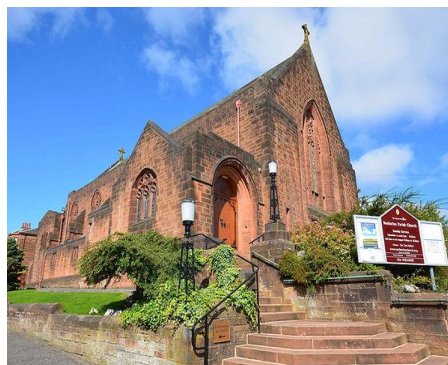


NETHERLEE AND STAMPERLAND PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024 EDITION



From the Editor

Happy New Year and welcome to the first newsletter of 2024. The deadline for the next newsletter will be **Tuesday 13th February 2024**. Articles (and pictures in .jpg format) can be submitted at any time to the mailbox nandsnewsletter@btinternet.com (thank you).

Karen McQueen

Services

Our January Sunday services have resumed at 10.30 a.m.

Sunday Club

On Christmas Eve we had the privilege of leading the congregation in worship in our Nativity Service. Joined by members of the Senior Sunday Club and the congregation, we told the wonderful story of Jesus' birth. Thank you to all our readers and performers for telling the story so beautifully and with such reverence.



The Christingle service on Christmas Eve included a drama performed by the senior Sunday Club who also helped to light the christingles. I am sure this service wove its magic on the encouraging numbers of children who attended.

Karen McQueen – picture provided by Lisa Kerr



Christmas Cakes

I would like to thank everyone who bought a Christmas cake this year and for the generous donations made to the charities chosen for



2023. I have been able to donate £375 each to Marie Curie and Give a Dog a Bone (www.giveadogabone.net). I am so grateful to all who supported me again this year. Best wishes for 2024.

Barbara Cochrane

Christmas Card Deliveries

Many thanks to everyone who assisted with the delivery of Christmas cards around the parish. Just over £200 was raised and will be used to help support the running costs of the minibus which provides such invaluable service in transporting members to Church and to our Monday Lunch Club.

Helen Illingworth



Christmas Tree Festival

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Tree Festival, either by designing one of the many amazing entries, organising the various fundraising activities, or by coming along on the day to admire the ingenuity and artistic talent on display and enjoy the festive atmosphere.



It was hard to pick favourites, but after much deliberation your votes were cast, and we heartily congratulate the choir for 'The Lord's my Shepherd' and the 3rd Netherlee Brownies with 'Have an Egg-cellent Christmas' for coming out on top. Almost £800 was raised which has been shared among various community groups: The Friends of Linn Park, The Budding Minds Gardening Group at Netherlee Primary School, Girlguiding Netherlee and 231/278 BB.

We're already looking forward to seeing what ingenious designs you come up with next Christmas!

Helen Illingworth



A Word of Thanks

I'd like to say thank you for my Christmas Breakfast Pack full of goodies, some of which I'd never eaten before. It's good to try new things but more importantly it's nice to be remembered in this way, so thanks to those who shopped, those who packed and those who delivered. It's such a lovely idea.

Muriel Baker

And thank you from me too to all those involved in the Breakfast Packs. I really appreciated receiving one of these lovely gifts.

Rosie Carle

Improving Communication for Church Events

During the Covid pandemic, many of us joined WhatsApp groups such as those for our street. This proved a very useful way of keeping in touch and we felt that this might be a good way of improving communication to the local community about events happening in Netherlee and Stamperland Church.

This could be about events such as the coffee mornings or other fundraisers.



If you are part of a WhatsApp group and would be willing to pass on a message about an event, we would be very grateful if you could forward your mobile number to Elspeth in the Church office along with what the group is for. We would then create an Events WhatsApp group and would use this to send out information that may be of interest to the local community.

Barbara Cochrane



The staff of Glasgow South-East foodbank would like to thank the congregation of Netherlee and Stamperland for their support before Christmas. It made a huge difference to the families they support on a weekly basis.

The foodbank is quite well stocked at the moment as there are always special collections before Christmas, however they are short of hats, gloves and hot water bottles which can make a huge difference to their clients' wellbeing in this cold weather.

Thanks again to everyone for their ongoing support.

Marjorie Lang and Catriona Gomez

The Guild

The Guild meets on Thursdays at 2.00 p.m. and the programme for the next few weeks is:-

January 2024

18 The Tapestry of Life

25 More Poetry Please

Linda Biggar

February

01 The Unintentional Novelist

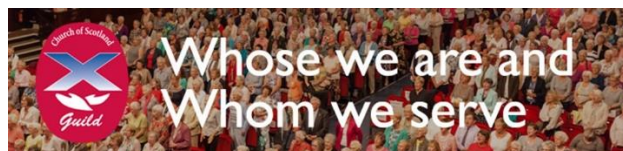
Niall Illingworth

01 Afternoon of Giving

08 No Strings Attached

Ian Thomson

15 Hat for Special Occasions



** Please note the World Day of Prayer Service will be held in the Church on Friday 1st March at 10.30am led by the Guild. All are welcome to attend. **

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The Guild (continued)

We had two enjoyable meetings in December. On 7th, ably led by Willi and Nancy, each table had an orange and accessories. We sang carols while making a Christingle (some more successful than others), followed by a quiz on food. There was more fun on the 14th when we had our Christmas Party.

