

SteepleTalk



The Magazine
Of
Bourock Parish Church

Spring 2010

Who's Who In Bourock

Minister	Maureen Leitch	881 1462
Session Clerk	Elizabeth McKenzie	880 5077
Deputy Session Clerk	Linda Dye	876 1201
Treasurer	Isobel Lawson	881 9457
Roll Keeper	John Whyte	571 4787
Halls Convener	Hazel McCarthy	880 7607
WFO Envelopes	Robert McKenzie	880 5077
Junior Church	Linda Dye	876 1201
Guild	Irene Draper	881 6507
Boys' Brigade (Company)	Graham Manson	580 0871
Boys' Brigade (Junior)	Jean Hepburn	880 8492
Boys' Brigade (Anchor)	Mary Murray	881 1564
Guides (3rd)	Gayle Harvey	881 8212
Brownies (2nd)	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Brownies (3rd)	Lorna Moran	620 3584
Tweenies	Morag McKenzie	880 5077
Bourock Friends Group	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Mother & Toddler	Katherine Salmond	881 5586
Variety Club	Linda Dye	876 1201
Coffee Club	Ann McMillan	881 8348
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	Craig Weatherhogg	
Child Protection CoOrdinator	Wilma Lundie	880 5320

Business Committee Convenors

Christian Education	Linda Dye
Mission And Outreach	Agnes Brown
Pastoral Care	Moira McCartney
Property	
Finance	Derek Palmer

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14 Maxton Avenue
April 2010

Dear Friends,

I am still rejoicing in the Easter joy which we shared. Our happy celebration of the Resurrection was so uplifting. I would like to thank all who contributed to the Holy Week/Easter worship and celebration. Our music providers, breakfast/tea people, worship contributors, flower arrangers and Saturday Club staff - everyone who gave of their time and talents to make it a very special time in the Church's calendar.

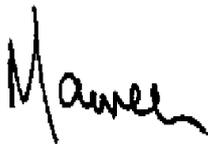
Our 'daffodil cross' has made the usual impact on the town and we must pick up the challenge of communicating the Easter message of hope. There is absolutely no doubt that our world needs to hear words of hope and, we have just been reminded, at Easter, that there is hope indeed. So, go to the task of sharing with others the joy you experienced at Easter.

Of course, there is a General Election looming and you will be bombarded with literature from all the competing parties who want your vote. If you have the opportunity to ask questions of the candidates, don't be afraid to question them on values. Try to ascertain whether the Gospel values are important to them and probe as to whether they see justice as being an important value in society. As Christians, we carry a responsibility to promote values of justice, equality and peace.

Looking beyond the General Election, the Summer Club is looming on the horizon. I hope and pray that this one will be as successful as all the others that have been held. If this is to be the case then we need lots of volunteers. There are many tasks to be fulfilled:-leaders, helpers, administration, catering, and, even toilet patrol! Everyone can find something to do, so please volunteer to help. If you cannot, for whatever reason, then please support the Club with your prayers. We value that help very highly.

I look forward to seeing more and more of you coming along to join in our worship and fellowship during the coming year.

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.

3rd Barrhead Guide Company

Make a Difference Day in October saw about 20 Guides and Leaders planting daffodil and crocus bulbs. After all the hard work we enjoyed a lovely buffet in the Dalmeny Hall. We have our fingers crossed that the bulbs will still come up after the severe winter we have had!

To help with the postage cost for the Shoebox Appeal, Smarties tubes were handed out to all Guides and Leaders in October and asked to fill with coins. The Guides handed over to Junior Church £170. Our thanks to all the parents and friends who helped with this venture.

We had our usual Christmas party with plenty of laughter, food and gifts.

On Monday, February 22 we were invited to the Giffnock Synagogue for a Thinking Day evening which we all enjoyed.



We arranged a visit to the Scottish Parliament in March. The conducted tour we went on we all found very interesting and lots of money was spent in the shop!!

32 large cartridges and toners and 3 large bags of stamps were taken to ACCORD in March where they were gratefully received.

We also handed over to Guide Dogs for the Blind, mobile phones, small ink cartridges and £100 (proceeds from the tuckshops). Mrs Holland was only too pleased to receive these from the girls and thanked them very much.

To celebrate 100 years of Girl Guiding we are planting a Japanese Acer shrub in the church gardens during our Parent's night in May. This is our final evening until Monday, September 6, 2010.

**We still collect ink cartridges, toners, used stamps (with at least 1/2" border), mobile phones. which we pass on to ACCORD and Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Gayle
3rd Guide Guider



I know we have a lot of weddings in August, but I still think the Vicar's too lenient when it comes to letting guests throw confetti!



Heather had more trouble than usual with this wedding photographer.

Neighbourly Love

READ: Luke 10:29-37

You shall love the Lord your God . . . and your neighbour as yourself.

It would have been simpler just to buy a new hair dryer. But determined to save a buck, I decided to fix it myself. In order to loosen the screw that was buried deep in the handle, I took out the ultimate handyman's helper - my pocket knife. As I put pressure on the knife to turn the screw, the blade folded back - on my finger.

I learned a lesson that day: I love myself. And I am urgent about meeting my needs. There was no thought of, "Well, I don't really have time to stop the bleeding now. I'll get to it later." Also, there was a tenderness about how the need was met. I instructed my first-aid team (my wife and kids) to wash my finger gently and then to put the bandage on in a way that would avoid having the hairs on my finger pulled up when it was removed. My thoughts, words, and actions were driven by my love for myself.

