

# SHERBROOKE MOSSPARK NEWS SHEET

Welcome to this E edition of our Church News Sheet. It is not the magazine but it will give you some information about what is going on in our life. We will produce something like this monthly.

## The Sanctuary

The rainbows appearing in windows all around the parish have been an absolute delight to see.

Countless children have worked hard at painting and drawing their rainbow's, large and small, and placing them prominently for people to see. I just hope their parents have taken the time to explain the significance of the rainbow as a sign of hope and God's relationship with His creation. This window, from the nave of the sanctuary, sits above the main door and as people leave the kirk they walk under that rainbow - a sign of God's blessing.

It is hard to think that we have been in what is called "lockdown since March 24<sup>th</sup>. but the reality is we have. Our streets are very quiet; the roads are almost empty; schools, restaurants, pubs and many shops are still closed. In many ways it would appear life has been put on hold. What do we do with this time? Many are creating new, more gentle, rhythms for life where the freneticism and business of before has been replaced by a more peaceful, possibly less demanding, lifestyle.

The church building is closed and will remain so until we are informed by the government and the Church authorities we can return to worship in our beautiful sanctuary. Please remember it is the building that is closed not the faith community. Many of you are doing amazing things to help others following the injunction of our Lord to care for all people, and for this we thank God. God keep you safe in this time



## **WORSHIP AT SHERBROOKE MOSSPARK**



Each Sunday, John uploads an act of worship for the day. It will include, on most occasions, a couple of short prayers, a reading from the scriptures, a little "sermon" and music appropriate for the day. He even has a virtual choir singing for us most weeks. All these constituent parts are recorded in various places and forwarded to John and Mags that you can access them via the kirk website. Please join us for Sunday worship each week.

Each morning, on the website, there will be a wee short "Thought for the Day"

## **KEEPING IN TOUCH**

If you have any news you want to share with a wider number of people send it in and we will publish it.

Congratulations to both Jack and Anne Steele and Andrew and Barbara Normand – both became grandparents again. Lovely news in terrible times.

Happy birthday to Elaine



## **Message from Session Clerk**

Hi there, Marie here. Last week Monday would have been Messy Church. Whilst we miss seeing everyone why not have a home MC. We start with a meal, often chilli or bolognese with a veggie option. A good chat with dinner then fun and games, bible stories and crafts. Having MC at home lets you mix and match any activity. Let MC friends know what you're up to and next month we could maybe celebrate together virtually!

Have you tried the church WhatsApp group. If you have a smartphone phone drop Janis an email with your mobile number and we will add you on. Every day we get a wee message from Tom and share.



# VIRTUAL CHOIR

## Sherbrooke Mossspark Virtual Church Choir

Who would have thought, so many weeks ago, that John would become a weekly visitor to the homes of the members of Sherbrooke Mossspark Church Choir? Who would have thought that terms such as virtual, successfully downloaded, failure to download , transfer of files , voice recording app and WeTransfer would become familiar terms to some of those in the choir with limited tech. skills?

Some may have thought that the pieces ,sung by the choir during the on-line Sunday Morning Services during this difficult time, were recordings from past years. Not at all---this is the Virtual choir led by the magician John who takes everything apart ,then puts it altogether again.

John suggested that we try a Virtual choir for the first Sunday of Lockdown and having started with a Kyrie ---in which young Martha Gormley starred---we now contribute Kyries , Psalms ,Hymns and Anthems! John emails to each person ( usually timed in the middle of Wednesday night /early Thursday morning! )the pieces for the upcoming Sunday--- the words ,the music as appropriate for each part and ,of course, the video of John conducting and singing each of the 4 parts---a mammoth effort by him. Each of us then sings the appropriate part back to the conducting John on screen—a nerve-racking solo audition/performance !

