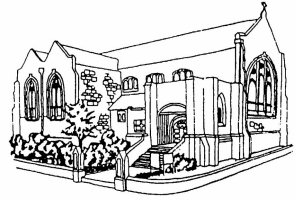


The monthly news from St. Paul's Church Milngavie

# Life



No 26 February 2005

Dear Friends,

It is good to get the bulk of Project 2006 behind us although, as in every building project of this size, there still remain a number of things to be done. For a little while yet there will be an unfinished look about some of the work but it will not be long before we enjoy the full benefit of the refurbished halls and foyer.

There will, of course, be an official dedication at some time in the near future. Hopefully an announcement will be made in next month's magazine.

I can hardly believe that the week beginning 7 February sees the start of Lent when we begin to look forward to Easter. It is a time I have always found beneficial with our special Saturday morning services and the call to consider where we are going in our Christian discipleship.

I firmly believe that God prepares special blessings for His people as they gather for worship. As we express all that we feel concerning the greatness of our God this is His opportunity to impress His will on our hearts and lead us forward in the life of faith. I hope then that our Lenten services will be a time of renewed commitment and strengthened faith.

## Lenten Services

Our traditional Lenten Services will take place from 9.30am until 10.00am every Saturday morning throughout the season commencing on Saturday 12 February. We will gather in the west transept.

## Presbytery Exchange

The annual Presbytery Exchange will take place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February. St. Paul's will be welcoming Rev. Jeanette Whitecross who has been minister of Old Kilpatrick Bowling for almost three years. Mr Vidits will be conducting the worship at Old Kilpatrick.

## CHURCH REGISTER

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

**Mrs Sharon Montgomery** 32 Keystone Quadrant, Milngavie  
42  
Now 55 Galbraith Drive, Milngavie  
37

### DEATHS

*Jesus said: 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'*

24.12.04 Mrs Sheila Campbell, Sunningdale Care Home  
51  
15.1.05 Mrs Christine Brown, 22 Craigton Gardens, Milngavie  
24  
19.1.05 Mrs Catherine Bertram, 9 Burnbrae Ave, Milngavie  
44

## **Project 2006**

The majority of the work on our halls has been completed and members are invited to view as they have an opportunity.

As is common on all projects like this, there still remains a significant amount of “snagging work” to be done which will take some time. This should not interrupt the normal use of the halls.

It is intended that the new entry at Baldernock Road will be more fully developed in the near future.

It is hoped that a Service of Dedication will take place in the early summer.

## **World Mission Diary for February**

We will remember the people who have been affected by the Tsunami tragedy this month and for a long time to come, for all those who have lost loved ones, their homes and all they possess and the people who are still waiting for news about their loved ones.

The World mission workers in the area are safe. Jane and Mike Fucella are in Thailand ,where Jane is a trained nurse . She has left her family and joined an emergency medical team set up by the Church of Thailand.. She is travelling to the south of Thailand . She has also registered with the British Embassy in Bangkok to assist in English / Thai translation.

John and Patricia Purves are in Sri Lanka as is John Purves who is the minister of St. Andrew's in Colombo. Several of the congregation have lost family members. They are collecting essential food ,clothing and medical items. They are also looking at a long term plan for aid.

We pray for God`s blessing and peace for them all.

## **COFFEE and MINCE PIES**

As intimated in January 'Life', £364 was raised for BEAM.

The following letter of thanks has been received:-

It was the best piece of news I've had yet, in a new year not notable for good news, when Desnée Ashley told me of your church's generous donation to BEAM. Please convey to your congregation the warmest thanks of myself as Treasurer and of all the members of BEAM, both the volunteers and our listeners.

Your gift comes at a particularly opportune time, since we are embarking on a programme of preventive maintenance of our recording and high-speed copying equipment. This means an added expense in the short term, but should work out cheaper in the long run than our practice hitherto of using equipment until it breaks down irreparably. Apart from the hoped-for financial savings from the new policy, it makes it less likely that our listeners will be disappointed by the failure to receive their expected weekly tape.

