



Netherlee and Stamperland
(Church of Scotland)
Newsletter - May 2022



Worship Schedule May until June

Month/Year	Date	Sanctuary	Service	Time
MAY 2022	1	Stamperland	normal service	10.00am
	8	Stamperland	normal service	10.00am
	15	Stamperland	Family service	10.00am
	22	Stamperland	normal service	10.00am
	29	Stamperland	normal service	10.00am
JUN 2022	5	Stamperland	Communion	10.00am
	12	Stamperland	normal service	10.00am
	19	Stamperland	normal service	10.00am
	26	Stamperland	normal service	10.00am

Closure of Stamperland Church

In October 2019 the Right Rev Colin Sinclair, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, wrote an extensive article on the place of church buildings in our emotions. The following words are excerpts. "I believed that the church is not about a building but about its people. Looking back, I see now that I was wrong. Buildings matter. Buildings speak. Buildings are expressive. A building says something. They are, for those who worship in them, full of memories and, in their own way, an incarnation of the soul of a church community. Church buildings, provoke an emotional response that is different from other responses. If we have to close a building, we are foolish not to recognise and respect the emotions that are tied to it. If we forget the emotional and spiritual attachment people have to their buildings we do so at our peril. To a group of Christians for whom the church building is their home, to give it up can often represent failure. The church must manage the reduction and closure of its buildings to ensure it is not a brutal process, but recognises the huge emotional upheaval for people."

As the closure of our Stamperland building approaches members of our congregation are experiencing a wide range of emotions. For some it is disappointment, sadness and regret. For some, it is relief that one of our buildings is to be given new life. For yet others, the Stamperland closure means hard work to ensure the building is emptied and all moveable items disposed of before the middle of August.

The disposal process is complex. Some items will be transferred from Stamperland to Netherlee, for example, the communion table which was used in the Church of Scotland church at the 1938 Empire Exhibition in Glasgow and the font. Some paper records, including Cradle Rolls, will go to Netherlee whilst others, such as Kirk Session minutes, will go to the National Records for Scotland. We hope that some items can be accepted by local charities whilst we will seek to sell others, potentially via e-Bay or Gumtree. Inevitably, many items, including over 300 metres of pew cushions, lots of curtains and some carpets will, simply, have to be scrapped.

With many churches recently closed and many more soon to close, there is little demand for ecclesiastic furnishings and items. There is little demand for bibles and hymnbooks. It is unlikely another church would wish the large oak communion table and chairs in the Stamperland sanctuary and their sale, through an auction house, looks to be the likely option.

We are keen to offer our church members the opportunity to take a pew bible and / or hymnbook as a tangible memento of Stamperland Church

On Sunday 12th June and Sunday 26th June there will be an opportunity for anyone who wishes a pew bible from Stamperland church to obtain one after the morning service. There will also be a commemoration insert available for the bible.

All we ask is that you inform an elder or a member of the Transition Working Group (TWG) that you wish a bible or hymnbook. There are multitudes of other books – Common Ground, Mission Praise, Junior Praise, Wee Worship Book – which members can take free-of-charge.

From Sunday 5th of June organisations will place items which they no longer require on the right hand side of the stage at Stamperland church. They are free to a good home. Please take if you can use anything.

We have many different kinds of tables and chairs. We have desks, bookcases, filing cabinets, a massive safe, a wardrobe. We have staplers, guillotines, cups and saucers and cutlery. We have electric kettles, electric heaters, electric urns and electric lamps. We have brass alms dishes, offering bags, various crosses and lecterns. If you would like to offer a donation for an item please speak to a member of (TWG). If you know of a group or organisation which would be willing to give a donation in return for say, 100 stacking chairs, then please make contact with the Transition Working Group.

All donations of money will go to a designated church fund. Half of the money raised will be donated to the Glasgow Autism Church being established by Glasgow Presbytery. "Stamperland Church" has a link to the Autism Church through Steven Owens who is heavily involved with its

establishment and “Netherlee Church” has a link to autism through one of its former ministers, Rev Stanley Mair, and, in particular, his wife, Isobel, who was instrumental in promoting education and care of children with special needs, including autism.

We have just published a list of items for disposal on our [church website](#). Half way down the page you will see the link to the spreadsheet. Should you wish a particular item you can speak to a member of the TWG or send an e-mail to stamperland1@virginmedia.com

The disposal process will be on-going. It will not be possible to maintain the list of items for disposal up-to-date and we hope that you will understand should you be advised that an item you were considering was unavailable.

