

## SHERBROOKE MOSSPARK PARISH CHURCH MAGAZINE



### Message from the Manse - What's on – News

#### Message from the Manse

Dear All

Did summer happen? Did it pass us by this year? Are we able to look back and say, “well, we had our summer in May?” It seems as though the summer this year may well be measured in hours rather than days or weeks! It’s been a strange summer.

It has indeed been a strange summer for me. Towards the end of April, I was aware that things weren’t quite right healthwise and on the day of the Plant Sale (a warm, summer’s day!), I was admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. I was discharged a week later, only to be readmitted again within a few days. In all, I spent nearly five weeks in hospital.

I have now returned to work and hope to be able to continue to do so without much interruption. The original symptoms that warranted my admission have not subsided and there may well yet be further treatment – so please be patient with me. My return is supervised and agreed by a Clinical Support Officer from Central Offices, The Presbytery of Glasgow and my GP. I have been allowed to return on a “partial fit to work” basis and that this will continue to the beginning of November.

I intend to use this time wisely and work to the best of my capabilities on a week by week basis. I would hope that it will look very much like “business as usual” and just ask for your forbearance if there are times when I need to go more slowly.

However, it is also very important that you know I will always be available, especially in times of crisis. So, should you know of anyone who needs the support of a minister or would like me to visit, please do not delay, and please do not go past me, because I am very much here for you.

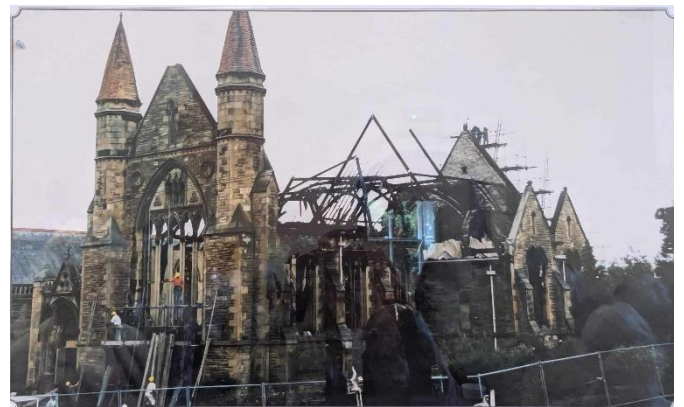
Your minister and friend

**Adam**

## Anniversary of the Fire – July 2024

On 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024 we commemorated the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Church Fire which devastated our Sanctuary on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1994. An installation, now housed in our West Transept, has been created using photographic images and memorabilia from the restoration project. The Cuthbertson family, who kindly supported our anniversary project, unveiled the installation after our Church service on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July. Thanks must go to Douglas Kinnaird and the Property Committee who were also involved in producing this significant historical imagery for our church community.

Here are some of the images from our installation – but please come and see them for yourselves!



Our sanctuary prior to the fire ahead of the Centenary celebrations – with pews, a fixed pulpit and the organ out of sight. The solid brass eagle lectern was the only item to survive the fire.



The documents shown above outline the design brief and refurbishment costs of £2.1million – in today’s terms, estimates for these works would be closer to £20million. The final photograph on the right hand side was taken on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at the unveiling of our new installation to commemorate the fire 30 years ago.

## Scout Camp – August 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> 2024

Meggernie Scout site is a beautiful site nestling in Glen Lyon, Perthshire’s best kept secret, unless you are a midge, in which case you have a genetic disposition to return there and bite Scouts.

Fifteen Scouts and Explorers drove in a hired minibus with their kit in a van to this lovely setting.

Having had one day of dry weather it returned to the normal setting for this summer and got windy and wet. There were some breaks in the weather, but overall it was pretty wet and cool. Nevertheless we did a lot of local exploring and on site activities. The site ran a ‘bushcraft’ activity and this enabled the young people to craft a flint and steel, so they could raise a fire at every opportunity, except that they couldn’t as the wood was so wet!

The Group in various stages slept out in both hammocks under the ‘stars’ and in a fox hole, well away from the Leaders, in bivvy bags with a smoky fire for comfort. Our main off-site activity was canyoning, whereby each member of the Group travels down a river in a wet suit and at various stages jumps off a rock by a waterfall. The Leaders? Well, the coffee shop looked great! We didn’t want to cramp their style and the organisation taking the young people was exceptionally proficient and really didn’t need to be looking after us too.