Desnée told me that your donation was going to be featured in the Milngavie and Bearsden Herald. This makes it doubly welcome, since we are always on the lookout for ways of publicizing the existence of BEAM to many potential listeners whom we suspect to exist.

With renewed thanks,  
Yours sincerely,

Phillip Escreet  
Treasurer, BEAM

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If any readers know of anyone who has impaired vision and who would like to receive an audio tape of the Milngavie and Bearsden Herald, please contact BEAM's secretary Desnée Ashley on 942 4231 for further details

### **'Life and Work' Subscriptions**

Please note that subscriptions for 'Life and Work' for 2005 are now due. The cost for 12 issues during the year is £14.40 - a reduction of 30 pence per issue on the cover price of the magazine. It would be appreciated if the money could be given to your Church Visitor by the end of March, if possible.

Frances Ireland.

## BOOK CLUB

At our meeting this month we were discussing *The Star of the Sea* by Joseph O'Connor. This book was thoroughly enjoyed by our group and it tells the story of just one of the many journeys across the Atlantic from Ireland to America following the potato famine in Ireland. The book is written on a day to day basis in the style of a ship's log. The stories that unfold are unquestionably harrowing and the sense of despair felt by the passengers in steerage especially pervades the whole book, but despite the subject matter, the book is very well written and quite a page turner. We would recommend this book for its sense of adventure and its underlying hope of a new life in America for the immigrants.

Next time we are reading two books – *The Heart of the Matter* by Graham Greene and *Dissolution* by C J Sansom. Why not choose one and come and join us the next time we meet on 22 February? As usual, please contact Helen in the Church Office for the venue.

## JOYCE CLARK



### BOOKSTALL

The Bookstall will reopen at the end of February. Please take an opportunity after the service to browse through the selection of books on display.

### **St Paul's Church Society– Annual General Meeting Saturday, February 19th 2005 at 10a.m.**

The Society, which exists for the purpose of enhancing the beauty of St. Paul's sanctuary as a place of public worship and private devotion. During the year, a visit to another church of special interest is arranged. We look forward to greeting existing members and welcoming newcomers.

Tea/ Coffee will be served before the meeting.

Iris Torbet

Secretary/Treasurer

## Finance Report

Our financial position at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004 is as shown in the table below showing a comparison with the previous year and last year's budget: -

### General Account - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004

	<u>Dec 2003</u>	<u>Dec 2004</u>	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	£	£	£	£+/-
Envelopes WFO	13147	13534	13853	-319
Gift Aid Cheques	16415	11980	17340	-5360
Gift Aid Standing Orders	58472	62264	60602	+1662
Gift Aid Envelopes	34243	34461	35669	-1208
Open Plate_	27823	26753	29048	-2294
Tax Recovery-Gift Aid	36301	30266	32044	-1778
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>£186401</u></b>	<b><u>£179258</u></b>	<b><u>£188557</u></b>	<b><u>-£9297</u></b>

Total Income (inc. Donations) as at 31.12.04                      £182316

Total Expenditure as at 31.12.04    183694

Actual Deficit against Expenditure    -1378

The above figures show we have not attained our target in 2004 and indeed have fallen short of our giving the previous year. As I reported earlier, there was a slight movement from envelope, open plate and cheque giving, to giving by standing order as can be seen from the table. It is also evident; as I have reported to the Kirk Session and the Congregational Board that our income has been static over the last few years and I would ask you to consider prayerfully and with due consideration the opportunity you now have to review what you are giving to the Church.

Our budgeted income for 2005 is **£195,505**. This is **£16,247** more than our income was in 2004. I have addressed the reason for this gap, in information already given to the Congregation. The target may seem formidable but considering we have over 800 households in the Congregation it amounts to an increase of approximately **£20** a year per household or a little over **39p** per week more than last year. It has to said, to get this in perspective, that it amounts to less than most of us pay for a daily newspaper.