Some sing into a mike attached to the laptop or inbuilt ,others tried the brief audio recording device on the mobile ( not very good) but, best of all, a voice recording app. It took me an hour or so to master the Easy Voice Recorder app.! I then have to have at least 3 eyes to follow my music line ,the words and conductor John on screen and ,at least 3 hands to press play, pause .record ,delete, listen and save on the mobile and laptop

At last the recording of the piece has been completed – still awful–on the mobile app. Now I have to send myself an email on my laptop with the recording as an attachment ,download it and play it back for a few seconds to make sure I pressed the correctly numbered recording---now up in the 20s!. Then ,by way of wonderful WeTransfer, I complete a note on screen to send an email to John downloading the numbered recording which I first of all have to find in my Documents!. I press Transfer and am extremely happy when I receive a confirming email that it has gone ---and- even better- it has been downloaded by John. If there is a second piece to record---start again!

Then over to John to use his magic powers to weave the separate recordings into the tapestry of familiar and reassuring Kyries Psalms ,Hymns and Anthems -- for all of you.

# A POEM ENJOYED BY MARGARET DAWSON

Pam Ayres' Poem

## Time for us girls

I'm normally a social girl  
I love to meet my mates  
But lately with the virus here  
We can't go out the gates.

You see, we are the 'oldies' now  
We need to stay inside  
If they haven't seen us for a while  
They'll think we've upped and died.

They'll never know the things we did  
Before we got this old  
There wasn't any Facebook  
So not everything was told.

We may seem sweet old ladies  
Who would never be uncouth  
But we grew up in the 60s -  
If you only knew the truth!

There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll  
The pill and miniskirts  
We smoked, we drank, we partied  
And were quite outrageous flirts.

Then we settled down, got married  
And turned into someone's mum,  
Somebody's wife, then nana,  
Who on earth did we become?

We didn't mind the change of pace  
Because our lives were full  
But to bury us before we're dead  
Is like a red rag to a bull!

So here you find me stuck inside  
For 4 weeks, maybe more  
I finally found myself again  
Then I had to close the door!

It didn't really bother me  
I'd while away the hour  
I'd bake for all the family  
But I've got no flaming flour!

Now Netflix is just wonderful  
I like a gutsy thriller  
I'm swooning over Idris  
Or some random sexy killer.

At least I've got a stash of booze  
For when I'm being idle  
There's wine and whiskey, even gin  
If I'm feeling suicidal!

So let's all drink to lockdown  
To recovery and health  
And hope this awful virus  
Doesn't decimate our wealth.

We'll all get through the crisis  
And be back to join our mates  
Just hoping I'm not far too wide  
To fit through the flaming gates!

# WE ARE SURVIVORS BY MURIEL MANNING

## **WE ARE SURVIVORS (for those born before 1940)**

We were born before television, before penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, videos and the pill. We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball-point pens, before dishwashers, tumble driers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothes.... And before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together (how quaint can you be?). We thought 'fast food' was what you ate in Lent, a 'Big Mac' was an oversized raincoat and 'crumpet' we had for tea. We existed before house-husbands, computer dating and 'sheltered accommodation' was where you waited for a bus.

We were before day care centres, group homes and disposable nappies. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, artificial hearts, word processors, or young men wearing earrings. For us, 'time sharing' meant togetherness, a 'chip' was a piece of wood or fried potato, 'hardware' meant nuts and bolts and 'software' wasn't a word.

Before 1940 'Made in Japan' meant junk, the term 'making out' referred to how you did in your exams, 'stud' was something that fastened a collar to a shirt and 'going all the way' meant staying on a double-decker bus to the terminus. In our day, cigarette smoking was 'fashionable', 'grass' was mown, 'coke' was kept in the coal-house, a 'joint' was a piece of meat you ate on Sundays and 'pot' was something you cooked in. 'Rock music' was a fond mother's lullaby, 'Eldorado' was an ice cream, a 'gay person' was the life and soul of the party, while 'aids' just meant beauty treatment of help for someone in trouble.

We who were born before 1940 must be a hardy bunch when you think of the way in which the world has changed and the adjustments we have had to make. No wonder there is a generation gap to-day....BUT

By the Grace of God.....we have survived!"

Muriel Manning

# RHONA'S UNIVERSITY YEARS

## Rona Lochhead - The University Years



In 1943 having secured a place to study Modern Foreign Languages at Edinburgh University, I had applied and was successful in gaining a bursary for Masson Halls where I stayed for my University career. I majored in French and the subsidiary language was German. My honours Degree required me to spend my 3rd year in France (1945 - 46) and as there were not sufficient places for everyone, I was delighted to be offered a place as an assistant in a secondary school in Le Mans, Lycee des Jeunes Filles, Rue Berthelot. I felt I was a "rotten" Assistant. No-one suggested any training and I found it hard to get the 16/17 years olds to talk in English as I was meant to.

