



**“WORSHIP, FRIENDSHIP, ACTION – a kirk that cares. “**

Welcome to the Autumn Magazine 2014

Hopefully we have all returned refreshed from a good summer, lots of warm sunny days and lots of excitement with the success of the Commonwealth Games. Here in Westburn we finished the school holidays with the Awesome Holiday Club which proved a great success, check out some photos in the magazine.

Leaders of organisations and convenors of committees have already been busy preparing and organising programmes and meetings to make sure all the activities here in Westburn are ready to go. Messy Church will be starting up again in September if you haven't tried it yet, why not give it a go, more details in the magazine.

There is a lot going on in Westburn and as usual in this magazine there is a centrefold of 'What's on in Westburn'. Please check it out and see what suits you and join in the fellowship and fun, you will be most welcome.

Material for next magazine is due by Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014  
e-mail to [cathbarbour@btconnect.com](mailto:cathbarbour@btconnect.com)

*from THE MANSE*

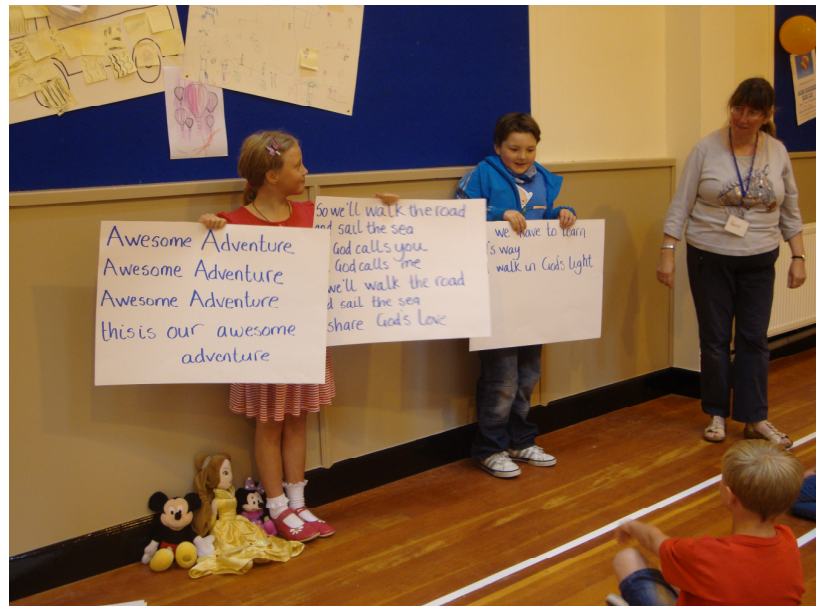
Dear Friends

As I write this letter, we have just finished our Awesome Adventurers Holiday Club. I've been involved with many Holiday Clubs over the years but this was my first at Westburn Parish Church and the first the church has held for a few years. Thirty four different children took part in the Holiday Club over the four days with an average of 24 attending each day. We enjoyed games, crafts, songs, quizzes, films and we even played outside with bubbles and each day we focused on a different character from the bible who went on an amazing adventure with God. We heard about Moses and thought about trusting. We heard about Ruth and thought about being friends. We heard about Peter and thought about following. We heard about Paul and thought about telling the good news.

As we return from the summer holiday period and begin a new session of church life, we give thanks to God for the awesome adventure of life and faith we are called into and we look forward to travelling together on the next part of the journey.

Yours  
**Karen**

**Here are some photos of the Awesome Holiday Club which was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended.**



Just a note....



I understand that in the past it was the norm for notices of deaths to be included in the intimations and that some folk have been wondering about this. I would not usually announce deaths at the beginning of worship and there are a number of reasons for this around the issues of consistency, communication, confidentiality and flow of worship. There is always an opportunity for quietness in our prayers of intercession which allows people to pray for those they are concerned about including those who are bereaved and most weeks a small group of people meet for intercessory prayer at the end of the service and they are happy to receive requests for prayer. Full tributes are made about those who have died within the funeral service when those who have known and loved the person gather to give thanks for the person's life. If you would like to discuss this matter more fully, I would be happy to meet with you.

**Karen Harbison**

## Church Web Site

**Have you** put your syllabus, planned activities, or interesting comments about your organisation or group on your web page. If not it may look as though you're not doing anything interesting. Have you looked at your page on the web, can you make it more interesting, add photographs, make comments, ask one of your members to write about what it is they enjoy about your group. Jim Bell will be happy to update your page.

