



Welcome to the 'Summer Magazine' - Summer Magazine in May you may say - well let's hope that we are enjoying some nice weather and have a good summer, some indications are that this will be a good summer, let's hope so, we all feel so much better and happier when the sun shines.

This magazine comes to you at a time when all the organisations are finishing up, a time when the leaders and helpers are ready to relax and switch off from their commitments. We are very fortunate to have many dedicated leaders giving their time willingly so that our young, and not so young people can enjoy fellowship together in Westburn. We are also very fortunate to have dedicated Church Officers, committees and workers who keep everything running smoothly to make Westburn the busy, bustling church that we are. To all of these and to you the congregation have a great, hopefully sunny summer.

There are always changes going on in Westburn, with our central heating project, painting, and our lovely new carpeting and pew covers. Ministers coming and ministers going and it's **that time again**. We look forward to the return of our minister Bill Hewitt on 1st July, after his year as Moderator, but sadly this means we say goodbye to Bill Armstrong. Bill has been a dedicated and diligent stand in since March 2009 and he and Laura have become very much part of the family of Westburn. We have been in good hands during Bill's ministry with us, we will miss him but we wish him a very well earned retirement and rest. Bill's last service is Sunday 27th June let's take this opportunity to show our appreciation and make it a memorable last service for Bill and Laura.

The next Magazine material is due 15th August..

Material to either Cath Barbour or Joe Craig or e-mail Cath at

cathbarbour@btconnect.com.

The Magazine Team



NEWSLETTER – May 2010

My time with you is running out – fast! Come the end of June I will make way for the return of the Very Rev William Hewitt and head once again into full-time retirement. I hope you feel that my time with you has been well spent. I have certainly derived a great deal of satisfaction as I have sought to minister to the best of my ability to the needs of the congregation and parish.

Laura and I have felt very much at home in your company and we take away with us many good memories of the Westburn family. You have made our task easy and rewarding in the ways in which you welcomed and accepted us in the roles normally occupied by Bill and Moira.

I was pleased in the first instance to be invited by Bill to act as Locum and Interim Moderator for the duration of his moderatorial year. In prospect, it was a daunting challenge; but with the encouragement and support of the regular worshipping congregation and a first-rate leadership team my concerns soon evaporated.

At the outset I was eased in gently thanks to shared ministry and the good company of the Rev Douglas Hamilton. His departure almost a year ago meant that I had become “the responsible person”. I was given my place as minister of Westburn without question, and I am grateful for the trust placed in me at that time.

There have been several highlights during my time, but the one that stands out was the visit of Wahvoo and Suzi. What an exceptional child Wahvoo is! To come among total strangers, and into a very different culture, and telling us so openly about her HIV/Aids condition was remarkable. And it is wonderful that even now when she is facing operations to improve her hearing that we have been able to help. The congregation and other friends have responded magnificently.

Another highlight has been my association as chaplain with Ardgowan Primary School. I have enjoyed particularly my visits to the various classes and have come across many bright, thought provoking young people, and I wonder why so few find their way into the Church, though that is a challenge that has exercised many in the Church. My time at Greenock Academy has been less

satisfying. I discovered very quickly that it is hard to get behind the facade of those who are emerging into adulthood, and that I have little in common with the third year group with whom I have been associated. However, the social side of Academy life has more than counterbalanced my feelings of inadequacy.

Also on the outside, I have been welcomed into the company of neighbouring ministers in the West End, and have discussed with them the challenges of bringing the congregations together following the departure of two colleagues. I share their frustration that the Presbytery has not initiated a process that will take forward the projected union of the “other” congregations.

On my last Sunday, 27 June, I will record my indebtedness to those who are in the forefront of leadership within the congregation. You have a very committed and capable team and it has been an undoubted pleasure working with them. As I bid you farewell, I will also record my indebtedness to you and to those who have welcomed me into their homes. I have shared the joys of congregational life in the Baptism of several infants, in welcoming three new members by profession of faith, and in solemnising one marriage. I have also shared in the sadness of many families in the congregation and the wider parish.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to have belonged for a time to the Westburn family and I will remember you in my prayers as you continue to proclaim the Gospel of God’s love in word and action. I am also pleased to welcome Bill and Moira home after an eventful and unforgettable year in the service of the national Church, and I hope and pray they will soon settle once again to parish life.

