

PARISH NEWS



EAGLESHAM PARISH CHURCH



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Office open Wednesday & Friday

10.00am – 12.00 noon

Announcements

Weddings

Jill McInnes to Alexander Scott,
(31 March)

Funerals

Nancy McAlpine, Montgomerie Court
(23 February)

Nancy Mathieson, Brownmuir Avenue
(5 March)

Moyra Guthrie, Airyligg Drive
(27 March)

Helen Smith, Montgomery Square
(28 March)

May Chaddock, Kirkton Court
(5 April)

May Lawless, Craighlaw Avenue
(13 April)

Agnes Howie, Alexander Avenue
(4 May)

John Wilson, Netherlee Court
(11 May)

Alice Hamilton, Whitecraigs Nursing Home
(16 May)

Musings from the Manse

I read a story (true, I think) about a priest who went to serve in an urban parish which had a social club attached to the church. The priest was enthusiastic about modernising things, and began by making changes to the prayers used in church. Nobody objected – in fact, few seemed to notice. Encouraged, he gradually made various changes to the forms of worship in the service. Again, everyone seemed content. The priest was delighted to have a congregation so open to change, and decided to concentrate next on the business side of the church. He found a beer supplier who would do a much better deal than the club was currently getting, and changed the beer accordingly.

The priest knew when the new beer arrived, almost to the moment. A posse of impassioned parishioners appeared on his doorstep, demanding respectfully but extremely firmly to know what had happened to their beer. The priest had hit a nerve. He realised he'd have to do a quick U-turn, or his ministry in that parish would be measurable in nanoseconds. He'd found what they were passionate about, and it wasn't what he expected!

I wonder what's your "beer factor" – what gets you out of your seat and into action? What issues do you feel most deeply about, and most motivated to act upon?

In the last few weeks Craig and I have talked to over 50 people about where they feel God's leading to serve the church in the future. It has been hugely encouraging to discover people's passions – areas of church life where they feel strongly motivated to do something. I believe that such passions are often a call from God, and I pray that the changes in church structures will release many more members to serve God's church in the "niche"

which is right for them. These opportunities are now open to everyone, not just elders and Board members. If you would like to join one of the new teams (details in the Kirk Session report in this magazine) or would like to recommend someone to be invited to join one, please speak to Craig or myself. We would love to hear from you.

To be passionate about our faith doesn't come naturally to Scottish Presbyterians. Scots are allegedly repressed about their feelings, and Presbyterians are allegedly repressed about everything! Let's allow God to stir up the desires for good that he has put in us, and let's use them energetically and enthusiastically to serve His church.

FOLLOW US
WE'RE OFF TO THE
HOLIDAY CLUB!



Lynne



Kirk Session

I am delighted, and not a little relieved, to be able to report that following recent discussions, meetings and consultations we have held with elders, Congregational Board members and, finally, on Sunday 13th May at a meeting after the Service involving the assembled congregation, it has been agreed that proposals to re-structure our Kirk Session and Congregational Board into the new Unitary Constitution, can go forward for approval to Glasgow Presbytery and, subsequently, to Edinburgh for eventual ratification.

I say relieved, because in my last report to you I showed my hand, if I'm allowed to use a gambling figure of speech, and publicly endorsed the proposed changes well in advance of any of the subsequent approvals having been sought and agreed.

So, I survive as your Session Clerk for a little longer, my optimism having been rewarded with universal approval from Session, Board and Congregation. We move soon, therefore, to implement the new functions and teams and it is hoped that the re-structured formation of our congregation will be in place by early September this year in time for all the organisations resuming after the summer break. "There's many a slip 'twixt cup and lip" as the saying goes but I'm assuming with added confidence that neither Presbytery nor Edinburgh will see fit to counter our wishes and the rest will fall into place when our new Unitary constitution becomes fact in law.

We are already an open Kirk Session functioning within a Church without Walls, modern, inclusive and welcoming. Our new focused teams of committed and knowledgeable members will provide innovation and ideas as we go forward in faith, elders, ex Board members and, very importantly, members of our

congregation together, who can bring insight and energy to the work of our Church in Eaglesham.

