

WESTBURN GREENOCK

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Welcome to the Spring Magazine. 2009 is going to be a challenging and changing year for the congregation.

In March we bid farewell to one of our ministers Mr Hewitt as he prepares to take up office as Moderator, and will be away for a year.

During his year of absence the Church of Scotland appoints a replacement. Further details of this and **much more** can be found in the magazine.

If you missed your elder's visit please turn to page 3 for important information.

In May our assistant trainee Barbara Anne will finish her time with us.

In July Mr Hamilton is due to retire .

Certainly a challenging year for Westburn !

It is up to all of us as members to commit ourselves to support the work of this church here in this place to keep continuity and to ensure that Westburn continues to be a warm and welcoming, busy Church.

Are we up for the challenge? --- YES WE ARE !!

The next Magazine material is due by 10th May.

Material to either Cath Barbour or Joe Craig or e-mail Cath at cathbarbour@btconnect.com.

The Magazine team..



WESTBURN GREENOCK

The Manse
67 Forsyth Street
Greenock
January 2009

I recently read an article about some pelicans in California. If you've ever seen pelicans in action, you know they're great fishermen, or fisher-birds. These pelicans were hanging out near a fleet of fishing boats. The fishermen on the boats would pull into the little harbour, and clean the fish right on the spot, throwing the heads and the rest into the water. The pelicans picked up on this, and began eating the leftovers without having to go out fishing. And if you're a pelican, that's good eating. So for weeks, they just sat by the harbour and waited for the fishing boats to come in.

After a while, the fishermen found out they could sell the fish waste, and so they stopped chucking it into the water. The pelicans were caught unprepared. They continued to sit and wait for the fishing boats to come in and throw free food in the water. And they grew thinner and thinner and seemed able to do nothing about their situation.

Wildlife officials came to check out what was going on, and concluded that the pelicans had forgotten how to fish. So what they did was to bring pelicans in from another area to join the flock and teach the starving birds how to fish again

We are called to be disciples spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ but aren't we like the pelicans? We have let others do the work and we have forgotten how to do it. Let us take up again the privilege of witnessing for our Lord by word of mouth and by actions.

I wish Bill and Moira well as they prepare to embark upon Bills' Moderatorial year. You will be constantly in our prayers.

Douglas Hamilton

**INVITATION
TO
"SEND-OFF" FOR MOIRA AND BILL**

You are cordially invited to celebrate Bill's selection as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland on Sunday 1st March, after the morning service and to give him an appropriate "send-off" from Westburn.

This celebration will take place in Greenock Academy with a buffet lunch being served from approx 1-00pm. This is open to everyone in Westburn, young and old alike.

Car Parking is available at the Academy.

The Church bus will be available after the morning service to take people without cars to the Academy and transport will be laid on to take you back home.

For catering purposes we need to know if you will be attending, so please complete the tear-off slip and send to:

*Mr Stuart Robertson 9 Jardine Terrace, Greenock,
RSVP by Sunday 22nd February at the very latest.
Donation plate for buffet available on the day.*

Name:

No. of places reqd.



50 Ardgowan St,
Greenock

January 2009

Dear Friends,

It seems a bit unreal and more than a little terrifying to think that this is the last letter that I will write from the above address for over a year. As they say in many circles, "it seemed a good idea at the time" and as we go further into this year the "good idea" becomes more fretful. I am sure that the year's experience will be wonderful and that Moira and I will meet many interesting and wonderful people as we travel throughout the country and abroad. I now know that I will be in South Africa in the summer and India in December and those who have been to these places will testify of the life changing experience that they can be. For those of you who have access to the Internet, the Church of Scotland website carries a report of the Moderator's diary and you can follow our travels on www.churchofscotland.org.

During my absence the Rev Bill Armstrong recently retired minister of Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay will be the Locum Minister. He will work with Douglas until Douglas retires in the summer and then Bill will look after Westburn until I return next June. I am sure that you will make him as welcome as you do to me and that you will support him in the next year. It is a huge advantage to the Church to have the same person in the pulpit week by week and I am indebted to Bill for taking on this task.

