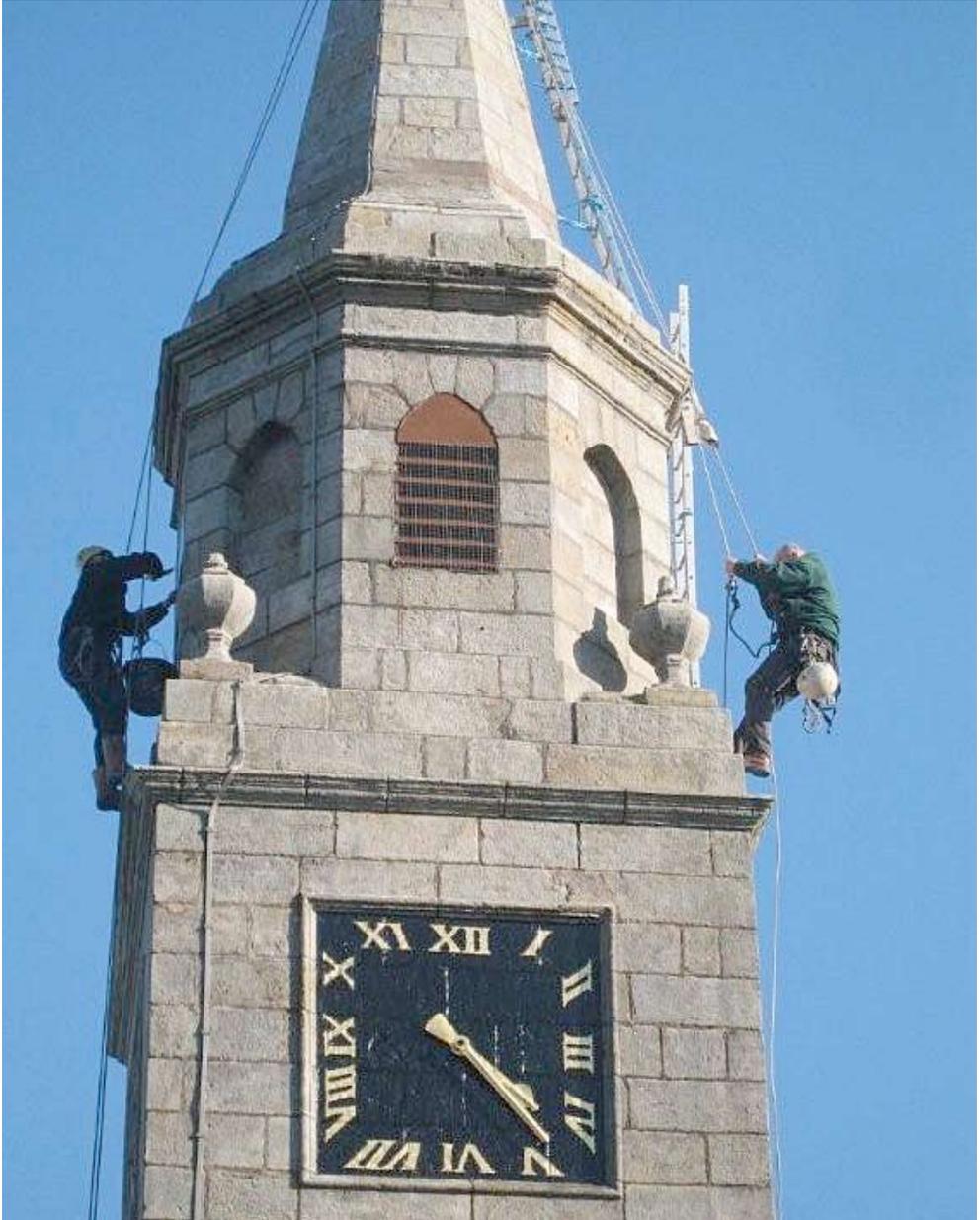


PARISH NEWS



EAGLESHAM PARISH CHURCH



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10.00am – 12.00 noon

Announcements

Funerals

Kris Lie-Fladseth, Eastwoodhill Nursing Home
17 Dec

Marion Sillar, Bonnyton Drive, 20 Dec

Helen Browne, Montgomery Court, 29 Dec

James Hill, Montgomery Street, 10 Jan

Ian Stewart, Woodland Cres, 10 Jan

Winnie Queen, Alexander Avenue, 14 Jan

Robert Fraser, Gilmour Street, 25 Jan

Irene Gallacher, Alexander Avenue, 13 Feb

Elsa Wallace. Williamwood Nursing Home,
15 Feb

Elizabeth Stewart, Strathaven Road, 16 Feb

Joey Costley, Montgomery Court, 27 Feb

Stated Annual Meeting

The 2008 Stated Annual Meeting (AGM) of Eaglesham Parish Church will take place in the Carswell Hall on Thursday 27 March at 7.30pm. Your attendance at this important event would be greatly appreciated.