To love "your neighbour as yourself" (Luke 10:27) requires the same urgent kind of love. It's a love that notices the need of another person and won't rest until it's been met. It's a gentle, tender love that thinks and acts carefully. It's the sacrificial and compassionate love that a nameless Samaritan had for a fallen traveller. It's the kind of love God wants to share with your neighbours through you. - Joe Stowell

Lord, help me see the heartfelt needs
Of those within my care,
And grant that through my words and deeds
Your love with them I'll share. - D. De Haan

You cannot touch your neighbour's heart with anything less than your own.

To The Rescue

READ: Luke 15:1-7

There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance. - Luke 15:7

Martie and I recently travelled to some major cities in several countries. We were struck with how lost our world is and grieved over the millions who have never heard the message of the saving grace of Jesus. The thought of reaching our world for Christ felt overwhelming.

Until I remembered the story of the boy walking on a beach. Encountering hundreds of starfish dying under the heat of the burning sun, he started throwing them back into the sea. A passerby asked, "What are you doing?" "Saving their lives," the boy replied. "Forget it," the man said. "You can't possibly save all these starfish." "Right," replied the boy, "but it makes a big difference to each one I do save."

I love the boy's perspective. When the wave of sin threw us onto the shore to die, God sent His Son to walk on the beach to rescue all who would repent. And, as Jesus told His listeners in Luke 15, each time someone is rescued, heaven throws a party. "I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance" (Luke 15:7).

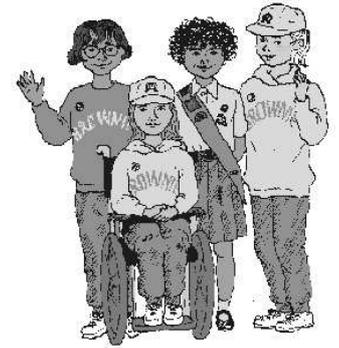
Has heaven rejoiced over your rescue? If so, join the ranks of those who reach other lost souls with the rescuing grace of Jesus. - Joe Stowell

Your love, O God, would spare no pain
To conquer death and win;
You sent Your only Son to die
To rescue us from sin. - M. Gustafson

When you've been rescued, you'll want to rescue others.

3rd Barrhead Brownie Pack

The Brownies have enjoyed a very busy and exciting year as they have taken part in many activities to celebrate the Girlguiding Centenary year. We started off our year in September by joining up with the 2nd Barrhead Brownies for our launch party where we were all entertained by Giggles the Clown and we joined Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from around East Renfrewshire for a day out at Kelburn Country Park. Both events were great fun and launched us nicely into our Centenary Celebrations. Throughout the year the girls have been working towards some special centenary badges devised to be completed during this momentous year. We have almost finished the Adventure 100 badge which we will complete before the closing ceremony on 20/10/2010 – we are waiting to hear what big event will be planned by East Renfrewshire County for this day when every Girl Guiding member will renew her Promise at 2010hrs. The aim of the Adventure 100 badge is to collect more than 100 points by completing challenges from the 10 different themes eg. “Look up High”, “Wacky 100”, “Flashback”. Some of the things we have done for this have been sampling different flavoured water and guessing the flavour to writing 100 with our bodies to having a chill out evening. The other badge we have been working on has been the Scottish Centenary Badge which is made up of four quarters – Heritage, Creativity, Community Action and Adventure. When the four badges are put together they make up a design which reflects the Scottish Saltire. For the Community Action part the Brownies went along to Norwood House and entertained the residents with some Christmas carols and Brownie songs. For the Heritage part the Barrhead Country Dance Group came along and taught the Brownies the Girlguiding Country Dance that was created to celebrate this year, thank you once again to them for all their hard work. On top of all these activities we have enjoyed our usual Halloween and Christmas parties, our trip to the Variety Club show and a night at the Ten Pin Bowling. As this term comes to a close we looked forward to our Parents Night where the Brownies will be putting on a show all about the history of Guiding, we are also off to Scone Palace in June to join Brownies from all round Scotland for a big Brownie Carnival and six lucky Brownies are going to the Centenary Pack Holiday in May. Any girls aged between 6 and 10 years are welcome to join us when we start back the first week in September. Have a good summer.



Barbara Hughes and Lorna Moran

Tweenies

The Tweenies finished at the end of March after a very busy year.

We played games, enjoyed singing and made lots of things at our craft nights. We made a present for our mum for Mother's Day and lots of different cards. We celebrated St. Andrew's day by making St Andrew's flag biscuits. On Burns night we made Burns Cottages and a jigsaw of Robert Burns and had Irn Bru and shortbread. Lots of fun and lots of mess!

We attended the Variety Club Show, Robin Hood and had the usual parties at Halloween and Christmas.

We now have a Tweenie Logo and had great fun making copies of this for our notice board in the Upper Hall.

I would like to thank all the leaders for giving of their time during this session.

Morag McKenzie (Leader)
Tel 880 5077





JUNIOR CHURCH



Due to your wonderful support we were able to send off 318 shoeboxes to Operation Christmas Child. This was a great total and I am pleased to say that all our boxes arrived in remote areas of Eastern Europe in time for Christmas. All the hats which were knitted will be much appreciated in temperatures of -20°C. This is an ongoing appeal and I hope that you are keeping all your shoeboxes and perhaps putting an extra tube of toothpaste or bar of soap into your shopping basket each week. Donations can be handed to any member of Junior Church at any time.