Five Scouts completed their Expedition Challenge badge and walked and camped out overnight away from the main group. Let’s say some Scouts still have something to learn about navigation, but all goes well that ends well! Overall it was a wonderful camp and the comradeship between the young people was great to see. Some of them may have learnt a thing or two as well!

It goes without saying that we owe a big debt to the Church for the use of the hall each Thursday. It is much appreciated and without it the 159th Scouts would not exist.

### Nigel Williams 159th Glasgow Scout Troop



## Church Golf Outing: 24<sup>th</sup> August 2024

The annual Church Golf Outing was successfully resurrected after a lapse of a few years, initially caused by COVID. 23 competitors participated in a two ball, alternate shot Stableford competition over 10 holes at Hagsgs Caste Golf Club. Fortunately, the weather just held out for everyone.

The winners were Sue Webster partnered with John Duthie, ahead of the pairing of Moira White and Alexander Webster. The Ladies' nearest the pin at the 2nd hole was also won by Sue Webster and the Gentlemen's nearest the pin was won by Stuart Yuill.

In the evening, 43 people enjoyed a delicious meal at Hagsgs Castle Golf Club with lots of chat, laughter and fellowship around the tables.

### Iain Webster



## Women's Group: Glasgow Street Aid – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Our first meeting of the year was with Alison Hepburn from Glasgow Street Aid – this is a city centre based charity which provides first response support. They work alongside the already established stretched resources of the emergency services and provide support on Friday and Saturday evenings (7.30pm-4am) and on Sundays from 7.30pm until midnight. Their volunteers are trained and equipped to provide urgent medical and welfare assistance to the public. For example, in 2024 alone, there have been more than 1051 drug related deaths in Glasgow and Glasgow Street Aid provides an after midnight needle exchange programme in the City. Glasgow Street Aid has a medical and welfare centre which doubles up as its operations centre at 56 Union Street in the centre of Glasgow. The charity is fully self-funded and therefore relies

on charitable donations to support its important work. At the end of the evening we were pleased to provide a donation of £186 towards Glasgow Street Aid's essential work. The photograph shows our group outside 'Dixie' their emergency ambulance.



## Fund Raising – Success with new accessible toilet completed



The 100 Envelope challenge was launched on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March and came to an end in May 2024 and due to everyone's generosity, it was incredibly successful. There were 58 contributors and donations received amounted to £3,384. As many of the donations were Gift Aided we were able to increase this amount by a further £747 meaning that we raised £4,131. A further sum of £500 was donated to the project by the AM Choir meaning that we were within £400 of the targeted £5050. The money was put towards the cost of a new accessible toilet

which was constructed over the summer for the benefit of all who use the Church Halls. This was the first project initiated by the Fund Raising Committee and they would like to thank everybody who has supported them so generously.

Our new accessible toilet is shown below – outside the small hall. Thanks to Rob Abbott and the Property Committee for delivering the project on time and on budget.



## Young Church - we need your help

We are looking for volunteers to join a team of people willing to assist with looking after our young church. We have a very small but committed number of children attending worship. Currently they rely on family members to take them out after the all-age address. If we were successful in recruiting a modest number of volunteers, then you would only need to volunteer three or four times a year. Materials will be provided, including a bible story and activity. We have had an initial meeting and plans are now afoot to develop this initiative. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Marjorie or Adam.

## Winter Fayre – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November: 10am - 12 noon



Another initiative from the Fund Raising team which has had enthusiastic support from the Social, Flower and Plant Sale committees. The plan is to set up tables in the following categories and your support will be much appreciated:

**House plants:** Christmas cacti, succulents, indoor begonias, spider plants, wandering sailor, mini conifers, holly, etc. If anyone has any spare house plants, or some that you have been propagating, these will all be welcome. Feel free to speak or email me if you'd like to discuss. We would be particularly grateful to anyone with a **heated greenhouse** or indoor space to take trays of plants prior to the sale.

**Decorative pots:** we would like to collect these over the next few months and put as many of the plants in them at the time of the sale. Any extra we will sell at an additional table just as we do at the May plant sale.

**Christmas table decorations, wreaths and flower arrangements:** the Flower Committee has kindly agreed to revive the annual sale of these items, which they did every year pre-Covid, although some items will only be available to pre-order on the sale day.

**Church Advent Calendars:** these are currently being prepared and may well go on sale before the end of November. We plan to have a surplus to sell at the Advent Fayre.

