

The Link Magazine



St Andrews



Mure Memorial

**Welcome to the first joint magazine for
Baillieston Mure Memorial and
Baillieston St Andrews.**

Hi Folks

Hope this finds you all well as we jointly look forward to calling a new minister in the coming months to serve our congregations and parish in the future. These are wonderfully exciting and hopeful times of new beginnings. As Easter people we are the people of hope. Despite all the challenges Jesus our Master and Lord faced he was and is raised by the Father. So too will we be raised again as a church - different yes, still recognisable but changed. Just as the Bible tells us it was when Jesus met the disciples whilst making his appearances to them prior to His ascension. So different and yet the same. All of our own personal and corporate ministries are built on the foundations of the saints who have gone before us, ministers, elders and congregational members and adherents. Our prayer is that in this our season we will carry the torch of faith and service well and pass it on to those behind us already known to God. May we all at this time of Easter Hope know God's blessing and in and through it move forward together empowered by His Spirit.

**Regards,
Rev. Scott Shackleton**

EVERY STEP AN ARRIVAL

I love Denise Levertov's poem "Overland to the Islands." The poet conjures up the image of a dog moving "intently haphazard" sniffing and dancing over rocks and mud, disdaining nothing his nose registers along the way.

But the dog has a trick afoot, which is that he always "keeps moving, changing pace and approach but no direction – every step an arrival."

It seems like yesterday, but fifteen months have passed since my family, and I arrived in Scotland. Our journey has been long. Sometimes the path was plain and easy, but on some occasions, it was frightening and full of turns in which we could not see anything until we make the turn.

During this process, I have been learning how to ask God good questions because the wrong question leads to the wrong answer. So, I do not ask God to show me the entire road ahead as it is impossible. We make the road by walking. Look! Walking, not running. So, in my case, the right question has been this: 'what is the next step, God?'

One of Thomas Merton's prayers has been very helpful to me. Let me share it with you:

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following Your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please You does in fact please You. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that, if I do this, You

will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I will trust You always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for You are ever with me, and You will never leave me to face my perils alone. Amen.

On different levels and perspectives my family and I can see God's hand guiding our lives, and as a result our hearts are full of gratitude since every step has been an arrival.

I hope my personal journey can illustrate our journey as part of God's people. Let's say thanks to God because he brought us here. Every step has been an arrival for both congregations. I don't know exactly where God is leading us, but I do believe we are moving forward.

At Easter, we celebrate the rising of new life and new possibilities. Let's celebrate the new possibilities that God is creating for all of us.

Rev. Edson Duque

Below we have reports from some of the organisations and committees within both churches.

Property (@ St Andrews)

Baillieston St Andrews are still recovering from our Church fire in December 2021.

We have completed extensive renovations thanks to our insurance company and are on the path to becoming fully compliant with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

We have implemented several changes in how we approach fire safety, including new paperwork and relevant signage. This has been shared with other Church of Scotland Churches as good practice.

New Year New Project



Our project this year, is to continue our work with SFRS by installing an appropriate fire alarm system, including smoke detectors, fire doors and closers throughout our Church and adjoining hall. We are currently seeking donations and/or grants from local businesses to aid us in our mission.

LODGING HOUSE MISSION (@ Mure Memorial)

Many thanks to our congregation members who bought Christmas cards to raise funds for LHM and also those who made cash donations. In the late

autumn two carloads of tins and packets of food were delivered after our Harvest Service with many other congregation members choosing to make cash donations.

LHM continues to be very busy during the winter months providing hot breakfasts and lunches for homeless people. They also provide many opportunities for education, training and leisure such as sports and music making and group outings. They provide a base for many statutory and third sector agencies from the health and social care sector to provide direct care to the homeless people and to offer support and advice. They also work in partnership with other homelessness services in Glasgow and do outreach work. LHM provides Chaplaincy services and provide opportunities for prayer and reflection and Bible Study.

LHM issues monthly newsletters on-line which are posted on our Church website.

RAINBOWS (@ Mure Memorial)

Rainbows started up again in September. We currently have 15 girls, 2 Adult Leaders, 2 Young Leaders and a Guide Helper. Girls can now enrol at the age of 4.

Rainbows are very energetic and lively, and they love playing games, especially when there is a lot of running around involved! However, they also like to be creative and enjoy concentrating while they colour in pictures and cut out shapes. They do craft work to make keepsakes or charts for themselves or gifts for others. Rainbows like to sing action songs and play miming games.

As their Promise states Rainbows are encouraged to think about their beliefs, and to be kind and helpful. They have a programme of activities to follow, and they can now gain badges and awards. In their badge work this session they have been doing activities about looking after themselves and keeping healthy, thinking about their local community and how they can make the best of it and making suggestions about how to be eco-friendly at home and encourage their families to do likewise! They are now starting on the Traveller badge.

Recently the Rainbows celebrated Thinking Day (22 February) when they did activities from Guiding in other countries such as games, action songs and quizzes.