A similar invitation is made to any church member who feels that they can assist in making the web site more interesting.

Our church web site can be found at - <http://www.greenockwestburn.org.uk/>  
Please visit it and view it's contents.



**Further information can be obtained from Jim Bell ( 01475 799381 or [all.the.bells@ntlworld.com](mailto:all.the.bells@ntlworld.com) )**

## CHURCH NEWS BOOK

If you are aware of anyone who is ill or would benefit from a visit from the minister, please make an entry in the news book with their name and address. It is helpful if you sign your entry.



## Find us on FACEBOOK



Search on FACEBOOK for **“Greenock Westburn Church of Scotland”** and join the social media revolution.

# Life and Work

## LIFE:WORK



**CARING SPECIAL**

THE SUNFLOWER GARDEN

working with the youngest carers

THE CHURCH'S ROLE IN SUPPORTING  
SCOTLAND'S CARERS

Life and Work is available on the last Sunday of every month priced £2.00 Subscriptions available.

Please contact **Shelagh Hendry Tele. 794667**.  
Delivery can be arranged if you are unable to get to church.

## PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY

May / June 2014

**VISITING SPEAKER:-** Mrs Marion Dolan gave a Guild update on the various projects in which we were involved. The Moderator thanked her and wished the Guild well in the coming year.

Presbytery invited the Bishop of Paisley, John Keenan, who spoke about reconciliation as the first doctrine of any true religion was only possible with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Moderator thanked Bishop John for speaking with warmth and humour.

**VACANCY PROCEDURE COMMITTEE:-** Vacancy schedule for Greenock: St. Margaret's was approved. The Mount Kirk and East End Parish have agreed a Basis of Linking and also agreed to call Mr Murphy as minister of the linked charge. Presbytery sustained the call from Greenock: St. Margaret's to Rev.M.Coull on a basis of renewable tenure.

**BUSINESS COMMITTEE:-** Rev.A.Maclean will retire as minister of Langbank and Port Glasgow from 1<sup>st</sup> Feb. 2015. Vacancy Procedure

Committee will meet local parties in light of the impending vacancy. Rev A.Sorenson will be Interim Moderator at Greenock: Lyle Kirk. Rev. E.Manson is appointed as Locum at Greenock: Lyle Kirk

**MISSION AND DISCIPLESHIP** Presbytery congratulated Wynd Centre on their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and assured them of Presbytery's prayerful support.

The Committee's Autumn Conference will be on Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> Sep. ( see Presbytery Notice Board. )

Clarification has been given by Law Dept. On Safeguarding for Elders that Elders are considered to remain Trustees of the congregation until they resign.

## COMMUNITY INTERESTS:- ALLOCATION OF FUNDING

£ 800 to Adam House

£1,000 to Inverclyde Contact Centre

500 to Wynd Counselling Service

£500 to Star Project

£600 to Talk it Over Group

Proposed visit by group from Zimbabwe to Presbytery – Oct. 14th

**Margaret Crawford Representative Elder**

## Stewardship and Finance

The Summer 2014 Magazine included a letter from Rev Alan Gibson, Head of Stewardship, Church of Scotland. The two main purposes of this letter was to thank the members of Westburn for their ongoing contributions to Ministries and Mission in the Church of Scotland and to explain how this money is used.

This is often misunderstood and I feel it is worth re-iterating the main points:-

In 2014 we as a Congregation are contributing in excess of £78,000 to Ministries and Mission.

Around £67,000 of this goes towards Ministry. As the total cost of a Parish Minister at the top of the Stipend Scale is about £40,000 this clearly means that as well as covering all the costs of our own minister we are making a sizable contribution to providing ministers and other parish workers throughout Scotland and particularly in areas and congregations where there is a great need and total self funding is not possible.

The remaining £11,000 goes towards Mission and although the uses for this are too numerous to list here, the main ones are providing social care services to people in need, providing Christian education and outreach and accompanying partners around the world on our shared Christian journey.

It is good that we as a congregation can make a substantial contribution to the above work as part of our Outreach and as Treasurer I would also take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

There are several ways to make your financial contributions to the Church, the main ones being by Bank Standing Order or by Weekly Freewill Offering Envelopes.

In addition if you are a taxpayer, the Church can recover the tax on payments you make from HMRC under the Gift Aid Scheme.

