

# Parish News

## EAGLESHAM PARISH CHURCH



BB Company Section with retiring captain Billy Inglis [centre] recognising his longstanding commitment and service to Eaglesham Boys Brigade.



Anchor Boys 'best boy', Sam Blakely; and Junior Section inspection with primary school janitor, Mr Stern

## Contacts

### Notices

#### Baptism

Robbie MacIntyre on June 10

#### Blessing

Emilia Grace Hughes on April 22

#### Wedding

Alastair Grant and Gillian Scott. April 28

#### Death

April 8. Ian Johnston, 16 Polbae Cresc.

### Team Convenors

Music and worship - Wendy Armstrong

Outreach - Giles Blair

Admin - Maureen Hunter

Pastoral Care - Sandy Robertson

Youth Strategy - Tom Mann

Faith Development - Gillian Norval

### Keep in touch with church activities

- Website.....[www.eagleshamparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.eagleshamparishchurch.co.uk)
- Facebook.....Eaglesham Parish Church  
@Heartofvillage

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Comments, articles, suggestions for future issues to [macintyre74@btinternet.com](mailto:macintyre74@btinternet.com)



## Session notes

The Session has considered a number of issues recently which may seem quite 'administrative' at first glance, but are in fact very important with respect to how we think about our responsibilities as Elders. Our Church, as is the case with all churches, is a registered Charity, and thus we are required, quite rightly, to comply with various Charity requirements and regulations. All Elders are 'Trustees' of our Church Charity, and this means we need to keep up to date with relevant legislation. This is not to do with 'ticking boxes', but to make sure that we act in a responsible, accountable and caring way towards both the congregation and to people who come in contact with us, for instance people and organisations using our premises.

One issue which we have taken account of in our Session discussions is a recent update from Glasgow Presbytery and OSCR (the Charities Regulator for Scotland). This was a reminder from both bodies, following on from the terrible reports of abuse connected to some Overseas Charities, of the continued requirements for us to be aware of, and support people - including children, who may be vulnerable and who attend our church and church activities. We have a very clear Safeguarding Policy in the Church which is ably monitored by our Safeguarding Coordinator, Douglas McLachlan.

Another issue which has been highlighted to us by Presbytery, and more recently by the General Assembly in May, is the need for us to be more proactive in looking at Health and Safety in relation to our Buildings and their use. We think we are pretty good at this, but we have taken this forward by speaking with the Church of Scotland Safe Buildings Consultant, and we will put further risk assessment measures in place. We hope to be able to identify a Health and Safety Administrator in the near future.

You may have heard about the new legislation to do with Data Protection which came into force in May 2018. We need to make sure that the data we hold concerning our congregation is compliant with this legislation, and so we will be taking advantage of various training opportunities offered by the Church of Scotland.

So what is all this to do with being a church, I hear you ask? I think it is to do with valuing and respecting people as we find them,

making sure we take account of their views, and ensuring that we look out for their welfare and safety. And that sounds pretty Christian to me.

Have a great break over the summer period. No doubt Elders will be indulging in their usual pursuits - scuba diving, bungee jumping, extreme cycling, and so on. As for me, it's sitting by the pool with a good book.

Wendy Armstrong  
Session Clerk  
6.6.2018

## General Assembly

Eaglesham Church was not represented at this year's General Assembly. Some will no doubt have followed events via either the Church of Scotland website or the now limited national press coverage. It can sometimes be difficult to understand proceedings and terminology such as overture, blue book, opinion, deliverance, discharged. There were observations on what we might learn from the global south where the Church is growing with for example 26% of the world's Christian population living in sub-Saharan Africa. An imperative for peace-making and opposition to nuclear weapons was confirmed. The pros and cons of Church investment in fossil fuel companies was debated.

But press coverage highlighted the failure of a proposed strategic plan for the next 10 years. It followed two years of consultation and aimed to connect with folk around the country and inspire faith in the context of worship. But it was seen by various speakers to be limited theologically, short on specific timescales and outcomes, limited in detail of different aspects of the work of the Church, and failing to address the immediate needs particularly of struggling rural congregations. The result was a counter motion to "Instruct the council to return to the General Assembly of 2019 with a radical action plan for 2019-2022 to achieve much needed reform within our Church." This was passed overwhelmingly, so no plan for the future yet. Watch this space.

*At the time of writing, our minister Rev Andrew Robertson, is on sick leave but we look forward to having him back at work in the near future and send him our best wishes in the meantime.*

# TEARFUND UPDATE

## **A Story from Cambodia Hope**

My name is Boran. I am the village chief of Banteay Ti Muy. In my village people work either as farmers or as labourers in Thailand, though a few families do have their own businesses.

I have seen the struggles the villagers have - most go to work early in the morning and some come back late in the evening. Others go away for long periods, leaving their children to be looked after by relatives.