By the summer things will have changed a great deal. As I say Douglas will retire and I am sure there will be more of that at a later date. He has served St George's North and Westburn superbly well over the last 23 years and has been a valued colleague to me over the years we have worked together both at a distance and recently here. I know that it is a bit early but I would want to wish him all health and happiness in his future retirement and we hope that he and Nancy don't move too far away and will keep in contact with us.

Barbara Anne will also leave at the end of May having completed her time with us. She has been a real boon to our worship and to the general life of the congregation. Not only does she have the children eating out of her hand but the ministers and the choir and everyone else she is involved with. Her warm personality shines through everything she does and we wish her well in her future ministry. The Greenock connection will continue with her as she

completes her practical training in Clydebank with Roddy Hamilton, a local boy, son-in-law of Scott and Ann Mills.

As the weeks have gone by I have promised myself that I will really get down to planning this year after Christmas/ New Year/ Neil has gone. All these excuses are now gone and I really do have to try to plan the worship material for the Assembly as well as all the future speaking and writing engagements that await me as soon as the Assembly begins. I know that I will need all the support that I can get, not least the prayer support of this congregation. Previous Moderators have confirmed how they have felt uplifted and carried throughout their year and I know that I can count on your support and look forward already to being able to share with you some of the great moments of the next year.

Thank you for all your good wishes and your prayers

Yours faithfully,

Bill Hewitt Minister

Hello friends!

I couldn't believe it when I got an email from Cath Barbour this week saying that the students normally write a letter for the church magazine. What a shock, I didn't think I would have to do that until I became a minister; but it's amazing how quickly I am becoming like a minister; the dead line for the letter is in a few hours and Cath is just receiving it right at the deadline!

In my first letter I want to say a huge thank you to you all for the warm welcome that I have received at Greenock Westburn Church. Bill and Douglas are just about coping with me and never know what to expect one Sunday to the next and you the members of Westburn are gracious, kind and very, very welcoming. I feel I have become a friend.

And I want to thank God for the blessing of friendship. Friendship is what makes life enjoyable and I am having a very enjoyable time at Westburn (don't tell Bill and Douglas). You know how friends stick together and help each other out; well that will be the case at the family service on 22nd February, I will be needing your help at the end of the service, so be prepared friends!! I don't know who cleans the church but can I say sorry in advance!!!!!!

Every blessing to you and your families

Barbara Ann

Xxxxxxxxxx

A word of thanks

Can I thank you all for the wonderful support that you gave to me at the Coffee Morning held recently. As you know I am on my way to Ekwenedi in Malawi for a six month gap project in the middle of my Medical Degree at University. The sum of £1450 which you raised was absolutely terrific and helps me greatly to finance this project. I am going out through an organisation called World Exchange which is a partnership between the Churches in Scotland and I am going to be working as a volunteer in the Hospital In Ekwenedi helping out wherever, in the main hospital and in field clinics. I am not terribly sure what to expect but I do know that it won't be Ross Hall or even Inverclyde Royal. Last week high winds blew the roofs off several buildings in Ekwenedi including some wards in the hospital and so it may be outdoor clinics more than I imagined. No matter what, I am sure the experience will stand me in good stead when I return to my studies in September. Thank you all once again and I will look forward to sharing my experiences with you in the future.

Neil Hewitt

Pastoral Care Committee

1. **Christmas Café** – the Café was well attended and many thanks to those who donated Christmas pies etc and to the Ladies for providing tea and coffee.
2. **South Africa Projects** – Marianne Knoetze will speak during the Service on Sunday, 1st February 2009. We will present cheques to Marianne to take back to South Africa for Cotlands Baby Sanctuary, the Family Upliftment Centre, the Sunshine Association and Turn the tide 4 Children.
3. **Church Visitors** – the committee are still looking for volunteers to be Church Visitors. If you are interested, please contact Bill Dempster, Ruth Gillies or any member of the Pastoral Care Committee.

4.

The March Communion – as you will already know, there will be no afternoon Communion on Sunday, 1st March, as there is a farewell lunch for Bill & Moira Hewitt after the morning Communion. Elders are being encouraged to ask members who would normally attend the afternoon Communion to attend the morning Service so that as many Member can participate in the lunch. Transport will be available to take folks to the Academy and home afterwards. If you would like to come to the morning Communion and lunch afterwards, please give your name to your District Elder, or contact Bill Dempster on 784317.

