



**Tom’s Final Service Sunday 25/4/21**

Thank you to everyone who made this morning [25/4/21] so memorable for myself and the family - we are really grateful.

It was lovely to see the folk, to hear John play (the concluding voluntary was the music to which Elaine and I left the church on the day of our wedding, 1982) and to hear Chris sing.

Thank you Clare for your kind words about me and my ministry at Sherbrooke Moss Park. Trust me, I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. The kindness of the congregation is amazing - I could never have imagined people would be so generous toward me, I am truly humbled. Please be assured, both my really wonderful quach and my very attractive paperweight will get pride of place in our new home. I want to show them off as reminders of my super eighteen years with you all.

I would like to convey my thanks to the Kirk Session for all they have done to make my ministry so enjoyable in all those years and to the congregation for their amazing generosity in contributing to the gifts.

Sherbrooke will always have a special place in my heart and both Elaine and I will treasure our lovely memories of the community.

May Almighty God bless you

Tom



## In Remembrance



Very often we hold Thanksgiving or Memorial Services for our family and friends in our kirk but this is not always possible during the current crisis with its restrictions on gatherings. It is our privilege to bring you the names of our folk, whose lives we will remember in our community, and in this way give thanks to God for them.

### **Marie Baird**

9/2/1964 - 2/4/2021

### **William Ian Russell** MBChb DRCOG

23/8/1924 - 15/4/2021



Christian Aid Week 10 - 16 May 2021

This year we shall again be seeking personal donations. You can make a donation via the web site [www.christinaid.org.uk/Scotland](http://www.christinaid.org.uk/Scotland) or telephone no. 0131 220 1254.

If you wish for a donation envelope, please contact Janet Lamb @ email - [janetmbrand@aol.com](mailto:janetmbrand@aol.com) or telephone her on 0141 424 0648, and she can drop one off to your address. Please be generous this year.

If it's been challenging for us, how much more so for those less advantaged.

Thanks,  
Janet Lamb.

## Meet Douglas Clark our Locum Minister



My first job was with The Clyde Port Authority. In 1966 while I was with The Clyde Port Authority I met Janette.

Although I was a member of the church and very active in the Boys' Brigade my father died very suddenly when I was 17 and I stopped going to church and the Boys' Brigade.

Janette sang in the choir of St George's Tron Church in Glasgow and ran the Brownies.

The only way to see Janette on a Sunday was to go to church.

I slowly found my way back to church and as they say the rest is history.

I became an elder and treasurer at St David's Memorial Park church in Kirkintilloch and it was there I felt called to the ministry.

By this time Janette and I had been married for a number of years and had twin sons.

I enrolled at Glasgow University as a mature student on an Access Course to gain qualifications to allow me to become a full time divinity student.

After university I was the probationer at Montrose Old Church with the Rev Laurence Whitley.

My first charge was Belhelvie Church in the Gordon Presbytery, that was followed by East Kilbride Old and my final charge was Lenzie Old.

During my ministry I was Prison Chaplain at Craiginches Prison in Aberdeen also 18 years as Prison Chaplain in Barlinnie Prison.

Since retiring I have been the Locum at Cadder Bishopbriggs Church, St David's Memorial Park Church in Kirkintilloch and for the past few years, during the summer months Locum on Islay.

I am looking forward to being Locum Minister at Sherbrooke Mosspark Church.

Douglas Clark

## Session Clerk News

Session Clerk News: what a busy and poignant month it has been.

We sadly lost our dear friend and previous Session Clerk, Marie Baird on 2nd April. Marie's funeral was held on Thursday 15th April with the streamed service watched by over 500 people. Our thoughts and prayers are with Robert and the family at this time.

We have also lived through the end of an era with Tom's retirement after 18 years with Sherbrooke Mosspark. We wished him a fond farewell last Sunday 25th April - there are lots of lovely photos of the event including the various gifts presented to Tom, Elaine and Neil on the website. It was a lovely day and we enjoyed fellowship with the Pollock family as they start a new chapter in their lives. Thank you to everyone for providing such a splendid 'send off' to Tom. Special thanks though must go to Julian Guse for organising the presents for the whole family, including the fantastic hoodie and baseball cap for Neil. The music composition gift from Grace Guse was very special which you can hear on the church service recording. Two beautifully prepared flower arrangements, courtesy of the flower committee, were also presented to Elaine and Mairi.

