



The Church of Scotland
Scottish Charity Number SC006718
Edition 20: May 2026

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Hello friends,

It is wonderful to share the joy of growth in our Church family with new members by Baptism and Profession of Faith. There is delight as we welcomed more children and families to our new activities and at further community outreach events. It has also been a pleasure to welcome two new members of staff (Rae and Douglas) thanks to Seeds for Growth funding. There is so much to give thanks for as you will see as you read on.

I am very thankful that our Church's financial position shows growth in giving from individuals and from fundraising, although there remains a message to stay prudent, as we continue to live in uncertain times. Thankfully though, we are a people of faith filled with hope and, in staying obedient to God's calling, we can forever trust His goodness and provision.

As we look forward there is much to be grateful for. This June we will host an event to celebrate our many volunteers and give thanks for their generosity and kindness in time and in talents. We will also host our first ever Community Football tournament in memory of our dear friend and elder Brent Dorey, a faith filled man who loved family, football & fun. On June 7th we will welcome teams from Churches and Community Groups from far and wide.

I hope you will be encouraged to see all that is going on as we serve our community in various ways; from Litter picks to Bible Study, from Prayer walks to supporting Friends from Overseas, from Easter Code, paired reading and supporting YPI in schools to our monthly Care Home services. There is even much excitement ahead for our Summer Holiday programme where places are already filling fast. And there is great anticipation for our new Community Event at the end of August. Watch this space.

There is something for everyone to feel that sense of family and belonging, we are all children of God and part of his universal family. We are all here to love and to serve, to care for and show compassion for those in our community. Please do check out our What's On section, visit our website, and keep up to date with our Facebook and Instagram pages. I encourage you to invite family and friends, neighbours and workmates, invite them all and let them know they are warmly welcomed at Paisley St George's for worship, for events, for quiet times, for prayer, for joyful celebrations, for all occasions.

Thank you for your friendship and faithful support.

May God bless you all.
Your friend and minister,
Hazel



Hello, I'm Rae McNicol. I started my new role as P.A./Office Manager for Paisley St Georges on the 2nd March.

I've had such a warm welcome from everyone and am thoroughly enjoying being part of the St Georges team. No two days are the same, but I love the variety the job brings. I've lived in Paisley all my life and am married to Steven and have two grown-up children. My son Allan is living and working in China teaching English and my daughter Lauren is a nurse.

Since working part-time I've become a keen outdoor swimmer, and you'll find me at Duck Bay twice a week for an early morning dip!

If I've not had the chance to meet you yet, please do pop in and say hello.

The Church Office is open from 10am - 2pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday



Amazing Quiz Night raises over £1000

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the recent quiz night. A fantastic attendance resulted in over £1000 being raised for Church funds and most importantly lots of fun and laughter being shared. A big thanks to Quiz Master Iain, to all our generous Sponsors, to all who organised and provided refreshments and to everyone who took part. A special well done to our winners, runners up and to our wooden spooners.

☆ Highlights of 2025 from our Annual Report

Every year we submit a report on the life and accounts of our church. The full report is available on our website but here's a brief summary

Congregational Life

- A year of **growth, creativity, and renewed momentum**.
- First **Congregational Gathering** helped shape future planning.
- Worship evolved with:
 - **Café-style worship** in summer months
 - **Monthly evening services** reinstated
 - **Mid-week worship** moved to Glenburn Resource Centre
- Strong chaplaincy presence in **Langcraigs Primary School** and great to work alongside **Gleniffer High** in events such as IYG (Inspiring younger generations) .



Local Church Review

- Very positive assessment affirming the congregation's **health, direction, and vitality**.

Sanctuary Redecoration

- Temporary relocation to the hall became a positive experience.
- Sanctuary now fully refreshed



Children, Youth & Families

- **Summer Holiday Club** welcomed over 100 children.
- Expanding partnerships with local schools (paired reading, litter picks, Easter Code).
- Growing youth organisations: Boys' Brigade, Girls' Brigade, Guides, Sunday Club.