Bill Dempster

Life and Work

Life and Work available 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.

FROM THE MISSION GROUP

The Mission Group continue with their services in Royal Court at 3.0'clock on the last Sunday of the month.

On February Douglas Scott will be taking the service.

The service in March will be a Communion Service taken by Mr Hamilton and Barbara Ann Sweetin.

April service will be taken by Jennifer Boag.

John Knox will take May service.

The June service will be taken by the Bible Class.

The Mission Group extend a warm welcome to this short informal service.

If you wish any further information, please speak to **Jim Spence**

GREENOCK & PAISLEY PRESBYTERY PLANNING CONFERENCE

HELD ON 13th JANUARY 2009 at 7.30pm In THE CORNERSTONE BISHOPTON

This Conference was organised by the Presbytery Plan Review Committee. The purpose was to allow Presbytery an opportunity to consider, in more detail than would be possible at an ordinary meeting, two interrelated matters:

a) The relationship of the Third Article Declaratory to parish staffing policy and Presbytery Plans

b) The principals and practice of Presbytery Planning generally.

It was not intended that the Conference be used as a forum for discussing individual cases, airing case-specific grievances or challenging the present Review Committee.

The Conference was conducted in discussion groups that reported back to the Convenor at the end of the evening. The Presbytery Plan Committee is to review these comments and present a Report to a later Presbytery meeting. In summary, the main opinions expressed were:

Article 111

There was a strong feeling that, as a national Church, we had an obligation to maintaining a parish ministry throughout Scotland. It is basic to the Church's understanding of itself that its ministers, office-bearers, and congregations have obligations to the people of the parish who are not members, in addition to the obligations ministers and office-bearers have to congregations. For example, all parishioners are entitled to the services of the parish minister in connection with marriages and funerals.

It was recognised that this principle was placing an increasing burden on ministers particularly in the poorest urban areas and rural parishes.

Presbytery Planning

A previously submitted Discussion Paper highlighted that the first priority for the Committee is to reconcile the Ministries Council allocation of ministry numbers with the Plan's current total of ministry staff. Put crudely, Greenock & Paisley Presbytery is presently 'overstaffed' with 48 ministers being allocated by the Ministries Council compared to 51 in the current Presbytery Plan.

There was recognition of the dangers in forcing prosperous churches, into a union or parish groupings. This could result in a decline in membership and subsequent drop in financial giving's which reduces the availability of funds to deprived areas.

Although necessary to meet the availability of ministers throughout Scotland, it was felt that the policy is one of 'management of decline' rather than that of change and the needs of mission.

The full Discussion Paper submitted by the Presbytery Plan Committee is available for viewing at the end of the Kirk Session Meeting.

Jim Bell

At the time the magazine is being prepared much is being made of ' THE YEAR OF THE HOMECOMING ' where many celebrations and events are planned to mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns. This is an exciting time for many Scots at home and abroad who will take part in these events.

At the same time it is a year of Farewell, but excitement, too. In The Hewitt Manse.

We have already heard from Neil, who is the youngest member of the Hewitt family. He left our Scottish shores on Thursday 22nd January heading to Malawi for six months, to work and gain experience, during his gap year from medical studies. As Neil said he will be working in Ekwendeni, that name should ring a bell with many, as many years ago we held a fund raiser to send money to build a well in Ekwendeni, lets hope Neil finds it and many other wells in good working order.

The congregation had an opportunity to help and support Neil at his recent very successful coffee morning and Neil has already recorded his thanks and appreciation..

Our thoughts and prayers go with Neil and we look forward to hearing how he is getting on and in more detail on his return. Our thoughts were also with Bill and Moira, Rhona and her husband Martin as they said their good-byes.

It is all happening in the Hewitt manse at the moment with further farewells and great excitement as Bill and Moira prepare to leave for Edinburgh early in March as Bill prepares to take up his position as Moderator of The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. (Fortunately for Rhona they are not going to be too far away some of the time)

This is a great honour not only for Bill and Moira but for Westburn and the wider community.