During Advent the Rainbows sang several traditional carols which they chose themselves as well as some more modern carols which the Leaders did not know!

Above all Rainbows just love coming together with their friends to play games and have fun, and they particularly like parties and celebrations!

We are hopeful that one day we will be able to start up our other Rainbow Unit but in the meantime the Rainbows are grateful to the Kirk Session and the congregation for their support and encouragement.

Guild news (@ Mure Memorial)

Our guild has been meeting on Thursday afternoon @1.30 pm we have on average 35/40 coming along we have had a very varied programme this session.

We continue until 30 March then start back 5 October.

We held the WDP @ Mure Memorial this year with a very good attendance from Churches in our district.

We look forward to welcoming any new members who would like to join us.

Guild Committee

137th Glasgow Boys' Brigade – Anchor Boys (@ Mure Memorial)

The Anchor Boys are enjoying a good session with various activities varying from Arts & Crafts to Games and Sports. Numbers are excellent usually about 25 and consistent each week.

137th Glasgow Boys' Brigade - Junior Section (@ Mure Memorial)

The Junior Section have had an enjoyable session so far, with 17 boys regularly attending.

We have been using a lot of new activities supplied by the Boys' Brigade and the boys recently enjoyed a pancakes theme night two days after Shrove Tuesday. This started by introducing the connection of Pancake Tuesday to Easter and going on to enjoy pancake flipping races and decorating pancakes.

We also recently took part in the Battalion Indoor Kurling competition where one of the 137th teams did really well coming in first, with the other team finishing 4th.



The back row team who came first were Dylan, Jay, Euan and Charlie. The front row team were Finlay, Tyler, Harry and Ethan

We are also holding an informal Parents' Evening with prize giving on Thursday 28 April.

137th Glasgow Boys' Brigade - Company Section (@ Mure Memorial)

The Company Section is ongoing with 3 Queens/Kings Badge participants and 2 Presidents men. The numbers vary between 13 and 16 each week.

The boys are enjoying and participating in various items including Christian Faith, Drill, Drums, Trampette, Badge work and Sports all the boys take part and we encourage them to have a say in the activities.

We have fixed the date of 12th May 2023 for a combined Anchor Boys and Company Section display where we can show some of the things that the boy's have taken part in during the session.

Thank you to all the parents, Grand Parents and Carers for bringing the boys along every week and for their support.

Thrift Shop

Mure Memorial Church

Maxwell Drive, Baillieston

Come along on Tuesday Mornings between 10am and 12pm and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee with home baking and biscuits. Great place for companionship and chat.

You can also browse for a bargain from the selection of items. Very good quality.

Admission is free so why not come and enjoy the company.



Girls' Brigade (@ Mure Memorial)

The 45th Glasgow company of the Girls Brigade continued to meet as a company throughout the lockdown periods via zoom. We held quizzes, made crafts, read Bible stories, and even held our Christmas parties and prizegiving 'virtually' via zoom.

It is lovely to be able to meet with our girls face to face again this session.

We currently have 23 Explorers, 16 Juniors and 9 Brigaders. These numbers include girls who were previously members of 95th Glasgow GB at St Andrews Church and who have transferred their membership to 45th Glasgow to continue their GB journey.

All sections have enjoyed craft activities, games and singing amid other activities.

The explorers have been doing activities based on the theme of 'the sea' and have learned about Noah and Jonah.

The juniors have learned about the History of The Girls' Brigade and have learned how to find a passage in the Bible having been given the book, chapter and verse.

The Brigaders have learned about helping to reduce the amount of plastic in the environment. They have made environmentally friendly bags and have been clearing litter from the area around the church. They have also studied the '3 meanings of the word present' including God's present/gift to us of His son Jesus.

Our company has donated money and stationery items to Ukraine via the charity 'Glasgow the Caring City' and has donated a shoebox of items via the charity 'Operation Christmas Child.'

At Christmas we held a fundraising evening and raised £350 for Radio Clyde's Cash for Kids Appeal.

We are organising a Coffee Morning in Mure Memorial Church Hall on Saturday 22 April at 10am and are holding an end of session Parents Evening on Wednesday 17 May at 7pm.

Our company is pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Sharon McKibbin as captain/leader in charge. We have also welcomed Molly McManus (formerly a member of 95th Glasgow) who has completed her induction training and is now serving as a leader in the 45th Glasgow. We currently have 2 young ladies working through the leadership training programme.

We were sorry when, during the pandemic, two of our long serving leaders indicated that they wished to retire from active service within the company. We give thanks for the dedicated service of Isobel Kirk (40+ years) and Myra McMillan (20+ years)

We also give thanks for the many dedicated years of service given by all GB Officers in 95th Glasgow Company.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Mrs Jean Russell and give thanks for her 50+ years of dedicated service to the 45th Glasgow Girls' Brigade Company.

The Boys Brigade 111th Glasgow Company (@ St Andrews)

The Company finally resumed meeting normally in September 2022 after a period of disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We had to cease meeting abruptly in March 2020. We did not meet again indoors until October 2021 when we could commence with several restrictions in place. Our meetings lasted until December 2021. We then took the decision to pause our meetings once again and we resumed in March 2022.