Community Engagement

- Return of **Christmas Fayre** and launch of **Church Bazaar**.
- New adult group: **Buddies Chill and Chat**.
 - Numerous social/fundraising events (Silent Auction, Hogmanay Party, Phoenix Choir concert).

A great year for our Church and a strong foundation for further growth in 2026 and beyond.

Hello new friends!

It has been an absolute delight to come and join you as the new 3 Cs Worker – Connecting Church with Community!

I'm Dougals Robertson and I have greatly appreciated the warm welcome and acceptance of me as an honorary Buddy! Despite being brought up in Bishopbriggs, I do have connections with Paisley as my family originates from the Barrhead/Neilston area. I have memories as a child of getting a McGill's bus with my grandparents into Paisley, back when they had the Clippies! I do look forward to getting to know Paisley and, more importantly, you over the coming weeks, months and years!

I have been working for the Church of Scotland as an MDS (Ministry Development Staff) worker, working in Baillieston Mure Memorial and St Andrew's churches, Govan and Linthouse Church and latterly Shettleston New Church. Before that I worked as a support worker with various employers including Enable Scotland and Crossreach. I have just moved to Springboig in the east end of Glasgow, where I live with my 2 year old labrador, Loki! I love getting out with him for walks and watching his joy in life, especially chasing a ball! I have a love of football, and with my Barrhead connections, I support Arthurlie! I also enjoy an odd game of golf and can be seen hacking my way round Barshaw on occasion! I also love a good pun or corny joke! I also love eating, with mushrooms being the main food I will try to avoid! Which may explain why I also enjoy cooking, as it lets me eat and avoid mushrooms!

I look forward to meeting more with you and getting to know you all – I am greatly excited with what God will do in our time together!



The Guild



The Guild is currently on summer break, however, we continued to be busy throughout February and March before finishing. Our "special effort" weekend in February began on the Saturday with our concert when we were delighted to have the Bearsden Fiddlers again and they did not disappoint. The audience, mostly our church members and friends, all had a very enjoyable afternoon singing along with the musicians, followed by a delicious afternoon tea in the hall. The following day Morning Worship was led by the Guild with Rev. Mhairi Breingan as our guest Preacher and our own Minister Hazel also taking part. Our busy weekend was worth the hard work as there were very favourable reports to follow.

Our speakers during these weeks continued to provide many interesting topics including representatives from Tearfund, Paisley Heritage and Graeme Smith telling us about the history of Glasgow Harbour. We have noticed at our meetings that not only do we enjoy our Speakers, but also, that they seem to enjoy being with us and the hospitality offered. Our only musical afternoon was provided by Tracy Howe who is a church member and with a long history of entertaining. We did enjoy her selection of songs which we note she seems to vary on every occasion she is with us.

Our penultimate meeting was our "basket tea" where we had lots of savouries and confectionery to share with one another. Our final meeting was, as always, our AGM when we recalled a very successful year and discussed our donations to our project (Release International) and to the selected charity organisations.

We have decided this year to have 3 informal meetings during our holiday period when we will meet as usual at 2 pm on the following dates for fellowship and chat.

Monday 18th May

Monday 15th June

Monday 17th August

We hope our members will come along to these meetings and, of course, all are welcome to join us then too. We have no meeting in July as by then we will be preparing for **our Strawberry Tea 18th July 2 - 4 pm** to which all are invited to come along...more about this nearer the time.

To conclude, our Guild has continued to have great support from our Minister and our Congregation which we very much appreciate and hope this continues for the future. When we **resume 5th October** we hope to have many new members and the continued support of our loyal members and we look forward to the challenges of our new season.

"Whose we are and Whom we serve"

Pat (Secretary)





Our new adult badminton group has been going from strength to strength. Starting with just 2 players we now have 10 members and regularly 8 each week. New members are welcome. The group meets on **Mondays at 7.30pm** immediately after the junior badminton group. All ability levels invited with the focus on fun and friendship. A great way to meet new people and keep healthy mentally and physically.