Ian Gray

Musings from the Manse

It's Lent again, and the tradition of giving things up is still observed – more or less seriously – by some people. Often we choose to give up a 'vice' which we'd like to control: alcohol, perhaps, or chocolate (I have never personally felt called to give up chocolate, but maybe I'm just not listening!)

This year I've heard a different (and maybe better) approach: some children have committed themselves to give up a bad habit for Lent, for example losing their temper, or quarrelling with their family. What an excellent idea, and one we adults could be challenged to copy! My only question is: what happens on Easter Day? Celebrating the end of your Lent 'fast' with a 'feast' of a glass of wine or chocolate egg is one thing – it would be something else to 'celebrate' with a raging family blowout as the pent-up frustrations of the last six weeks all get an airing at once!

I'm sure that won't happen, and I wholeheartedly salute their efforts. At least, giving up things for Lent is a handy exercise in personal discipline. At best, it's a small but constant sacrifice to remind us that Jesus lived His life completely unselfishly, culminating in giving up His life for us. And it proves what we gain by following His example.

Perhaps to be perverse (who, me?!) I have suggested again that as a congregation we should not give up something for Lent, but add something: the discipline of daily prayer and Bible reading. Notes are available to help us read John's Gospel together, and for those who wish, there's the opportunity to

sacrifice the Saturday morning long lie to come to breakfast at 8.30am and talk together about what we're reading. Another example of something we shouldn't discontinue after Easter, but having seen the benefits, we'll hopefully want to build in to the ongoing shape of our Christian lives.

Finally, if we wanted to follow the children's example, here are some suggestions:

Fast from words that tear down
Feast on words that build up

Fast from anger
Feast on patience

Fast from worry
Feast on prayer

Fast from complaining
Feast on thanksgiving

Fast from pressure
Feast on peace

Fast from lethargy
Feast on enthusiasm.

....and don't stop at Easter – it's just the start!!

Wishing God's blessing to you all



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lynn'.

Kirk Session

If any doubts lingered concerning the advisability of changing the structure of our congregation to the new Unitary Constitution they are rapidly dwindling in face of the sense of purpose emanating from our new Session teams evidenced by the fresh ideas and initiatives they are producing.

The next Kirk Session 'Away Day' will take place on Saturday 29 March when the elders will have a longer time for discussion and reflection to review the work of our teams and to consider some of the more immediate and exciting proposals which they have put forward for potential implementation. The 'Away Day' is now almost a fixed date in our calendar each year; an indication of the value of these retreats and of the opportunity they bring to elders to contemplate, and pray about, the changes we are creating in our congregational life.

During Lynn and Stuart's holiday in January, Lynn had arranged for two Ministers to take her place on the Sundays she was absent. On Sunday 20 January we welcomed the Rev Stuart Smith, recently retired from Kings Park Church, whose talent for drawing eyes was appreciated by adults and children alike and whose sermon inspired us all. Mr. Smith returned to Eaglesham later in the week when he talked to the Guild on Christian Aid and the problems of poverty and flooding in Bangladesh. The following Sunday, the Rev John Collard made a welcome return to our pulpit when he also showed off his artistic skills by demonstrating how early Christians used the sign of the fish to make their faith known to each other. John's forthcoming climb of Mt Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain,

inspired members of our congregation to contribute to his chosen charity, Tear Fund, and we wish him a safe and enjoyable trip.

Finally, the Kirk Session are delighted to welcome three new members to their midst. Ann McCormick and our magazine Editor, Doug Lamont were ordained by Lynn on Sunday 6 January and Stuart McChlery, already an ordained elder, was admitted at the same Service. We welcome them all to the Kirk Session as they bring their individual talents to swell our ranks. They have all since emerged unscathed through their first Kirk Session meeting.



Stuart, Ann and Doug

At the same Service, the following elders all received long service awards, signed by the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Rt Rev Sheilagh Kesting:

Craig Baird (33 years), Stirling Douglas (32 years), David Reid (36 years), Robert Steven (33 years) and Isabel Laird, Allison Leitch, Willie Melville and Sandy Robertson (in absentia) all having served 30 years. Our congratulations go to them all.

Craig Wishart

Fabric

With spring looming up shortly, we have checked the hedge cutter, strimmer and rucksack sprayer and they will be put into action in due course provided we have suitable operators available.

At the Manse the boundary fence has sustained some damage and is shortly due for repair.

The steeplejacks have been held up in the re-pointing of the steeple by the weather but progress is being made. The clock overhaul is complete making a great difference to the clock faces and time keeping. Faltering lights have been replaced and the multi-media faults have been sorted.

