



## Message from our friend and minister, Hazel.

Hello everyone,

I can hardly believe I have been minister here at St George's now for almost five months. It has been an exciting and challenging time. Iain and I are settling into our new life here in Paisley and are very appreciative of the warm welcome we have received from everyone.

There has been so much happening since May: For me a first **Baptism**—It was such a privilege to baptise a baby who is even newer to St George's than me!! Lillie was just a few days old when she first came to our Church in May and we have been enjoying her company on Sundays ever since. May she and her family know the love and welcome that is always there for them here and as part of the body of Christ - His wider Church too.

Another first has been the pleasure of sharing in Holy Communion with you all and I have also been blessed sharing Communion with others in their home too.

We have hosted two **Messy Church** events—Both have been great fun with the youngest there being 3 years old and the oldest - well we won't say but an Octogenarian nonetheless. There is something for everyone including music, Bible stories, games and crafts, food and a time to get to know each other better.

We were delighted to host our summer holiday club at the Outreach Centre where the theme was **Summer Olympics** and drop-in **football** sessions. Children from the local area came along and had great fun. I am grateful to the many volunteers who so willingly prepared the programme and helped throughout the week.

We have been thoroughly enjoying worshipping again with our friends in local **Care Homes** each month, sharing in music, prayer, scripture and chat. We are grateful for the warm welcome each home offers us and for the time we spend with the residents there.

August saw my first **Wedding** as a Rev and it was wonderful to share in such a special occasion with Iain and Marion as they exchanged vows, promised everlasting love to each other and gathered in the presence of God and their family and friends to do so. The sun shone just at the right time and outdoor photos were possible too – a real blessing as the morning saw pouring rain and the evening yet more wet weather. A joy to marry them and I wish them both a lifetime of happiness.

We hosted an event for **Doors Open Day** in our Causeyside building where we shared the beauty of our sanctuary and much of our history.

I have enjoyed attending meetings of **Clyde Presbytery** with our presbyter elders Stewart and Iain and this week I am very excited as our two new **Worship leaders** Muriel and Jennifer will be presented with their certificates.

Our **Youth organisations** - Boys Brigade, Girls Brigade and the Guiding movement continue to meet weekly as do our Guild, Toddlers, Friendly Hour, Exercise Groups, Sewing and Connect Hub Worship. Our **social committee** continue to offer events and following the success of the Bowling competition and BBQ we look forward to going to see Sister Act in October.

In partnership with other local churches and the Faith in Scotland Community, we have welcomed **friends from overseas**, seeking refuge in our town, to gather in our church for activities, fellowship and refreshments.

There is so much to be thankful for and on **Sunday 6th October** we will give thanks to God for his generosity as we celebrate **Harvest** and dedicate all our organisations and groups as well as our beautiful new balustrade. We will recognise the long service of elders, welcome youngsters from our uniformed organisations and celebrate together.

We are seeing more people coming to worship on a Sunday morning and are delighted to welcome Alison and Lauren, our **two new members** by public profession of faith at the end of August.

Looking forward to Christmas there is much planned: Gift Sunday, our Nativity, Carol Services, Christingle Service, Christmas parties and celebrating the birth of Jesus.

I am very grateful for and excited by the many opportunities we have to serve together and to extend love and share the good news of Jesus in our Parish and beyond. Thank you for you all do in Jesus' name and may God continue to richly bless you all.

## 15th Paisley Boys Brigade



Hello,

It doesn't seem like a year since I wrote to tell you of our plans to celebrate 140 years of the BB and here we are just about to celebrate our 141st birthday on 4th October. We are delighted to **welcome back** our boys from last year with many Anchors moving up to swell the numbers in Juniors and Juniors moving up to Company.



Just before we started back our senior boys again answered the call from OneRen to help support the **Paisley 10k races** on Sunday 18 August. With over 4500 runners across both races it was great to fly the flag for the Boys' Brigade and be involved in handing out medals to those who completed. Some of our boys also ran the races and handing medals to them was even more special.

Renfrewshire Council is again marking the achievement of our **Queens Badges** with a Civic Reception. This year being held in Paisley St Mark's Church on Thursday 19 September. So good to see the work of our young men recognised at this level and we're so proud of Kyle MacKay as our last (for quite some time) recipient. King Charles has agreed that the award will now be known as the **Kings Badge** and so Alan and Matthew from our Company are now working towards being our first Kingsmen next year.

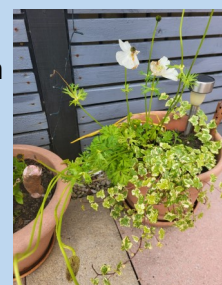
Last year's **national sleepover** was such a success it seems to have become an annual event so this year our Juniors/Company/Seniors will be sleeping over on **Friday 4th October** when we'll celebrate our birthday in style. Hopefully we'll manage some sleep too and be back in church on Sunday to **mark dedication and celebrate Harvest** with you all.



Our **Battalion Praise event** is to be held on the afternoon of **Sunday 27th October** at Paisley West church. If last year's fun with beach balls was anything to go by it promises to be a great afternoon.

As we help boys understand that helping others is part of our Christian living we are again looking to support the work of **'The Night before Christmas' charity**. This charity gives to folks of all ages but particularly families across the West of Scotland. Formed primarily to support at Christmas it now offers support all year round. You have helped us so much with our efforts over the years and we hope that will continue again this year. More info to come soon.