Keep Fit Classes

Please come along on Mondays from 11:45am - 12.45pm and on Fridays from 11am - 12noon. Both classes would make new members very welcome. We have a lot of laughs with great company and gentle exercise. You can sit or stand - the choice is yours.

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To support the congregation of Paisley St. George's, he is offering a free pick up and delivery service for vehicles in the PA2 area. If this is a service you would be interested in, please call Alister directly on 07512 961686 or speak to his wife, Irene Gemmell, in Church.

7TH JULY - 4TH AUGUST

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB

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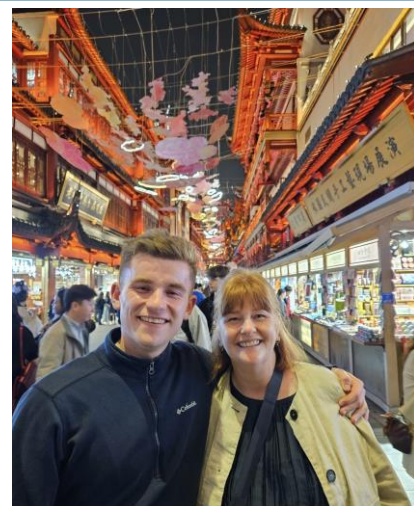
PAISLEY ST GEORGE'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND. A REGISTERED SCOTTISH CHARITY

An adventure in China – From Rae McNicol

My son has been working as an English Teacher, at a Kindergarten in China, since last Summer.

Earlier this month my husband Steven & I went over to visit him. It was great to spend time with Allan and see where he is living and working. The city where he is staying is called Suzhou. It's a beautiful city - often referred to as the Venice of the East as it has an amazing network of canals and rivers. We also took the chance to travel to Beijing where we visited Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City and the Great Wall.

It's been an amazing adventure - hopefully, we'll get the chance to go back again as there's so much to see and it's such a fascinating country.





15th Paisley Boys Brigade



Our 40th anniversary year is now over and what a great year we've had and as ever fully supported by you, our congregation.

Sunday 22nd February was a wonderful day beginning with our boys and staff leading you in worship. We then moved into the hall for our Fundraising lunch and wow! We had a packed hall including some tables on the stage such as the demand for tickets. Thanks to the generosity of parents, friends and all of you we raised a fantastic sum of £850 which will help hugely in our work with the boys.

Since then, our Juniors took part in the first joint Figure marching competition with Glasgow Battalion and came 2nd in the Paisley section and 3rd overall. A great result. Our Anchors had a wonderful afternoon of crafts and games with of course some snacks at the battalion Anchors afternoon which was held in our halls.

The whole company made a return trip to Gravity on 10 March to burn off energy, including the staff.

Our four President's award candidates successfully completed the Battalion training mid-March and so will receive their badges on Presentation evening.

In preparation for the weekend away, our Juniors and Company sections had a great sleepover in our church at the end of March. Juniors made cookies and mac & cheese which we all enjoyed, and our Company went shopping for ingredients for a team feast on a budget. Energy was burned off with a time on vaulting and loads of games before a movie and some sleep for Juniors while older boys continued their all-night games. Breakfast rolls eaten, time to head home for much needed sleep – and that was certainly the case for the leaders!!

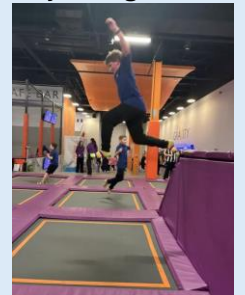
We were thrilled to be able to take over 190 Easter eggs to Renfrewshire Foodbank to help share the joy of Easter across our local area. Your donations swelled those of our boys and their families and is another example of a church working together for our community.

Between preparation for our awards evening and for our weekend camp at Carronvale House over the weekend 29-31 May our staff are incredibly busy. We're so very fortunate to have such a great team.