Transition Working Group Members

Jane Curror, Nancy Fisher, Helen Illingworth, Marjorie Lang, Alison Macfarlane, Elaine Murray, Norman Bolton, Connell Cranston, John Curror, Alan Fairlie, Niall Illingworth, Tony Ireland and Neil Planner.

Norrie Bolton

Update on our Finances

First the Good News – a donation of £10,000 has been received at the end of April from a member to go towards the Netherlee Roof Project. This donation plus an earlier donation of £10,000 towards the estimated shortfall on our General Fund for 2022 gives us a very encouraging start in 2022. We are extremely grateful for both donations and thank the donor for being so generous towards the needs of the Church.

I should also like to thank Barbara Cochrane and Marjorie Lang for organising the resurrection of the second hand book stall the proceeds from which will go towards the Roof Appeal Fund.

The bad news is that having lost some 16 members and their contributions since the start of this year we have had to revise our budget forecast for 2022 to reflect the resulting drop in income. Our revised forecast shows our income will decrease from £246,000 to £240,000 which reflects lower givings and a reduction in the income received from the letting of the Stamperland Manse which will be vacated at the end of May some 2 months earlier than originally thought.

The result of these changes is that that our original deficit of £22,151 has increased to £28.600, so we still need to raise more money from our givings to balance the books at the end of this year. The £10,000 (plus Gift Aid tax recovery) mentioned for the General Fund shortfall will help us greatly but we are still short by some £16,100. So what can we do? Let me remind you of some of my suggestions at the Stated Annual Meeting in March:-

1. Hold a gift Day Appeal
2. Hold a Fund raising “Fun Day”
3. Sales of Work

4. Coffee Mornings /Afternoons
5. A choir concert
6. A Bring and Buy sale
7. Run or walk a 5K – Youth organisations and fitter adults
8. Hold a bake-a-thon – Youth groups
9. Cycle round Windlees Wind Farm – Youth Groups

These ideas are to get organisations thinking about what they might do for the shortfall in the General Fund and/or the Raise the Roof campaign. It is not an exclusive list as you may think of other ideas that are more imaginative – share them with us.

Until we have some idea what the proceeds from the sale of the Stamperland Manse and the Stamperland site will realise it is difficult to quantify just how much we need to raise for the roof project, but once we have a clearer idea I will share with you what sort of target we need to achieve.

I am encouraged by progress so far but we have a long way to go, however if we can all pull together I feel confident Netherlee and Stamperland members will rise to the challenge.

John Montgomery

Netherlee sanctuary roof project update

- The Quantity Surveyors have completed the process of providing a full specification of the work required.
- Tender invitations are being sent out to three contractors with a fourth held in reserve if needed.
- The tender return period is 4 weeks which takes us to the end of May so that by early June after scrutiny and checking we should have a preferred contractor.
- Next we require approval from the Netherlee and Stamperland Kirk Session and Glasgow Presbytery.
- Once the above steps have been successfully negotiated we would work with the successful tender contractor to see when they would hope to start on site.
- Although timings are now clearer, there is still some room for further clarification at the end of May/early June.

When we have further clarity we will let you know.

Stuart Buchanan

A Note of Thanks

Many thanks for the lovely church flowers and good wishes received recently. They were very much appreciated.

Jean Cranston

Thank you!

Lisa Kerr would like to say a huge THANK YOU for your kind support for her Kiltwalk in aid of ENABLE Scotland. She is proud to report that she completed 23 Miles and raised £870.00. Sir Tom Hunter is going to top this up by a further 50%, bring her total to £1305.00. Thank you!



Booksale

Following our recent AGM where the need to fundraise to cover the financial shortfall for the roof it was decided to have a book sale on the first Sunday of the month during coffee after the service. As we just launching this, we are having the sale again on Sunday 10th so if you forgot your money last week you have another chance to buy a book or two this Sunday!

Marjorie Lang

PoppyScotland

On Saturday 7th May a coffee afternoon was held in the large hall at Netherlee Church.

There was a good crowd who enjoyed the afternoon.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way.

As always the tombola, masterminded by Niall Illingworth, was a sell out.

The total sum raised is £620.55.

Thank you.

Anne Mann.

