



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

Welcome to the Autumn Magazine 2016

Hopefully we have all returned refreshed. If you have been away perhaps you enjoyed some nice sunshine. After a bad start we finally got some nice sunshine at home, unfortunately just in time for the children going back to school.

Westburn hasn't stopped for the summer once again we had a very successful **Holiday Club** for a week in August, followed by the **Church outing to Loch Lomond Shores**.

We also participated in **welcoming Cruise Ship visitors** and opened for **Doors Open Day**

“What's going on in Westburn” - Check out **‘The Early-Bird’ Christmas Fayre for September**, details in the magazine and on the notice board.

**Messy Church** will be starting up again in September if you haven't tried it yet, why not give it a go, it is held on the second Saturday of the month.

Also **The Guild Syllabus** is detailed.

As usual in this magazine there is details 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 made most welcome.

## ***from THE MANSE***

Another beautiful sunset over the river and hills this evening, but before too long we'll be saying

‘ Oh the nights are fair drawing in’.

If we're not talking about the weather, then we're more than likely talking about time.

Talking about how time seems to pass so quickly.

Talking about how it seems like no time since last Christmas and how many days till this Christmas.

Talking about how we have to give ourselves time for healing to take place in physical, emotional and spiritual ways.

Talking about how we manage our time- in family life, in work situations, in what we're committed to doing.

Talking about how we should make time or take time for ourselves and our own development, including interests, hobbies, relaxation, reading, physical activity.

Talking about how time with those we love, with family and friends is so important.

Talking about how time flies not just when you're having fun but when you're busy.

Wondering about where all the time goes.

Or struggling because time seems to pass too slowly and things are difficult for us

These are our perceptions, our feelings, our questions but we know that time passes at the same rate second by second, minute by minute, hour by hour, day by day, week by week, year by year.

As Christians we believe that God is the God of all time , the God beyond time and yet also the God this time. We trust that God is present with us and is intimately involved in our time. This God, our God generously and graciously gives time to us as a gift.

We have to respond to God's generosity and decide how to spend, how to use our time. Stewardship of our time is important and is included in the promises we make in church membership.

As we reflect on God's gift of time and our response to that, as we think about how we use, how we spend our time, as we think about what our priorities are for this time, let us remember the words of St Paul 'Whatever you do, however you spend your time, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for human beings. Remember that the Lord will give you as a reward what he has kept for his people, for Christ is the real Master you serve, whatever you do, with all of your time.' ( Colossians chapter 3 verses 23 & 24 )

*Yours Karen*

## 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 AND WORK**



**CARING SPECIAL**  
THE SUNFLOWER GARDEN  
WORKING WITH THE PASTORAL CARE  
THE CHURCH'S ROLE IN SUPPORTING  
SCOTLAND'S CARERS

Life and Work is available on the last Sunday of every month priced £2.20 Subscriptions available.

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

**Faith in Cowal**

## Pastoral Care Committee

1. The Committee met on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016.
2. **District 22** – there are 22 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, 22<sup>th</sup> June 2016. 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, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2016. 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, 18<sup>th</sup> September up to and including the October Communion on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016.
5. **October Communion Afternoon Service** – Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016 in the Lounge at 3.00pm. Members wishing transport are asked to contact Bill Dempster or any member of the Pastoral Care Committee.

**Bill Dempster**

## PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT MAGAZINE – Autumn 2016

Scaffolding has been erected on the church front to enable the North & West tower windows to be replaced /repaired. Work is currently well underway.

In March 2016, we accepted an offer from Northern Steeplejacks to carry out an inspection of the Tower area. The cost was £90. The inspection was carried out on 19th April and a report supported by a DVD was subsequently provided. This DVD is available for viewing.

Subsequently, Northern Steeplejacks submitted a letter described as 'Duty of Care' detailing three balustrade banisters and an urn described as 'Loose & Dangerous'

Having received a quotation from them, we discussed the issue with a stone mason Patrick Green. Initially we gave the go ahead to work on the balustrade.

By making use of the scaffold erected for window repairs, a proper inspection of the N.E. Urn has been carried out. Photos are available. Patrick Green has been instructed to carry out the work required.

The full Inspection Report provided by Northern Steeplejacks has still to be reviewed by the Property Committee. Further work may be required in due course.

As already said, the Guild has agreed to fund the provision of heavy curtains for the three lower doors and two Gallery doors. The curtains are in the process of being completed, and will be hung in the near future..