May God richly bless you all,

Bill Armstrong

PS The Stedfast Silver band has volunteered to lead us in worship on my last Sunday. There will be more singing than speaking, and the hymns will be well known!

Greenock Westburn Church Web Site

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

Remember to update your page to let people see what your organisation is doing.

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

Further information can obtained from Jim Bell (01475 799381 or all.the.bells@ntlworld.com)

Life and Work

Life and Work is available on the last Sunday of every month priced £1.60
Subscriptions available.

Please contact **Shelagh Hendry Tele. 794667.**

Delivery can be arranged if you are unable to get to church.

CHURCH NEWS BOOK

The Church News Book can be found on the table at the front of the Church, please use this as a communication to help keep the minister informed of anyone who is ill or in hospital, or of any news of special birthdays and anniversaries.

Be sure to add the person’s address even if they are in hospital.

Pastoral Care Committee

1. **Meetings** – since the last Exec, the Committee met on 19th February and 8th April 2010. Reports have been received from the visitors for District 22 and Rev W Armstrong on hospital and home visits.
2. **June Communion** – on Sunday, 13th June 2010 and the afternoon Communion will be held in the Church Hall at 3.00pm. Any Member wishing transport to and from Church in the afternoon, to contact Ruth Gillies. Any Member willing to provide transport, please contact Ruth Gillies..
3. **Car Run** – will be held on Wednesday, 23rd June 2010 from 6.30pm with supper between 8.30pm and 9.00pm. If you would like to go, please contact your Elder.
4. **Harvest Thanksgiving** – 26th September 2010.

Bill Dempster

THE GUILD

We were entertained by The Steadfast Silver Band at our closing social. A wide variety of music was played with everyone joining in when invited. Afterwards there was a welcome cup of tea.

We the members of The Guild would like to thank Patricia for her devoted time, inspiration, week after week in ensuring that everything was in order, and all the preparations before hand.
Thanking you again.

The new committee is now busy preparing the syllabus for 2010-2011

Senga Currie

REFRESHING Prayer

Freshen up your prayer life!
Come along and explore some fresh
ideas for prayer.

led by
Eleanor Hood
Presbytery Prayer Co-ordinator

Sunday 23 May
2.30 - 4.00
in the Lounge

ALL WELCOME

PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY SUMMARY OF FEB-MARCH-APRIL MEETINGS

PRESENTATION OF CHEQUE FROM PAISLEY CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION CENTRE.

Robin Boyd, Secretary, presented a cheque for £1004, 000 to Presbytery now the Centre has ceased to function. The money will be used to carry on similar work with homeless people in the Paisley area.

Paisley Wynd Centre – The Wynd Centre Counselling Service now includes service to 9-15 yr olds. Speak to Catriona Muirhead, counselling secretary on 0141 887 4647.

New Moderator- Rev Robin Allison, minister at Elderslie will serve 2010-2011

Back to Church Sunday – 26th Sep 2010 – Rev Francis Murphy will lead a conference on this subject on Sat 8th May in Mount Kirk. Contact him for details tel: 722338.

Ministry Committee – Presbytery recorded its thanks to the Readers who provide a valuable service carrying out many tasks ie – Pulpit supply Locums and conducting services in Care Homes.

Rev D. Hamilton is appointed as locum at Paisley : Oakshaw Trinity.

Carol Campbell is appointed Healthcare Chaplain at I.R.H. and can be contacted on 01475 504759.

General Assembly Youth Rep. Andrew Fernandez, Erskine Parish church has been appointed.

Presbytery Disability Advisor – Remit – act as first point of contact on disability matters within the Presbytery, encourage inclusion in life and worship, and responding to special needs of families and support workers - Training will be given

Prayer Co-ordinator – Eleanor Hood – 10505 704208 – is available to work with Kirk Sessions, congregations and other interested groups.

Wesley Owen – Australian Christian retailer has bought shop which will continue to serve future needs.