We started the New Year with a film show by Mr. Tom Marchant. The first film was about the Toledo Cinema that used to be here in Muirend (it's now a block of flats). For some of us it brought back some happy memories going to the "pictures" on a Saturday morning. The second film was a series of individual segments on some of the splendid parks in Glasgow. An enjoyable afternoon at the cinema.

Margaret Fear
Secretary



Netherlee and Stamperland Forum

“Caroline Norton, a Scandalous Woman”

At the last forum meeting of 2023 Nan Steele, a former member of staff at Pollok House and now a dedicated volunteer, told us the rather tragic tale of the Honourable Caroline Norton. Born in London in 1808, she was the granddaughter of Irish playwright Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Caroline was a pretty and intelligent woman, however, as was the lot of a woman of her class finding a suitable husband was the key to future security.

At the age of nineteen, she was married to George Norton – a match most definitely not made in heaven! Neither he nor she had any money which caused tensions within the marriage and George was neither a patient nor kind man. He was increasingly jealous, possessive, and violent towards his wife, who under the laws at the time was now his possession and had few rights of her own. Her family helped George find employment and he became the Tory MP for Guildford and later a Metropolitan Police magistrate. While her marriage was deeply unhappy, she did find some happiness with the arrival of each of her three sons. She also wrote prolifically and made some money from the sale of these which her husband promptly confiscated.

Caroline was attractive, vivacious and enjoyed the company of men. She was a glittering socialite although her candid conversation and unorthodox behaviour did raise a few eyebrows. She was friends with the likes of Benjamin Disraeli and became a close friend of William Lamb, Lord Melbourne. In 1836 Caroline left her husband and George then abducted her sons, hiding them with relatives in Scotland and allowing her no access to them. He accused her of having an affair with Lord Melbourne and demanded £10,000 from the then prime minister. Melbourne refused and Norton took him to court for “criminal conversation” otherwise known as adultery. The case caused a furore in polite society and had the potential to bring down the government. In the end Melbourne won the case but despite this began to see less of Caroline. /...

Netherlee and Stamperland Forum (continued)

Separated from her children Caroline used her influence and writing skills to petition for a change in the law so that a mother would have a right to see her children if their parents separated. In 1839 parliament passed the Infant Custody Bill, allowing mothers to appeal for custody of children under seven and access to children under sixteen.

Caroline's life was marred by the tragedy of deaths of her children; William her youngest had a riding accident and died of lock jaw and Fletcher the eldest died whilst travelling abroad with the diplomatic corps. Caroline and Norton never divorced and were married for 45 years before Norton's death finally released her. Caroline had met and been friends with William Stirling Maxwell for many years and had stayed with him and his wife Anna Melville in their home at Keir House in Stirlingshire. She was fond of the Maxwell's sons John and Archibald, their presence making up in some small way for the loss of her own sons. Anna died in 1874 and Caroline and Sir William married in 1877. Caroline's happiness however was to be short lived as she died only three months after her marriage. Both she and William are buried in the crypt of Lecropt Church on the Keir estate. Despite the early hint at scandal, it was Caroline's persistence that changed the law which paved the way for improvements for mothers and children separated by a bad marriage.

Future Forum Meetings

By the time this newsletter is published, the January meeting of the Forum with Rev Liz Johnson Blythe (Church in the USA) will have taken place. We are looking forward to hearing **Prof. Tahseen Jafry** speak about **Climate Justice: what does it mean and what lies ahead?** when she addresses the Forum on Monday 19th February. On 18th March we welcome **Dr Simon Cuthbert** telling us about **Life on Mars**.

As ever, everyone is very welcome to attend. Talks are held in the Lesser Sanctuary of the church at 7.30 p.m.

Kate Cuthbert and Dagmar Kerr



**CRANHILL
DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

Donations of nearly new clothes and bric-à-brac for the nearly new shop at Cranhill are very much appreciated.

If you could please leave any such items, clearly labelled for Cranhill, in the cupboard in the Welcome Hall opposite the ladies' toilet. If this cupboard is full, please get in touch with me so I can make alternative arrangements regarding storage and/or collection. Many, many thanks for your kind generosity.

Gordon Lang

Upcoming Events

Shrove Tuesday – Pancakes and coffee

Come along on Tuesday 13th February between 10am and 12 mid-day for pancakes and coffee. We will be in the Small Hall, Netherlee and Stamperland Church.