We are now being 'looked after' by Mark Johnstone, our interim moderator and Douglas Clark, our Locum Minister. Many of you had the opportunity to meet Mark when he came to preach on Sunday 11th April and Elders have joined the Kirk Sessions which have been held over the past month (I think there have been 3, 2 of which Mark has chaired). Mark will continue to be involved in the 'business side' of church matters - chairing Kirk Session meetings, playing an integral role in the vacancy process and supporting Douglas and me. Douglas Clark has been appointed as our Locum Minister; he will conduct our Sunday services and provide pastoral care for our church community over two days each week. Please contact either me, Mark Johnstone or Douglas Clark for any pastoral areas during the coming months. Janis Walker, our church administrator, is continuing her sterling work and please continue to contact her for any office related matters.

The vacancy process has got off to a good start. We elected 13 members to our nominating committee who have already had two meetings during April. Garry Borland has been elected as Convener of the committee with Marco Gaudoin as the Clerk. The committee has produced a parish profile (which you can find on the website and will be used for individuals seeking information on our parish) and our vacancy is now being shown on the Church of Scotland vacant charge database. We would also welcome any personal recommendations of ministers known to our congregation, - so please contact Garry or Marco if this is the case. In addition, we have received the 'go ahead' to start recruiting a new Church and Community outreach worker.

George Galloway has intimated that after 40 years' service on the Property Committee, he wishes to 'retire'. What an amazing service George has provided to our church community over many years but he has assured me that he and Margaret will still be around to advise as we move forward. Thank you George. I am delighted to inform you that Carole Mackie has very kindly agreed to take on the role as Property Convener.

Looking forward, I am pleased that we managed to 'engineer' a mini-plant sale. Thanks must go to Stuart Hislop and his team of volunteers who pulled it all together, including all the Covid-19 compliance aspects. A super opportunity to re-start our church life.

I would also like to thank everyone for all the support they have provided to me during my first month as Session Clerk. Please feel free to contact me either at home, on the mobile or via email if you would like to discuss any element of the church work.

Clare

## The General Assembly 2021

The Church of Scotland General Assembly for 2021 will be held online for a second year. It will open on Saturday 22nd May at 10:00am, with a morning session that will include the installation of the Moderator, followed by an afternoon session at 1:00pm. Business sessions from the following Monday to Thursday will be across two afternoon sessions, at 1:00pm and 4:00pm.

The proceedings will be live streamed and available for everyone to watch on the Church of Scotland website, [www.churchofscotland.org.uk/ga](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/ga), where you can also read the General Assembly Reports and publications, usually referred to as "The Blue Book". Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, has been appointed the Lord High Commissioner to the 2021 General Assembly.

Of course, preparations for this event have been in place for some time. The Interim Presbytery Clerk for Glasgow Presbytery, Rev. Dr. Grant Barclay, has given guidance on what Commissioners might expect and further training days have been arranged to explain the "Assembly Hub", which will be the means by which Commissioners can contribute to the various debates. We are told that there will be an unseen army of helpers to assist with the technology, and that in this instance, two screens are definitely better than one. Rumours that there have been experiments with a foot stomping sound effect in the event of a majority vote are probably without foundation.

No communal singing will be a sad loss for many, but we are promised personally focussed worship and encouraged to play our part in determining the future of the Church in Scotland.

Una Heaney

## A Pandemic Baby

Tom Fits in a Baptism of a Pandemic Baby - Freddie Wright

At the service on Sunday 18 April the masked, socially distanced, numerically limited congregation had the unusual, but happy experience in the coronavirus period of a baptism.



Frederick Christie Normand Wright is a pandemic baby, who was born in April 2020, and his baptism was delayed by the periods of lockdown restrictions. His parents, Julia and Alistair (and all the family, including his grandparents Andrew and Barbara Normand) were delighted and very grateful that Tom managed to fit Freddie's baptism in during his (Tom's) second last service before retiring

Current COVID rules meant that the procedure was a bit different from normal. As Tom said as he was about to perform the baptism ceremony: "At this stage I would normally be doing some weightlifting..." (Freddie takes after his big brothers, George and Alexander, whose chunky build Tom experienced when he baptised them!) "But, (Tom continued) this time Julia is going to have to hold the baby - while I throw water at him!" And that's how Freddie Wright was baptised - see photo.