Community Interests Committee – Grant Funding – This committee recommends funding to local Christian community projects. Projects must provide details of their operating status and their financial position – also how they would use small grants on offer. Further info. from convenor or myself.

Margaret Crawford
Presbytery Elder

The Church of Scotland Stewardship and Finance Department

Rev Gordon D Jamieson, Head of Stewardship has asked for this letter to be included in all church magazines.

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND MINISTRIES AND MISSION CONTRIBUTIONS 2010

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Thank you for supporting the worship, mission and service of the Church through the money you give in your offering. It is important that you know what happens to this money. This letter tells you about your congregation's Ministries and Mission Contribution - the money your Congregational Treasurer sends to the Church Offices in Edinburgh. How does it enable the worship, mission and service of the Church?

The information below shows how your congregation's contribution is used to support Parish Ministries, Mission and Renewal, and general support and services provided for congregations and the councils of the General Assembly. Please note that the cost of your minister is not what he/she is paid. This cost is the total for stipend and employer's national insurance and pension contributions, and is based on a minister with ten years' service.

Congregation:	Contribution
GREENOCK: WESTBURN	£90,087
	£78,378

Parish Ministries (87%)

The cost of ministry in your parish is:	£39,100
Your contribution to the cost of ministries in other parishes and training for ministries:	£39,276

Mission and Renewal (5.5%)	£4,955
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This supports the Church's work in resourcing congregations for Christian education and outreach, in caring for the vulnerable in society, in partnership with Church in some of the poorest parts of the world, and in providing a Christian perspective on the issues of today.

Support and Services for Councils and Congregations (7.5%)

This provides financial, legal, safeguarding and other services, and meets the cost of the General Assembly and the Moderator.	£6756
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Please note that Ministries and Mission Contributions only provide part of the total funding required for the work of the Church listed above. A fuller picture is given in the leaflet *Funding our Faith*, which is available free to all congregations.

I hope that this helps you to understand Ministries and Mission Contributions and shows you are enabling the sharing of the gospel through the money your congregation sends *through* the Church Offices to all parts of Scotland and beyond.

Yours sincerely

Gordon O Jamieson
Head of Stewardship

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

BOWLING WAPENSCHAW

Once again this popular social evening is being planned for Saturday 19th June at 6.30 - cost £1

Come along for a fun night of Bowling at the Ardgowan Club. Bowls are available for use. If you wish to play please add your name to the notice posted outside the vestry.

Gilbert McCracken.

A Church Outing is being planned to Millport on Sunday 20th June

The details for the outing are still to be finalised, but it would be after morning worship, meeting at the Millport slipway, to go to the park have a picnic, play games and enjoy fellowship and fun. There would also be time to spend as you please.

You would take your own picnic, but it is hoped to fit in some chips before returning home. More details will be in the Order of Service or contact - Morag McCracken tel:716310 or Lyne Cairns tel: 521619.

SUMMER CEILIDH- FRIDAY 25TH JUNE

A Ceilidh is planned for 25th June in the centre hall, with the usual fish or chicken supper, this is the Friday before Bill Armstrong leaves so come along and enjoy a good social evening. More information will be in the Order of Service.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING - will be on Sunday 27th June.

SAFARI DINNER EVENING – FRIDAY 30TH JULY

Due to many requests, a Safari Dinner Evening is being held in July. The evening is for pairs of people, whether you are a couple or two friends. Each pair hosts one of three courses, we move around for each course and meet with different people throughout the evening. We finish with everybody getting together for coffee.

The cost for the evening is £10 per person, from which expenses are paid. (Any surplus will be donated to our African Projects)

If you would like to participate, please add your name to the sheep posted in the vestibule.

For further information please contact Gilbert McCracken – 01475 716310

VENDA

The fundraising lunch held after morning worship on 28th March was a great success. Many gathered to enjoy soup and a bacon roll, tea and biscuits, enjoy fellowship and generously donate to helping to fund Wavho's ear operations. Collection and general donations was £2,640 (just incredible) and almost £950 from collections which Ian McCrorie organised in St.John's Church and Wellpark Mid Kirk giving the magnificent total of £ 3,590. As well as from Susie, our heartfelt thanks.