I shall be obliged if anyone requiring a Standing Order Mandate, Weekly Freewill Offering envelopes, a Gift Aid Declaration or information on any of these or any other matter regarding methods of giving should make contact with me.

**Alastair Munro**  
**Treasurer**  
**Telephone 801057**



### **Collective voice of Church called for with Dove of Peace campaign.**

The Moderator of the General Assembly has urged congregations across Scotland to display their collective desire for world peace through an innovative dove campaign.

Rt Rev John Chalmers will be presenting doves – made from pieces of glass picked from the rubble of past invasions of Bethlehem – to those he meets in the UK and beyond during his Moderatorial year.

This action follows the emergence of numerous conflicts across the globe, including Gaza where a peaceful resolution was called for by the Moderator.

The Church of Scotland's 1400 congregations have been asked to create doves using a cut-out template and send them to Mr Chalmers by August 31<sup>st</sup>.

A sample will form part of a window display at the Church Offices in Edinburgh. Most will be presented to Prime Minister David Cameron.

Mr Chalmers said “ For me this dove holding an olive branch in it's mouth is a symbol of hope and the artwork itself shows that something beautiful can arise from the ashes of despair.

I hope that this little project to make doves will be taken up by every congregation and that when they are all gathered in they can be used to declare our support for finding peaceful means to resolve conflicts across the world.”

“ Most particularly, however, it is my prayer that a just peace will reign for Israelis and for the Palestinian people, whether in Gaza or in the place where this symbol was first conceived and where the glass doves are being crafted.”

We in Westburn participated in this appeal when Karen read out the Moderator’s message and prayer and by sending in our Dove of Peace.

### **Date for your diary**

On 21<sup>st</sup> December Westburn will be having a Christmas Concert with an exciting festive programme, more details nearer the time. The choir will be participating in the concert and would love to boost their numbers for this performance – **can you help, if so please speak to Neil McPhee.**

### **Pastoral Care Committee**

1. The Committee met on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 and the next meeting will be held on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014.
2. **District 22** – there are now 27 members who are in nursing or care homes. These Members are regularly visited by the Committee. In addition, our Minister is also visiting Members in hospital and at home.
3. **Annual Car Run** – was held on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2014. Around 60 Members were taken to various places on a very nice summer’s night and then back to the Church Hall for supper. As in previous years, this was a very successful event. The fellowship was very much in evidence and enjoyed by Members and drivers, also folks had a chance to catch up with old friends. Many thanks to the drivers for looking after the Members and to the Ladies who provided an excellent supper.
4. **Harvest Thanksgiving** – will be held on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014. As in previous year’s, the congregation is being asked to donate to the South African Projects, which are Venda, Cotlands Baby Sanctuary and the Sunshine Association for children with disabilities. Donations can be placed in an envelope marked South Africa and placed in the offering. Members will have an opportunity to donate from Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> September up to and including the October Communion on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2014.
5. **October Communion Afternoon Service** – Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2014 in the Lounge at 3.00pm. If you would like transport to and from Church, please ask your Elder or contact Bill Dempster or any member of the Pastoral Care Committee.

**Bill Dempster**

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT MAGAZINE – Autumn 2014**

Over the summer months, work carried out has been the decoration of the Main Hall and Youth Hall. Work on the Main Hall floor did not go as planned but it will be completed early September.

As you may have seen, scaffolding was erected on the right hand side of the church. This was required to carry out slating and leadwork repairs below the window at the east face of the tower. The window and sill required some woodwork repairs. The window was painted upon completion of this work. In addition, repairs were carried out to the roof and parapet above the chancel area.

While the work was being carried out, the opportunity was taken to remove most of the vegetation that could be seen on the higher ledges of the church.

It is planned to have the external down pipes of the church repainted as soon as possible.

The work required to address external stonework repairs as identified in the Presbytery Quinquennial Report has been identified and is not as extensive as first feared. It is hoped that the work can be carried out in the near future.

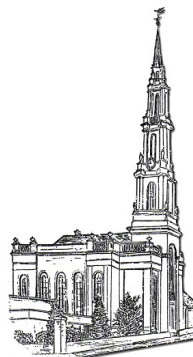
At the Manse, roof repairs were carried out on the west chimney head. This was due to water ingress through the bathroom ceiling.