This disruption has unfortunately had a marked effect on the number of boys in the Company. As of now, we have six in the Anchor Boys Section, four in the Junior Section and two in the Company Section. These are the lowest numbers we have ever had in the history of the Company. Two members of Staff also left the Company during this time. Katrina Logan and Fiona Coventry sadly resigned, and we thank them for the years of service which they gave faithfully to the 111th Glasgow Company.

On a brighter note, two of our Senior Boys gained The Queen's Badge in 2020 and were finally presented with their awards last year. Rhys Kirkwood and Christopher McCluskey became the 57th and 58th recipients of The Queen's Badge in the history of the Company. We are proud of their great achievement in gaining the highest award in The Boys' Brigade. Due to the sad passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, it may be some time before there is a Queen's Badge in the BB.

Following on from their Queen's Badge success, Rhys and Christopher decided to make the commitment to become Officers. They successfully completed their

Youth Leader Training in November last year and are now Lieutenants in the Company. We wish them a long and happy career in The Boys' Brigade.

As we attempted to resume our normal schedule of events, we held a short Presentation of Prizes in May last year. This evening was well attended by parents and family members with the highlight of the evening being the presentation of the two Queen's Badges. All members of the Company were also presented with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee commemorative BB badge.

It was nice to have a normal gathering of the Boys and their families again after such a long time.

In a similar vein the Company held our annual Dedication Service in the Old Church Hall on 13 October last year conducted by our Interim Minister at the time, Rev. Sandra Black. We were delighted to be able to hold this service after an absence of two years and formally re-dedicate our work towards the advancement of Christ's Kingdom amongst boys.

As we proceed with this ongoing session the Company held a fundraising evening on Thursday 16 March based on 'The Chase' TV quiz programme.

The Company is currently working towards our Parents Evening & Presentation of Prizes which will be held in May. Please keep the Company in your prayers and please spread the word to everyone that The Boys' Brigade is back open again in Baillieston and all Boys will be warmly welcomed on a Thursday evening.

Jim Kerr

CAPTAIN.

The Tuesday Club (@ St Andrews)

The Tuesday Club was started after the pandemic. We realised that a lot of people had been very isolated during lockdown and wanted to do something to help, the idea being that there would be a group of people that could keep in touch should another lockdown happen. We meet, obviously on a Tuesday afternoon. The ladies can knit, crochet, take part in a variety of crafts or just simply have a chat over tea and biscuits.

We have had two successful visits to Rosebank Garden Centre for lunch and shopping just before Christmas and a lovely afternoon tea visit to Dobbies at Braehead.

The club continues to do well - in fact, it has proved so popular, we now have a waiting list for members.

Details of organisations and groups that meet in both churches.

Monday

Wild Bunch Toddler group 9-11:30 am @ Mure Memorial

Senior Citizens 1:30-3:30pm @ Mure Memorial

Girls Brigade Explorers 6-7:30pm @ Mure Memorial

Badminton 7:45-9:30 @ Mure Memorial

Beaver Scouts 6-7:15pm, Cubs 7:30-8:15pm, Scouts 7:15-9pm @ St Andrews

Tuesday

Thrift Shop 10:00-12noon @ Mure Memorial

Tuesday Club 2-4pm @ St Andrews

The Rainbows 6-7:15pm @ Mure Memorial

Karate 7-8pm @ St Andrews

Keep Fit 7:30-8:30pm @ Mure Memorial

Wednesday

Zumba class 9:45-10:45 @ St Andrews

Scottish Slimmer's 4pm & 5:30pm @ St Andrews

Thursday

Wild Bunch Toddler Group 9-11am @ Mure Memorial

Women's Guild 1-3pm @ Mure Memorial

Women's Guild 2-4pm (2nd/4th week of the month) @ St Andrews

Boy's Brigade Anchor Boys 6:30-7:30pm,
Juniors/Company 7:30-9:30pm @ St Andrews

Knit 'n' Natter 7-9pm @ St Andrews

Boy's Brigade Junior section 7:15-9pm @ Mure
Memorial

Friday

Zumba 9:45-10:45am @ St Andrews

Karate 6-7pm @ St Andrews

Boy's Brigade Anchor Boys 6-7pm, Company 7-9pm
@ Mure Memorial

Saturday

Pop-in Tea Room 10am-1pm @ St Andrews

Sunday

Morning worship @ JAM Club 10am @ Mure Memorial

Morning Worship and Sunday Club 11:30am @ St
Andrews

Saint & Singers (video song group) 7-8.15pm @ St
Andrews

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday 2nd April

Mure Memorial 10:00am

St Andrews 11:30am

Thursday 6th April - Communion Service

St Andrews 7:00pm

Good Friday 7th April

Mure Memorial 12 Noon

Easter Sunday 9th April

Mure Memorial 10:00am

St Andrews 11:30am