Finally we're delighted as a Company to welcome **Callum MacKay** back into our number. Callum is a former Queensman with our Company having been a member since Anchors. He's always kept an interest in the Company and has now decided the time is right to return as a member of staff. With checks completed and training now planned it's great to have him join our Company staff on Fridays. Great too to welcome Donna Gallacher and Makenzie McNally as **helpers** in Juniors and Anchors respectively. Sadly though we've lost Rachel most Tuesdays as she's having to move south due to work. She's promised to come along when she can and we look forward to those weeks. If you'd like to find out about more of our activities please visit our Facebook page – 15th Paisley Boys' Brigade. Thank you as always for your on-going support which really is very much appreciated.



**Jan Phillips, Captain**

PS Did you receive a pot of bulbs our boys planted at their last sleepover? If so we hope they flowered. I know mine did and with luck will keep flowering every summer.

**Friendly Hour meets every Tuesday at 2pm in the large hall. All are welcome.**

### October

1st Compass (music group)  
8th Keep Fit  
15th Aires and Graces (music group)  
22nd Quiz  
29th A.G.M. (music group) (1.30pm start)

### November

5th Gleniffer High School Music Group  
12th Relief International  
19th Beetle Drive  
26th Carol Service  
**December 3rd Christmas Lunch**

## The Guild

### The Guild

As this article is being written, the members of the Guild are still on summer break. During this time we have been working on the syllabus for next session and this is now complete. We have a very varied programme with lots of interesting topics to suit everyone. We must mention that we have had quite a bit of help from Hazel, our new Minister, which has

been much appreciated. As most folk know by now, the Guild will meet at 2 pm. We hope that this will be more suitable for all, avoiding the need to be out and about at nighttime. We hope that our membership will increase when we recommence on **7th October**. Please encourage others to **come along to enjoy fun and fellowship in doing God's work**.



We held our Strawberry Tea in July which was very successful, we are looking forward to assisting with the planned **McMillan coffee event** at the end of September. We also have our **Autumn Leaves Tea** on **19th October** for which we will soon be preparing, so a busy time ahead.

We look forward to seeing our regular members and many new members...all will be made very welcome.

As always: Whose we are and Whom we serve.

Pat Colgan

### Community Support

The team thought you might like to know in advance some of the things that were planned for the rest of 2024 and the beginning of 2025 so here are a few dates for your calendar.

**Sunday 6th October** is our Harvest Thanksgiving Service and as usual we will be collecting non perishable food items which will be donated to Renfrewshire Foodbank and Renfrewshire Womens Aid.

**Sunday 3rd November**. You might remember that last year as a congregation we send 100 Christmas cards through Release International to persecuted Christians around the world. We plan to do this again so on Sunday 3rd November there will be cards available for you to sign in the church and afterwards at the tea bar.

**Sunday 8th December** is the Christmas gift service. If you would like to donate a child's gift it will go to Renfrewshire Women's Aid who will make sure that the children in their safe houses don't miss out on the excitement of receiving presents at Christmas.

**Sunday 30th March** is Mother's Day and you will have the chance to bring along toiletries for either men or women which will be donated to local support organisations for distribution.

**Sunday 13th April** is Palm Sunday and we will again have an Easter sale. The proceeds from this will go to Release International. There will be lots of Easter goodies, and yes, there will be tablet!

**11-17 May** is Christian Aid week. Envelopes will be available with the pew leaflets if you would like to donate.

On **Communion Sunday in June** there will be a retiring collection to support Adams House, the local Church of Scotland care home for dementia sufferers.

We would like to thank you for all your support in the past, your generosity always amazes us, and if you would like further information about any of the above just speak to a member of the Community Support Team.





Events at the Outreach Centre, in Nethercraigs Road, continue on a regular basis and everyone is welcome at any of them. For those who are not “tuned into” this schedule, it goes like this:

**Connect Hub meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month** (check your intimations for reminders!) from 1.30pm – 3.00pm. This is an informal time of worship, where people sit at tables with a cuppa. There is singing, prayers, a Bible reading and reflection. This part usually lasts about 30 minutes leaving lots of time for another cuppa and a chat afterwards.

**Bible Study. This happens on the first Tuesday of the month**, from 7pm – 8pm. Discussing the Bible with others helps us to get a fuller understanding of its meaning and a wider realisation of its application.

**Prayer Meeting. This happens on the second Tuesday of the month**, from 7pm – 8pm. It is good to meet with other to pray, particularly about the work of the church.

**Every Wednesday morning the Learning Together Group meets from 10am to 12 noon.** Most people choose to do knitting or crochet but occasionally people choose other crafts. It has been good to have some requests for items and if anyone knows of any other outlets for our work please let Muriel Smith know the details. Recently a new lady joined this group but there is always room for more. Please come and visit and decide if you would like to come regularly.



**Exercise Group. This meets every Wednesday from 12 noon to 1 pm.** As the weather this summer was not always conducive to outdoor pursuits it has been good to have this regular exercise class to keep joints moving and muscles stretched. New members welcome. **Cost is £3 per session.**

We are now planning for the next session of **Bubble Gum & Fluff**, the programme we run to teach the Primary 6 pupils from Bushes and Langcraigs Primaries about Christmas. Jennifer Nichols will be contacting the schools to set a date and will then issue a request for helpers. Please prayerfully consider if you could help with this.

## Church Flowers

Thank you to everyone who donates to our flower fund as well as the many people who thank the flower committee in person or by passing on thank you cards. We are so glad the flowers bring comfort or joy to our members at times of celebration, illness or sadness.

Jean Urie and Steven Drennan would also like members to know that the flowers they each received recently were very much appreciated.

(from Mary Densson on behalf of the flower committee).



The editor would like to thank all who have contributed to this edition of the church magazine. All items for inclusion in the next magazine should be with Irene Gemmell by Sunday 17th November

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