A range of minor work is continually ongoing. Volunteer labour contributes to a substantial cost saving in church expenditure. If any



member would like to assist in any way, please contact Jim Bell (Tel No 799381)

## **INVERCLYDE DOORS OPEN DAYS**



Inverclyde Doors Open Days will be held on the weekend of **13 – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014.**

Westburn Church will participate on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> from 10.00am to 3.00pm. in a similar manner to past years.

Although the event may be past before you receive this magazine, a request will be made for volunteers to act as stewards and to help with tea and coffee.

**Jim Bell**

## **WESTBURN'S MESSY CHURCH**

Our Messy Church team are gearing up for another session filled with fun, friendship and hospitality. Whether you have been before, or would like to join us, we would love to have you with us.

Our programme will run through the winter to May 2015. We meet on **the second Saturday of the month from 4 to 6 pm.**

We explore a different theme each Messy Church. This session we will explore Bible Seaside, Mountains and Roads and later we will explore How to Love our God, our Neighbours and our Friends in our World.

Our first hour is filled with activities, crafts, games and exploring our topic. We then move into the Lounge for Worship and finish our afternoon sharing a bite to eat.

Over thirty families have visited Messy Church over its first 13 months. We look forward to welcoming them back and to more joining us.

Messy Church is open to those who can attend regularly and to those who can pop in now and again.

Messy Church is for all ages from babies to grandparents.

Messy Church is a new way of learning about Jesus together.

**We look forward to seeing you there.**



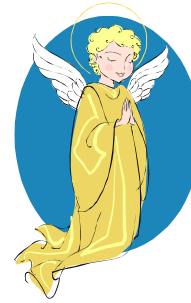
**Morag McCracken**

## **Glasgow 2014 - 20<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Games**

The Dempster Family would like to thank all the Members of the Congregation who turned out to support Joyce on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014 when she carried the Queen's Baton along her section of the Esplanade. The support on the night was one of the biggest for the Baton Bearers. Here she is with George Murray before the baton was handed over.



The day started with Joyce going up to Dunlop Street to support Tom Tracy, a family friend. Although it was dry the weather forecast was not favourable and it rained for the rest of the day, before stopping just before it was Joyce's turn to carry the baton.



## **Time for Prayer**

Prayerful thoughts can sometimes be expressed indirectly through poetry. In this poem, John S Batley conveys his gratitude that he is still able to appreciate many of the wonders of creation despite being afflicted by deafness. If we are conscious of blessings in our own lives, let us not neglect to offer praise and thanks

for these in our prayers. Thanks to Margaret Crawford for spotting this poem

I have seen the dark clouds form, just before the pending storm  
I have seen white streaks of lightning flash asunder  
I have seen torrential rain pouring down each window pane  
But I never hear the crashing of thunder.

I have seen spring flowers grow through the soft white melting snow  
I have felt warm summer sunshine on my skin  
I have smelt the rich bouquet of the sweetly scented hay  
But I never hear the songs songbirds sing

I have felt the sea salt spray blown onshore across the bay  
I have felt the tang of seaweed on the scree  
I have seen the seagulls soar on the cliffs above the shore  
But I never hear the surging of the sea

In my world no church bells ring and no laughing children sing  
And the words my loved ones speak are just a mime  
But I hear the cheerful sound of my family all around  
In the memory of a noise-filled former time .

**Douglas Scott**



## **WESTBURN CHURCH MEMBERS – “STEPPING OUT IN FAITH”**



### **WESTBURN WESTIE'S 2014 ADVENTURE**

Following on from last year's virtual walk to the Church of Scotland European based Churches, in May the Social Committee was approached to arrange another social, healthy-walking project. OK, but where to go this time? Why not a virtual trip to the Westburn supported projects in South Africa? That would be a bit of a challenge!

O June 1st 65 Church members clipped on pedometers to step out virtually through some 19 countries trying to collectively record 33 million steps. The Westburn Westie Walkers certainly picked the right time and weather to undertake this project, but all credit must go to them for their efforts and stamina through June, July and August as it is expected that when this magazine update is read the 33million + steps will have been achieved and all our South African projects will have been “visited.”

Well done Westburn Westie Walkers (WWW), keep exercising, keep socialising. When organised, the date of your successful project-end social night will be notified to you.