As a congregation we will have a chance on Communion Sunday the 1st March (which will be Bill's last day preaching) to share in the excitement and to extend our good wishes and good luck as we bid them farewell and wish them God's blessing for the year ahead, and as we work together in Westburn to keep

the home fires burning we look forward to hearing from Bill and Moira. As we say farewell in 2009, we say **HASTE YE BACK in 2010**.and in the words of

The Gaelic Blessing
May the road rise to meet you;
May the wind be always at your back;
May the rain fall softly upon your fields
Until we meet again;
May God hold you in the hollow of his hand.

The following article is taken from the Church of Scotland website and gives us more information about our minister and the position of Moderator.

The kirk selects Moderator Designate

The Reverend William Currie Hewitt, Minister of Westburn Church of Scotland, Greenock, is Moderator Designate of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Mr Hewitt, (57), was born in Kilmarnock and educated at Kilmarnock Academy where he was Head Boy in 1968-69. He attended Henderson Church and progressed through Sunday school, Bible Class, and Youth Fellowship into full membership in 1969. Mr Hewitt went on to Strathclyde University to study accountancy before answering the call from God to ministry which had been awakened by his minister sometime previously. He transferred to Glasgow University, graduating BD in 1974 and then did a Post Graduate Diploma in pastoral studies, graduating in 1976. He served for two years as Probationer Assistant at Castlehill Church, Ayr where he was ordained in 1977.



In 1978, Mr Hewitt was called to Elderslie Kirk, then a new union of Elderslie East and Elderslie West, where he served for 16 years. During his ministry, Elderslie Kirk was seen as the focal point of the well defined community and he was involved in community life, as chaplain to the local school, part time chaplain to Elderslie Hospital (Children with severe mental and physical

disability), Merchiston Hospital (adult mental health and part-time chaplain to the Royal Alexandra Hospital. Mr Hewitt was Regional Chaplain to the Girls' Brigade and served on presbytery Committees and national committees of the Church, in particular the Youth Education Committee which provided him with the opportunity to convene the Youth ventures group, arranging activities for 12 - 15 year olds.

Mr Hewitt was called to Greenock: St Luke's, a large town centre church, in 1994. He serves as local primary school and Greenock Academy chaplain, James Watt College chaplain and part time chaplain to Inverclyde Royal Hospital and to Ardgowan Hospice.

In 2000, the five churches in the west end of Greenock agreed to work together towards union. This work continued and, in 2006. St Luke's and their immediate neighbours, St George's North, united as Westburn Church of Scotland. During the last two years, Mr Hewitt and his colleague Rev.Douglas Hamilton have worked hard to cement the union and believe that through worship, teaching and social events, the two congregations are happily working as one.

Wider Church work has included Moderator of Greenock Presbytery and first Moderator of Greenock and Paisley Presbytery.

Mr Hewitt is currently the vice convener of Presbytery Business Committee and convener of Discipline.

In 1993, Mr Hewitt was appointed to the Board of Practice and Procedure where he served for 8 years, becoming Convener of the General Assembly Arrangements Committee and Convener of the Business Committee of the General Assembly. Mr Hewitt has also been a member of the Assembly Council and of the Support and Services Committee.

Outwith the Church, he is a member of the Board of Studies for the Institute of Counselling based in Glasgow.

Mr Hewitt and his wife, Moira, have a daughter and two sons.

In his leisure time, Mr Hewitt enjoys golf, is Past President of Johnstone Rotary Club, a member and Past President of Greenock Burns Club and a frequent

speaker at Burns events which included a trip to Canada to propose the Immortal Memory. Mr Hewitt is currently Précis of the Innerkip Society – a charitable organisation dating back to 1798.

Role and Duties

The role of Moderator of the General Assembly is an honorary one, held for 12 months.

Meetings of the General Assembly are chaired by the Moderator, who leads worship, rules on points of order and signs documents on behalf of the Assembly.

After the Assembly, the Moderator generally travels as a Church representative in Scotland, other parts of the UK and overseas in an ambassadorial capacity.

Every Moderator carries out a series of visits to several Church of Scotland presbyteries as well as undertaking a number of international tours.