As Le Mans was a centre for the local rural community some of the girls boarded so I was able to have a room there. I struck up friendships with some French students from the University of Caen who were Maitresses d'internat, which meant that after attending their university classes during the day they had to supervise the girls in the evenings and slept in the dorms with them. It was a way of earning money to pay their way through university. I would eat my meals with these young women. One of these women, Leone Cordier, became a particular friend and I spent some of my free time with Leone and her family and even met up with them for Reveillon (the traditional midnight meal on New Years Eve) in Paris where I was spending the Christmas holiday with the other 3 Edinburgh students who were also on placement ( 2 in Caen and one in Orleans). I also went to stay with them at Leone's family house at St Hilaire St Florent near Saumur. The Cordier family were very welcoming and we became firm friends. Leone's father was an artist and I was given a lovely oil painting by him when Leone came to Dundee to visit the next summer. It still hangs on my dining room wall and is a talking point for me and the family who enjoy hearing of their mother and grandmother's adventures en France! It shows one of the chateau in the Loire and a spot where we had picnicked sitting on the sand bank in the picture. Recently Elspeth, my eldest daughter, took me back to see the house where the Cordier family had lived and in fact Leone's sister still lived there and welcomed us in. There was lots to catch up on after 60 odd years away!

I found the experience of being in France exciting and loved the new adventure. I was used to being away from home having been at boarding school before university.

Rationing was still in force in 1945 although the French had so little at the end of the war they seemed a little more relaxed and inventive about things than back in Scotland. I found the language development fantastic and still to this day can carry on a conversation on French. For the first month in France, as no one spoke any English, I was exhausted from listening all the time to understand. Gradually my ear became accustomed to the new language and after the first painful month I started to be able to join in the chat at the lunch table and fit in with the locals.

On returning to Edinburgh in the summer of 1946 I had to settle back into student life for my final year and found the adjustment hard. Having said that, at the end of the course in the summer of 1947 I received a 1st class class certificate allowing me to sit honours which I achieved with a 2:1 (editor's note: which in those days was extremely hard to come by). I remember meeting one of my profs during the exam term in Princes St when I was on my way to play tennis and trying desperately to hide the racquet. To my surprise the prof said that he was delighted to see that I was fitting in some sport during my revision!

I applied to the Civil Service and was offered a position in Edinburgh. I (tactfully) declined saying I had been there for the last 4 years and would prefer to work elsewhere. I was surprised when they offered me a position in London. On arriving in London I was delighted to find out that in fact I had been assigned to the Foreign Office, the Consular Department, looking after the welfare of British nationals in France. This meant daily telephone conversations with the British consulate in Paris which I just loved and found extremely interesting. I recall that one of my contacts came over to London for a holiday after I had been there for about a year. It was extraordinary to meet the face behind the voice and it seemed really odd meeting the person whom I had known only as a voice until then.

Initially I stayed at the YWCA with my friend from University in Scotland, Margaret Baxter (later Hannay) who was attending secretarial college in London, where we met a couple of other girls who were looking for a flatmate. We both moved into the flat in Hampstead. We were all young women together and as a result one, then another left to be married as in those days it was not the practice to carry on working! After a summer holiday on the Isle of Arran in Blackwaterfoot, I kept in touch with a young Captain, Finlay Lochhead, who had also been holidaying with friends there. Romance soon blossomed and just as I was beginning to think nothing was coming of it, Finlay arrived with an engagement ring in hand! This meant an end to my career in London but a whole new beginning in Glasgow!