My thanks to all the Church Visitors, the Life Magazine Staff, the Church Secretary, the Stewardship Committee and all who helped in the compilation and distribution of the Christian Giving Review material. Many thanks also to all who have returned their cards. The cards are to be dedicated, with the morning offering, on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2005 and will be processed after that date. The Annual Accounts are with the Auditor at present and you will have the opportunity to see the fuller picture when they are distributed next month. If anyone has any questions, you can contact me at the back of the church, before or after the morning service or phone me at home on **0141 956 4971**.

Angus MacLean

## THE GUILD

Our session began on the 10th. January with fun and exercises with Mrs. Helen Robertson, who gave us a taste of a Dorothy Dobson Exercise Class., an experience enjoyed by all the members.

The annual Ecumenical Service was held in St. Luke's Church on 17th. January

The Guild celebrated Burns Night with a visit from a group of talented youngsters from Douglas Academy, who entertained with music and song.

On Monday 31st. January, Mrs. Maggie Chalmers will speak to us about the Sunflower Project 'Growing with Care', and the Reverend Fergus Buchanan will lead us in a Bible study on 7th. February.

The above meetings are open and visitors are welcome.

In place of our annual Christmas Dinner, postponed during the refurbishment, the Guild will hold a St. Valentine's Dinner

## **BIBLE SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> February 2005**

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February there will be an opportunity to contribute to the work of the Scottish Bible Society and to give thanks for the availability of the Word of God in Scotland.

We hope to have Mr. Jim McNair from the Bible Society with us at the Morning Service.

This year the Scottish Bible Society is highlighting the spiritual needs of the Arabian Peninsula. This is an area of contrasts - vast oil reserves, deserts, modern cities and nomadic tribesmen. Migrant workers make up 30% of the population and many cannot read yet want to know about the Gospel.

A normal printed Bible is of no help but by using a digital audio player, a "Megavoice", they can hear the message. A Megavoice is only 2.5cm thick and weighs 115g and is solar powered. Scripture texts will be available in the Yar, Somali and Afar languages. Each Megavoice costs £13 and possibly 10 people will listen to God's Word from each player.

Grace Rogerson

### **Church Visitors and W.F.O. Envelopes Advance Notice**

The new W.F.O. envelopes for the coming year will be available at the back of the Church on Sunday 6th March and the W.F.O treasurer would be grateful if the Church Visitors, as in previous years, would deliver them along with Life.



## **NEWS FROM TRAIDCRAFT PRODUCERS IN ASIA**

(letters taken from the Jan.2005 Traidcraft Bulletin)

### **Sri Lanka**

#### **Gospel House**

"The devastation has pushed our country 10 years behind," Modestus wrote.

The staff and producers at Gospel House's central workshop have been organising relief for one of the refugee centres and are going to assess how to give longer-term support.

### **Indonesia**

#### **PEKERTI**

All people at Indonesia know is grief and sorrow. A million of words cannot convey our sorrow and grief

for all those who suffered loss during earthquake and tsunami. We really need your prayers for it. And thank God that we are all well in Pekerti and also our producers.

Ukrumah Suda

### **Thailand ThaiCraft**

The Salmon family wrote "We are all fine here but feeling very sad with the tsunami disaster. ThaiCraft and Phu Phiang Tour are hoping to work more in 2005 in the provinces which are affected by this terrible shock, to create employment for the many people who have lost their jobs in the local tourism, agricultural and fishing industries.

#### **St Paul's Traidcraft**

Thank you for the support you have given to our fair-trade outlet which is open every Sunday after morning worship.

We have now been operating for just over 2 years and in that time have sold around £4880 of goods.

We were so pleased to be able to send £100.00 to the Tsunami Disaster fund (through Christian Aid) from the small profit accrued week by week.