Regular features on his/her itinerary are visits to one of the armed forces and a stay in London around St Andrew's Day (30 November), which includes a meeting in Downing Street with the Prime Minister. The Moderator also visits the Scottish Parliament.

The Moderator has two chaplains who assist him or her in preparing for the General Assembly and provide support throughout Assembly week. Where possible, the Moderator's spouse is often invited to accompany him or her on official visits.

A TRIBUTE FROM ISHBEL

BILL

(can be sung to the tune 'Kilmarnock')

We're feeling glad, we're feeling sad,
But proud as proud can be,
That our own Bill right soon will fill
A place in history.

The Moderator o' the Kirk
For Scotland – east and west,
And north and south – our homeland dear
With Bill's words will be blessed.

His sermons reach the hearts of all
His prayers are so sincere,
His jovial wit – all neatly fit
To make him loved and dear.

This year will seem so long for us
Without our Bill, our friend,
We pray that God will guide his steps,
And then Bill homeward send.

Ishbel F. Cooper



TIME FOR PRAYER

“O wad some Pow’r the giffie gie us
To see oursels as others see us!”

It would be salutary for us all if we could gain an insight into what others think of us, and some of us might get a rude awakening. Of equal importance is how we perceive other people. Some poems and songs are composed round our notions or conceptions of people or our understanding of particular qualities. For example, we probably all know the type that builds up a list of qualities after the opening expression: “Love is...”

When we are angry with people, we can probably muster a fine choice of denunciatory expressions for those who have offended us. We are no doubt also adept at finding words to seduce, cajole or flatter when the mood takes us.

One way of praying would be to compile a list of the qualities which we perceive in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus. This is what Johann Freylinghausen, an 18th century German preacher and hymn writer has done in the prayer which I have found for us for this quarter.

Who is like you,
Jesus, sweet Jesus?
You are the light of those that are spiritually lost.
You are the life of those that are spiritually dead.
You are the liberation of those that are imprisoned by guilt.
You are the glory of those who hate themselves.
You are the guardian of those who are paralysed by fear.
You are the guide of those who are bewildered by falsehood.
You are the peace of those who are in turmoil.
You are the prince of those who yearn to be led.
You are the priest of those who seek the truth.

Amen.

Douglas Scott

FIRST FRIDAY GROUP

November brought Linda Megson with “Contemporary Design” as her subject and she certainly showed us a wide range of what current Design students are experiencing not only in Scotland but also across the road at our local college of excellence. Decidedly it was an evening full of light and different slants on what one might think were conventional items of everyday use.

The December meeting caused quite a bit of competition among members who braved the slings and arrows that the evening’s weather brought. The Group were put on the rack of “Fun And Games At The Movies” and certainly seemed to be taken by the extracts from the “Silver Screen”.

The Group’s first-foot was John Cumming who introduced us to the ins and outs of “Credit Crunches” with word and diagrams. We all went home with a “sore heid” – a sure sign of an enjoyable (!) and memorable evening – and plenty of things to ponder on.

The Group looks forward to :

6 February	Neil Weir	“Musical Tastings”
13 March	Barbara-Ann Sweetin	“The Way Ahead”

Group members will make you very welcome when you come along and join us in the Centre Lounge at 7.30 pm. on either , or both, of the above Friday evenings.

Graham Eadie

Here we have yet another good-bye. After some delay for various reasons, Graham is now moving to the Stirling Area in March. His wife Helen has been working in this area since June 2007 and I am sure they are both looking forward to fulfilling their plans, at last!

Graham will be sadly missed from the congregation, he has been a diligent elder, the ‘producer and organiser’ of The First Friday Group, convenor of the Publicity Committee, and can often be seen on a Sunday morning on the sound system.

There is no doubt Graham that you will be missed, but we extend to you and Helen our very best wishes and look forward to seeing you when next in Greenock.

The Guild

I am writing this article for the Spring magazine at the end of January and it must be my age as it seems Christmas and the New Year was ages ago. Of course it is said that time flies by when you are enjoying yourself.