# RANALD'S DESERT ISLAND DISCS

1. The theme music from the film "Schindler's List" by John Williams.  
A hugely moving and atmospheric theme to match the story.
2. The Lark Ascending by Vaughan Williams. John Gormley accompanied A young student violinist playing this piece at a concert early in his time at Sherbrooke
3. The Ashokan Farewell by Ungar. In this instance it was not played by A Military Band but by the "Tourie Band" an offshoot of the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra who played in Sherbrooke under Stewart McCreath.
4. The Flower Duet by Delibes. This memory comes from wandering in Covent Garden one beautiful day and finding Student String instrumental and Vocal Buskers
5. Zadoc the Priest by Handel. This memory goes back to the first joint Service we did under John Gormley at St Margaret's in Newlands! Serious stuff and exciting.
6. The Dark Island Trad. Iain MacLachlan. This goes back many, many years to a camping trip to Barra and the Outer Hebrides but first sung at a Sherbrooke Woman's Guild informal concert but with Dot Cook trying to keep me on the straight and narrow. Still a stalwart of the AM Chorus.
7. The Love Theme from The Gadfly by Shostakovich Shostakovich. This piece I find is so soothing and calming with much of the composer's work he seems to be able to transcend various areas of taste.
8. I Belong to Glasgow by Will Fyfe. This is really to incorporate my other great love.....Glasgow Warriors as the teams run on at Scotstoun  
  
I would have included some hymn favourites. Perhaps for another day!

## **My luxury item would be a "Tardis"**

I hate long distance travel and having two sons with wives and three grandchildren in Sydney, this would allow me not having to depend on them making all the effort coming to Scotland for family reunions!

## **My Favourite Book.**

However as for reading I tend to like crime novels with particular emphasis on Scottish Authors and those with particular geographic emphasis!

Denzil Meyrick covers The Kintyre Peninsula and Quintin Jardine is very specific in suburbs of Glasgow.

Ranald Findlay

# FLOWER FUN WITH HAZEL HILL

Hello.

How about a little easy flower arranging to brighten up your lockdown and bring the outside in. "Jam jar chic" is all the rage in the flower magazines. We can do that!

First find 3 containers. Anything that holds water is a container. I used an old bud vase, an ink bottle and a milk bottle. See, shabby chic and vintage! Now arrange your containers and then half fill them with water.

Out to the garden or the park or give your house plants a trim. Find a nice variety of leaves and a flower or two. Cut flowers are hard to find at the moment, but you can live without them. Follow the example of the Sherbrooke Phantom and have a look in the wild places of Pollokshields!



Pop your plant material into the containers. Don't be fussy. It's all supposed to look very natural.

Looking forward to being back soon, arranging your flowers in church.

Stay well, Hazel

## Keeping in touch

Have you been looking at the Church website? There's loads going on. Mags and Marie are doing a power of work while we are in this limbo status ensuring that we all keep communicating. Please use the news blog section to tell us what you are up to. You can also enter the selfie competition each week and we will give out the prizes when we are all allowed back together. Mags is looking for that "Desert Island" person who doesn't mind sharing their discs with the rest of us so please send in your list. See the website for the details. It follows the pattern of the programme of the same name on Radio4. Tom was the first "castaway" Please, it is important you share your news that we all still feel connected.



## **Christian Aid Week 2020 : 10-16 May: can you please donate direct**

Normally we offer a house collection for Christian Aid week in our parish streets and offer the opportunity to our congregations to contribute through Christian Aid envelopes distributed in our Church prior to and around that week.

Last year we sent £1971 to Christian Aid, of which nearly £1400 was gift aided: and many thanks to all who assisted in that effort too.

Obviously donating via envelopes in our Church is not possible this year. However there is still the opportunity for you to make individual donations via either:

the Christian Aid website at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/christian-aid-week> , or

if you receive an email from Janis about Christian Aid Week, please press the 'digital resources' button, and that will take you to the opportunity to make an online donation direct to Christian Aid using your credit or debit card, and

that button also gives various other opportunities to become involved, though a quiz, starting your own fundraising events, ..... etc.

Please gift aid your donation if possible.

'Soup and Chat' is currently suspended, so we are not currently sending donations to Christian Aid from those efforts by Grace Guse and others either.

If you have any further suggestions for raising funds for Christian Aid at this time, please contact me on [janetmbrand@aol.com](mailto:janetmbrand@aol.com) or on 0141 424 0648. Many thanks, and, in anticipation of your support.