**Doreen Borland.**

## **GUILD**

Although the Guild held their last meeting with a “Night Out” in March, some ladies attended our informal nights and requested that we continued to meet every 2 weeks until the Guild restarted for the session. This was agreed and we have had a faithful band of ladies attending some bringing their knitting along, always plenty of chat and of course the important cup of tea.

The new session starts on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September with our “At Home” night when business that has arisen during the break is discussed and a chance for those who have not seen each other during the holiday period to catch up.

Our theme for this session is “A World to Serve” which is very appropriate for the Guild as we undertake work locally and nationally which helps many throughout the world. Our secretary Senga Currie has been busy compiling our syllabus for the session with suggestions from the committee to encompass the theme. The first half of our syllabus is included in the magazine and we would be happy for any member of the congregation to join us on a regular basis but also to come along when the topic is of interest to them.

The Presbyterian Council has its first meeting the session on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October in Hamilton Bardrainey Church when our speaker will be Rev Liz Crumlish, many of whom may know her as she is a local girl. Her theme for the night is “A World to Serve”. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated at this meeting.

I had the privilege of attending the service in Wamphray Parish Church to celebrate the life and achievements of the Very Reverend Professor Archibald Charteris on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May.

As part of the Church of Scotland Guild's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations the memorial to Archibald Charteris has been fully restored and those attending the event had the chance to visit it.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Adam Dillon, minister of Wamphray Parish Church and Moderator of the Presbytery of Annanadale and Eskdale, and the address was given by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Right Reverend Lorna Hood.

Archibald Charteris was born in 1835 and died in 1908. During his lifetime he founded the then Woman's Guild, now the Church of Scotland

Guild in 1887; he founded the **Life and Work** in 1879 and re-instated the office of Deaconess in 18892. He was elected to the office of Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland before he died in 1908.

Representatives of the three Church of Scotland groups which exist as a result of the life and work of Archibald Charteris were represented and took part in the service: Marjorie Paton, National Convener of the Church of Scotland Guild; Morag Crawford, of the Diaconate; and a message from Lynne McNeil, Editor of the **Life and Work**, which was read by Iain Whyte, General Secretary of the Guild.

Also present was Lieutenant Col. John Charteris MBE MC, great great nephew of Archibald Charteris, who was guest of honour and represented the Charteris family. He gave an insight into the life of the Charteris family.

Archibald Charteris was a man of vision and determination who convinced the church of the need for women and how their skills and abilities could and have shaped the Church of Scotland for 127years, as they continue to serve and express their faith in worship, prayer and action.

I also had the privilege to attend an Interfaith Service of Welcome and Friendship to mark the arrival of the XX Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in the University of Glasgow Memorial Chapel.

There were readings by Islamic, Jewish, Baha'i, Hindu, Buddhist, Christian and Sikh faiths and also a Humanist reflection.

After the service the National President of the Guild and myself spoke to some members of the Sikh faith, who have appeared on TV in "Waterloo Road" and "Glasgow Girls".

We were invited to bring along friends to visit the Glasgow Gurdwara.

The latest totals for the guild projects is as follows:

From September 2012 to 24 April2014:

[Comfort Rwanda](#): £76,419.36

[CrossReach](#): £113,051.36

[Mary's Meals](#): £86,335.13

[Ministries Council](#): £63,383.39

[Scottish Churches Housing Action](#): £80,144.68

[World Mission Council](#): £76,692.27

**Total: £496,026.33**

The General Secretary represented the Guild at St. Andrew's Church, Malta recently and I include part of his report

**"The Event"**

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July - began with a guided tour of the former crypt and it was terrific to see what has been achieved.

The space had been leased by a local business for a minimal rent and had been in some disrepair prior to being taken back by the Church.

The funding from the "Out of Africa into Malta" project which had been provided by the Presbytery of Europe and other sources had seen the place transformed into a gleaming white suite of rooms.

There are classrooms for English language groups, a library and office space.

The leaders had hoped to have some white boards for teaching purposes and were given an interactive smartboard. They wanted a computer and were given several.

They sought 200 books from "Books abroad" and got 2000.

Prayer works!

Morning worship, which also saw the retirement of Doug McRoberts, Minister of St. Andrew's was attended by the President of Malta and she spoke very enthusiastically about the work of the Church at the reception

blackface

afterwards. Indeed, given the difficult road that has been travelled in terms of political engagement, it was a great testimony to the work of the Church with the refugees that she was so keen to speak encouragingly about it.