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)**







**This is the Urn needing attention**



**A close up of the problem**



## PRAYER

In our Lord's Prayer we are taught both to ask forgiveness and to be ready to forgive others when they wrong us. Here is an anonymous little prayer, which develops this important idea.

Lord, forgive us our silences when we should have spoken up.  
 Forgive us our empty, vain words when we should have acted.  
 Forgive us for mixing up and replacing your gospel with our own wisdom.

Forgive us for being generous only to those we like.  
 Forgive us our indifference, our lack of love and kindness.  
 Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors,  
 And help us to forgive sincerely  
 Even those who have hurt us.  
 By Jesus Christ, our saviour, Amen.

**Douglas Scott**

## **39<sup>th</sup> Greenock Guides**

The Guides restarted for the session on 6<sup>th</sup> September. They meet on Tuesdays 7.30 – 9.00pm in the Youth Hall.

Any girl age 10 and over will be made most welcome.

**Why not come along**

**Further information from Marjorie 07818452691**

## Faith in Cowal

As some of you know, in my role as a Church of Scotland Reader I have been going “across the water” to churches at Lochgoilhead, Strachur and Strathlachlan in Cowal. And this year, these churches have been promoting the “Faith in Cowal” project.

This project has drawn together information on the early church on the Cowal peninsula and put together a pilgrim trail round the peninsula with ten locations to visit on a circular route together with a further five which they call “Tempting Tangents” – sites somewhat off the main circuit. There is an overall booklet showing the trail, the locations of the sites and a short description of each, as well as individual leaflets giving more details about each site as well as a good description of exactly how to get to each one.

The sites vary from Neolithic chambered cairns at Auchnaha and Ardnadam, through holy wells such as St Modan’s well, remains of ancient chapels at Ardnadam, Ardtaraig and Fearnoch, to mediaeval carved stones collected in the lapidarium at Kilmodan Church and built into the wall at Strachur and six churches which are still active today but all of which have a story of faith to tell. You will find several of the active churches open to visitors and they have the leaflets about the trail available to take away – you can also get these at the Tourist Office in Dunoon. St Munn’s Church in Kilmun has more to see than the others and is open Thursday to Saturday 10-4 for a small fee, all other sites are free.

The booklet suggests that the whole 80 mile circuit can be done in one day – but I doubt it! While some sites are close to the road, others require some walking. As well as two of the churches where I have been taking services, I have visited five of the sites and thoroughly enjoyed finding out about the history of the church in an area which is just a short ferry trip away. I can recommend a trip “across the water” to visit some or all of the sites on this new pilgrim trail. It made me think about what might have been going on in the church in the Greenock area when all these holy sites were growing up just

a few miles away across the river from the earliest times of Christianity in Scotland

For more information: [www.faithincowal.org](http://www.faithincowal.org) and [www.historickilmun.org](http://www.historickilmun.org)

List of sites:

Main Trail: Ardnadam Chapel; Ardtaraig Chapel; Kilmodan Church; St Modan’s well; Kilfinan Church; Auchnaha Cairn; Kilmorie Church; Kilbride Chapel; Strachur Church; St Munn’s Church, Kilmun.

Tempting Tangents: Inverchaolain Church; Kilmorich Old Church; Cairndow Church; Lochgoilhead Church; Fearnoch Chapel and Baptismal well.

*Jennifer*



## 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 2017. 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 10 Letters, Salt and Light, Trusting God and Special Message.

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.

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 and Lynne Cairns**



## GUILD

### The New Projects for 2015-2018 are:

Care for the family Scotland- Let's Stick Together  
 Ascension Trust -- Street Pastors  
 Feed the Minds -- Breaking the Cycle of F.G.M.  
 Christian Aid -- Caring for Mother Earth in Bolivia  
 Prospects -- All Friends Together  
 Mission International – Haiti Project.

We heard speakers from two of the above projects in 2015/2016 : Caring for mother Earth in Bolivia and Prospects –All Friends Together and we will have two more in 2016/2017.

Date for your diary is the Guild Coffee Morning on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>. November 2016, 10am – Noon. We have been very appreciative of the support given at this annual event and hope it will continue.