Please don't think this so called re-structuring of Session and Board affects only elders and Board members. It affects all of us in our congregation and requires the interest, prayers and involvement of all of us in the days ahead. The job of the teams, initially, is to continue the work of the Session and Board but with a major difference. Areas of worship, education, youth, outreach, fellowship, pastoral care and administration will be nurtured and expanded by dedicated groups working in unison but better focused on their areas of remit. We believe unreservedly that from this new way of tackling those seven areas of the work of our Church will come fresh thinking and great ideas for spreading our message of welcome and compassion to all.

The congregation can help with this. We can all be welcoming and compassionate in our relationships with those around us. Some of us are exuberant and some of us just quietly get on with it. Whatever our personal style and character we are an integral part of our Christian family here in Eaglesham and by our example and witness we will flourish, like the early Church and grow in faith.

The teams of elders and members are taking shape now and our Minister and Kirk Session are most anxious that they comprise of a fully rounded mix of contributors with the opportunity for full and frank discussions and the formation of fresh and exciting ideas and opportunities resulting. If you feel especially drawn to any of the seven teams because of your experience or simply the thoughts and ideas you may already have, I would urge you to speak either to the Minister or myself and we will ensure that you are introduced to the team of your choice and



The work of Eaglesham Church will be co-ordinated by seven teams

Youth...

...overseeing and co-ordinating all our youth activities, and facing the challenge of helping youngsters to come to faith and become part of the church.

Fellowship...

...ensuring that we are a welcoming church, and creating opportunities for us to build relationships with each other and the community through social events, meals etc.

Music and Worship...

...responsible with the Minister for matters to do with our services, and seeking how we can deepen and enhance our worship and learning.

Administration...

...fabric, finance and all the 'nuts and bolts' practicalities of church life.

Outreach...

...a two-pronged remit to look at how we share the Gospel in the wider world, issues of mission, Fair Trade and justice; and initiatives to help us share our faith with our neighbours here in Eaglesham.

Pastoral Care...

...discovering how best to care more effectively for our members and the community, particularly those who are alone or going through difficult times.

Adult Education...

...providing opportunities for us to think more deeply about our faith and to grow in our knowledge and understanding.

the Convener. It may also be the case that some members of the congregation have already been 'eyed up' as potential team members and they will be approached to join. Whichever way it happens we are determined that the teams are made up of focused and committed members with particular interest in the remits involved.

However, if you are concerned about being sucked in to hours of work and years of effort I can assure you that there is no long term commitment required from anyone. It's your thoughts and ideas we want and a meeting of minds every couple of months would be what is required. It may happen that team members might want to change to different teams in the course of time or simply take a rest to recharge their batteries. The process will evolve and settle in time as teams work individually but share their collective ideas and proposals.

The Kirk Session means business and it has grasped this opportunity to throw its doors wide open to allow everyone in the congregation to be involved fully in the life and breath of our Church. It may have escaped your notice but, following the adoption of the Church Without Walls policy, Kirk Session meetings have been open for some time now to anyone in the congregation who is interested in attending. This is Church Without Walls in action and, on behalf of all of us in the congregation I seek your prayers, good wishes and support for the work of our teams in the weeks and months ahead.

This is the final edition of Parish News before the summer break and one more Kirk Session meeting left before we can all catch our breath and relax for what I trust for all of us will be a happy, peaceful and restful few months.

Craig Wishart Session Clerk



The summer is with us and we are able to get outside. Weed spraying has commenced at all properties and it very much depends on Wednesday night weather how quickly this can be achieved.

There is nothing to report at the Manse. Hopefully the telephone exchange will get a coat of paint over the summer.

At the Church the new multi media projector is in place and we are already benefiting from its much improved picture quality. The sound system has had a small piece of equipment added by the sound engineer to control the background echo, this has resulted in an immediate improvement. The fallen tree in the graveyard has been cut up and removed. Normally this would be the responsibility of East Renfrewshire Council however on this occasion we undertook it ourselves with the assistance of the BB. We are obtaining quotations for necessary steeple repairs and the clock is keeping better time but is yet to be made to strike correctly.

The deliberately discharged fire extinguisher at the Mid Hall has been put back in service at a cost to the Church of £75.

The reinstatement of the Upper Room at the Carswell Halls has been temporarily halted as part of the ceiling above the stairwell has to be replaced. The leak in the hot water tank in the office has been repaired. This proved a bigger job than expected as the wood panelling and false ceiling required to be stripped out and reinstated. All the foyer lights are again operational.