At the Mid Halls the BB Clubroom has had a visit from an itinerant squirrel causing considerable damage to the lighting supply by chewing through the insulation. It has also had a go at the pool table. The fate of the animal has not been established but repairs are underway. Vandalism to the ceiling in the small back hall continues and we are having to repair it on a weekly basis and as a result consideration is being made to the removal of the suspended ceiling completely. A broken window has been repaired and the gutter at the rear of the front hall is to be realigned to prevent water ingress. Redecoration of the stairwell, the upper corridor and gents toilet at the Carswell Hall is complete. The service engineer has checked and issued a completion certificate for the fire appliances in all the properties.

The Audio Technics Digital Piano located in the Chancel of the Church is now beyond repair and urgently requires renewal. A Kawai Digital Piano has been identified as a suitable replacement. As this is an unbudgeted expense of £1500 any sponsors would be appreciated.

Fabric Mole

Church Steeple

Our Church Steeple required extensive renovation due to serious ingress of rain water which could have had a serious adverse effect on the electrics in the Steeple housing. The renovation included pressure washing and pointing of the entire Steeple. It was felt appropriate to repair and restore the clock dials at the same time, using thick gold leaf transfer on the numerals and the hands lacquered in brass. As you will see from the cover photograph (*courtesy of Ronald LLean -Ed*), the works have been very effective and we have received numerous positive comments.

Several enquiries have been made regarding costs. The final figure for the clock was £3887.50 and the steeple renovation will cost approximately £6,000. The final figure for the steeple depends on the amount of pointing that is required.

We have received a grant of £2,000 from a Trust and have been advised that the Steeple Fund should receive £1,000 from the BB sponsored walk. A further grant application has been made but we are yet received a decision. We may also have the opportunity to reclaim the VAT of £1400. Various fund raising activities involving all members of the Congregation and Organisations.

Ian M Gray Admin Convenor



PASTORAL CARE

Tom Mann Convener

Pastoral Care what does this encompass?

A response to this question would provide a range of answers as varied as the numbers on our church roll. Everyone has an opinion of what this matter should include with at best, no two people having a similar but not the exact same opinion and at worst, extreme differences in approach.

Rather than looking at what care means perhaps looking at a few antonyms will help us to understand what it does not mean. Neglect, disregard, unconcern and ignore are to list but four opposites of care. Thankfully in Eaglesham Parish Church none of these apply and neither are they likely to in the future, taking into account the sound established procedures in place and the numerous good and willing people who give their time and energy in this area!

However, it does not mean that we can rest on our laurels. Every process in life should always be reviewed and updated or refined as circumstances change.

In the Pastoral Care Team we are looking to ensure that everyone involved in such work should have the necessary support and encouragement to carry out their tasks. They should also have the necessary knowledge and training to do so. We are also aiming to focus greater attention to the people in our church family that may require more attention. Finally, coordination and communication between the many people and organisations involved in this work must always be kept under close scrutiny and robust and workable methods developed to ensure that we deliver as a complete as possible church care system.

To date the Pastoral Care Team have been researching and reviewing how other churches approach this area. We have taken this a stage further by inviting a representative of Cathcart Trinity Church to address our team and give us an insight into their exemplary arrangements.

We will shortly be in a position to progress the results of our investigations and discussions. There will be some small but obvious refinements to our systems but other action points to be implemented will be less so. Like a good referee in a football match who should not be noticed, the work of Pastoral Care should be carried out with humility and grace and this is what we are looking to achieve.

Team Members

Richard Evans
Fay Lyons
John Lyons
Donald McEwan
Fraser McQuiston
Tom Mann
Willie Melville
Sandra Morton
Olive Reid
Bill Robertson
Tom Robertson
Bill Scott

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YOUTH STRATEGY



Alastair McBride Convener

Young people have so much to occupy their time today – going out with friends, to the movies, to the shops, playing sports, taking part in all sorts of school activities. I should know – I drive the family taxi to each and every one of them!

It would seem that within all this “buzz” the spiritual dimension within young lives can “go missing” – perhaps picked up later in life, but for many, all too often simply lost.

This is the challenge for the Youth Strategy group – no major task then!

We agreed that our first goal is to focus on those young people already associated with the Church, be it through Church Builders, affiliated organisations or parental church involvement.

It was quickly recognised that we as a group do certainly not have all the answers! We are therefore looking to ask youngsters associated with the Church what type of activities and fellowship would be attractive to them.

Also, we need to look at the services and facilities offered by other Churches. We are currently organising meetings with them in order to share our experiences and then follow through on new initiatives.

There are a number of great ideas already coming through that need to be developed – for example, Children’s Forums, Youth Fellowship, and the involvement of a Youth Worker.

We need to attract and encourage our young people to not lose that spiritual dimension I already mentioned, and to be active worshippers during their youth and in to adulthood.

Watch this space for further developments – in the meantime, any further suggestions and ideas gratefully received!

Team Members

- Alistair McBride,
- Stuart McChlery,
- Billy Inglis,
- Ann McCormick,
- Kirsty Esslemont,
- Sheila Lamont,
- Shelagh McHugh,
- Beverly Millar,
- Louise Lightbody,
- Libby Murphy

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Choir _____

Our Choir Practices restarted on 10 January after a hectic but successful programme over the festive season.