Concert in aid of Ukraine

After the last two years it was a delight to welcome back the Storey family on Sunday 8 May for a concert which thrilled us with amazing music making. The concert was followed by a buffet where the audience and performers could relax and enjoy some time chatting together. The event has raised £1090 for the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Kanako and Martin thank everyone for donating.

Here are a couple of clips from the concert.

Misty

<https://youtu.be/AK449EqXbig>

My Fair Lady

<https://youtu.be/MKD3czSEke0>

SE Foodbank

As always the foodbank is fulfilling a need in the Govanhill area of Glasgow. They are asking for toiletries, including toilet paper as these items can be a luxury in times of need. I have been asked to convey thanks to the people of a Netherlee and Stamperland for their continuing support .

M. Lang

Christian Aid

If you would like an envelope for Christian Aid and cannot manage to church , please speak to your elder and they will obtain one for you.

M.Lang

Readings and Welcome

If anyone would like to do a reading or a welcome for the period of July to end of September please contact Marjorie Lang .

79th Glasgow (Stamperland) Scout Group



It is with much sadness that the 79th Scout Group will be leaving Stamperland Church halls this summer after over 80 years being a part of the fabric of life at the church buildings. After forming in early 1940 the 79th Scout Group has delivered a programme of skills, adventure, fun and friendship to a very large number of young members (and their leaders!) that have passed through the group during those 80+ years. Life-long friendships have been made and it has been a privilege to see young folk progressing through the group, gaining confidence and skills to take them into adult life. It might be that they learned to tie their show-laces in the group, got to experience their first night away, or conquered a fear by abseiling, the list will be long and different for each individual. As you would expect we have had high points and some low points but, like trying a new activity for the first time, if we are down then we will generally dust ourselves off, get back on our feet and have another go.

Throughout those 82 years we have had the constant support of Stamperland Church and we are immensely grateful and humbled by the opportunities that has allowed us in providing a place for the young folk of the local area to take part in the hugely benefitting experience of being a member of the Scout Association.

At the time of writing it looks like we will be making a new home for the group in the halls at Williamwood Parish Church. It is definitely nothing personal, just that they could offer accommodation on days that worked for the leaders in the group.

While we will leave with a heavy heart, it is also a new opportunity for us. On behalf of all the leaders at the 79th Glasgow (Stamperland) Scout Group I would like to say a massive “Thank You” and wish you all the very best. Hopefully our paths will still continue to cross as we both move forward.

Philip Moseley
Group Scout Leader



Volunteers: Girlguiding Needs You

Over the years Guiding has given scores of girls in the local area the chance to have adventures in a structured and safe setting whilst along the way learning new skills, growing in confidence and making lots of new friends.

The Girlguiding County of East Renfrewshire is divided into separate Districts. The District of Netherlee has a strong history of Girlguiding going back as much as 8 decades. Demand for places across our seven Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units is high with ever growing waiting lists. We have a great team of volunteers but some of them are running more than one unit.

To ensure our Guiding tradition continues, we need to recruit some new volunteers. We are very lucky in this area to have units with leadership teams who have found their way to Guiding either through their family or through ‘googling’ volunteering locally. We need more of this type of person and we want to enrol you in helping us find them. Would you be interested, or do you know someone who would like to get involved?

Volunteering: How Onerous Is It?

This is the number one question we get asked by prospective volunteers.

There are different options. You can become a permanent parent helper, or full-blown leader. For information on the types of roles available please contact myself - Alison McKean, Netherlee District Commissioner for an informal chat. Or, if you know any of other Rainbow, Brownie or Guide leaders, please speak to any of them.

What we can promise you:

- Lots of fun, laughter and experiences that make a difference. If it isn't fun, we don't do it.
- Nights off – when there are lots of leaders; you won't need to be there every week.
- No ideas needed – decades of guiding resources are at your fingertips.
- You get to make a real difference to the memories of our children and give them adventures.

So, email or call me. Our girls need you!

Alison McKean

District Commissioner – Netherlee Girlguiding

The Forum



Stewart Carle addressing the Forum on 25 April 2022

There have been two meetings of the Forum since the last edition of the church Newsletter was published. In April, Stewart Carle shared his reflections on the recent Scottish policing reforms. Stewart, who is known to many of us, has recently retired from Police Scotland. He finished his career as a superintendent and, in that rank, he served as president of the Association of Scottish Police Superintendents. Stewart delivered an insightful talk that outlined the history of Scottish policing and combined it with his

own varied experience as a police officer.