The Fabric Mole



It is hard to believe that another session of Church Builders has come to an end. This year we have seen new faces in Church Builders which has been fantastic and it has been our privilege to bring God's word to them.

On the 29th March the Youth Group took over the serving of tea and coffee after worship. Stalls were organized, activities provided, baking and sweets sold. The event was in aid of 'Flush' a Christian Aid project providing sanitation for those a lot less fortunate than ourselves. The grand total of £127 was made. This was a fabulous effort, so well done to all concerned in the youth group AND a big thank-you to all who supported them.

At time of writing The Gift Service on May 20th has not yet happened but we anticipate it will be a success (*It was! - Ed.*). The boys and girls and church builders staff put so much effort into these services.

This year on Saturday 9th June Church Builder are repeating last year's trip to Caldergleng Park. This is a trip where all members of the congregation are welcome and the races are not compulsory! The trip is weather permitting and everyone brings their own picnic, leaving Mid Road at 11.30am in convoy. We have a theme this year of a Teddy Bears Picnic so look out that Teddy and join us.

Church Builders starts back after the summer on Sunday 19th AugustBUT..... please remember Summer Sunday Club will run throughout the summer.

Thank-you again to all who have so willingly given of their time and talents this year in Church Builders I really appreciate your support.

Beverley Millar



Choir

The Choir has now finished for our summer break after a very busy and enjoyable season.

The appointment of Peter Howard as our organist and choirmaster together with the new Church Hymnary, CH4, have introduced a slightly different approach to our worship music which we in the choir have enjoyed rehearsing for the Sunday services. We will however continue to use the much loved traditional hymns and anthems when and where appropriate.

From the feedback to choir members it is apparent that the choice of music over the Easter period was well received by both the congregation and visitors. It was indeed most pleasing to see the attendance of visitors from other churches at our Munday Thursday service.

On Thursday 19 April we had our 'End of

Term' outing to the Peking Village where as in previous years we were well looked after by Helen and her staff. It was a great pleasure to have Lynn join us although Stuart was unable to be there because of business commitments. We were also joined by two former and well loved members – George and Margaret Clarkston.

The choir coffee morning was another successful occasion and we are extremely grateful to all who turned out to support this fundraising effort. As traditional the money raised was gifted to the Church and several charities nominated by choir members at our AGM on 3 May. 17, 07

Our Thursday evening choir practices resume in October – do consider joining us – you will be made most welcome.

Stirling Douglas



Junior Badminton

We completed another successful season. Congratulations to all the winners of the prizes and also thanks to all who took part.

We now have thirty eight members on the role, of whom thirty plus regularly attend.

Looking forward to next season, new members are expected in the younger age group which will add to the role.

With this in mind, we have had to engage another couple of leaders to help out and we very much appreciate their offer to assist.

We look forward to seeing everyone back

fighting fit on Saturday 1st September 2007 for the new season which will run until the last Saturday in March 2008.

Should anyone wish to join please contact me before turning up to ensure that there is a space for you.

Ian Lightbody Badminton Leader



Williamwood House

After a £1.2 million refurbishment Williamwood House, our local Church of Scotland Home for the Elderly Mentally Infirm, can offer accommodation of a very high standard. Residents can enjoy the benefits of en-suite shower rooms or even Jacuzzi! Money raised by local Guilds will be used to transform the extensive gardens so that residents will be able to enjoy the wonderful summer which has been forecast.

Janette Macindeor (Friends Group)



Elaine Paterson of the Kirk Session presents Eilidh Murray with her prize.

Anchor Boys

Earlier this year our Anchor Boys took part in a district colouring in competition. Robbie Baird won the P1 part of the competition and Jack Crawford won the overall prize for the best picture in the district. This was brilliant news and both boys received an art set as a prize. Well done Robbie and Jack!

Our sponsored bounce evening was a huge success and we raised £551. This is an amazing amount and it will be put towards trips and equipment for the boys to use. Thank you to everyone who sponsored the boys.

At the time of writing this, preparations are underway for our annual display which is taking place on Tuesday 22nd May. This will be our final session before the summer holidays.

In June, the P3 boys are going on a bowling trip. This will be their final trip as Anchor Boys. We would hope that they would all make the natural progression to the Junior Section in August.