The children as always enjoyed all the Christmas 'extras', the highlight being their Nativity Service on Christmas Eve. This was very well attended by children and adults with perhaps our youngest ever participants! Our Easter Club was also a lot of fun and the children enjoyed learning more about Holy Week through stories games and craft. The older children made a beautiful quilt which was displayed on the Chancel on Easter Sunday. All of the children had made at least one square depicting all the signs of God's Goodness to us.

The quilt was to remind them how God's love surrounds us always making us feel safe and warm - just like a quilt.



We continue to work with Seasons of The Spirit which is Lectionary based material meaning that the whole church family is learning together. This past session all of our material has only been accessible on-line and this has been a big change for the teachers but now that we are all used to it we are very happy with it. We had a visit from 2 of the teachers from Renfrew North Church who are interested in how we work and I am pleased to say that they thoroughly enjoyed their morning with us. Maureen has also been able to come to Junior Church a couple of times and that has been very good for the children.

We are very blessed in Bourock to have so many children and young people coming along to learn about the amazing love that God has for each one of them. We are also blessed with the number of adults who give of their time to work with the children.

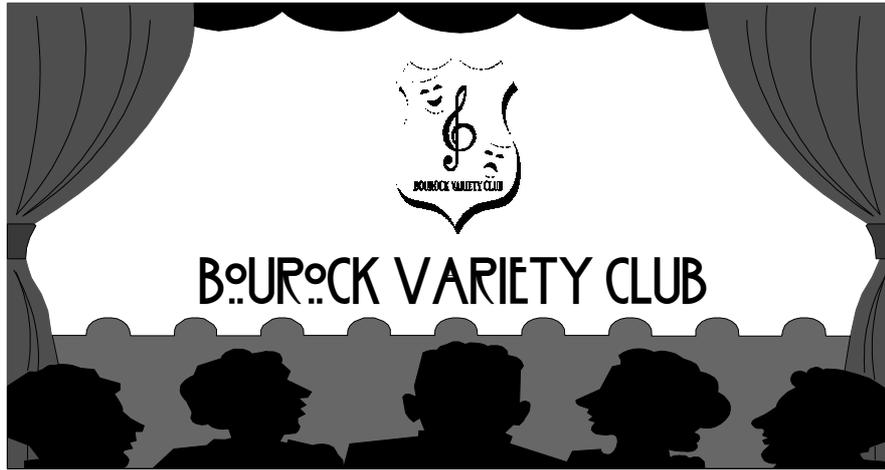
Linda Dye

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?"

The mother replied, "Because white is the colour of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life."

The child thought about this for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

The same little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Junior Church. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!" While she was running and praying, she tripped on a kerb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late ... But please don't shove me either!"



The Club is busy just now working on our ‘Showcase’ – this is the chance for everyone in the club to ‘do their own thing.’ It is a lot more relaxed than our Christmas show and is really our chance to thank our loyal audience for all their support. This is the third year we had done this and it has proved popular although we think the supper could be the main reason for that!

We held a very successful Burns Ceilidh in January and raised £1000 for The Beatson Oncology Unit. The auction was great fun and we are very grateful to everyone who donated so generously.

We have had 2 theatre trips recently to 2 very different shows:- ‘We Will Rock You’ in December and ‘The Sound of Music’ in February and we are off to Edinburgh again in May to see ‘Les Miserables’. We are also booked up to see ‘Aladin’ with John Barrowman for next January so definitely something to suit everyone.

At our AGM we agreed to donate £1000 to the church, £300 to the Summer Club, £250 to Haiti Disaster Fund and further donations to other charities including British Heart Foundation, Accord Hospice, Meningitis Trust and Operation Christmas Child. We are also in the process of replacing all the mugs in the lower kitchen and new dishcloths for both kitchens.

We always delighted to welcome along new members and we will be meeting on Thursday 6th May at 7.30 in the lower hall to discuss ideas for our next show. Rehearsals will take place every Thursday after that from 7.30 and we would love to see you there.

Linda Dye
Producer

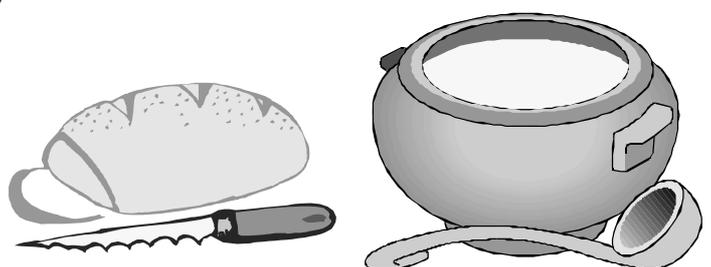
Bourock Soup Stop

Soup Stop continues to grow both in customers and menu choices. On an average Friday lunchtime we serve around 100 customers which is great for our Church and the charities we support. We have new faces appearing every week but we are most grateful to our regular customers who come along hail, rain or shine.

This year we have donated to The Lifeboat Association, Meningitis Trust, Souper Sunday, British Heart Foundation and Haiti. We have also provided the catering for The Burns Ceilidh and Souper Sunday. This month our charity is The McMillan Nurses and in May it will be Diabetes.