In January we were invited to give a concert at the Guild where our programme, which included two piano pieces played by Peter, was well received. The evening ended with a lovely supper. We are now well into the last session before the summer. Easter falls early this year so we don't have many practices before Maunday Thursday and Easter Sunday. Last year we had very encouraging feedback regarding our input so Peter has planned something similar for this year. On Easter Sunday we hope to be joined by the Junior Singing Group which is now up and running.

Our annual outing to the Peking Village is on 17 April, the Choir Coffee Morning on Saturday 19 April and our last practice is 24 April.

Stirling Douglas

Youth Singing Group _____

In January a group of about 15 young people got together to form a singing group, with the initial aim of preparing music for the Service on Easter Sunday.

This new musical group introduces another dimension to the wide variety of music that exists in the Church. The music that we are rehearsing is contemporary in style and includes pieces from A Shout of Joy, 'Joseph' and a song involving Sign Language called 'Can You Hear Me'.

The team that lead the singing group were delighted with the response to the singing group and the enthusiasm that the youth have approached this new venture with – we hope this continues!

The Youth Singing Group is open to all young people in primary 5 and over. Practices are good fun and as well as practicing the pieces mentioned

1st Eaglesham Rainbows _____

This session started with the usual games night where the girls enjoyed running around and making LOTS OF NOISE! We celebrated Burns night with a Scottish night food tasting. (*Yum! - Ed*)

Valentines craft was popular although some of the rainbows were very secretive about the recipients of their handmade gifts. We joined with the Guides and Brownies at the Church parade to celebrate Thinking Day and we all looked very smart in our uniforms. We then asked the Rainbows to come to their meeting dressed in Italian style. They tasted Italian food (*Yum, Yum! - Ed*), tried drawing lying on our backs – very difficult and amusing! Plans include craft evenings, games and baking and Easter will bring an egg hunt.

This year Rainbows celebrate their 21st birthday so something fun will be organised to celebrate that. *Eilidh Gray*
Rainbow Leader

earlier, we spend time developing vocal technique and vocal awareness through musical games.

Peter Howard Organist and Choirmaster



1st Eaglesham Guide Unit

Hi everyone, here's a quick update as to what we have been up to since December.

The girls all came back as enthusiastic as ever. We started by entering a global art exhibition for the Olympic Games with the theme of 'Peace, Goodwill and Friendship', which the girls tackled head on with various ideas, these have been sent to Atlanta, USA. This was then followed with a Scottish night with a Scottish quiz by Catriona Lamont and our usual Scottish dancing which we all loved and had a really good night. Go For It Challenges then took place from 'Lights, Camera, Action' to 'Refuse and Recycling'. Our Thinking Day night was great with the girls making friendship bracelets, but with the added difficulty of having a blindfold on or using one hand, this was to think about Guides with disabilities and also in poverty stricken countries.

The Thinking Day Service at the church was a lovely service, which I am sure if you were there, you enjoyed.

As this goes to press Mothers Day crafts and a night of surprises by Catriona Lamont to go towards her Baden Powell Award is on the cards. I am sure our next session will be just as hectic.



3D Drumchapel Project

Christmas came early last year to lots of boys and girls in Drumchapel. They were having their annual Christmas Party, when Santa Claus appeared with lots and lots of toys, which he'd been given to hand out from his friends in Eaglesham. In February, we received fantastic baby and children's clothes, which our Mums sold to local people and helped raise lots of money.

3D Drumchapel was set up by the churches in the local area, back in 1997. It started as a drop-in centre for 12 Mums and their children. These days, we work with around 40 families and 120 children and young people. We employ five full time staff and one part time cleaner, and have 34 volunteers who give their time to us.

We do a lot of different things: Breakfast Clubs, Drop-Ins, Home Visits, Textile Art, Soap & Blether (This is led by the Partnership Minister, and we talk about issues currently in soap operas), Baby

Massage, Photography, Parent & Child Sessions, Family Lunch (one parent makes the lunch and we all enjoy it!) And Mums Nights and Dads Nights.

We also run seven after-school clubs and youth clubs a week, and our Youth Worker Sarah mentors young people who are not in school or employment.

During holiday times, we run Holiday Clubs, go for days away to the beach and take our families on residential breaks to Carberry Towers.

We are a very big happy family and its great to have your support in the work we do. You are all welcome to visit anytime!

Dawn Graham 3D Drumchapel





Site 10, 1 Halls Avenue
Drumchapel,
Glasgow G77 6PL
Tel/Fax: 0141 644 5240
Email: info@3dchapel.org

17th December, 2007

Rev. Lynn McClery,
The Manse,
Cheapeide Street,
Eggleston
Glasgow G76 0NS

Dear Lynn,

On behalf of everyone here at 3D Drumchapel, I'd like to say a warm word of thanks for all the children's gifts which Dawn was given on Sunday at the church service.