I am stepping down as Officer-in-Charge at the end of this session and I would like to thank everyone who has offered support to myself and the Anchor Boys over the past four years. Alistair Todd, an officer in the Anchor Boys for many years will be taking over. I wish him every success.

On behalf of all the staff, I hope you all have a great summer.

Jaclyn Andrews
Officer in Charge

Junior Section

Our session comes to a close and here is an update of how things finished at the end of another busy year.

The Junior Section football team won the Cathkin District seven-a-side League and the Cup. Our team consisted of *Alistair Campbell, Cameron Carswell, Frazer Robertson, Ethan Paterson, Gary Armstrong, Graham Inglis, Drew Lorimer and John McBride*. We would all like to thank Scott Gray who coached the team so successfully.

We had another successful year at the District and Battalion Sports, our medal winners were:

P4 – Jamie Cocker

Sliver in Long Jump
Gold in High Jump
Silver in Battalion Long Jump
Silver in Battalion High Jump

P5 - James Strang

Bronze in Relay
David Lamond
Bronze in Relay
Bronze in High Jump

John McBride
Bronze in Relay
Bronze in Running

P6 - Frazer Robertson

Bronze in Relay
Chris Conway
Gold in Long Jump

The Inspecting Officer at our Annual Display was Mr Ian Gray and our thanks go to him for coming along. The main prizewinners on the night were:

Billy McAuslan Trophy –
Junior Section `B` Football Team.

Best Squad –

Ferrari, comprising Alistair Campbell, Derek Scott, Robert Rigg and Jamie Cocker.

Joint Best Boy –

Alistair Campbell and
Frazer Robertson.

Junior Section annual holiday weekend away will be taking place this year at Newton Stewart, so all the boys and staff are looking forward to the trip.

Finally, Scott Gray is retiring this year after 30 years service in the Boys Brigade. On behalf of my staff, parents, friends and boys I would like to thank him for all his help and support over the years in the Junior Section.

Have a Good Summer Break

Mark T Robertson



Company Section

Our session has now officially come to an end with having our 78th Annual Display in the church halls. Lynn welcomed everyone and opened the evening with a short service. Our inspecting officer was Mr Alec White formally of Strathclyde Police.

Company Trophies and Awards were won by the following boys

One Year Attendance –
J Gemmell, G McArther, A Steel,
G Shearer, C Clark, F Stern, R Jamieson,
C King, G Cunningham, C Shearer,
J Hammond

Two Years Attendance –
A Nealis, A Agnew, R McAuslan,
G Thompson, C Groom, M West

Three Years Attendance –
R Cunningham, S Sinclair

Five Years Attendance –
A Lamont (well done A!!!!)

Table Tennis junior – J Gemmell

Table Tennis senior – J Hammond



Badminton Junior – J Gemmell

Badminton Senior – R Cunningham

Footballer of the year – F Stern

Inter squad sports – Squad 6 - D Doyle

Best squad uniform and attendance –
Squad 3 - J Hammond

Best Christian faith paper – C Shearer

Best all round squad – Squad 4 -
G Cunningham

Best recruit – J Gemmell

Best all round boy – J Hammond

Duke Of Edinburgh Bronze Awards –
G Cunningham, S Sinclair, J Hammond,
M Eves, C King, D Doyle, A McCallum,
A Lamont , C Shearer

President's Badges – C.King, D Doyle,
M Eves, A Lamont, S Shearer, A McCallum.

Queen's Badges – G Cunningham, S Sinclair,
J Hammond, (M Eves later this year)

Although our session has ended we still carry on with our summer programme. Expedition has already started with Mr French and staff taking Grade 2 boys to Aberfoyle for the w/end. Mr Grant will be organising the Star 1 canoeing courses for June (date to be confirmed). And finally our summer camp in Arran will be from Friday 13th to 22nd July. Boys can come up to the church hall every Friday from the 1st of June to pay into the camp bank and receive important camp information.

Richard Burt
Officer in Charge



1st Eaglesham Guide Unit

As yet another session ends and we look forward to another Guide Camp, I would just like to thank all my helpers for yet another busy year. Christian, Ann, Margaret and Claire have helped and put in another year of hard work and commitment and without you girls, 1st Eaglesham Guides would not be able to function without you, thanks again. Thanks also to you the parents for supporting your daughters throughout the year and encouraging them to come along every week.