If you haven’t sampled our lunches yet why not come along and enjoy good food and excellent fellowship. We are open every Friday from 12 – 2 with something on the menu to suit everyone.

Linda Dye



Church Flowers



MAY

2 Mrs A McMillan
9 Mrs E Thomson
16 Mrs I Alexander
25 Mrs F McKinnon
30 Mr. N. McClune

SEPTEMBER

5 Mrs S Miller
12 Mrs G Baker
19 Variety Club
26 Mrs B Brown

JUNE

6 N. McClune
13 Mrs M Buchanan
20 Mrs B Hamilton
27 Mrs J Watson

OCTOBER

3 Mrs M McKechnie
10 Mrs M Brown
17 Mrs. N. Nutini
24 Guild
31 BFG

JULY

4 Mrs M Stewart
11 Joint Service
18 Joint Service
25 Joint Service

NOVEMBER

7 Mrs A Brown
14 Mrs R McDonald
21 Mr. G. Simpson
28 Mrs G Orry

AUGUST

1 Mrs A McGarrie
8 Mrs F Auchincloss
15 Mrs E McKenzie
22 Mrs D Ramsay
29 Mr J McK Allan

DECEMBER

5 Mrs L Dye
13 Mrs K Johnston
19 Mrs M Leitch
26 Joint Service

Thank you to everyone who donates the flowers week by week. They are very much appreciated.

Finance Report - Easter 2010

In accordance with guidelines implemented by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland the following summary accounts, covering 2009, were presented to and approved by the Kirk Session on 7th March 2010 and presented to the congregation on 28th March 2010 at the Stated Annual Meeting.

We started off 2009 by carrying forward a surplus of £17,479 from 2008, meaning the General Fund at that time stood at £33,141. Again during 2009 our income exceeded our expenditure, this time resulting in a surplus of £9,016. This meant that on 31st December 2009 our General Fund stood at £42,157.



During 2009 total offerings fell by £3,103 - the total offerings received by WFO and Standing Order fell from £71,742 in 2008 to £68,639 in 2009.

Once again there were 2 other major sources of income - firstly, we again recovered a significant sum from the HMRC. In 2009 we received the sum of £16,866, which is less than we received the previous year via the Gift Aid scheme, when we received £18,353; this was expected as we benefited in 2008 from a high number of new Gift Aid declarations following the stewardship campaign, which allowed us to reclaim income tax on offerings over a number of years, not just the one year.

The amount recovered from HMRC again **emphasises the importance of the Gift Aid scheme**, and as usual I would urge anyone who has not completed a Gift Aid declaration to now consider doing so - it doesn't cost you anything and takes less than a minute to complete the form. Speak to either Robert McKenzie or myself if you have any questions or require a form for completion.

As a reminder the Gift Aid scheme allows the church to reclaim tax already paid by an individual so long as they have paid sufficient income tax in the financial year in question.

Secondly, we received £7,748 in respect of hall lets, which is higher than the figure of £5,912 earned in 2008, and again is a significant portion of our overall income.

Between them these 2 sources of income again account for over 20% of our total income.

During 2009 our expenditure increased by £7,224 from 2008's figure. This was mainly due to increased expenditure on essential fabric repairs and maintenance, to both the church and the manse.

Expenditure in 2009 is budgeted for £98,950, which is slightly less than our expenditure in 2009. This figure covers essential maintenance work on our properties as well as covering projected increases in heating & lighting costs.

Finally, a personal thanks to Isabel Lawson, Brian Honan & all members of the Finance Committee for all their work and assistance during 2009.

Derek Palmer
Finance Convenor

BARRHEAD BOUROCK PARISH CHURCH

Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2009**GENERAL FUND**

	£	2009	£	£	2008	£
INCOME						
Offerings						
WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)		8,405			6,196	
Gift Aid Donations		60,234			65,546	
Tax on Gift Aid Donations		16,866			18,353	
Ordinary Offerings (Open plate)		7,191			6,053	
Other offerings and donations		2,211			2,435	
		<u> </u>			<u> </u>	
			94,907			98,583
Other Ordinary General Income						
Contributions from Congregational Organisations		5,736			4,845	
Income from:						
Regular Fund Raising Events		-			-	
Weddings & Funerals		520			500	
Investments		-			-	
Deposit interest		234			544	
Use of Premises		7,748			5,912	
			14,238			11,801
Total Ordinary General Income		<u>109,145</u>			<u>110,384</u>	
EXPENDITURE						
Total Ordinary General Expenditure			100,129			92,905
			<u> </u>			<u> </u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)			9,016			17,479
EXCESS GENERAL INCOME			9,016			17,479
General Fund Balance at 1 January			33,141			12,162
Transfers to / from Ferguson Bequest			0			3,500
Transfers to Youth Fund						0
			<u> </u>			<u> </u>
GENERAL FUND BALANCE AT 31 DECEMBER			<u>42,157</u>			<u>33,141</u>

Kirk Session

Last year saw some changes within the Session Office Bearers. Brian Honan gave up the role of treasurer and Isobel Lawson took over in June last year. We were very grateful to Isobel for taking on the very important work of keeping our accounts in good order. Our thanks must also go to Brian Honan for all his work during his term as treasurer.