Stay safe and may God bless you. Best wishes,

Janet Lamb

# ANNE'S QUIZ

## ANSWERS REVEALED NEXT TIME

1. In the Old Testament how many sons did Jacob have ?
2. What is the official publication of the Salvation Army called ?
3. In which Bond film is the villain Scaramanga ?
4. Is the Tropic of Capricorn in the northern or southern hemisphere ?
5. Whose marriage is the subject of an opera by Mozart ?
6. What nationality was the artist Goya ?
7. What is the common name for a contusion?
8. Which fantasy world is inhabited by the characters in The Lord of the Rings?
9. What links the Roman God of War and Slough ?
10. What name is given to the drink of whisky and ginger wine ?
11. In which galaxy is Earth located?
12. What does PC stand for on an Ordnance Survey map?
13. Monkswell Manor is the setting for which stage play?
14. In the English and Scottish professional football leagues, which one is unique in having a letter in its name which no other club has?
15. Excluding Russia which European country has the longest coastline ?
16. By which name was Paul of Tarsus previously known?
17. How many US states begin with the letter A?
18. Which animal comes first in the English dictionary?
19. What is the official language of Chile?
20. What word beginning with the letter P is a film title, a type of cheese and an American city?



## Pick up a P.....

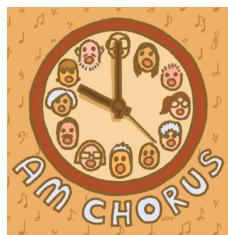
They were first produced in 1932 by William McDonald, a biscuit manufacturer in Glasgow, and became a McVitie's brand when McDonald joined with McVitie's and Price, MacFarlane Lang & Co and Crawford to form United Biscuits in 1948. Each wrapper had a joke or "funny fact" printed on it. During the 1980s, the Penguin brand became known for their television advertising slogan "P...P...P...Pick up a penguin!"

How about during Lockdown we all P....P....P....Pick up a Pen and share our experiences with others who are not using the internet or the church's what's app group. Your stories of what you are doing differently during lockdown will be in the Sherbrooke Mossspark record books. A bit like the world war archives we have.

These can be written and posted to the office. I will then type them for our next E Church News Letter. We are planning to post the E Church New Letter to members of the congregation not using the internet about every 4 weeks. I might even run round the avenues delivering some of them!

Mags Cargey

## **VIRTUAL CONCERT BY THE A M Chorus Friday 8 May - Time TBC**



" The A M Chorus will be staging another virtual concert, in their homes, on VE Day - Friday 8 May. The content and timing of the Concert have not yet been finalised, but it will include :-

It's a long way to Tipperary

Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag

Keep the home fires burning

Keep right on to the end of the road

We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when.

Everyone will then read aloud in their homes the enclosed prayer provided by our Minister  
The National Anthem - "God Save the Queen"

I hope you will be with us in spirit on 8 May and that you will sing these songs and join us in our prayer as you sit by your fireside.

Brian"

If you have ideas and suggestions for our E Church News Sheet

please email or call the office.

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0141 427 1968

# VE DAY

75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

## **Sherbrooke Mossspark Parish Church**

Prayer for VE Day 2020 Friday 8 May 2020

(75th Anniversary of the cessation of the 2nd World War)

Almighty God, hear our prayer, as we meet to honour and remember those, who, in time of great trial and danger, gave their lives that we might know peace; and those who, today, battle against a virus that threatens our very existence.  
PAUSE.....(count to 5)

We remember before you -

the sacrifice of our armed forces who gave their lives for the cause of peace  
those who worked at home supporting the war effort  
the civilians killed and maimed by war  
the Commonwealth, our allies and friends, who stood alongside us in our hour of need  
those, this day, still suffering, as a consequence of war.

PAUSE.....(count to 5)

We pray for those today, battling against this threat to our well-being -

the doctors, nurses and care staff around the country  
the people who enable daily living to continue  
the unsung, and often unknown, heroes offering acts of kindness and support  
Pause.....(count to 5)

We pray for those

who have experienced this illness  
who have lost loved ones  
whose lives will be forever changed  
who struggle with mental health issues because of this situation.

Lord God, we offer this prayer, trusting in your love and mercy at all times. To you Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be all praise in this world and the next.

Amen.