Lesley and Amy receive their Baden Powell Challenge Awards



In April of this year Lesley McBride and Amy Ruddock received their Baden Powell Challenge Awards, this is a first for Eaglesham Guides. The girls had to, on their own, do 10 challenges from Healthy Living to Global Issues, Lesley and Amy reached a very high standard and were presented with their awards at Williamwood Church by our County Commissioner Lesley Carswell. Well done girls.

Our camp this year will be at Auchengillan from 1st - 3rd June and hopefully the weather will improve. Our theme this year is Disney and in true guide spirit, and obviously due to Copyright Licensing, our mascot is "Mickey the Moose", Caitlin O'Hara won the competition to design a logo and a mascot for our camp, well done to you Caitlin.

Well as you read this our camp will be over and we will all be looking forward to our summer break after the Eaglesham Fair of course. Enjoy your break and see you in September.

Louise Lightbody

3rd Eaglesham Brownies

For Easter the Brownies made cards and chocolate nests which were enjoyed by everyone judging by the chocolate faces. After the Easter holidays we had a night playing games before we started the Road Safety Badge. There was lots of activities for the girls to do including designing cycling helmets, playing a road safety game and activity sheets on the Green Cross Code, road signs and stranger danger. We also sang a road safety song. By the time you receive this we will have completed a fancy dress sponsored walk. The money raised being split between the unit, Guide Dogs for the Blind and the West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society. We are also designing T-shirts for the Eaglesham Fair for the parade. Our final

night on the 11th June, the Brownies are planning a trip to Calderglen Country Park for lots of fun activities.

The older Brownies are looking forward to our weekend pack holiday in Auchengillan from the 1st - 3rd June. We are keeping our fingers crossed for good weather.

When we resume after the summer the numbers of Brownies in the pack is going to increase, so therefore we need extra helpers. If you think you could help on a Monday evening from 5.45 - 7pm please contact me.

Wishing you all a lovely summer

Elaine Wallace (Brownie Guide Guider)

The Guild

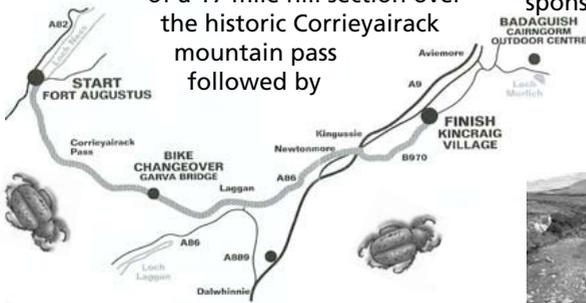
The ladies of the Guild would like to thank Hannah and Margaret and their Committee for another interesting and informative session during which new friendships have been made and old ones strengthened.

Our Guild Afternoon Tea took place on 16 May when we entertained our Fireside Members.

Corrieyairak Challenge

The man must be mad!... I thought when I received and read his email (*see letters to the Editor*) ...he's doing it again – for the second year running – will he never learn? Mad he might be but Ronald McLean is once again undertaking the 'Corrie' to raise funds for the Badaguish Centre, near Aviemore. The charity, which has the same ethos the event 'Challenge for All', provides outdoor activity holidays and respite care for people with special needs from all over Scotland and the UK including Eaglesham Church member Gary Ward. From humble beginnings event has gone from 110 entrants in 1993, to 500 in 2006 raising £75k.

The Challenge is held every summer. The race starts at Fort Augustus and consists of a 17 mile hill section over the historic Corrieyairak mountain pass followed by



a 26 mile road section. The long haul to the Corrieyairak summit check point fully tests the competitors. The descent starts with the infamous 'zig zags' which get the competitors down from the summit wind

Our new session begins in October and we look forward to seeing you all then after a happy summer holiday.

Full details of the 2007/08 session syllabus will be published in the September issue of Parish News.

Janette Macdeor and Joan Douglas
(Joint Convenors)



and rain to the Garva Bridge changeover point where they are fed and watered, before being sent off on their bikes for the final 26 miles to Kincaig. At the finish all competitors receive rapturous applause and get their well-deserved medal.