**Knitted items:** Mags Cargey assures me the Yarn Stormers are preparing seasonal items for this event.

**Seasonal consumables:** consider this an appeal for jam, chutney and baking for the sale.

**Church Christmas cards:** using some of Shona Heaney's beautiful artwork, the Fundraising Committee is looking at the possibility of producing Sherbrooke Mossspark Christmas Cards (in addition to the usual Christmas cards which we sell on behalf of our local charities).

**Christmas candles:** as at the Plant Sale we plan to have some appropriately scented candles.

**Scouts Home baking table:** produced by the Scouts and their families

**Coffee/Tea and scones:** Jan's outstanding catering will be available in the small hall during the sale.

Many thanks in advance for your support for this seasonal event.

Stuart Hislop

## What's on?



**Soup and Chat:** please join us in the small hall for delicious soup, cheese and biscuits and sweet treats! Dates for coming seasons are:

2024: 8<sup>th</sup> October, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 10<sup>th</sup> December

2025: 14<sup>th</sup> January, 11<sup>th</sup> February, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 13<sup>th</sup> May, 10<sup>th</sup> June

@ 12noon – 1.30pm

£4 per head with any profits going to charities

**Sherbrooke Yarn Stormers:** whether you are an experienced knitter or just starting out, joining this group will be a lot of fun – tea, coffee, biscuits and chat promised.



Our next meetings are on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 15<sup>th</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> November, 19<sup>th</sup> November, 3<sup>rd</sup> December and 17<sup>th</sup> December, 1-3.30pm, in the small reception room.

All you need are some knitting needles (size 4mm) and a ball of double knitting wool. We have a Christmas project on the go alongside some ideas for Harvest.

**AM Chorus:** has started back. 10am Wednesdays in the large hall. Everyone is welcome for a fun time singing together followed by refreshments.

**Women's Group:** we generally meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the small hall and enjoy a varied programme of speakers and attending events over the year. Our programme for the next few months is as follows:

- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 7.30pm – Introduction to quilting – Rev Tara Porr Granados
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm – Guide from Glasgow Cathedral
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 7pm (Provisional timing) – Cooking evening at PPWH

Please contact Jan Bostock or Clare Williams for further information on these events.

**Guild:** meet every Wednesday afternoon in the Harvest Glasgow Hall from 1.30pm until around 3pm. Our membership is still around the 18-20 mark and our syllabus covers a wide range of speakers and events. Fun time of fellowship, please come along, men and women welcome. Autumn session commenced on 11<sup>th</sup> September and we welcomed our minister Rev Adam Dillon on 18<sup>th</sup> September who dedicated the Guild for the year ahead.

**Great Scottish Run – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October:** our service will be held at 6pm to alleviate potential travel issues emanating from both the run and football related traffic.

**Kirk Session:** our next Kirk Session will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November in the small hall at 7.30pm.

**Communion:** our next communion will be held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

## Save the date:

- Elders' conference: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November after morning worship
- Remembrance Service: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 10.45am
- Winter Fayre: Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November
- Church Christmas lunch: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, Sherbrooke Castle Hotel.
- Gift Service: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December (provisional date)
- Carols by Candlelight –Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## Our Regular weekly meetings

**Badminton:** Monday – 7.30pm

**Taekwondo:** Monday – 6pm

### Scouts:

- Beavers: Wednesday – 6.30pm
- Cubs: Tuesday – 7pm
- Scouts: Thursday – 7.30pm
- Explorer Scouts: Wednesday 7.45pm

**Karate:** Friday 7pm

## Upcoming Events

As you can see we have a full diary of upcoming events with our sanctuary serving as a true community hub. Continued thanks to Anne McCaig our Halls & Sanctuary Booking Manager who, alongside our Church officer team of Rebekah Dillon and Shona Heaney, provide a warm welcome to all the groups who use our church buildings.

October: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>: Glasgow Studio Orchestra  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>: Glasgow Orchestral Society

November: Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>: Glasgow Sinfonia  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>: Paisley Sinfonia  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>: Glasgow Chamber Orchestra

December: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>: Glasgow Symphony Orchestra  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup>: Strathclyde University Symphony Orchestra  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>: Merchant Sinfonia

**Our next newsletter:** the plan is to publish the next newsletter after Christmas. If you have any articles or photos which you'd like to share, please send to Clare Williams or Janis Walker in the Church office. Thank you.