KEEP BUYING---many shops stock fairly traded goods so watch out for the logo.

#### **Tsunami Disaster Appeal**

**On two successive Sundays in January, about £4000 was raised by the congregation of St. Paul's for Christian Aid, to help victims of the East Asian Tsunami**

# Japan Jottings

Dear Friends

Here we are gradually getting back into some routine as the boys go back to school and kindergarten after the long winter holidays. Life has gone at a fairly non-stop pace since the beginning of January and we were glad that some people in our church gave us a very imaginative Christmas present which we were able to use recently. It was a night away at a hotel which has a large pool and hot spring complex complete with flumes and outside heated pools. It was quite fun to be swimming outside at night with the temperatures well below zero and surrounded by snow – the water was very warm though!

Just now we have many people in our church suffering from serious illness or facing various difficulties in their home or work situations. As a church we seem to have faced one thing after another over these past months. Yet it has served to bring the church people together as we pray and care for one another. For us, we constantly need wisdom and grace as we care for and love the people here (and as opportunities open up to have contact with family members too). We are always very aware of our deficiencies in language and cultural understanding. Some things here work very differently – for example when it comes to serious illness, often the patient is not told the full story but the close family members are. That can make it even more delicate than normal, especially when you are operating in a foreign language.

We appreciate your prayers for us here as we work to see God's church built up in Otaru and to see many coming through to faith in Jesus. Thank you so much for the recent financial gift for our support. We really appreciated it!

With our love and thanks

David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair

DVD Night at the 'Centenary Hall' from 7:30 pm on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February.

**man  
DANCIN'**

(It's all about Passion)  
a film by Norman Stone  
(cert. 15)

Popcorn and refreshments all guaranteed. Come along to watch and discuss. Further information available from George Vidits: [gv@stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk](mailto:gv@stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk), or 9563370.

**LIFE & WORK**

The magazine of the Church of Scotland

*February Edition*

Dr. Andrew Cubie, former Chairman of the CBI Scotland is profiled in this month's issue.

The Rev. Gordon Jamieson, the Kirk's Director of Stewardship reflects on 'giving with grace'.

— and more— finances, travel, readers' letters, news, reviews, Bible study etc., etc..



# FLOWER ROTAS FEBRUARY

## Donations

Mrs. Clarke  
 Mrs. Wernham  
 Mrs. Wilson  
 Mrs. T. Hamilton  
 Mrs. Morrison/Mrs. Knaggs/  
 Mrs. Pirie  
 Mrs. E. Farmer/  
 Mrs. J. Ferguson

## Deliveries

Feb 6 Miss M. McKenzie Mrs. I. Reid  
 Feb 13 Mrs. A. McKenzie Mrs. M. Laws  
 Feb 20 Mrs. S. Anderson Mrs. K. Edwards  
 Feb 27 Mrs. M. Conway Mrs. M. McPherson  
 Mar 6 Mrs. A. Galloway Mrs. J. Townson



# CRECHE ROTA FEBRUARY

6 Feb Knaggs, Martin, Whitelaw, MacKinnon  
 13 Feb Hughes, MacAulay, Moffat, Lawrie  
 20 Feb Goodlet, Smith, Cockburn, Fleming  
 27 Feb Buchanan, Richell, McFarlane, Reid  
 6 Mar. Bolton, Baxter, Robertson, Knaggs

## TRAI DCRAFT ROTA

Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>. S. Rollings J. McIntyre  
 Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. G. Buchanan A. Martin  
 Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. C. Mackay R. Fraser  
 Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. S. Dunlop L. Cowie  
 Mar. 6<sup>th</sup>. B. Frame B. Barr

*The magazine is published on the first Sunday of every month. Contributions for the next issue should be handed to the Editor or left in the box in the Waiting Room by the 22nd February*

*Editor – Morag Thomson*

*E mail [mthomson@beeb.net](mailto:mthomson@beeb.net)*