Karen Johnston has given up her role as Deputy Session Clerk and we welcomed Linda Dye into this position at the beginning of November.

I would like to thank Karen for all her work and for the assistance given to me during her time as Deputy Session Clerk.

The Kirk Session would like members of the congregation to become more involved in the work of the Session. We need your voice to be heard. Christian Education, Finance, Mission, Pastoral Care and Property Committees all need input from members of the congregation - become more involved - we need you!

Welcome Teams. It has been great to see some new faces on the welcome teams but we would still like to have more people involved.

If you can help on the Committees or on the Welcome Team please contact Elizabeth McKenzie telephone 880.5077.

Elizabeth D. McKenzie (Session Clerk)

Thursday Morning Coffee Club

The club goes from strength to strength. In the 22 years since Jim McLeod poured the first cup of tea or coffee, our numbers have swelled and we usually have around 40-45 folk on a Thursday morning.

We hold a short act of worship in the church, led by members of the club, then a time of fellowship in the lower hall.

The TMCC has supported the staff and girls at Jacaranda (South Africa) since September 2005 after a moving talk from Glenda's sister Karen. Over the years we have been able to send over £4,000 which goes directly to Jacaranda and has helped to buy much needed essentials for their home. We have also sent fleeces, hats, gloves and mattress covers and every Christmas we send a box with a small gift for everyone at Jacaranda. Sister Karen keeps us up to date with all their news and Glenda and I keep in touch from this end. We will continue to support through prayer and caring - which we hopes starts here in Bourrock.

Come along on a Thursday morning 10 - 11 and find out for yourself what we are all about. We do care for others. We do pray for all and our fellowship is warm and welcoming.

Hope to see new faces.

Norma Duncan

2nd Barrhead Boys' Brigade Company Section

This year sees the company with 23 boys on the roll, giving us the strongest section we have had for a good number of years.

We have enjoyed a varied programme including drill, Christian faith, first aid, adventure and P.E. The boys have worked hard to gain their badges and we are delighted to have two boys achieving the President's Badge.



The company has taken part in various competitions including Christian Faith, volleyball, quiz, badminton and basketball - where our junior team won the competition. We also had successes in the swimming events where we gained two silver medals.

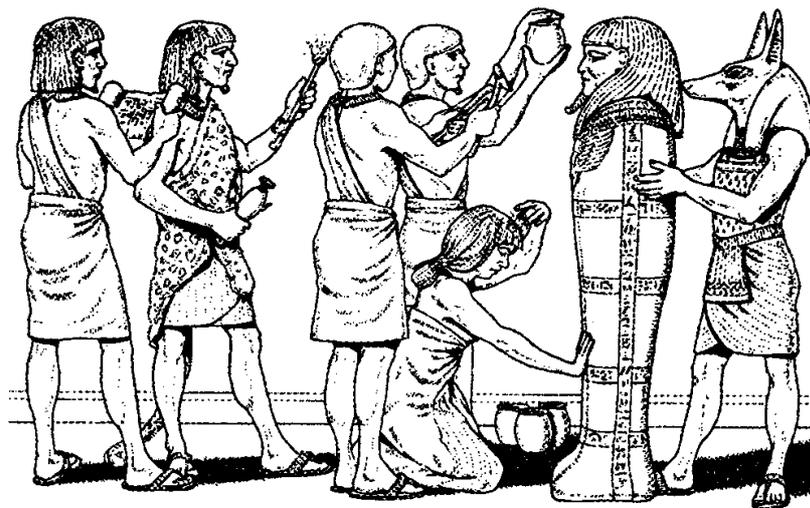
Our greatest achievement, however, was winning the battalion drill competition with twelve of our boys taking part and giving a fantastic performance on the night. Because so many boys were able to take part, it made it a special victory for our Company which takes pride in our standard of drill.

We now look forward to the battalion parade on April 25th at the Martyrs' Church in Paisley and hope to see a turnout like last year.

Our display takes place on Friday 21st May and we are looking forward to this very much. It is always nice to join with family and friends for this great event and always appreciate the support we receive from many church members.

With no fewer than nine boys joining us from the Junior Section next session, we will have one of the strongest sections in the battalion and this can only be good for the company overall.

Graham Manson
Company Captain.



2nd Barrhead efforts at the recent First Aid competition!

2nd Barrhead Boys' Brigade **Junior Section**

I can't believe we are nearly at the end of another session. We have had a very busy year.

We have had 20 boys attending on a regular basis. The standard of uniform has been very high this year.

We had a Halloween party and Christmas party and we took part in the Remembrance Day service.

We entered several battalion competitions. We entered the swimming, bowling and table games. We have still to take part in the potted sports and sports day competitions. Overall we performed very well with some gold medal winners.

We have had a few visitors to Junior Section. The rangers from Dams to Darnley Country Park spent the evening with us and entertained us with a slide show and games. The boys enjoyed this very much. We also raised £300 for Haiti and Mission Aviation Fellowship came along and also spent a very enjoyable evening with us and they were presented with the cheque. Our elders came to visit us also.

We are looking forward to parents night on 14th may when badges, prizes and trophies will be presented. 3rd year boys will also be promoted to the Company Section.

I would like to thank the captain Graham Manson and the officers for their hard work and commitment through out the year, and also to the minister and elders for their support, and lastly thank you to all the parents for bringing the boys every week and turning them out so smartly. We have had a great year this year and are looking forward to next year.