The last 2 meetings of the Guild before Christmas were very enjoyable, we hosted the Greenock Presyterial Council Christmas Celebrations meeting, when all local guilds came together to celebrate the birth of Christ. The meeting was ably led by Moira Hewitt. It was good to get away from the hustle and bustle of the preparations leading up to the festive season and focus on appropriate readings and carols to remind us of the true meaning of Christmas. Our last meeting of 2008 was a Christmas Meal in the hall which all the ladies enjoyed, followed by participating in some games and finishing with singing favourite carols.

Our January meetings have been most informative, we had the pleasure of welcoming Irene Munro back to Westburn when she told us how she was led by God to become a Reader. At our next meeting we had a speaker from Christian Aid telling us about the work the Guild is supporting in Adivasi in Bangladesh. The ladies are always interested in learning about the projects we support.

This year sees the end of the three year strategy "Let's live; body, mind and soul" and the six projects which were selected for the three years.

The amounts raised to date for the projects at the 8 January 2009 are

Borderline Supporting Homeless Scots in London	£119,568.57
Christian Aid Action for the Adivasi – Bangladesh	£62,996.55
CrossReach Beyond the Blues – the Bluebell Project	£109,866.65
The Leprosy Mission Scotland Walking in the Light – Nigeria	£100,409.34

Lydia Project

Miriam: Changing the world together – Eastern Europe £69,120.69

Scottish Love in Action

Touching the Untouchable – India £120,110.16

Giving a grand total to date of £582,071.96.

At the Project Co-ordinators meeting on the 23 April 2009 in Edinburgh the 6 projects for the next 3 years will be announced.

Sandra Downie will be giving a demonstration at the beginning of February titled "Love is in the Air", so gentlemen, be warned perhaps you may receive some special cakes for Valentine's day.

At our last formal meeting of the session we will be entertained by the pupils of Ravenscraig School.

Moira Hewitt's final Presyterial Council meeting, before her leave of absence when she moves to Edinburgh with her husband, has as the guest speaker the MSP Annabel Goldie, a local girl.

Finally on behalf of the guild members I take this opportunity to wish the Rev W C Hewitt, God's blessings and assure him of our support and prayers during his term of office as Moderator and we look forward to hearing about his travels when he returns to Westburn at the end of his term of office.

Patricia Robertson

Guild President



Brownies

The brownies started the season by holding their own Olympics and winning medals that they made themselves. Many of them have also managed to gain their wildlife explorer badge by keeping a record of wildlife seen in their gardens over a certain period and by making bird feeding stations and pooters (boxes for studying bugs in).

A safe fireworks display was held in the hall with the girls making all the sound effects while throwing streamers etc. up in the air.

The Gang Show was another fun night out. On Robert Burns' birthday the pack visited Cornalees and were entertained by a reading of Tam O'Shanter combined with a puppet show. Before leaving to come home there was time to build a snowman and have a snowball fight thanks to the sudden fall of snow the night before.

Anne McKerlie (Guider)



5th Renfrew & Inverclyde Beavers



The Beaver Colony lost two boys to the Cubs just before Christmas but since the end of November and now we gained four more boys and we now stand at nine. Not a big number but going in the right direction. The numbers may be low but the noise doesn't seem to have diminished! Boy, can they make a noise, but at least they're having fun and expending energy, just as kids of that age should. They are very enthusiastic and they seems to be not at all bothered by they're low numbers. A positive from this is they get to know each other better than with a bigger group. Every cloud has a silver lining!

We'll be running another recruitment campaign shortly but if you know of any girls and boys of six to seven age group who would be interested in joining us and enjoying the company of other kids the same age, please encourage them to come along. It's good to have kids coming to organisations run in our halls, regardless of background, to give them an outlet to express themselves other than television or the multitude of computer games currently available. It also gives them a 'foot in the door' of our Church and who knows where that might lead!

In the meantime I hope everyone has recovered from Christmas and New Year (the recovery gets longer every year, for me anyway) and is looking forward to Easter which isn't far away.

Yours in Scouting,

Ricky Martin (and leaders)

T5th GREENOCK AND DISTRICT CUB SCOUTS

The Cubs have been busy since last time!

We thoroughly enjoyed our outing to the Gang Show at the end of November and then had a great time at the District Christmas Party held in Port Glasgow Town Hall at the end of December.