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Upcoming Events (continued)

Dates for the diary:

- Sunday 25th February – Soup and Pudd after the Sunday service
- Saturday 2nd March – In the afternoon in Netherlee and Stamperland Church - Table Top Sale – more information to follow

Barbara Cochran

Mens Association

The Mens' Association are planning to have their much delayed "Christmas Night Out" on the evening of **Friday 16th February**. Our plan is to have a traditional meal of 'curry, chat and perhaps a lemonade' at a local (to the southside) establishment. Anyone interested in coming along please contact myself before Sunday 28th January.

Gordon Lang.



**A Call to Worship with
FATHER'S SONG**

**Netherlee and Stamperland Parish Church
130 Ormonde Avenue, Glasgow G44 3SL
Saturday 17 February 2024 at 7.00pm**

 **Supporting the work
of Starchild Charity**

No ticket required - All ages welcome!
There will be a retiring collection for the work of www.starchildcharity.com

Father's Song is a vocal group of 30 men from various churches throughout Central Scotland. It's their desire to share their faith through the singing of contemporary praise songs, giving thanks and honour to God.

www.fathers-song.org.uk

**FATHER'S
SONG**

PARTNERPLAN January Update

Today is day 101 following the Hamas attack on southern Israel and the overwhelming response by the Israeli state which is continuing. Tension is running high across the region and particularly in the north of Israel where there are daily encounters between the Israeli Defence Force and Hezbollah. Neither side seems to want all-out war, but when the stakes are high mistakes can happen with inevitable consequences. If there is no escalation in the north in the next week or so I plan to return to Tiberias at the beginning of February.

I have been based in Scotland since 14th October 2023 and have been speaking to different groups and churches in partner Presbyteries: Glasgow and Perth (and a brief foray to Edinburgh to cover for my colleague Rev Dr Stewart Gillan who returned to Jerusalem at the beginning of December.) I have also been leading worship online with the congregation of St Andrew's Jerusalem and Tiberias and keeping in touch with partners and friends as best I can. The overwhelming feeling from those I've spoken with here is a sense of helplessness. Night after night we watch horrific images on the news of destroyed buildings, of people picking through rubble by hand looking for survivors and listening to officials from the UN and World Health programmes and others talk about the scale of need and the impossibility of responding.

People in Israel are not seeing the same images. Their news feed is full of reminders of the atrocities experienced by Israelis at the hands of Hamas, reminders designed to stoke determination to continue the war. People in the occupied Palestinian territories get their news from other sources, an endless stream of misery reported on by Gazan journalists who have seen 82 of their number killed since hostilities stepped up. Young people around the world get their news from Tik-Tok and Instagram and like the mainstream media view have to be very aware of bias and prejudice. The situation is polarized and it is hard to see a constructive way forward which addresses the fears and needs of both Palestinians and Israelis.

There are, however, some refreshing and encouraging voices. Rabbis for Human Rights, who have themselves been affected by October 7th have held on to their determination to behave with humanity, based on the Biblical injunctions to 'Love mercy, do justice and walk humbly with God'. You can find out more about recent humanitarian visits to the West Bank here. <https://www.rhr.org.il/eng?lang=en>.



Together for humanity have called for people to organise 'Building Bridges' vigils in their local area emphasising the humanity of all and the need to stand together against inhumanity. There will be a small silent vigil held in Maxwell Park, Kenmure Street in Glasgow on **Sunday 21st January at 5.00pm**. Participants are asked to bring a candle.

What we can do seems so small in the face of fear, misery and unwillingness to dialogue.

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January Update (continued)

But it seems to me that staying alert, keeping informed, holding our own government to account and standing in solidarity with others are all important ways to develop an alternative, collaborative view of a way forward. As we have said many times, the prayer from Christian Aid helps us enlarge our hearts and our thinking:

Pray not for Arab or Jew,
for Palestinian or Israeli,
but pray rather for ourselves,
that we might not
divide them in our prayers
but keep them both together
in our hearts.

Please keep dipping into the page on the Church of Scotland website for up-to-date information from Stewart and me as Mission Partners and also for links to events and information which will help you pray in an informed way.

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about-us/our-views/church-of-scotland-in-israel-and-palestine>

Shalom, salaam,
Muriel Pearson

Advert

New Year, New You they say but what about just a more poised, more resilient, more flexible you? Why not give one of these classes (suitable for both sexes) held in the Church buildings a go?



**Essentrics®
Rebalance &
Restore Classes**

**Mondays at 7.30PM
Netherlee Parish Church, G44 3SL**

The unique fluid movements of Essentrics® will:

- increase strength & flexibility
- improve posture & mobility
- relieve chronic pain
- release tension
- teach body awareness
- reverse signs of ageing
- rebalance the whole body

£10 per class

For more information email:
joanne@joannemoller.com



**Pre-Work
Essentrics®
Stretch for sporty
people**

**7-8AM classes (email for schedule)
Netherlee Church, G44 3SL**

These workouts will:

- Tone, sculpt & strengthen every muscle in the body
- Improve posture
- Increase full body flexibility & ROM
- Strengthen the spine & core
- Help injury prevention & recovery
- Unlock tight muscles & joints
- Teach body awareness
- Improve sports performance

£10 per class

For more information
email:
joanne@joannemoller.com