The kindness and generosity of everyone who contributed in any way is much appreciated and I would ask you to pass on our thanks to them.

We could not possibly as an organisation undertake to provide this level of gifts from our own resources, so, thanks to your congregation all the children that we know either through "One Up" or the After School Clubs will not be forgotten this Christmas.

I hope you all have a peaceful and joyous Christmas come the 25th.

With kind regards
Sincerely,

Dorothy MacLaurin
Project Manager

3D Drumchapel is a voluntary organisation.
Registered Charity No. SC020456
Registered Office: 10 Halls Avenue, Drumchapel, Glasgow G77 6PL

"A wonderful family project helping local 2000 people to our community and to each other through helping, sharing and encouraging positive change."



205th BB Company Section

Congratulations and thank you to all who took part in our annual 10 mile walk in aid of Action medical research and our Church steeple fund. Looks as if we are heading towards raising around £2000.

Also a big thanks to Maureen, Hanna, Carol and staff for the refreshment's during and after the walk.

The Company is now entering the final few months of the session with so much achieved and so much still to do.

The boys took part in the national competitions with some degree of success notably reaching the last 16 of the chess competition. In the District swimming gala we picked up four medals from three boys entered. J Hammond, G Cunningham and A Agnew. On the soccer side of things the team has played really well this year, finishing 4th in the recent five-a-side competition and with one league game remaining should finish in the top half. The team still have two more cup competitions before the end of the season (a chance yet for some silverware).

The Friday programme is going well with the recruits gaining their Target 1 awards and the older boys finishing their camping and safety tests. Our thanks go to Stuart from the Police Traffic Division and Alistair from Fire and Rescue for their expert knowledge in the safety classes. The boys are doing their last Christian faith classes of the session. Also the band is now sounding better thanks to our new recruits and five new bugles which were bought recently, so much so that the 83rd company invited us to play and parade at their 120th Anniversary celebrations in Mount Florida which was an honour for us.

Our Queensmen have been extremely busy over the last few months. On a Monday nights they help the handicapped Scouts, on Tuesdays and

Thursday they help out at the Anchor and Junior sections. They also as well as our Presidents men go to their leadership course's to out with the 205th.

The boys will be selling jumble sale tickets, Their also is a staff and seniors training weekend at Carronvale (Larbet) for companies within and without the district organised by one of our own staff Jim French, these training weekends are designed to give seniors and staff coaching and new innovative ideas to take back to their companies.

The company has many challenges and still much to do before the end of the session in May and your help in anyway shape or form will be greatly appreciated

Richard Burt
Officer in Charge

Anchor Boys

Anchor Boys rounded off 2007 with lots of seasonal activities. On the 16th December a number of boys went along to the local pantomime and great fun was had by all. The 18th saw the Anchor Boys Christmas party where the boys enjoyed a number of festive games and treats and the evening ended with Santa dropping off a few presents!

We're now into the New Year and the boys are all working hard on their program of achievements in preparation for our Annual Display on May 13th. Lastly we still have a few vacancies. Any new boys in Primary 1-3 are welcome to come along and take part on a Tuesday night. Parents should feel free to drop in at 6.30pm on a Tuesday or contact myself to find out more information.

Alistair Todd
Officer in Charge

Junior Section

We are into the New Year and the pace changes dramatically.

Our Achievement Scheme is coming along well and should be completed by the end of our session.

We are running one football team this year and the boys are doing extremely well, we are currently sitting top of the league.

We have had two competitions this year the first was our annual swimming gala at Eastwood Swimming baths where we took 15boys. The boys all had a wonderful time and we came away with one Gold Medal so congratulations to David Lamond. The second competition was our annual five-a-side tournament at Bannerman High School where we finished 2nd so a big thanks to all the boys that took part and also the parents who came along to support the boys.

At the time of writing we are scheduled to attend the Kelvin Hall Sports in March, 08 the results will be advised in the next Parish News.

All that is left to do is plan for our forthcoming Annual Display and our holiday weekend away for our P5 and P6 boys.

Mark T Robertson.
Officer in Charge.

3rd Eaglesham Brownies

We started this session with a games night and then started the Culture Badge. The girls had to do a variety of activities for the badge such as draw a family tree, learn a local song (The Sour Milk Cairt), play old fashioned games and take part in a quiz about Eaglesham. We are going to visit Statue House soon as well.

The girls all enjoyed making pancakes and of course, eating them and they designed heart magnets for Valentines day.

We hope the girls will all gain their Fire Safety Badge when we visit Clarkston Fire station in a couple of weeks.

For Thinking Day the girls all made a display of another country in their sixes. They brought in flags, food, books and postcards amongst other things and their displays looked great. We played games from other countries and finished the evening off with a nice ceremony remembering Brownies in other countries.