The weekend after camp we're entering the Brent Dorey Memorial Football competition. We know Brent would have been thrilled at the idea of this competition which honours his great passions of football and working with young people. It's not the winning that matters but that doesn't mean we won't do our very best!

We'll start a new session in late August and as always have space for any boys who will be in Primary 1 through to S6. Please check out our Facebook page or see flyers around the church nearer the time for details of meeting times, exact start back dates etc.

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.



The End Of An Era

Sadly, the Church of Scotland stamp appeal came to an end a few months ago in February 2026. It had been a pivotal part of The World Mission Council for 56 years, from 1995 - 2024.

By simply collecting used stamps and amazing **£96,459.67** has been raised for a huge variety of projects all around the world.

Thank you all for the many, many stamps, stamp albums, first day covers etc that you have donated over the years.

Although the Church of Scotland will no longer be collecting used stamps other charities will and could benefit from your used stamps.

Some of these are -

The Royal National Institute of Blind People

RSPCA and the PDSA

Oxfam

MS Society

The Bone Cancer Research Trust





Needles and Pins

The Needles and Pins group continue to meet every second Tuesday from 10:30am to 12:30pm. This is a small group of ladies who enjoy sewing, knitting and cross-stitch. We would love to increase on numbers so please come along and join us. We would love to see you.

Sadie McKeown

COMEDY CAPERS AT CHURCH BAZAAR

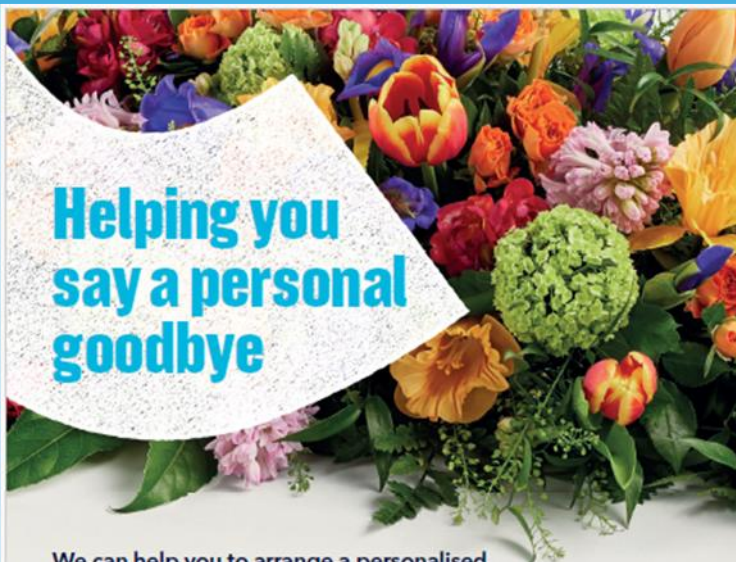
TV Personality Chris Forbes, aka Duncan Murray, was the special guest at St George's Church Bazaar and helped to launch the event by entertaining and amusing the large gathered crowd. With Minister, Hazel Shaw, also in on the act, the Actor, Writer and Stand Up Comedian performed his hilarious 'other Murray Brother' routine to the delight of his audience.

The Spring Fundraiser took place in the Causeyside Street building which was successfully attended by more than 200 people, raising more than £1500.00

There were dozens of indoor and outdoor vending stalls including arts and crafts, baking, wood turning baby clothes, bottles, tombola, raffles, hampers, face painting and an ECO stall. There was also a Games Room for kids as well as a Tearoom. Outside there was a Barbecue selling burgers, hotdogs and drinks and was also the opportunity to throw a wet sponge at one of the staff. On the stage, live entertainment took place involving the Church Choir, soloists and pianists.

St George's Church Minister Hazel Shaw said

"This was another wonderful day for our Church and our community where we joined in friendship and had such great fun and laughter! My thanks to everyone who worked so hard over the last few months to produce this excellent event."



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Friendly Hour

The Friendly Hour are holding three Drop-in Days over the summer.