I knew that this was a problem, but I did not know how to prevent it from happening.

As the village chief, it is my responsibility to take care of my people, have them unite and work together to improve living conditions. With villagers not being at home most of the time, communication between them becomes very hard. This makes it difficult to start a dialogue which will enable them to work cooperatively.

### ***A vision for the village....***

I was glad to be able to join one of the Umoja training sessions organised by CHO. The trainer taught us a lot, and the information he shared encouraged me with a vision for my village. He gave us examples and lots of ideas. Using these examples, I came up with my own idea for a project.

I knew that gathering the whole community to work on a project would be impossible. So first, I decided to start my own project for the village, which is called 'Clean Water Project'.

I have a big pond where I can get water, filter it and distribute it amongst the other villagers. I will charge a small amount so that I have enough money to pay a person to take care of the filter and for any maintenance that is needed in the future. By requesting payments to invest back into the project I hope for people to feel a sense of ownership of the project.

This project will help many families - especially the children. For them it will mean they will not have to travel far to collect water.

### ***A vision for the future....***

Another project I want to start for the village is around the donation of my land for those who do not have their own, so they can grow vegetables. This will help villagers cut their costs where they might otherwise have had to buy food. By eliminating these costs, there will also be a knock-on effect - rather than going in search of opportunities to earn

money over the border, the project will help families stay together.

I know that this project will not help a lot at first, but it is a start. If people's living conditions become better, more will stay in the village, which will mean more people to help build up the village even further.

## **Messy Church is Toilet Twinning**

We are used to a constant clean water supply and the infrastructure which goes with that. However water borne infections related to poor sanitation are a major problem in many parts of the world.

Toilet Twinning is an initiative from Tearfund which helps bring clean water and safe sanitation to the world's poorest people by linking your loo with a latrine in Africa or Asia.

The Carswell Centre has 7 toilets and Messy Church is aiming to twin each of them. It costs £60 to twin one toilet and so far we have raised enough money for 4 toilets!

If you would like to help twin the final 3 toilets, you can put your loose change in the 'toilet' in the entrance to the Carswell Centre.

## **November quiz**

A date for the future. Tearfund is looking for at least 500 churches and groups to join in Big Quiz Night. It all happens on Saturday 17 November. The event will take place at the same time as hundreds of others around the UK are doing exactly the same thing. Together they hope to raise £150,000 for Tearfund's work around the world. More detail and selection of participants later!!

*CHO - Cambodia Hope Organisation is our selected Tearfund partner abroad. An annual £1200 donation is supplemented by contributions and events from various church organisations. If you would like to make an individual contribution to our Tearfund project this can be arranged by contacting Fiona Kettlewell... [fiona\\_kettlewell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fiona_kettlewell@yahoo.co.uk)*

The Sandy Robertson challenge  
1. Rob Roy MacGregor  
2. Deanston village

## The Guild

During the last Guild year, from October 2017 to the end of March 2018 the Guild has given donations to a number of organisations. Each year we support two National Guild projects. This year these have been 'The Street Pastors' (£365) and 'Feed the Minds' (£465). We have also given £100 to Williamwood House, £100 to the Lodging House Mission, and £1,200 to our own church for Mission and Service. Our two chosen charities, the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice, and Richmond's Hope were each given £215. The Bring and Buy Sale in March raised £100 for Cambodia Hope. All this money was raised at our Charity Coffee Morning, the Christmas Cracker Sale and the weekly offerings from our members.

The Guild also decided to support a charity called 'Smalls for All' that collects new underwear for children and young women in Africa allowing them to continue their education and giving them some dignity. With the support of our members and our Church family we collected 120 packs of pants and some 50 'gently worn bras'. Donations have been gathered all over the world and the total at one point stood at 624,891 items!

Our Afternoon Tea in May was very successful with entertainment from the Westertones Male Voice Choir. It was a rousing afternoon and they certainly raised the roof! We were also delighted to welcome members from other local Guilds, along with representatives from the Guild's SE Council and members from St Bridgets.....and not forgetting our gentlemen friends.

We shall be having Tea and Chat afternoons again on Wednesdays over the summer. The dates for your diary are 4<sup>th</sup> July, 1<sup>st</sup> August and 5<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm in the Carswell Centre. These are informal meetings allowing us to catch up with members and friends. They are not just for Guild members so do please come along and enjoy a good old chinwag. We look forward to seeing you.

Fiona Hamilton, Guild Secretary

## Where am I...the Sandy Robertson puzzle

Travelling along the main street of a small town, I am surprised to see a railway signal within a stone's throw of the street. The line crossed under the street at this point. The town had two stations, one built for the DD & CR in 1858, the other for the C & O in 1870. There is little evidence of the stations now, but the line of the track has been converted into a 92 mile Walkway, named after an 18th Century folk-hero resident in the area, buried in a village some 12 miles north of here. A tall church in the centre of the town, dedicated to a 6th century Irish missionary, ceased to function in 1985 and has served, among other functions, as a tourist information centre.