**Anna Seggie**

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

## Guild Syllabus for 2016

### September

27 At Home

### October

4 Opening Social (Sandy Smith )

11 Leprosy Mission

18 Presbyterial Council Autumn Rally  
 Inverkip Church

25 Erskine Hospital

### November

1 Watch This Space)

8 Guild Project

12 **(Sat)** Coffee Morning

15 Mission Aviation Fellowship

22 Wevolution (Local)

29 Disbursement of Funds and Bible Study

### December

6\* Presbyterial Council "Christmas Celebrations"  
 Wellpark Mid Kirk **2pm**

13 Westburn Christmas Celebration



### **Presbyterial Council News**

Greenock Presbyterial Council has held 3 “Tea & Chat” afternoons so far during the summer months the last will be on in Westburn Parish Church on Thursday 15 September. To date there has been a reasonable attendance and those attending have found this to be a pleasant experience. Our first council meeting (Autumn Rally) of the new session will be held in Inverkip on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October when our speaker will be Rev. David Burt, minister of Old Gourrock & Ashton. The minister Rev Archie Spiers will officiate at the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

### **National Guild News**

The Borders gathering which I attended on the last Saturday in April was a great success and much appreciated by the Guild members in that part of the country.

The “Big Sing” held during the General Assembly was a great success raising a further £3754.08 (including the collection from Westburn) for furnishing the bedrooms at Loudon Training College in Embangweni. The Assembly Halls were almost filled to capacity and members locally who didn’t attend were able to come along to Westburn Parish church to take part as it was streamed.

I’ve attended meetings during June in Edinburgh with the new National Convener, Rosemary Johnstone, leading the meetings.

Although there have been no meetings in Edinburgh since then business has been carried out with emails and telephone calls.

Meetings in Edinburgh for me start on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August (where have the holiday and summer period gone!!) where we will meet to discuss the next Theme & Topic Guide. After that there will be business meetings in Edinburgh, a Road Show in Falkirk and a meeting in Perth in October.

However the event that all Guild members are looking forward to is the Annual Gathering in Dundee on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Our speakers for the day are the Right Rev. Dr. Russell Barr (it will be nice to meet up with Russell again) and Sally Magnusson, who will speak about her mother’s involvement with the Guild, her battle with dementia and what led Sally to found her charity Playlist for Life. The praise band which have featured at the “Heart & Soul” event during the General Assembly in Princes Street Gardens are also coming along. There is at present a waiting list for tickets. A good day in prospect.

Plans for the next “Big Sing” during Guild Week which is being held in our church on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November are beginning to take shape and Guilds will be able to apply for tickets soon. This will be on a first come first served basis, here’s hoping the church will be filled that afternoon.

The amount raised up to the end of June for the projects for 2015-2018 is as follows:

Ascension Trust (Street Pastors Scotland)	£54,356.03
Care for the Family (Let’s Stick Together Scotland)	£38,913.49
Christian Aid (Caring for Mother Earth in Bolivia)	£28,934.94
Feed the Minds (FGM in Kenya)	£55,076.87
Mission International(Haiti Project)	£30,942.40
Prospects (All Friends Together Scotland)	£30,125.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>£238,349.10</b>

Once again I’m grateful to have this opportunity to share with you all that is taking place within the Guild organisation

***Patricia Robertson***



Westburn Parish Church

## 'Early-Bird' Christmas Fayre

Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> September  
10am to 2pm



Please can you help with donations for our Stalls?

Specifically the following:

Small packets of sweets for the Children's Sweet Stall

Bottles (non alcoholic!!) for the Children's Bottle Stall

Home-baking and Craft Items

Teddies and Soft Toys (new or clean and in good condition)

New and unused items eg toiletries, jewellery (suitable to be a Xmas Gift!!)

If you would prefer to give a monetary donation, there will be donation boxes in the church from Sunday 21 August.

Please note that there is **NOT** a stall for books, DVDs or videos

**Thank you for your support**



IT IS GOOD TO SAY THANK YOU.

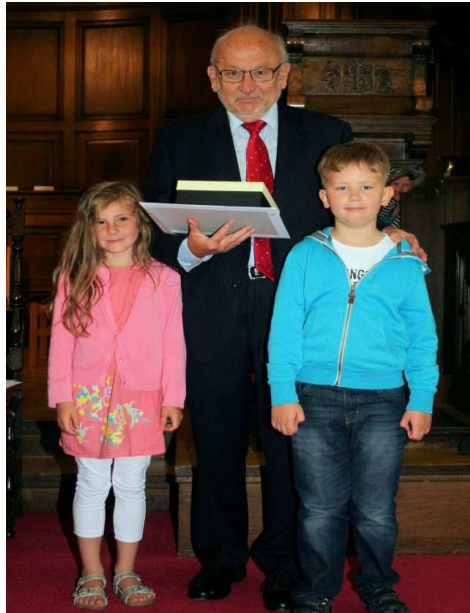
On Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> August Karen and the congregation took the opportunity to say Thank You . Thank you for a long , dedicated and christian service to the church here in Westburn and previously in St.Luke's and St.George's North.