Jean Hepburn
Officer In Charge - Junior Section

Men's Breakfast

Once a month a group of men from various churches in Barrhead join for a time of fellowship on a Saturday morning at the 'Coffehouse' in Robertson Street. We start with prayer, Bible reading and then someone gives a short talk on a subject for about 15 minutes then we share a time of fellowship over breakfast. Some of the topics we have covered so far are – sharing faith in the workplace, engaging with Atheists, working with the young. Given the noise level it would be fair to say that the men really enjoy this time of fellowship as well as the food.

We have only two meetings left this session before we break for the summer, the meeting dates are the 8th May and 12th June and it would be great to see some more men attending and building up the body of Christ together.

Blessings

Andy McIntyre
andymc165@hotmail.com
Mobile - 07757098225

African Partnership

PCEA Kibera Parish Update

Rev. Samuel Machugu Kariuki retired on 31st December 2009 after serving in the Parish for approximately 7 years. He came to Kibera on 7th February 2003 and was responsible for many new initiatives, including the commissioning of the First Presbyterian Church Men's Fellowship (P.C.M.F.) in the Parish and the commissioning of the first Boys and Girls' Brigade Officers and Companies, the formations of P.C.E.A. Silanga High School and P.C.E.A. Kibera Emmanuel Technical Training Centre. Rev. Samuel helped to establish several partnerships; with Compassion International Kenya; the Outreach Foundation and African Leadership Inc.; the First Presbyterian Church Goldsboro, North Carolina, and of course with ourselves in Barrhead. His Farewell and Thanksgiving Service was held on Sunday 13th December 2009 at P.C.E.A. Emmanuel Centre, and photos from the event are shown in the latest Kibera Project newsletter, which is displayed on the noticeboard in the Lower Hall.

PCEA Kibera's new minister is Rev. Moses Mukundi Cheche, and this is his second charge. He is married to Beatrice, and they have two sons, Njenga (10yrs) and Kimani (6yrs) who are both in lower primary school.



Silanga High School Update

Silanga High School is now a government accredited Examination Centre. At the end of last year, 31 fourth year students sat 'National exams'. They were joined by 35 private candidates, who were charged £12 each, enabling the school to make a small income. Their new school year began in January, and there are now 117 pupils enrolled.

10 of the current pupils are sponsored by us here in Barrhead, mainly by people who have taken out a standing order. If you would like to take out a standing order, please contact Jim Mitchell (Convenor), or David Miller (Treasurer) who can supply you with the details.



The latest copy of the Kibera Project News can be found on the website: - www.bourock.org.uk/kibera

If you would like to receive your own e-copy, please contact deb.mitchell@ntlworld.com

Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him £50."

The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him £100."

The third boy says, "I've got you both beat My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"

We have received several letters from **pupils in the new PCEA Silanga High School**; below you will find Esther's letter. The others are displayed on the noticeboard in the Lower Hall.

**P. C.E.A SILANGA HIGH SCHOOL,
P. O.BOX 19742-00200
NAIROBI, KENYA
12/11/2009**

TO: BOUROCK PARISH, BARRHEAD SCOTLAND

Dear brothers / sisters,

Receive many greetings from Esther Nabwire a form two student from P.C.E.A. Silanga high school. I am 17 years old and I thank the almighty God for giving me this opportunity to write to you this letter.

First of all, thank you very much for what you have done for us since the beginning of this year. I am so proud because I'm learning in a good environment and also a comfortable life.

Really last year we were suffering a lot due to poor construction of the buildings. The classes we were using were very dusty and this caused us to suffer from such diseases e.g. colds and flu. Our parents were really struggling very hard to make sure that we were comfortable but it was in vain. Because of this problem we had only a few teachers and this was difficult in learning because one teacher had to teach three- four subjects.

Surely, seats which we were using were sub-standard and few, also due to the post election violence which took place in 2007/8. Our laboratory was destroyed and we also missed to perform practicals.

I thank almighty God who has enabled you to have a merciful heart for helping the needy. We have developed some changes and I know we are going to perform better and also we hope in future, classes will be well managed and the whole school will be well fenced. So far we have a laboratory although apparatus are not enough but we are going to do our best to improve.

Thank you very much and may Lord God help the work of your hands and continue with that spirit.

Yours Faithfully

Esther Nabwire.

Parish Register

BAPTISMS

December 2009

Kelsie Freya Alice Frame 30 Aursbridge Drive
Ben James Murray 41 Fereneze Grove

March 2010

Lucy Christine McDowall 9 Victoria Grove
Lucie Ann Finnegan 63 Newton avenue
Brooke Keenan 47c Divernia Way

FUNERALS

November 2009

Irene Clark 9 Carnock Crescent
Margaret Sharp 11 Kirkstyle Crescent, Neilston
Eric Skippen 15 Braeside Crescent
David Kerr 2c Henry Street

December 2009

*John Shaw Westlea Nursing Home
Joy Miller 71 Fenwick Drive
Muriel Fraser 21 Cross Arthurlie Street
Phyllis Brookmyre c/o 21 Arthurlie Street
*Jean Wilson 61 Kelburn Street
William Hendry 178 Brooke Street, Pollock