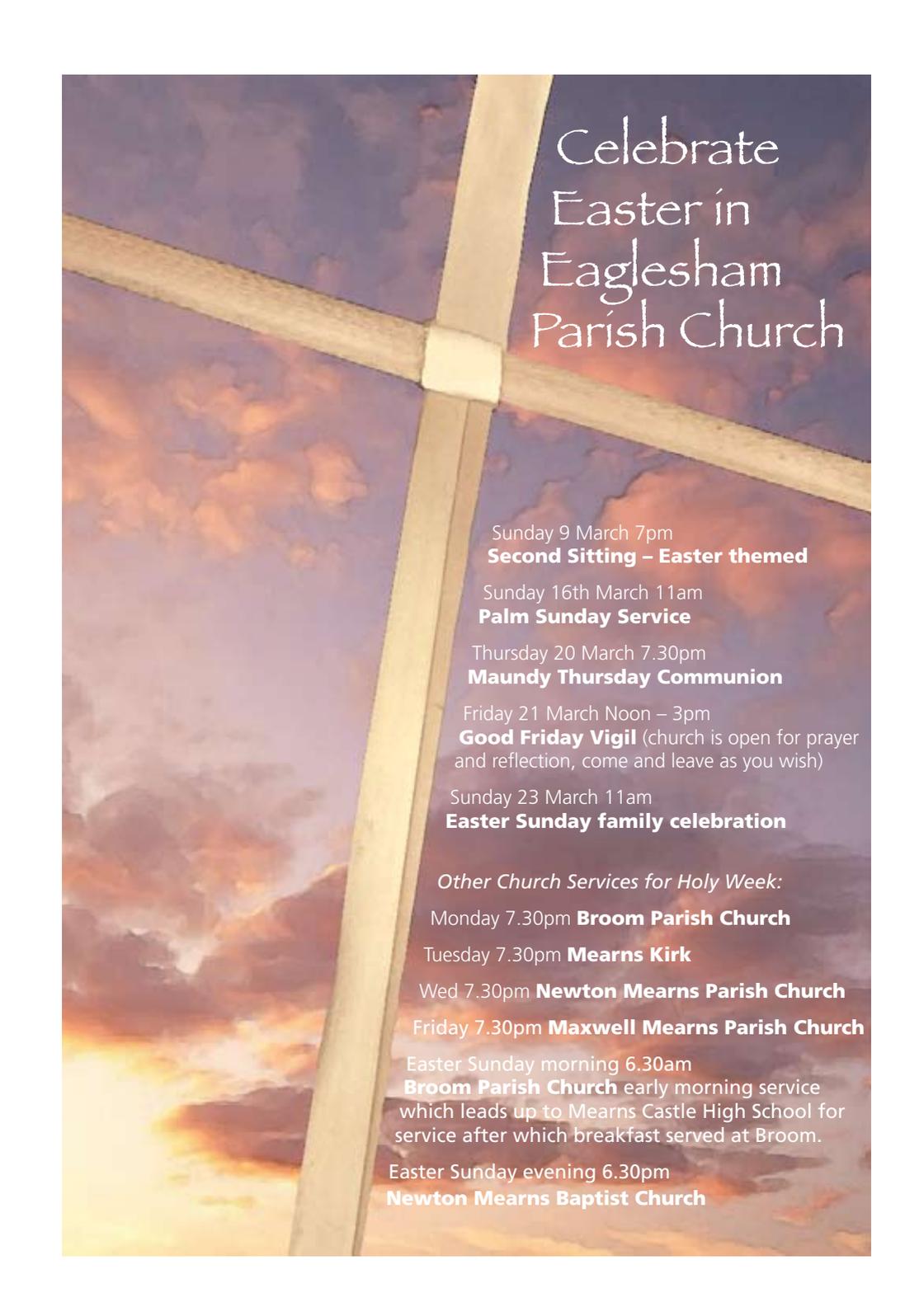
Thank you to Cathie, Caron and Angela for their help each week and to our two young leaders, Kirsty and Emma. Thank you to all the Brownies for their enthusiasm and to the parents for their continuing support.

Elaine Wallace
Brownie Guide Guider

CAUTION : HOLIDAY CLUB APPROACHING!!

Our all-action, high-octane annual children's Holiday Club will happen again this year each morning of 4th-8th August 2008 - an absolute must to put in the diary if you have children who were in Primary School last year! Details are still under wraps, but great fun and learning from the Bible are guaranteed.

If you think you might like to help and would like to know more, please contact the Minister, or the Holiday Club co-ordinator Mrs Pat Wishart.