Stuart Robertson retired after many years as Session Clerk in Westburn and St.Luke's, and Alan Gallacher as Assistant Session Clerk in Westburn and Session Clerk in St.George's North.

Suitable gifts were presented to Stuart and Alan by the Sunday School children.

The gift of a quach engraved and a charity donation favouring charities meaningful to Stuart and Alan.





The Inscription on the Quaichs read :-

Stuart/Alan With thanks for your faithful,  
generous service as Session Clerk.  
From all at Westburn Parish Church



“A word of thanks”

*A word of thanks for the presentation I received on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August during Morning Worship.*

*Both items will be treasured in the time ahead, reminding me of my years as Session Clerk, at firstly St Luke's and secondly Westburn Parish Church after Union with St. George's North in November 2006.*

*I considered the position an honour and wish my successors every blessing for the future.*

*Patricia would also like to add her thanks for the beautiful flowers she received at the same time.*

Yours

Stuart Robertson

Organisation	Day of Meeting	Time of Meeting (start & finish)	Contact – Name & Tel No.
<b>Creche babies to 3yrs Sunday Schoo (4-12years). And Bible class 12+</b>	Sunday	11am till church ends	Miss J. Lindsay 710287 Mrs L .Capon 648671 Mrs M. McCracken 716310
<b>Choir</b>	Sunday	10.15 – 10.45am	Mr N. McPhee 07903106628
<b>Praise Group</b>	Sunday	Varies	
<b>Church of Scotland Guild</b>	Tuesday	7.30 – 9.30pm,	Leader Mrs S. Currie 719784 Secretary Mrs A. Seggie 721731
<b>Women's Bible Study</b>	Wed	2.15 – 3.15	Mrs A Seggie 721731
<b>Prayer Shawl Group</b>	Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	10.00 – 12.00am	Mrs D Borland 706034
<b>Badminton Club</b>	Wed	7.00 – 10pm	Mr W Dempster 784317
<b>Indoor Bowling</b>	Monday	7.15 – 9:15pm	Mrs A. Seggie 721731
<b>1st Finnart Rainbow Unit</b>	Tuesday	5.30 – 6.30pm	Mrs M McCracken 716310
<b>39<sup>th</sup> Greenock Brownies</b>	Tuesday	6.30 – 7.30pm	Mrs M McCracken 716310
<b>39<sup>th</sup> Greenock Guides</b>	Tuesday	7.30 – 9.15pm	Mrs M McWhirr 07818452691

Organisation	Date of Meeting	Time of Meeting (start & finish)	Contact – Name & Tel No.
<b>Girls Brigade</b>	Tuesday	6.30 – 8pm	Miss L. Buchan 07957509117
<b>Boys' Brigade</b>	Friday		Mr J Murray 796736
<b>Anchor Boys</b>		6 – 7.15pm	
<b>Junior Section</b>		6 – 7.15pm	
<b>Senior Section</b>		7.15 – 10pm	
<b>Group Scout Leader</b>			Mr R Martin 790840
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Greenock &amp; Beaver Scouts</b>	Friday	6.30 – 8pm	Mr R Martin 790840 Mr R Martin 790840
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Greenock &amp; District Cub Scouts</b>	Friday	6.30 – 8pm	
<b>Greenock and District Westburn Explorers</b>	Monday	8.00 -10.00pm	Mr C. Cairns 710706
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Greenock and District Scouts</b>	Thursday	7.30 – 9.30pm	Mr C. Cairns 710706
<b>Greenock and District Leapmoor Scout Pipe Band</b>	Sunday	6.30 – 9pm	Mr C Cairns 710706
<b>Stedfast Band</b>	Thursday	7.30 – 9.30 pm	Mr D. Burnie 798110
<b>Craft Group</b>	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs of the month	7.30 – 9.30pm	Rev K Harbison 721048  Mrs M.McCracken 716310
<b>Messy Church</b>	Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat. Of the month	4.00 – 600pm	