In the unusual circumstances this was a particularly special and memorable occasion. It was another example of Tom's marvellous, caring family ministry during his time at Sherbrooke St G's/Mosspark, from which wee Freddie is the latest member of Andrew and Barbara's family to have benefited. Not only was Tom prepared to travel east (to Edinburgh and Dirleton) to conduct the weddings of the Normand daughters, Alice and Julia, but with Freddie's baptism Tom has baptised all five of the grandchildren: George, Jacob, Alexander, Benjamin, Freddie - now aged 5,4,3,2,1. Quite an achievement! And greatly appreciated by all the family.

## Womens' Group

On Thursday 6 May we held our final Womens' Group meeting of the 2020-21 session, and hopefully our final meeting on Zoom. We were joined by Rev. Catherine Beattie of Giffnock South Parish Church, where she has just celebrated ten years as minister.

Catherine's entertaining talk was entitled "Mince to Ministry", the name arising from the fact that prior to being called to the ministry, Catherine had a career in the School Meals Service, ultimately as an area manager. Catherine spoke about her journey to being called, her training at several churches in Glasgow and in the chaplaincy service of the Southern General Hospital, and her time as minister of Gorbals Parish Church prior to joining Giffnock South. She had us all laughing at her tales of the characters she has met along the way, while at the same time inspiring us to think about our own faith and the journey we at Sherbrooke Mossspark are on as we look for a new minister.

Many thanks to everyone who has joined our virtual meetings over the last session and we will be back in September.

Jan & Clare

### **Anne's Fun Quiz Questions TV Shows (Past and Present)**

1. Persons inhabiting adjacent dwellings
2. Anonymous medical practitioner
3. Defective structures
4. Sad Disciple
5. Single extremity found in the last resting place
6. Singular idiots and equines
7. There is absolutely no reason for this programme
8. There could be many deaths on the longest day
9. A parent's troop
10. Solve the code and you have the series 22-5-17-1



## Plants and Flowers

### **Mini Plant Sale**

What a team! Thanks to the sterling efforts of Stuart Hislop and the Plant Sale Team ensuring that we were 'Covid Compliant' the Mini Plant Sale on Saturday 8 May, held outside in the church grounds, was a great success even on a cold and wet Saturday morning.

The impressive variety of plants for sale were mostly home grown, donated by keen gardeners in the church. They ranged from scary-looking cacti to gorgeous flower arrangements. McLaren's supplied the plants needed for the pre-orders with a few extra for sale on the day.

With the help of the check out ladies and our new Card Reader (we've become hi tech!) we made about £1,400 for church funds - not such a 'mini' sale after all.

Thanks are due to all who helped and to those who came along to support the sale. Finally a special thanks to the Scouts who were on hand to offer enthusiastic help wherever they were needed.

Lets hope we all enjoy a good summer and more relaxed days ahead.

Marjorie McGhie

### **Note to the Congregation from the Flower Committee**

I have an idea I'd like you to consider.

For very many years our church had an association with Craigholme School. This extended to the Flower Committee.

Every time the school held a special event in church, we were delighted to provide pedestals, bouquets and so on.

One of the last things we did was, sadly, flowers for a memorial service for the late Mrs Gilliland, much loved Principal.

Shortly after this a small tree planted in memory of Mrs Gilliland was transferred from the school to the church grounds. This has not been a success. The tree is dying and really needs to be replaced.

Do you think it would be a good idea for the Flower Committee to replace the tree with something better which will be properly planted? You are the generous supporters of the Committee so it's right that you should have a say.

Hope to hear from you soon. Either call or email me. All details on the Flower Group Page on our website.

## Desert Island Discs

Hazel Hill

### **Rena Findlay / Fletcher**

#### **1. John Dunbar theme from Dances with Wolves - John Barry**

I really enjoy classical music and had difficulty narrowing down my choices. However, this music particularly brings to mind watching Dances with Wolves with my Dad in our lounge in the family home in Nithsdale Road. We had underfloor heating, and we all enjoyed sitting on the floor watching TV, playing board games etc.

#### **2. Ladies in Lavender - Nigel Hess, played by Nicola Benedetti**

And this film I watched with Mum, also sitting on that warm floor! It is strange how particular pieces of music can take you right back to a certain place and time. I also love Nicola Benedetti, so this ticks a couple of boxes for me.