2nd June	2pm-3.30pm
7th July	2pm-3.30pm
4th August.	2pm-3.30pm

All are welcome to drop-in for a cup of tea, a biscuit and a blether.

The new session of the Friendly Hour starts on the **1st of September.**

Events & Activities for Children, Young People, Young Adults & Families

ARTS & CRAFT GROUP – Every Thursday from 6-7.30pm in the lower hall at the Church – cost £2 per session which includes all resources, snack and drink. This group is for primary school aged children. All welcome.



JUNIOR BADMINTON GROUP - Every Monday from 6-7.30pm in the large hall at the Church – cost £2 per session which includes all resources, snack and drink. This group is for children and young people in P4-S2. This group is followed by our badminton group for adults (S2 +) which meets from 7.30-8.30pm.

MESSY CHURCH – Our final session for this term will take place on **Sunday 14th June** when we will have an end of year party with the Sunday Club. Messy Church will stop during the summer months and restart in the Autumn. Messy church meets from 1-3pm in the lesser hall & is free although donations to cover costs are welcome. We have arts, crafts, games, challenges, Bible teaching, singing and of course snacks and drinks. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB 2026 – Our popular holiday club is scheduled to take place again this year once a week for 6 weeks during the school summer holidays – **online registration forms to sign up are NOW available.** To register please visit www.paisleystgeorges.org/holidayclub or visit our church Facebook page where you will find a link to the registration form.

BUDDIES CHILL & CHAT – This is our young adult group, and we meet monthly on the **first Thursday of the month from 7.30pm-9pm** in the lower hall. We have a varied programme including guest speakers, member talks, outings, games, challenges, arts & crafts, chatting and chilling & refreshments. All those of working age and young at heart will be made most welcome. Our next meeting is on **Thursday 4th June**, where we will be in preparation mode as we get ready to lead the church service on **Sunday 7th June**.

Also please support us during the summer months when all Buddies will be taking part in an accumulator event where each member will be given £10 and by using their own unique gifts and talents hopefully “snowball” this figure into a much larger sum with all proceeds donated to church funds.



**THE BRENT DOREY MEMORIAL
CHURCH AND COMMUNITY GROUPS
7 A SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT
at Ferguslie Sports Centre Paisley
on Sunday 7th June 2026 from 2-5pm
for primary school aged boys & girls P4-P7**



**TO BOOK OR FOR MORE INFO
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IAINSHAW18@GMAIL.COM**



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Thank you to everyone who donates to the flower fund for the beautiful flowers we have on the chancel every Sunday and for allowing the flowers to be given to our members who are celebrating something special or who are in need of our compassion.

Please remember to let the flower committee know if there is a member you know who deserves some flowers.

If you can deliver the flowers, we would appreciate that as well.

Please speak to a committee member if you have any special requests for the flowers

We hope you have enjoyed reading this edition. Please do pass it on to others or recycle when finished.

All items for the next edition should be emailed to Irene Gemmell by no later than Sunday 2nd August.

Paisley St Georges Eco Committee: Recycling



Recycling can be seen as a spiritual act of stewardship, honouring God's creation by managing resources responsibly and reducing waste.

Zero Waste Scotland found that over half (52%) of what's in the average general waste bin in Scotland could have been recycled. So, are you recycling all you can?

Most of us will recycle at home in the coloured bins provided by the council.

Blue- cardboard, paper, paperback books and envelopes (even with clear plastic window).

Green- plastic bottles, tubs and trays, tins, tinfoil, aerosols, glass bottles and jars.

Brown- garden waste, if you have a permit, including grass cuttings, flowers/plants, weeds, leaves and small branches. Food caddy waste such as cooked/uncooked food, fruit and veg peelings, tea bags/coffee grounds, eggshells, meat, fish and small bones.

But remember, you can also recycle

- Soft plastics such as bread wrappers and packets that say recycle at large stores at many large supermarkets
- batteries at most supermarkets and larger stores that sell batteries
- old running shoes at some branches of Cotswolds (check with store first)
- pill blister packs at some Boots and Superdrug stores (check locally)
- coffee pods at some supermarkets or can often be returned to provider
- printer ink cartridges at some large supermarkets or free post through several charity initiatives.