Three key questions came to the fore in Stewart's talk: first, what constitutes a *legitimate* use of force by the police? Second, how are the police accountable to politicians and the public? And finally, how can technology improve policing? As Stewart indicated, these are questions that the police service is constantly considering. With continued focus on things like the proportionate use of force, maintaining the respect of the public, and deploying technology effectively, Stewart said that he believed Police Scotland would continue to provide the level of service people expect, despite the many budgetary and societal challenges police officers are experiencing.

Stewart concluded that, all things considered, the recent policing reforms have worked: the creation of Police Scotland has generated £200 million of annual savings, improved standards, and allowed the police service to become nimbler. He did not, however, ignore the controversies and challenges that remain: the appropriate and proportionate use of stop and search powers, institutional racism, and the varying levels of confidence that different members of the public have in the police service. Stewart ended his talk on an optimistic note, though: digitisation, the use of body-worn CCTV cameras, the deployment of tasers, and the decision to equip Scottish police officers with naloxone (used to counter the effects of a drug overdose) are all likely to improve Scottish policing in the medium-to-long term and fully restore public confidence in the police. We are very grateful to Stewart for delivering a comprehensive and candid talk, and we wish him all the best in life after his long and exemplary policing career.



Ken Macintosh in conversation at The Forum on 16 May 2022

Ken Macintosh attended the Forum in May and kindly agreed to answer questions on many different topics, some more political in nature than others. Ken was, until recently, one of our local MSPs and, towards the end of his political life, he served as the presiding officer of the Scottish Parliament. He was good enough to answer questions on why he decided to become involved in politics, his memories of the first Scottish Parliament, proportional representation, the role of the presiding officer, the prominence of alcohol in Westminster political culture, and the difference between being in government and being in opposition, among others.

Our conversation was wide-ranging, but a few things stood out in Ken's answers: Scottish politics has changed almost beyond recognition since 1999, for better and for worse; the electoral system used for Scottish parliamentary elections has created some strange anomalies that have complicated the relationship between politician and party, and representative and constituent; and, there are different approaches to being a presiding officer, but the best ones will seek to help backbenchers across party lines by advising them on how to be effective, in and out of the debating chamber. Upon being elected presiding officer in 2016, Ken resigned his membership of the Labour Party. There was a question from the audience about the Labour policy on Brexit, but Ken remained studiously impartial in his answer. Although he is no longer presiding officer, nor a member of the Parliament, he has not re-joined the Labour Party so as to keep faith with his former colleagues who expected him to be apolitical in his former role.

We closed the conversation with a general sense of optimism that good people are involved in, and interested in, politics, even if political discourse has become more polarised in recent years, partly due to the rise of cultural-identity issues and the development of social media. Ken has retired from politics, but he still working for three charities and a strategic advisory and communications

firm. He is as busy as ever and, for that reason among many, we are very grateful to him for making time to address the Forum and for engaging in conversation over tea afterwards.

Thank you to everyone who has attended the Forum this session. Notwithstanding a few covid-related disruptions, we hope that you have enjoyed our events and that you will join us again when the Forum resumes in October 2022. In the meantime, if anyone has any ideas for potential speakers, please get in touch with a member of the organising committee.

Cranhill Development Trust

The nearly new shop finishes for the school holidays on 20th June so please hold on to your donations meantime. A 'resumption' date will be given in due course.

I have been informed if you have any unwanted school clothes in black, grey or navy they would be appreciated. Please leave in designated cupboard in the Netherlee Church building. No 'named' clothes please.

A date for your diary... Cranhill Church's last service will be 12th June. Thereafter the Church will become part of a union with High Carntyne Church once all the details are formalised.

However please note Cranhill Development Trust will continue.

As always please keep in mind your thoughts and prayers for the people in that part of the city.

Gordon Lang

Sunday Club

We continue to explore John's gospel heard about the disciples meeting the risen Jesus on the seashore and eating breakfast with him. We filled our own fishing net with fish and thought about making a new start and following Jesus like Peter. We then leaned of Peter's perseverance and saw how Jesus guides us through life's ups and downs. The children made a lovely picture of the ups and downs of mountains, adding lots of detail as well as ups and downs in their lives. We enjoyed the Family and Youth Service. It was great fun taking part in all the activities and quiz. We will continue to meet until the end of June, but we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a great summer. See you in September, but meantime we hope the Senior Sunday Clubber's have a fantastic time in Oban and Iona. We look forward to hearing all about their adventure. E.Murray



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