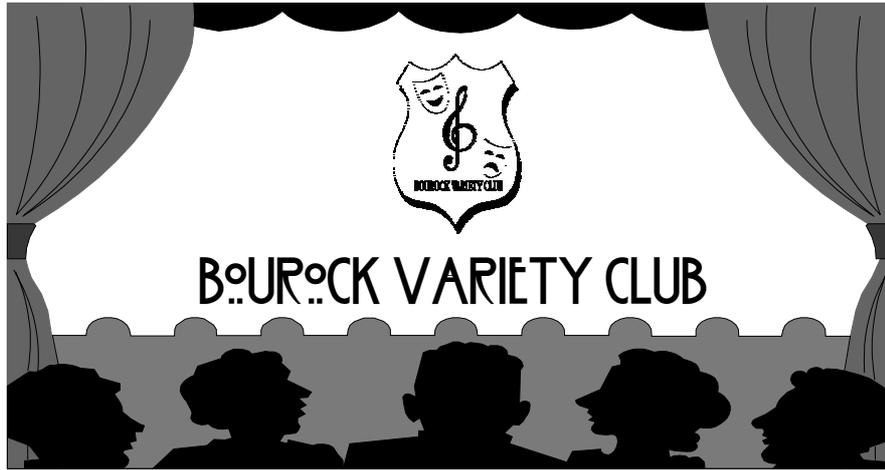
		£	TOTAL(£)	%
A. IN BOUROCK				
	Ministers Expenses	1841		
	Pulpit Supply	245		
	Salaries	5920		
	Manse Council Tax	1928		
	Presbytery Dues	662		
	Other	3939	14535	19
B. IN BARRHEAD				
	Fabric, Repairs and Maintenance	3878		
	Heating and lighting	5095		
	Water Charges and Insurance	2293		
	Cleaning materials and Laundry	561		
	Outreach	2500		
	Other	3939	18266	24
C. IN SCOTLAND				
	National Stipend Fund		32685	42
D. IN SCOTLAND AND WORLDWIDE				
	Mission and Renewal Fund		11528	15
TOTAL				
			77014	100

Wanted

Any lady or gentleman (or teenager) with a pleasant voice looking for a part time job (unpaid), should apply to the church choir who would be pleased to welcome them. The choir practices on a Friday evening from 7:45pm to 9:15pm.

Come along and sample an evening with us. Taste and try before deciding.

Nancy Downie (Secretary)



2004 finished on a real high with Cinderella. The club was delighted that the show was enjoyed by full houses for the whole week, with tickets selling out for some performances well in advance. Audience reaction was very good and everyone, including the cast and crew, enjoyed the experience.

We had our AGM in January and due to the high ticket sales we were able to make generous donations to the following :- Adams House, Accord Hospice, McMillan Nurses, The Tsunami Appeal and closer to home our own church with funds specifically for the Summer Club and to buy projection screens for the church and halls. We will also be purchasing more mugs (an annual occurrence - where do they go?). Seriously, the club is happy to see everyone using them. Our total donations this year amounted to £3,000. It makes it all the more worthwhile to know that while everyone is having so much fun, some tangible benefits are accruing.

The club has been asked to take part in Easter worship again this year and we are pleased that, as a group seen more as performers, we are able to use our gifts in worship.

You will see below that we have set dates for our new show. At present no decision has been made on the show itself, but keep your eyes on the notice boards for more information.

Linda Dye

Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 29 November	-	7:30pm Show
Wednesday 30 November	-	7:30pm Show
Thursday 1 December	-	7:30pm Show
Friday 2 December	-	7:30pm Show
Saturday 3 December	-	2:00pm Show
Saturday 3 December	-	7:30pm Show

Costumes For Hire

The Variety Club has an extensive wardrobe for hire to church members

Minimum Donation
£2 per item
£5 per costume

Contact Morag Brown
Thursday evenings 8:00 - 10:00

Thank You

My grateful thanks to all who have supported my efforts to raise funds for our church between March 2003 and November 2004. We raised the sum of £1,040.

Nancy Downie

The Stravaigers

The 2005 season has started with two very successful walks. The first was a repeat of a local walk to Killoch Glen and some members of the congregation were surprised to see some very weel kent faces passing their doors one Sunday afternoon in January.

February's walk took us to Kittochside, near East Kilbride and once again we were blessed with good walking weather as 21 of us (and 5 dogs) enjoyed our outing.



Our next walk will take place on Sunday 20th March and will be in the countryside near Kilsyth. Other walks during the year are advertised in the intimations and also on the notice board.

The Stravaigers members come from all the churches in Barrhead and our outings are a great chance to get to know members of the other congregations in the town. Many of the walks are suitable for dogs so if you come along your pet's health will benefit too.



Easter 2005 Wordsearch

Easter is both a time of sadness and of celebration. The events leading up to Easter came fast and furious. Jesus spent time sharing a Passover meal with His disciples on the Thursday evening before He was arrested and crucified on what we know as Good Friday ... but the story didn't end there!

On the third day, which was Sunday, Jesus rose from the dead! He was alive and is still alive today. We called this Easter Sunday.

Easter is not just another Christian Festival, it is right at the centre of our faith.



alive
died
disciples
easter
Good Friday

Jesus
rose again
Sunday
third day