I leave the town travelling south-east. The road is roughly parallel to a river, and the disused rail track is seldom far away. They converge in another town, dominated by a 14th century castle, which has been used as a location for various films and TV productions, most notably for a 1975 slapstick comedy, and more recently for a TV series where the heroine was transported back 200 years.

I cross the river and head towards a village. This one was planned in 1785 alongside a factory which made use of the swift flowing water. The factory was designed by one of the 'Giants' of the Industrial Revolution. It functioned as planned until 1965, when it was converted to its present use, a use which attracts a steady flow of visitors, sampling its product.

1 Who was the 18th century resident? 2 Name the industrial village.



## Iona

We had a hugely successful appeal for the Carswell Centre which raised the required funds to complete the conversion project in one single phase avoiding the increased disruption that separate phases would imply. The Iona Community have just achieved the same outcome when faced with a similar, though larger, funding challenge. The original reconstruction of residential facilities at Iona Abbey took place over 25 years from 1938. Unfortunately a survey in 2013 identified major problems with plumbing and heating. The Community therefore decided to combine major essential work with an upgrade of accommodation. The Abbey and associated MacLeod Centre are closed this year while the work goes on but the opportunity share community while staying at Iona Abbey will be secured for the future. And if you have never been to Iona that is a great opportunity!

# BB REPORTS

## Anchor Boys

We have had a fantastic end to the 2017/18 session at Anchor Boys! Our Annual Display & Inspection took place on Tuesday 15th May. This was an opportunity for the boys to show family and friends what we get up to on a typical Tuesday night, including everybody's favourite game Dodgyball! The Primary 3s also shared some of what they have learned about the history of the Boys' Brigade with special appearances from a few 'celebrities!'

To finish off the night, we had our prize giving. The winners of this year's awards were:

Best Squad - Green Squad: Finlay Fraser, Jamie Gardiner, Calum MacKenzie, Dominic Krivickis, Lucas Wilson and Callum Todd

Bible Knowledge - Séamus McKendry

Best Boy Runner Up - Alex Shaw; Best Boy - Sam Blakely

This year, we say goodbye to 12 boys who will be moving up to the Junior Section after the summer. We have spent 3 fun filled years with these boys and wish them all the best in the next step of their Boys' Brigade adventure!

We finished the session with two games nights and were very lucky to be able to spend those out in the Orry in the sunshine. A lovely way to wind down after the hard work that goes into the display!

Although it is always nice to have some time off over the summer, we look forward to seeing what next year brings at Anchor Boys! If you know of any boys who will be P1-3 in the next school year and think they would be interested in coming along, please feel free to drop us an email!

Have a great summer!

Elaine & Ally, anchorboys205@gmail.com

## Junior Section

Another busy year has flown in with much achieved in a short space of time. I am pleased to report that we have 30 boys from P4 - 6 coming every Thursday..

Thursday nights follow the Brigade format starting with our fall in, intimations and inspection. Overall, squad inspections have been good and this forms a large part of our Best Squad. Some basic drill and maze marching sometimes follow inspection and then it's on to some achievement work and of course games!

Excellent attendances over the session mean that our boys have all achieved their annual badges. The award scheme instructs that the boys work in areas of body, mind, spirit, community and creativity with target awards at bronze, silver and gold for P 4, 5 and 6 respectively. This has included amongst many others Water & Fire Safety, Treasure Hunts, Quizzes, Assault courses, Help at Home, Tool Box Talk, Writing prayers, Bible parables, Local navigation.

Games form a huge part of our evenings and whether we bring out the apparatus for vaulting or pirates, play numbers football, basketball, Chinese ladders, or stick to the old favourites such as dodgy ball, team games or port and starboard the boys all seem to enjoy themselves.

We round off each night by falling back into our squads for intimations before concluding with the vesper.

But this session has had a lot more to it than routine Thursday evenings. We have had a couple of games only nights, halloween and Christmas parties, and a successful trip to the pantomime. We have also taken part in the new style Battalion & District Sports at the Emirates Arena with every boy that attended winning a medal; and in the District Swimming Gala where we had great success coming second overall with the boys winning a host of medals.

Well done to the boys who completed our 5 mile sponsored walk at Whitelee Windfarm, to raise money for the company and a local charity. A great afternoon with sun on our side.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of May we had our annual display night where the boys show what they have been learning and working towards throughout the year. The display was a great success with a good turn out. The winners of the individual prizes and best squad are as follows:

The Billy McAuslan Trophy: Aaron Steele. Best boy: John Gardner

Best Squad: Peru with squad leader Blair Gormely, members James Pitcairn, Logan Hart, Daniel Fraser and Finlay Ballor.