**The Guild funding**

money being raised by Guilds (over £75 000 so far), has been earmarked for the project’s micro-finance scheme and some ideas are beginning to emerge.

One suggestion has been from a young Somalian woman who would like to establish a business making clothes for women who are not keen on Western dress for various reasons, both cultural and religious.

In addition, they are aiming to use some of the Guild funding to set up a system to provide basic baby supplies to women who arrive pregnant from their escape from Africa, having been raped on the journey.

This dreadful situation is a place where the Guild efforts can at least offer some help to people far from home with nothing to their name and terrible experiences behind them.

**Conclusion**

The involvement we have had in the “Out of Africa” into Malta Project has been pivotal to the success of the project and the prayers, good wishes and financial support have all contributed.

I am grateful to have had the chance to represent the Guild at this event and hope that my presence says something about our commitment to the work and the appreciation that the people in Malta have of what we are doing.”

The Guild Annual Meeting is in Dundee on 6<sup>th</sup> September, when John Lowry Mortimer, artist, & Reader in Argyll Presbytery & Rev Margaret Fowler Missionary Partner in Jamaica will be our keynote speakers.

Also in attendance will be ladies from Malawi, Czech Republic, Palestine and Taiwan.

**A date for your diary is the Guild Coffee Morning on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 10.00am to 12 noon. Members of the guild would be delighted to see you.**

**Patricia Robertson**

**Guild Syllabus for 2014**

**September**

30 At Home

**October**

7 Hospice Singers

14 Inside Commonwealth Games  
Miss S Downie & Mrs A MacLeod

20(Mon) Presbyterial Council Autumn Rally  
Hamilton Bardrainney

28 Cacophony of Crafts  
Mrs H McEwing & Friends

**November**

4 Memories Mr T Johnstone  
(Lyle Kirk visiting)

11 Out of Africa into Malta - Project

15(Sat) Coffee Morning

18 A Fellowship to Build Miss S McFarlane  
(Visiting Ladies Groups)

25 Disbursement of Funds & Bible Study  
26 Rev Wm Armstrong

**December**

2\* Presbyterial Council “Christmas Celebrations”  
Wellpark Mid Kirk

9 Christmas Evening





## Funerals since May

Ruby Murray 8 Murdieston Street 17.5.14

Catherine Robertson 10 Lyle Street 22.5.14

Robert Murray Thomson 11 Royal Court 31.5.14

Robert Martin 106 Wellington Street 1.7.14

John Reid 1 Ardgowan Street 3.7.14

May Bowie Ravenscraig Hospital 4.7.14

Robert Logan Sproul 17 Roxburgh Ave 5.7.14

Lily Park Marchmont Nursing Home 7.7.14

Thomas Christie Armadale Court 8.7.14

## FROM THE ROLL-KEEPER

### DEATHS

	kl			
Mrs.	R.	Murray	8 Murdieston St.	16
Mrs.	L.	Park	Marchmont,	22
Mr.	R.	Sproul	17 Roxburgh Ave.	18
Mr.	R.M.	Thomson	111 Royal Ct.	18

### NEW MEMBER by RoKS

Miss	I.	McFarlane	Ravenscraig, Corlic Unit	22
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### DISJUNCTIONS

Miss	E.	Boag	19 Nelson St.	2	to St. Margaret's
Mrs.	E.	Branwhite	53 Kelly St.	2	to St. Margaret's
Mr.	J.	Roberts	F31, JGH	18	to Jehovah Witnesses

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Ms.	C.	Brown	? Staffa St	10	stays D10
Mrs.	M.	Campbell	F0/3, 1 Ardgowan St.	6	from D18
Mr.	A.	Lynch	? Staffa St	10	stays D10
Mr.	M.	MacSwan	19 Cumbræ Ave.	19	from D6
Mrs.	E.	McKenzie	Balclutha Nursing Hm.	22	from D17
Mr.	J.	Roberts	F31, JGH, 2 Duncan St.	18	from D12

### TRANSFERRED TO SUPPLEMENTARY ROLL

Mrs.	E.	Kemp	5 Houston St.	1
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IN ORDER TO KEEP CHURCH RECORDS UP TO DATE, IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF MEMBERS WHO ARE MOVING INFORM THEIR ELDER, THE SESSION CLERK OR THE ROLL-KEEPER OF THEIR NEW ADDRESS