January 2010

Robert Rae 55 Gateside Avenue
Bryce Houston 10 Woodside Crescent
*Margaret Liggatt Norwood House (10D Aurs Road)
Kenneth Houston 12 Oakbank Drive
William Wilson 82m Main Street
Muriel Scott Westlea Nursing Home
Jenie Robson Norwood Care Home
George Kincaid 11 Blackwood Street
Thomas Jones 51 Craig Road, Neilston
Elizabeth Brown Westpark, Broadlie Road, Neilston

February 2010

Ronald Currie Double Hedges Road, Neilston
Margery Love 67 Atholl Drive, Giffnock
William Arthur Craigheads Way
Andrew Frew Norwood House
Isabella Pearce 84 Newton Avenue

March 2010

Alan Norris 35 Wright Avenue
Elizabeth Dreghorn Elderslie Nursing Home
Isabella McLaren 95 Aurs Road
Joy Dyer 45 Gateside Crescent

*denotes member

Seed Of Hope

The High school aged members of the Junior Church and The Bourock Friends Group still sponsor two girls at the Seed of Hope Centre in Nairobi. The children bring along their donation every week, and as you can see from the report below, it is much appreciated and valued by the girls.

Approximately 115 girls graduated this year on completion of their two year course. To mark the event, each graduate was presented with four certificates – Micro-Business Skills, Life Skills, Vocational Skills and overall achievement.

At each centre, the students put together a display of their work to show parents and guests. At the Kitui centre, first year students were on hand to take people on guided tours of the compound before the graduation ceremony. These tours showed the work that was being done on the shamba (farming of crops), income generating activities such as beekeeping and chicken breeding as well as an introduction to each of the subjects studied as part of the two year course. At this centre, the first year students had also used their life-skills lessons to bake a cake for the graduates. This was shared out amongst the graduates, students and guests.

One of the most moving speeches was by a Nairobi graduate who told the audience how she had passed her primary school exams “with flying colours” but her parents were unable to afford secondary school fees. She then went on to say how she felt upset, useless and ashamed as she watched her classmates go to secondary school while she was left at home. There was a silence as this girl stood before a tent full of people and told them that in her darkest moment she even wanted to die. In her words, “an angel” (family friend) came to her mother and told her about Seed of Hope. After being interviewed and enrolled, she then started the program which she feels gave her the opportunity to turn her life around. As she spoke with a confidence which she says is a skill gained in her time at Seed of Hope, there was no doubt that this is one graduate who is going to work hard to succeed in life.

Each year, second year students are required to create their own graduation outfits. This year, this formed part of the final project and was a competition between the four centres. The top designers from each centre all came together at the Nairobi graduation. This was a great opportunity for the graduates to see the work of their fellow students from other parts of the country.

Leading the way in terms of fashion design was the Nairobi centre. As in recent years, a fashion show was held and each second year student had produced an outfit to be modeled by a first year student.

One of the key messages at each graduation ceremony was appreciation for the support shown by donors and sponsors. Emily, a graduate from Kitui centre said that she would like to thank the sponsors because “the knowledge we have and the things we have are because of you”.

A Junior Church teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to “Honour your father and your mother,” she asked, “Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?” Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, “Thou shall not kill!”

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND MINISTRIES AND MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS 2010

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Thank you for supporting the worship, mission and service of the Church through the money you give in your offering. It is important that you know what happens to this money. This letter tells you about your congregation's Ministries and Mission Contribution - the money your Congregational Treasurer sends to the Church Offices in Edinburgh. How does it enable the worship, mission and service of the Church?

The information below shows how your congregation's contribution is used to support Parish Ministries, Mission and Renewal, and general support and services provided for congregations and the councils of the General Assembly. Please note that the cost of your minister is not what he/she is paid. This cost is the total for stipend and employer's national insurance and pension contributions, and is based on a minister with ten years' service.

Congregation:	Contribution
BARRHEAD: BOUROCK	£49,773
Parish Ministries (87%)	£43,303
The cost of ministry in your parish is:	£39,100
Your contribution to the cost of ministries in other parishes and training for ministries:	£4,203
Mission and Renewal (5.5%)	£2,738
This supports the Church's work in resourcing congregations for Christian education and outreach, in caring for the vulnerable in society, in partnership with Church in some of the poorest parts of the world, and in providing a Christian perspective on the issues of today.	
Support and Services for Councils and Congregations (7.5%)	£3,732
This provides financial, legal, safeguarding and other services, and meets the cost of the General Assembly and the Moderator.	

Please note that Ministries and Mission Contributions only provide part of the total funding required for the work of the Church listed above. A fuller picture is given in the leaflet *Funding our Faith*, which is available free to all congregations.

I hope that this helps you to understand Ministries and Mission Contributions and shows you are enabling the sharing of the gospel through the money your congregation sends *through* the Church Offices to all parts of Scotland and beyond.

Yours sincerely

Gordon D Jamieson

Head of Stewardship

140737

Meningitis Trust In Scotland

Meningitis is a cruel disease that can kill or maim an individual within a matter of hours. It does not discriminate and can affect children and adults alike. Those who survive can be left with a broad spectrum of physical and psychological disabilities such as brain damage, hearing impairment, scarring and where septicaemia has occurred, loss of limbs. However it is often the 'unseen' after-effects which potentially go undetected such as depression, loss of concentration and mood swings which can lead to personality changes and learning difficulties. To recognise the signs and symptoms of meningitis, please visit our website www.meningitis-trust.org or request a symptoms card from the address below.