To round off the year we had our annual junior section camp to Carronvale House in Stirlingshire - a fantastic sunny weekend of sports, games and a visit to Laser Quest and The Kelpies. The camp is a reward for the boys and staff for all their hard work during the year and is a perfect way for the boys to strengthen friendships they have made throughout the year.

We have a terrific group of 8 boys leaving us this year to go onto the Company Section. All the staff would like to thank them for their hard work over the past 3 years and wish them all the best as they progress in the Boys Brigade.

Finally a big thankyou to everyone who has made this session possible, we will do it all again starting back on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Have a great Summer!

Adam Nealis, OIC Junior Section

## Company Section

The session of 2017/18 has come to a formal end... save for camp. It has been the best year that we have had in I would say the last 4 or 5 years. We have received recognition from the Battalion that we have grown our numbers. There are now more boys in our band alone than in the entire company sections of some of the (formerly) strongest other BB companies in Glasgow. Our Annual Display was an excellent show put on by boys and staff and we were delighted to have Mr Alan McKay as our Inspecting Officer and to have Mrs McKay accompanying him. Special notable mentions to this year's Best Recruit - Brandon Carson; Best Boy - David McPhail; and our 3 Queen's men - Jack McPhail, Glen Thompson and Josh McDonald. This year has also seen the retirement of our long serving Captain, Billy Inglis. Mr Inglis is the first member of the 205th Company to have started as a boy and risen right up through the ranks within our very own company. For that, he has set a very high bar for some youngsters like myself to follow! He has devoted a massive part of his life to our BB Company. Attached is a photograph of the staff and boys at our display. There are not enough words to emphasise the dedication and loyalty that Billy has shown to the boys and his staff throughout his life. We thank him for his service and wish him all the best. The countdown to camp is now on. Boys are able to pay in money to Camp bank each Friday from 7-7.30pm. Camp packs containing all the necessary information will be available for collection no later than 2 Fridays before camp.

Sure & Steadfast. Greg Cunningham O/C.

## An organist in London

On Tuesday 15th May I had the great opportunity to attend an organ concert in The Royal Albert Hall in London.

It was a celebration of the Albert Hall's world famous 9,999 pipe organ built by Henry Willis and sons of Liverpool, makers also of our own Eaglesham organ. Known as 'The voice of Jupiter' it is the second largest in the UK - the largest with 10,000 pipes is also a Willis organ in Liverpool Anglican Cathedral. The concert featured some of the world's most respected masters of the instrument, Wayne Marshall, Olivier Latry and David Briggs.

In a fascinating insight into the complexity of the instrument a live stream revealed by way of large screens the intricate and sometimes frenetic work of the organists hands and feet.

The concert was sold out to 5000 people - not bad for an organ recital! This is an annual event so I am looking forward to my visit next year.

Alan Gillon

## Christian Aid at Whitelee

Whitelee Windfarm is receiving a steadily increasing number of visitors and is hosting an increasing number of events - the weekend of July 21st will see around 1000 runners taking part in 10k and 50k events. Christian Aid has a slightly less ambitious plan. On the morning of Sat August 25th there will be 3 and 7 mile sponsored walks associated with the opportunity to learn more about both Whitelee and Christian Aid's concerns about those already affected by climate change and water shortage. For further detail and the opportunity to sign up for the event visit Christian Aid Scotland

## Stamps for Crossreach

Crossreach is the Church of Scotland's Social Care Council. We probably don't hear enough about it. It's activities include Adult Care for those who are homeless, have learning disability or mental health problems; Children and Family services where children are vulnerable; and services for Older People. Kirkhaven with short-term homeless accommodation, Daisy Chain Early Years project, and Williamwood House are all examples in the Greater Glasgow area. It's funding comes from Church of Scotland but also from individual donation - details at the website.

There is a current appeal for stamps, UK and foreign, current and past. We will run a trial of contributing to this with a large envelope to collect contributions at the entrance lobby to the Carswell Centre. Stamps should be left on their paper - not soaked off - trimmed with a border of around 6mms around the stamp.

[www.crossreach.org.uk](http://www.crossreach.org.uk)





*Robbie McIntyre asleep after the exertions of baptism; and with parents, Fraser and Caroline, and aunt Lindsay and family*



*Alastair and Gillian Grant at their April wedding*



**The Church of Scotland tartan** launched earlier this year. Each of the five colours is seen as having links with Christian and/or Scottish tradition - purple for royalty and the sovereignty of Jesus as well as thistle and heather; red the blood of Christ, Pentecostal flame and the Lion Rampant; blue Mary and St Andrew; green the earth and Scottish glens and hillsides; white purity and the cross on both the Church's official emblem and the Saltire. The tartan will be used in upholstery and in a variety of products for sale.