Celebrate Easter in Eaglesham Parish Church

Sunday 9 March 7pm
Second Sitting – Easter themed

Sunday 16th March 11am
Palm Sunday Service

Thursday 20 March 7.30pm
Maundy Thursday Communion

Friday 21 March Noon – 3pm
Good Friday Vigil (church is open for prayer
and reflection, come and leave as you wish)

Sunday 23 March 11am
Easter Sunday family celebration

Other Church Services for Holy Week:

Monday 7.30pm **Broom Parish Church**

Tuesday 7.30pm **Mearns Kirk**

Wed 7.30pm **Newton Mearns Parish Church**

Friday 7.30pm **Maxwell Mearns Parish Church**

Easter Sunday morning 6.30am
Broom Parish Church early morning service
which leads up to Mearns Castle High School for
service after which breakfast served at Broom.

Easter Sunday evening 6.30pm
Newton Mearns Baptist Church

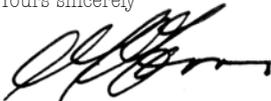
The Rev Lynn McChlery
Eaglesham Parish Church
Montgomery Street
Eaglesham

Dear Rev McChlery,

On behalf of the Rev Canon McCarney, the Parish Council and the Parishioners I wish to express our sincere thanks for your gift to commemorate St Bridget's 150th anniversary.

Our choice of gift is a chalice which we believe is appropriate, in that, when used, it will encapsulate a prayer for all of us. I have contacted your Fellowship Team convenor, Margaret Pitcairn and Jim Donaldson, and would be grateful if you would inform the rest of the fellowship Team of our delight in your recognition of this important date in the life of St Bridget's

Yours sincerely



Michael Morris
Chairman St Bridget's Parish Council

Canon McCarney displays the chalice gifted to St Bridget's



Auction of Talents

As you will see elsewhere in the magazine, our steeple has been repaired at considerable cost and the various groups and organisations in the Church have been asked to come up with a fundraising idea each to help offset this expense.

The Admin Team has decided to hold an 'Auction of Talents' as our contribution.

What is it? People offer a talent for auction and on the day, our auctioneers encourage bids for the talents on offer with all proceeds going to the steeple fund. I can hear the comments – 'I don't have any talents' (which was my initial reaction) – oh, yes, you do! Let me give you some examples which were offered at another Church's auction. Car washing, gardening, 12 handmade cards, day trip for 2 (by car or boat), a pot of soup a week for a month, dinner party, a round of golf, a celebration cake, baby sitting,

DIY jobs – the list goes on. Everyone can do something, everyone can bid for something. A catalogue of items to be offered will be distributed a couple of weeks before the event – and it will be possible to bid by proxy!

When is it? Saturday, 7 June in the afternoon. The auction will take place in the Carswell Halls, tea and coffee will be provided with a crèche and children's activities in the Church Halls.

This is a new venture for us – as well as raising money, we hope it will be enjoyed by everyone – so, please give of your talents, come along and perhaps go away with a treat for yourself or the promise of a task being completed.

There will be further information in the intimations but if you would like to offer a talent, please contact me.

Maureen Hunter

Letter from George Gallacher

To the many people of Eaglesham and beyond who attended the church funeral service for Irene on Wednesday 13th February. My family and I wish to express our immense gratitude for the support we received. I know that Irene was popular, and the sight of the church filled to capacity and the condolences of each of the congregation was a great comfort to the family and a great tribute to how much she was loved and appreciated.

I would like to express our gratitude to Rev Lynn McChlery. The church service was beautiful as was that at the Linn Crematorium. Both before and after the service Lynn was an immense source of comfort to our family.

Finally to one and all I would like to say: You did Irene proud.

Walking Group

An increasing number of people are enjoying some exercise and fellowship on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Walks have been varied - some in Country Parks such as Pollok, Calder Glen and Chatelherault, others in the area around the village. Ballageich has not yet been conquered, since all previous attempts have been thwarted by inclement weather!

The next walks will be on March 12th and 26th, April 9th and 23rd. Venues may include Kitchochside and Carmunnock, New Lanark and the Falls of Clyde, Dean Castle, and the Fereneze Hills above Barrhead.

Sandy Robertson

The Guild

The Guild Committee would like to thank everyone who attended our evening with 'Sounds International'. Fifty of their members (they actually have a total of 80 singers) entertained us with a wonderful selection of songs. The Reverend Tom Morton was their compere. We should also like to thank all the ladies who provided baking for the supper. Sounds International support the Jennifer Trust Charity and we were delighted to be able to hand over a cheque for £300 towards this excellent cause.

Fiona Hamilton
Joint Secretary

Christian Aid

Christian Aid needs a new local organiser! We have a wonderful team of counters and collectors who regularly raise £2000 annually.

Flo, Christine and Janine have between them been the organisers for 18 years and feel it is now time to hand over to someone new.

It is not an onerous task – in fact it is very rewarding and anyone interested should phone Flo MacIntyre.



Thursday Group

Our first speaker of the session was Steve Morris who showed us various self defence moves. We then had our annual Burns lunch which is always an enjoyable afternoon. Peter McBride addressed the haggis and entertained us with some good stories. We had a visit from Maureen Walker at our next meeting. She told us all about Age Concern, the third of the three charities we are supporting this year.