Everyone is welcome to take part regardless of ability, age or experience. Runners, bikers, duathletes and joggers/walkers of all levels take part so consequently there is great camaraderie and mix between 'elites' and the 'have a go' participants. I'm not sure which bracket Ronald falls into but he, and Badaguish, definitely deserve our support!

Contact Ronald directly or through the Church Office to find out how you can sponsor him.



Corrieyairak Pass



Gary at Badaguish Centre

More info from –
www.badaguish.org
www.corrieyairak.org

Dear All

David and I would like to say a sincere 'thank you' to all our friends at Eaglesham Church for the many cards and good wishes we have received. We were really overwhelmed by your kindness and although we will miss you all we feel happy that we have made the move - after much careful thought - and are now enjoying the company of our family. Edinburgh is not the other end of the world and we would hope to see you sometime in the not to distant future.

Yours sincerely

Jean and David Horn

Your letters, questions, comments or announcements about any parish or village issue are welcomed and can be sent to the Editor at

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mail: Doug Lamont
22 Bonnyton Drive
Eglesham G76 0LU

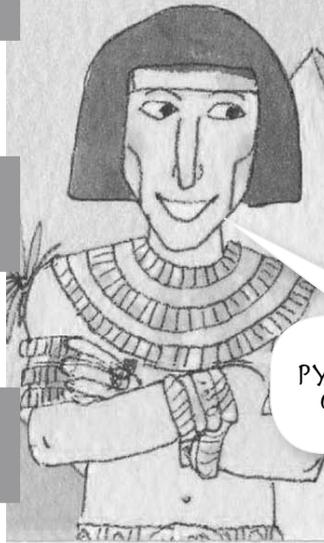
fax: 01355 302368

tel: 01355 302768

e

To: doug@lamontassociates.co.uk
From: ronald
mail Subject: Parish News

Doug, I hope to repeat the Corrieyairack Challenge on 30th June. You will recall that the funds go to the Badaguish Centre near Aviemore, to provide Outdoor activities for a wide range of handicapped young people, including our Garry. Is it too late to get a bit of a plug for this in the magazine, please?
Best wishes
Ronald



**PYRAMID
ROCK**

HI, WELCOME TO
PYRAMID ROCK, I'M
GLAD YOU COULD
MAKE IT



Eglesham Church

Children's Holiday Club

EXCITING PLANS ARE IN PLACE FOR OUR SECOND HOLIDAY CLUB, REVISITING ANCIENT EGYPT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GOD THROUGH THE BIBLE STORY OF JOSEPH. THE CLUB IS FREE OF CHARGE AND OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN CURRENTLY (SESSION 2006/07) IN PRIMARY SCHOOL. FIRST COME FIRST SERVED, SO WATCH OUT FOR REGISTRATION DETAILS WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY!

The BibleLands Thanksgiving Day in Glasgow on 12th May provided an opportunity to find out more about the work of the charity. Most church members are aware of its existence as the producer of the Bethlehem Carol Sheet used at Christmas services, but few will be aware that it was founded as far back as 1854.

The Director gave an overview of the present activities of the charity. It is involved in projects in Israel and Palestine, Egypt and Lebanon. The working environment is frequently difficult in the extreme. Several Lebanese projects take place in the war-torn Bekaa Valley. One supported school in Bethany is adjacent to the new Israeli security wall, seriously restricting access for staff and pupils alike.

Its key aspects of ministry are: education, social and medical care, vocational and adult training, special needs and support for refugees. We saw slide after slide of the disadvantaged, the handicapped, the needy, all being supported by BibleLands. One striking image was of a woman in Egypt,

'playing with' the water tap newly installed in her home. Prior to that, obtaining water involved a lengthy walk, several times a day, to a none-too-clean canal.

Later we were addressed by Dr Amal Khazin, Director of the Nazareth School of Nursing, herself formerly sponsored while at school by BibleLands. The school was the charity's flagship project in its 150th anniversary year, and the number of student nurses has doubled since then. The school fulfils a vital need in Galilee, and succeeds in spite of limited government support.

The preacher at the Thanksgiving Service which concluded the event was Rev Clarence Musgrave, who reflected on his years at St Andrew's Church of Scotland in Jerusalem, which coincided with the second Intifada uprising from 2000 to 2005.