#### **3. These are the Times - Ralph Reader**

As some of you might know, all the Fletcher family have always been involved in one way or another with Scouting / Girlguiding, and of course Gang Show. My sister Moira was on cast of Glasgow Gang Show and then its Show Director. My brother Ian was on Stage Crew for years, Dad (wearing his magical hat!) designed, built and performed in an illusion act with 3 week's notice, featuring in the show at the Kings' Theatre in the early 80s. Mum was on the Wardrobe Team, I was Stage Manager for 15 years, and my niece Mandy and nephew Graham were on cast. Sadly, Glasgow Gang Show is no more. However, we are delighted that there is a Gang Show back on a Glasgow stage under the banner of South Western District Scout Council. I am the Manager, Moira is Directing and Mandy is the Choreographer. It is obviously on hold at the moment, although as soon as circumstances allow, we will be back! This song closes the show, and holds dear memories for us.

#### **4. The Song of the Clyde - Bell and Gourley, sung by Kenneth McKellar**

I was brought up in Ibrox Church (the original one that is now The Climbing Centre). Although Sherbrooke was nearer, when Mum and Dad first moved to Nithsdale Road in 1955 they joined Ibrox Church as a close friend of Dad's was an elder there. I was a member of the Junior Choir, where we learned all the Scottish songs. I often thought of (and occasionally sang!) this particular song when I lived and worked in Edmonton, Canada, and it also featured in the soundtrack of the Scottish magic act that Dad and Mum performed.

#### **5. Dancing Queen - Abba**

Who doesn't love Abba songs? When I worked in Edmonton many winter weekends were spent on the ski slopes of the Rockies, with all the Abba songs playing on the car

cassette player as we drove the 4 hours there and back. If the weather gets too hot on my desert island this will transport me back to the chilly Canadian winters.

### **Book - The complete works of Agatha Christie**

As a teenager I collected the whole set, scouring new and secondhand bookshops along the way, so I hope I'm allowed to take them all! They are delightfully written, and I get immersed in all the characters and plots.

### **Luxury item - Sodastream**

My main contribution towards climate change has been to stop buying plastic bottles of sparkling water, of which I consume copious amounts. My Sodastream will be well used!

Rena Findlay / Fletcher

### **A Castaway Reflects**

It is now more than a year ago since I spent my time on a Desert Island listening to my choice of music, reading my favourite Scottish Authors and wondering if I could change my habitat for a trip to the Outer Hebrides covered this past year by Susan Calman on her journeys!

In that time I have also enjoyed reading on this website the stories and choices of many in a similar pickle, and wondering if I were to start again my choices would have been different?

In turn the choices of these various refugees have raised many memories not least of which came from a recent castaway, Rena Findlay, who picked as one of her choices "These are the times" by Ralph Reader, a great song performed at Scout Gang Shows across the planet. I realised I knew every word albeit I had sung it originally at a Gang Show in 1947 in the Carnegie Hall in Dunfermline ( an exact replica of the US Version due to the links with Andrew Carnegie and his birthplace).

My main contribution that evening had been as Dolly Grey and attempting to sing "Goodbye Dolly I must leave you" reflecting the ongoing influence of the recent World War! and also highlighting the male domination of the Scout Movement! Shortages and other issues were still very much the order of the day!

Ranald Findlay



**Fun Quiz Answers    TV Shows**

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Persons inhabiting adjacent dwellings             | Neighbours            |
| 2. Anonymous medical practitioner                    | Doctor Who            |
| 3. Defective structures                              | Fawlty Towers         |
| 4. Sad Disciple                                      | Blue Peter            |
| 5. Single extremity found in the last resting place  | One Foot in the Grave |
| 6. Singular idiots and equines                       | Only Fools and Horses |
| 7. There is absolutely no reason for this programme  | Pointless             |
| 8. There could be many deaths on the longest day     | Midsomer Murders      |
| 9. A parent's troop                                  | Dad's Army            |
| 10. Solve the code and you have the series 22-5-17-1 | Vera                  |

Since lockdown restrictions began in March 2020 Anne has now produced 57 quizzes, which can be found with answers on our website.

## Saturday Night Fever by Roberta McLennan

I wearily glanced up at the clock: it was quarter past seven. Less than an hour to go before we could shut up shop. It had been a busy day and evening with an endless parade of customers coming in to buy their Saturday night treats. Whether they were going to the pictures, their local clubs or having a night in, we were their first stop and a good time was the last thing I was having. The shop was packed even now, but at least I knew I had to hold on just a little longer before I could collapse in a heap and relax for what remained of the evening.