Monica and Les McNeill.

Letters from Suzie and Wavho are included.

There is a Web site 'Hope for Limpopo' which gives a detailed School Newsletter, this is very detailed and interesting and can be accessed at www.hopeforlimpopo.org/school/testschool/

Letter from Suzie

Dear Rev Bill and members of the congregation.

I am at a loss for the appropriate words to thank you all for the amazing amount of money that you donated for Wavho's ear operations. When she adopted me at the tender age of two and a half years, I made a pact to give her all the love, the best education and the best medical care I could possibly afford. Thank you for helping me to fulfil the most difficult part of this promise.

My daughter sailed through the first operation, which was made possible by donations from friends, both local and abroad. She astounded the hospital staff and the surgeon with her bravery, bright smile and concern about the other children in her ward. They were also all amazed at her openness regarding her HIV status, and her ward became quite busy as staff and patients came to see and talk to her. Although tired and in some pain, my child smiled and answered questions, and I wanted to burst with pride for this child that I have been blessed with.

The good news is that the 3 small bones in the inner ear had not been affected, which had been our major worry. Last week we went back to the doctor so he could drain the ear, and on a T.V. screen we could see the new eardrum instead of the big gaping hole that he had shown us previously. In 6 weeks time we have to go back to the audiologist to check her hearing levels. He is hopeful we will achieve at least 85% hearing in this ear...

I was hoping to have the first operation on the other ear done in the June/July school holidays but the doctor says this can only be done nearer the end of the year. As this is the worse ear (she only has 22% hearing) it will require 2 operations to replace the eardrum. The money you have all donated will be put into an investment account so we can benefit from the better interest rate. As none of you have probably experienced the services (or lack thereof !!) offered by our local government hospitals, you have no idea what it means for me to be able to admit my child to this great private hospital where she is treated in a clean and sterile environment, and with staff that are compassionate, competent and efficient.

From the bottom of my heart I thank you all.

Suzi

(And from Wavho in her own words)

Dear people from the church

I am thanking you for givin my mother Suzie money for my next operation. I was very nervouse because I though that the opration would be saw, but I dint feel anything. Wen the operation was over I always sleaped because of the medicen they put on me to make me go to sleep. Suzi wa very nervouse and had to sleapt on a chair by my bed. The nurse laufed becos i had to hold her hand . she worris if they maybe hurt me. I didnt cry like the uthur children in my room. I think they had bigger oprations I was very glad getting home to my fish,dogs and my mad cat. Suzi slept a lot and then gardend a lot.I had to take medacin and rest so we did a jigsawa dn watched movies.And on thursday they pulled out my stichis. And almost every day my cut healed.I am going to get my ear draind. And after draining it I will be very happy because I will be able to swimm and I will be doing better at school. I will not worri about the other operations becos i now it does not hurt to much.

And I am very happy that I am going back to school on monday.
Please tell everyone ndo livhuwa (thank you)

Love vuhwvavho(wavho).

BROWNIES

It is nice to welcome another new member, Connie Delussey, to the pack. What a busy year it has been and there are still more activities coming up to celebrate 100 years of guiding. There is the Finnart District evening at Fun World and Division Camp, which unfortunately we are very limited in the number of girls we can take. There is also a limit to the numbers allowed to visit for the day. The evening cruise on the Waverley near the end of June should make a wonderful end to a busy year.

A.McKerlie



TIME FOR PRAYER

In the month of May it is once again time for the annual General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and we pray that in their deliberations the commissioners will once again be guided and enlightened by God's word. One of the memorable moments from last year's Assembly was the address given by Archbishop Desmond Tutu from South Africa. Here is a prayer by Desmond Tutu. It is clear that in this prayer he is referring to features of his own country, but the sentiments expressed are just as valid for Scotland or for any country in which Christian people gather together to pray.