Further information on BibleLands can be obtained from www.biblelands.org.uk

Sandy Robertson

Interview with Scott Gray, Jnr Section Football Coach



Ed: Congratulations on another League and Cup double Scott. How long have you been doing this?

Scott: Oh about 23 years now, 20 with the Junior Section but if you mean the

double this is the third year in a row and I don't think that has ever been achieved before.

Ed: Mark reported in the Junior Section article that you are retiring. How can this be true at the height of your career?

Scott: It's just sort of bowing out on a high, maybe not so much retiring but taking time out to teach the kids to swim!

Ed: So you could be back?

Scott: I'm making no promises but if the Junior Section Sevens ever needs me, well... I'm not one to rest on my laurels.

Ed: You are a hard act to follow, who do you see as your natural successor?

Scott: There isn't anybody in particular waiting in the dug-out - it could be a parent or an officer but at a push we would even accept a Motherwell supporter.

Ed: Have any of your boys progressed their football careers further?

Scott: Oh yes, many of the lads have progressed through to Eaglesham Amateurs and Steven Ingles went on to play at Maryhill.

Ed: For the Jags?

Scott: No - the Juniors.

Ed: Ah...! Ok, now on to the hard question... out of the big two in Scottish Football where do your allegiances lie - south side or east end?

Scott: South side definitely ...Pollok Juniors - I'm there every Saturday - home or away.

Ed: Um...not quite the answer I was looking for Scott, but thanks anyway and enjoy your retirement.

Recent Wedding



*Jill McInnes,
daughter of
Marlyn and
Matt, married
Alexander
Scott on the
31st of March*

Eaglesham Fair 2007

The Eaglesham Fair returns this year on Saturday, 16th June. The day kicks off as usual with the procession, the theme this year being 'Countries'. It starts off at the school at 11.00am and heads down to the Show Ring in the park where most of the day's activities take place.

There will be the craft fair tent with a good variety of stalls to interest most people and food courts with live music. Cream teas will be served in Mayfield. Youngsters will have bouncy castles, a climbing wall, digger skittles and a host of other fun events to keep them amused. The Show Ring will host the crowning of the Fair Queen, a display of heavy horses and then an afternoon of entertainment running from 1pm to 4pm approx. The day will wind up with a family ceilidh in the marquee. Sunday will see the ecumenical service in the marquee at 12.30. All details will be in the Fair Programme.

We hope that the weather will be as kind to us as last Fair Day in 2005 and that we will see as many of you there as possible.

Ivor Lough

Eaglesham Fair Committee

Ed's Postscript

A few Saturdays ago we made a return trip to Edinburgh's Sick Kid's Hospital to join in and support their fund raising gala day. It was the first time that we have been back since Alasdair's operation a year ago. He insisted on wearing his 'Spinal Fusion' T-shirt – a rather gruesome piece of clothing, emblazoned with an x-ray of his back showing all three rods and 18 screws! It was a badge of pride, for him it said 'I've been there, got through the pain, earned the T-shirt'. He took particular pride in showing it to the younger nurses!

As we walked along the hospital corridors and visited the wards we felt the emotional echoes of a year ago. Not just ours but those of the mums and dads we met during those weeks when the orthopedic patients shared a ward with oncology. Any place of crisis generates strong emotional memories and a children's oncology ward is a place of crisis. Families we had met came back into focus. People, normally reserved, opened themselves to us, complete strangers, in a need to talk, to share fears and to ask the same rhetorical question. Social barriers dissolved in common understanding. Lives touched for a few days and then gone, ships in the night.

Back home, as we concentrated on Alasdair's recovery the other families faded from our thoughts and were lost from our prayers. What has happened to them in the last twelve months I don't know and probably never will. The time we shared wasn't long enough to build a lasting friendship, just long enough share a conversation, newspaper and often a smile. It is easy to pray for those close to us but so difficult to remember the others whose lives we have just glanced and who may still be in urgent need of those prayers.

Doug

Where on Earth?

Well I'm shocked! Not one correct answer to the last photograph - it is, of course, Plockton, not the usual postcard view but just a little bit down the street. The clue related to Hamish MacBeth (the BBC Series) not the Shakespearian one.

It therefore falls on me to do the honours this month - this one is so easy that I'm only giving you the negative but there is a clue in the first line of the postscript above.

Answers to the editor - no prizes just satisfaction!