I had barely caught my breath in a brief lull between customers when I suddenly noticed the man standing at the counter, seemingly materialised from nowhere. It was Mr Jackson, the minister from our local church. He was a lovely man, very kind and gentle. He smiled at me, then looked expectantly at my mother.

She arched her eyebrows at me, and I shrugged my shoulders in response. Cathy and Agnes looked at us inquiringly and the customers began to look around to see what was happening. The buzz gradually fizzled out and all became silent. Mr. Jackson grew red in the face and began fingering his collar.

At that moment, Dad emerged from the back shop. He beamed when he saw the minister at first, then his jaw dropped and he suddenly retreated to the back shop, slamming the door. The remaining customers were silent and motionless. They knew my father and were certain that whatever he was about to do would be more entertaining than whatever they could see in the cinema or on the telly.

From the back we heard metal trays being dropped and cries of anguish, while in front of everyone the normally composed Mr. Jackson was getting redder and redder in the face. He opened his mouth to address my mother when Dad came bouncing back into the front shop with a smile as beatific as it was false on his face and said, "Everything is under control. We will be there shortly."

Mr. Jackson gave him a relieved smile, glanced around at all the curious onlookers and made a hasty departure. Again we were all asking what was going on?

Dad sprang into action like a Glaswegian Basil Fawlty and began pushing reluctant customers out the door. When the doors were closed and locked then dad looked pleadingly at my mum. "Monica! Last week. Mrs Murray. The president of the Guild."

We all nodded, wondering where this was leading to.

"The Guild is having a supper evening tonight and she wanted us to provide the catering. She said she wanted to give us the business because we've been so supportive of the church. And I said that I would make up sandwiches and bring cakes to the church." Dad looked at the clock and groaned. "The supper starts at 8! What are we going to do?"

We all stood shocked for a few seconds. Then my mum rolled up her sleeves and said, "We're going to get organised. Alright everyone, we need bread, butter, tins of ham, salmon, jars of chicken breast, lettuce and tomatoes. Everything you can think of!"

Tired as we all were, my mother's command sent us all into action at record speed. We started grabbing everything we could, piling it on top of the counter where Mum stood, totting up what we had. The makings of a fine assortment of sandwiches were quickly assembled and we were beginning to feel like we might pull this off when we remembered: Cakes!!! We sold a lot of Tunnocks individual cakes, six in a box for 2/6d. There was very little left, though, after the busy day we'd had. Agnes suggested that we cut up the apple tart, strawberry flan and other larger cakes and arrange them in individual portions, a good idea that we quickly implemented.

As the others were gathering up the ingredients I ran to the hook where the tearoom keys were held. Dad was in the back with Cathy; they were both holding on to a corner of a box of cakes, trying to tug it out of each other's grips.

Dad was saying, while pulling at the box, "I am your boss and I want those cakes!"

"Oh, no you don't," Cathy snapped. "When I bought those cakes I was a customer. They're mine, Robert!"

Cathy, though, could be just as stubborn as my dad. She came from Islay, was in her late forties had never set foot on English soil as a matter of principal. She was a hoot.

I left them to it, arguing back and forth as they clutched onto their part of the box, reasoning that my mother would sort them out. I ran up to the tearoom and started emptying drawers and cupboards of every knife, cutting board and utensil I could find. Once everyone was gathered in the tearoom, in good assembly style fashion we made up the sandwiches, placing them on doily covered trays covered in cling film, followed by the cakes.

We all helped Dad load the Morris Minor shooting brake. Doors shut.

Dad looked at us expectantly. "Who is coming with me?"

In unison we all said, "Oh, no. You are on your own."

We were still embarrassed and decided that he could be the one to explain to the Guild Ladies why their supper was so late.

Roberta McLennan

## Church Community Update

Jan Bostock has very kindly agreed to take on the role of our GDPR officer.

Carole Mackie is our new property convener taking over from George Galloway who has recently retired from that role after 40 years of service.

Should you wish to contact the minister please call or email the office. Our Administrator Janis is able to access messages and calls remotely.

You can also contact our Session Clerk Clare Williams by email.  
EMAIL: [clarewilliams64@hotmail.com](mailto:clarewilliams64@hotmail.com)

Office Telephone: 0141 427 1968  
EMAIL: [sherbrooke-init@btconnect.com](mailto:sherbrooke-init@btconnect.com)

If you would like to send this post card to one of your friends please contact Janis in the office to sort out delivery.



Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this months magazine