Bless our beautiful land, O Lord,
With its wonderful variety of people,
Of races, cultures and languages.
May we be a nation
Of laughter and joy,
Of justice and reconciliation,
Of peace and unity,
Of compassion, caring and sharing.
We pray this prayer for a true patriotism,
In the powerful name of Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Douglas Scott

WESTBURN THEME TUNE ? -At the last youth service we sang this song, here are the words by popular request

A Place in Westburn

(To the music of "A Place in the Sun")

Like a long lonely stream
I keep runnin' towards a dream
Movin' on, movin' on
Like a branch on a tree
I keep reachin' to be free
Movin' on, movin' on.

'Cause there's a place in Westburn
Where there's hope for ev'ryone
Where my poor restless heart's gotta run.
There's a place in Westburn
And before my life is done
Got to find me a place in Westburn

Like an old dusty road
I get weary from the load.
Movin' on, movin' on
Like this tired troubled earth
I've been rollin' since my birth
Movin' on, movin' on

There's a place in Westburn

Where there's hope for ev'ryone
Where my poor restless heart's gotta run.
There's a place in Westburn
And before my life is done
Got to find me a place in Westburn

You when times are bad
And you're feeling sad
I want you to always remember

There's a place in Westburn
Where there's hope for ev'ryone
Where my poor restless heart's gotta run.
There's a place Westburn
Where there's hope for ev'ryone
Where my poor restless heart's gotta run.
There's a place in Westburn

And before my life is done
Got to find me a place in Westburn

A Heavenly Poem

*I was shocked, confused, bewildered
as I entered Heaven's door.
Not by the beauty of it all,
or the lights or its decor.*

*But it was the folks I saw in Heaven
who made me splutter and gasp --
the thieves, the liars, the sinners,
the alcoholics and the trash.*

*There stood the kid from seventh grade
who swiped my lunch money twice.
Next to him was my old neighbour
who never said anything nice.*

*Bob, who I'd always thought
was rotting away in hell,
was sitting pretty on cloud nine,
looking incredibly well.*

*I nudged Jesus, "What's the deal?
I would love to hear your take.
How'd all these sinners get up here?
God must've made a mistake."*

*"And why is everyone so quiet,
so sombre - give me a clue?"
"Hush child," he said, "they're all in shock.
No one thought they'd be seeing you."*

JUDGE NOT!!

*Remember.....Just going to church doesn't
make you a Christian any more than standing
in your garage makes you a car.*

*Every saint has a PAST....
Every sinner has a FUTURE!*

A GOOD DAY

*Let every day be a good day, a day that leaves behind-
Something to remember and treasure in the mind.
Having done your utmost and tried to play your part –
Lending a hand to someone or warming an empty heart.*

*Let every day be a good day – a day that comes to you –
Bright with opportunity and fresh with morning dew:
A day to live as God intended every day should be –
Radiating happiness and thinking thankfully.*

*Never giving way to doubt, depression or defeat.
Always looking for the best in everyone you meet –
Patient when in trouble, never bitter or upset.
Let every day be a good day, a day you won't regret.*

Patience Strong

From the Roll-Keeper

DEATHS

Mr.	J.	Irvine	43 Robertson St.	2	
Mrs.	M.	Dewar	43 Finnart St.	5	
Mrs.	J.	Galbreath	26 Esplanade	9	
Mrs.	S.	Hunter	8 Skye St.	13	
Mr.	D.	Woods	84 Bawhirley Rd.	19	
Mrs.	T.	McGhie	Balclutha Nursing Home	22	
Miss	G.	Williamson	Marchmount, 1 Alderwood Rd.	22	
Mr.	W..	Burnie	41 Dempster St.		Supp. Roll

NEW MEMBER

Mrs.	E.	Smith	78 Union St	7	from Ardgowan
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CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Mr.	W.	Bain	17 Stewart Hs.	1	from D2
Mr.& Mrs.	C.	Lindsay	17 Kelly St.	7	from D6
Miss	E.	Ballantyne	57 Stafford Rd.	12	from D16
Mrs.	P.	Harris	11 Dunnet Pl.	12	from D2
Mr.	E.	Kane	34 Ardmore View	19	from D18
Mr.	D.	Brown	30 Caledonia Cres., Kingston Dock.	19	from D15
Mr.	R.	Osborne	Kincaid Care Home	22	from D15