The following items can also be taken to most local council recycling centres: -

Batteries, bricks, carpets, clothes, computers, some DIY waste, fluorescent tubes, scrap metal, electrical appliances and white goods, textiles, vapes and wood.

You can also take small electrical items to most Renfrewshire libraries. (WEEE bank-Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment).

Here at Paisley St Georges, we should recycle paper, card, plastics and glass in the appropriate coloured bins positioned upstairs and downstairs. There is also a box for used printer ink cartridges and a tub for recycling batteries if you cannot take them to a supermarket or recycling centre. (though the church does not raise any funds from the batteries).

So, do your best to recycle (check locally for details) and remember that Reduce and Re-use come before Recycle!

June 2026

- Mon 1st - Community litter pick and picnic with Langcraigs Primary
Tues 2nd - at 2pm Friendly Hour Drop in
at 7pm Bible Study and Prayer group at the Resource Centre
Thurs 4th - at 7.30pm Buddies Chill and Chat for those of working age
Sat 6th - at 9.30am – Men's Breakfast
at 10.15am – Bus Trip to New Lanark
at 10.30am – Prayer Walk leaving from St George's
Sun 7th - at 11am – Morning Worship
at 2pm – Brent Dorey Memorial Football event Primary aged children Ferguslie Sports ground
Tues 9th - at 7pm – Kirk Session meeting
at 8pm – Appreciation of volunteers' event
Sat 13th - at 10.30– Prayer Walk leaving from St George's
Sun 14th - at 11am – Morning Worship with Communion
at 7pm – Evening worship with Communion
Mon 15th - at 2pm – Guild Drop in
Sat 20th - at 10.30– Prayer Walk leaving from St George's
Sun 21st - at 11am – Morning Worship with celebration of Sunday Club and Messy church to follow
Sat 27th - at 10.30– Prayer Walk leaving from St George's
Sun 28th - at 11am – Morning Worship with Fundraising lunch to follow

July 2026

- Sat 4th - at 9.30am – Men's Breakfast
at 10.30am – Sma Shot Day café and activities as we watch the parade pass by
Sun 5th - at 11am – Morning worship
at 7pm - Evening worship
Tues 7th - at 2pm - Friendly Hour Drop In
at 6.30pm- Summer Club for children of Primary school age
Wed 8th - at 6.30 - Bowling Evening at Wellmeadow Bowling club
Thurs 9th - at 7pm - Mid-week café worship
Sun 12th - at 11am – Morning worship
Tues 14th - at 6.30pm- Summer Club for children of Primary school age
Sat 18th - at 2pm - Guild Strawberry Tea
Sun 19th - at 11am – Morning worship
Tues 21st - at 6.30pm - Summer Club for children of Primary school age
Sun 26th - at 11am – Morning worship
Tues 28th - at 6.30pm - Summer Club for children of Primary school age

August 2026

- Sat 1st - at 9.30am - Men's Breakfast
Sun 2nd - at 11am – Morning worship
Tues 4th - at 2pm - Friendly Hour Drop In
at 6.30pm - Summer Club for children of Primary school age
Thurs 6th - at 7pm - Mid-week café worship
Sun 9th - at 11am - Summer club at worship service then outing
Sun 16th - at 11am – Morning worship
Mon 17th - at 2pm - Guild Drop In
Sun 23rd - at 11am – Morning worship
Wed 26th - at 8pm – Kirk Session meeting
Thurs 27th - at 6.30pm - 3Cs Community event
Sun 30th - at 11am - Worship followed by our Congregational Gathering

All of this is in addition to our regular programme details of which are listed on our website at

<http://paisleystgeorges.org.uk>
Facebook page or Email,
sessionclerk@paisleystgeorges.org.uk or phone Jan on
0789 040525 or Hazel on
07988503723