We have had a quieter time in January; our new recruits are settling in nicely and enjoying their time as Cubs.

We hope to visit the Police Station some time soon and also have a Pack Holiday at Everton Lodge in March.

If you know of anyone (boy or girl) who would like to 'be a Cub' please bring them along to the Youth Hall on a Friday evening, we are there from 7.30pm till 9pm, they must be aged 8, 9 or 10 years of age.

Maureen Bain

Through the window

A young couple moves into a new neighbourhood. The first morning, while they are eating breakfast, the young woman sees her neighbour hanging her washing outside.

"That laundry is not very clean," she said "She doesn't know how to wash correctly, perhaps she needs better washing powder."

Her husband looks on, but remained silent. Every time her neighbour would hang her washing to dry, the young woman would make the same comments.

About a month later, the woman was surprised to see a nice clean washing on the line and said to her husband, "look, she has learned to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this ?"

Her husband said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows!"

And so it is with life. What we see when watching others depends on the purity of the window through which we look.

(and this one taken from Lifetimes the magazine for Christian living)

Important Question

During my second month of nursing school, our professor gave us a quiz. I was a conscientious student and breezed through the questions, until the last. "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?" Surely this was a joke. I had seen her several times, she was tall, blond and in her fifties, but how would I know her name? I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Before class ended one student asked if the last question would count. Absolutely, said the professor. "In your careers you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say hello."

I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

From the Roll-keeper

Deaths

Mrs.	E.	Carter	19a Patrick St.	1
Miss	J.	Sinclair	12 Kilblain Ct.	1
Miss	M.W.	Todd	F14 , Bagatelle Ct.	8
Mr.	R.	Williamson	17 Ashton Rd.	11
Mrs.	C.	Bruce	F1/3, 7 James Watt Way	19
Mr.	J.	Brown	19 Sir Gabriel Wood Ct.	20
Mrs.	N.	Dempsey	Belleaire	22
Mrs.	N.	Davis	Merino Ct. Nursing Home	22
Mr.	D.	Gray	Glenfield	22
Mrs.		Campbell	30 Nelson St.	30
Mrs.		Munroe	10 Briar Pl.	30

Disjunctions

Mrs. N.	Jackson	2 Katrine Rd.	WB	to Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay
Mrs. J.	McCathie	106 Newark St.		to Old West
Mr&Mrs A	Paul	106 Newark St.		to Old West

Changes of Address

Mr. B.	Dunnet	126 Newton St.		4	from D11
Mr & Mrs I. & Miss T.	Howe	F7, St.Andrew's Ct. 46b Ardgowan St.		6	from D5
Mrs. J.	Abdulrahim	36 Eldon St.		7	from D30
Mrs. R.	Tipling	2 Lyle Rd.		9	from D12
Mr.&MrsJ.	Anderson	103 Rankin Ct.		14	from D12
Mrs. J.	Heron	F16, JGH, 2 Duncan St.		18	from D16
Mr. S.	Hutton	32 Orchard Cres., Kingston Dock		19	from D4
Mrs. J.	Branchfield	17 Dixon Av. DUNOON		21	from D15
Mr C.	Mwenebungu*	F22, 17 Ripon Dr.			
Mrs. Y.	Gondwe	* GLASGOW		21	from D17
Mr J.	Heron	Larkfield Unit		22	from D16
Miss M.	MacLachlan	Glenfield		22	from D16
Mrs. P.	Robb	64 Killochend Dr.		30	from D14

A POINT TO PONDER

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed
Or are you just contented, that your name is on the list.

Do you attend our worship and mingle with the flock
Or do just stay away and criticise and mock

Do you ever go and visit a member who is sick
Or leave the job to just a few, and talk about the clique.

Come to the church more often and help with hand and heart
Don't be just a member, but take an active part.

Think this over my friend, for you know right from wrong
Are you an active member or do you just belong?

Won't you pause for just a moment to give this matter thought
The Success here in Westburn, depends on your support.

The Magazine Committree's Lament

If we've put you in, be happy
If we've left you out be sad
If you didn't meet the deadline
We bet you're really mad
But never mind, me dearies
Perfection is divine
There's always the summer issue
We'll get it right next time.