On the 25th of February we visited the Peking Village, when Jason told us all about Chinese New Year and where, of course, we had lunch. Our coffee morning is our main fundraiser for our three chosen charities – Bluebell Foundation, Children’s Hospice Association Scotland and Age Concern was held on Saturday 1 March and raised £320 . We only have two more meetings this session – decorating ceramics and then our AGM. I would like to thank all the committee for their help this year and the aunties for looking after the children. Thank you to our speakers who have given up their Thursday afternoons to come along and speak to us. Thank you also to the Guild for their support.

Elaine Wallace

EPC Website

<http://www.eagleshamparishchurch.co.uk>

The EPC website has now been in my care for nine months. Apart from duty rotas for the door teams and Sunday coffees it is kept up to date with the weekly intimations as well as the music Peter has played on the organ.

If you are the leader or secretary of an organisation why don't you drop me an e-mail with your details and I can set up a webpage for you. All I need is the text and I will do the rest.

A recent addition is the beginning of a community area which has now a selection of local cycle routes the fitter amongst you can try, thanks to Duncan MacIntyre.

Since last May the website has received over 11,000 'hits' (individual page viewings) by over 2,000 people.

Any comments or suggestions will be gratefully received.

Alasdair Bain

Graham Wilson's (flying) visit



Graham Wilson recently took time out of his flying visit home to come to Eaglesham to worship with us, tell us more about our friends at the Nuru Centre. He brought with him a stock of beautiful handmade greetings cards made by the disabled workers at the centre. The cards are available to buy from the Fair Trade Stall in the Carswell Halls.

Orchestra

The church orchestra has been very busy leading the worship at Second Sitting, Evening Communion and monthly at morning services in church. They are a very talented and enthusiastic bunch of folks of all ages. New members are welcome any time of all abilities from beginners – we can write parts to suit. We currently have violins, flutes, oboe, clarinets, saxophones, recorders, guitars and drums and percussion and piano/ keyboard. For further information please speak to Brenda Bain.

Brenda

Prayer Time

Every week there is a short and informal prayer time in the Upper Room, Carswell Halls, 10.30-10.50 am before the Morning Service. All are welcome, whether you are able to come regularly or only occasionally. None of us is an expert in prayer, and praying out loud is not compulsory!

You do not have to come to the group in order to tell us about a person or situation which you would like us to pray for – please tell the minister, or contact our prayer co-ordinator Gillian Norval. You do not have to divulge details, and the group are committed to respect confidentiality.

CrossReach

I went to a conference recently where I learned about the work of the Church of Scotland Councils. I discovered there was a lot going on that I didn't know about and would like to share some of this with you, starting with CrossReach, the Social Care Council.

CrossReach is one of the largest voluntary providers of residential and community social care services in Scotland, with over 80 homes, projects and services providing Christian social care to meet a wide range of needs. Services close to us include Eastwoodhill care home for the elderly in Giffnock and the new Kirkhaven residential resettlement service in Glasgow for those who are homeless and have other complex needs.

CrossReach spent £46.3 million last year, of which less than 1% came directly from the Church. Most of the rest came from local authorities but, just like other charities, fund-raising plays an increasingly important part in helping to keep services running. Here are a few suggestions for things we could do to help:

- Take part in events, such as walks and runs or CrossStitch for CrossReach
- Shop in the web shop at www.crossreach.org.uk/shop
- Use the Directory Enquiries number 118 599 (40p flat rate, 10p goes to CrossReach)
- Pray – call 0131 454 4391 for a prayer booklet
- Volunteer – there are many opportunities for giving a little of your time in the Glasgow area

Visit the CrossReach website at www.crossreach.org.uk, call 0131 657 2000 or email info@crossreach.org.uk for more details.

Ann McCormick

Advance Notice: Sunday Services

In Eaglesham Church we thank God for a large congregation comprising a gloriously varied range of people! This is a great strength, but also a challenge when we realise that we all have different preferences when it comes to how and when we like to worship. At present we have one main Sunday morning service at 11am, the focal point for all of us to worship together, and we are keen to keep this unchanged. We also have Second Sitting, a monthly opportunity for evening worship for those who enjoy

a less formal style. We believe there is the opportunity for another 'alternative' service once a month, this time earlier in the mornings for those who appreciate a quieter and more meditative approach to worship. The Kirk Session has agreed that a new monthly early morning service will begin in the autumn. More details will follow in the June magazine, and we hope and pray that this service will enhance the richness and variety of our life as a worshipping congregation.

Lynn

FOOD FOR THOUGHT!



Lent breakfasts

Saturday mornings 8.30-9.15am, Carswell Halls now till Easter.

A bacon butty breakfast with informal discussion - encouraging ourselves to read John's Gospel before Easter, reflecting on it and sharing our questions and insights. No special qualifications required all are invited to come -

an excellent preparation for Easter!