Recent research by the Trust shows that just 38% of people living with the impact of meningitis in Scotland are seeking its help after the trauma, so it knows that it needs to do more. This means that many individuals, families and even whole communities are left struggling with the impact of the disease alone, when free, professional support is available from the charity, but perhaps not known about.



The Meningitis Trust have been supporting those affected by meningitis for 23 years and, during that time, have amassed a wealth of information from meningitis sufferers and their families about their need for support and how best their needs can be met. Through our Community Support Nurse, we are best placed to work with families across Scotland to help provide bespoke emotional or financial support through our range of professional services such as trauma and bereavement counselling, financial grants, art therapy, family fun days and our freephone 24 hour helpline. Whilst we can't return individuals to their pre-meningitic life, we can help improve their quality of life after an experience as best we can.

We rely heavily on voluntary donations from the general public and have a vast selection of fundraising initiatives to take part in. For example, each year the Trust receives approximately £25,000 from our under fives Toddle Waddle sponsored walk and £10,000 is raised on an annual basis from Coffee Breaks across Scotland. We are very lucky to have received the ongoing support of Bourock Church through its members, Soup Stop, The Guild, Craft Group and Variety Club. All the money raised to date has gone towards Andrew Simpson's Tribute Fund which now stands at an amazing £10, 480 in Andrew's memory.

If you would like further information about the work of Meningitis Trust in Scotland, please don't hesitate to contact me on 0845 120 2123 or email annec@meningitis-trust.org.

Thank you for your invaluable support.

Kind regards

Anne Currie
UK Community Development Manager

ROCKY'S place

Where: Bourock Church Hall

When: Monday 28th June - Friday 2nd July

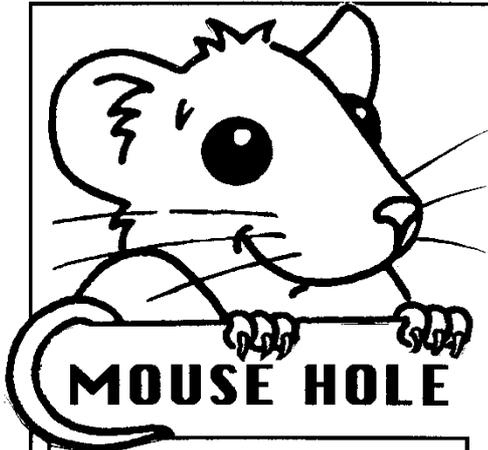
Time: 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Helpers Planning Nights

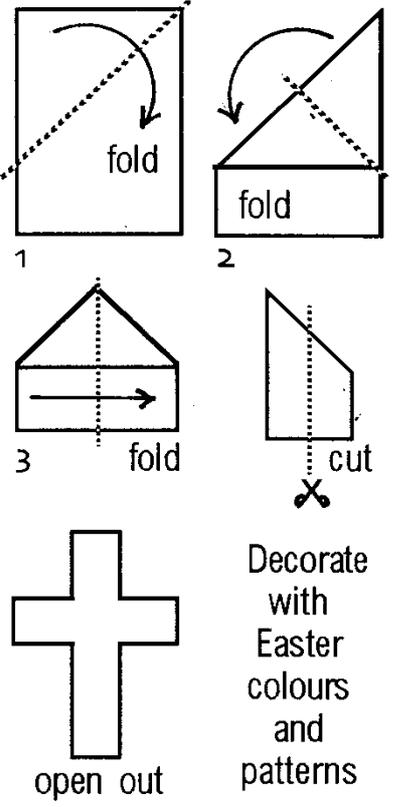
Sunday 6th June - 7:30pm

Sunday 27th June - 7:00pm (attendance compulsory)

If you are interested in helping, please contact Linda or Angus (or just add your name to the list in the lower hall!)

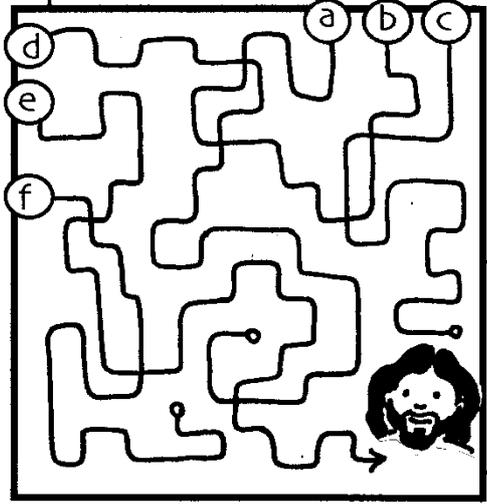


Fold-a-Cross



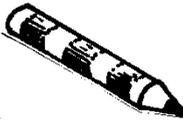
I **light** the way so you can see,
 I **show** the path, just follow me.
 I **guide** you on the way to go,
 I **teach** you all you need to know.
 I **rescue** you, I set you free,
 I **love** you, just as God loves me.
 I am the **way**,
 the **truth**,
 the **life**.

I am JESUS



Which way to Jesus?

Look up the Bible verses, fill in the blanks!


 ___ I ___ John 8:12
 ___ A ___ John 14:6
 John 4:25-26 M ___
 T ___ John 14:6
 John 10:11 ___ H ___
 ___ E John 11:25
