

THE RECORD



September 2022



A Word from Gillian Rooney



I hope by the time you read this that you will have had some sort of break over the summer months.

I was able to go with the family to our caravan for a week at the start of the school holidays in late June, and then towards the end of July we went down south to visit family near to Manchester.

Although it has been the holidays, the church has not been quiet: we tried Café Church each Sunday during the summer and the feedback was, in the main, positive. The relaxed atmosphere encouraged discussion amongst the attendees and we all learned a new song and dance “great great brill brill” anyone?

At the start of June we enjoyed a fabulous garden party where around 200 people attended a barbeque to mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. This was a roaring success, and we were blessed with wonderful weather, good food and company.

In August, the week before the schools returned, our Summer Club took place and was attended by healthy numbers of primary school children. In the evenings, those at secondary school thoroughly enjoyed CHIPS with its Ninja Warrior and Total Wipeout courses – as well as speakers who caught the children’s attention.

As we move into the autumn, we look forward to trying new things for Sunday School, starting a monthly youth club, the continued development of Orchard Tots, the Cosy Café (both in the church and in Woodfarm High School) and, of course, the café on a Tuesday and Thursday in the church for all.

The presbytery planning process continues to move on, and we look forward to working more closely with the other churches in our cluster, as the way ahead becomes clearer.

I am hopeful that there are exciting times ahead for us all.

Yours in Christ

Gillian

Church Garden and Grounds

Following on from the Lenten /Easter Garden project, the peace garden acquired a “tree”. This was decorated in the colours of Ukraine, and members and friends of Orchardhill, and the local community, were invited to write a message of support on a label to tie on the tree. There are still labels available for those who have not yet participated.

Sunflowers were grown for the peace garden, a display around the Memorial Hall, and for the front of the church, where Giffnock residents tell me that they lift their heart as they turn into Church Road. We were able to give a sunflower seedling to all the children in Giffnock nursery and held a ‘pop up’ event on Saturday 28th May, when donations were accepted for sunflower seedlings, and coffee was enjoyed. The sum of £259.71 was raised for Ukraine.

Thanks are due to all who saved yoghurt cartons, the large group who sowed and maintained the sunflowers, and others who helped in a variety of ways. Particular thanks go to Giffnock Community Hub at Orchardhill for all their sterling work, including refurbishment of the church benches, and, to our excellent coffee makers.

The sunflower display is coming to an end now, but work continues in the church grounds. Shrubs are being cut back to allow better visibility when exiting from the lower car park. Similarly, the laurel beside the steps between the two car parks will be reduced in height, allowing the floodlight placed on the Memorial hall to illuminate the upper car park sufficiently. Seeded Sycamores will be removed, and the trees on Church Road and Rosslea Drive will receive attention after leaf fall. The hedge bordering Church Road and Claremount Avenue will be cut back in the dormant season between autumn and early spring. Thereafter, it will be trimmed lightly and informally, in order that flower and berry formation is not compromised.

So far, grant applications for water butts have been unsuccessful. It is hoped that we can find some way of securing large water butts to store winter rainfall. This would make watering the peace garden area much easier and would help us move toward the Church of Scotland’s target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

The next general garden work party will be held on Saturday 1 October. If you are able to help, please give your name to Carol – Anne.

Changes to The Record

Members and friends of Orchardhill are reminded that the Record will now be published on a quarterly basis, rather than monthly, with issues in September, December, March and June.

Arrangements have been made for weekly E-news, under the Sway Office heading, to be made available to all those for whom we have an e-mail address, so that updates on Church activities and plans will now be more immediately accessible.

We hope to expand the new quarterly Records to report all that has gone on in the preceding 3 months, and will welcome any relevant contributions at record-team@orchardhill.org.uk. These could include graduation news, interviews of Church people for their life stories, and items of general interest.

Life and Work September 2022

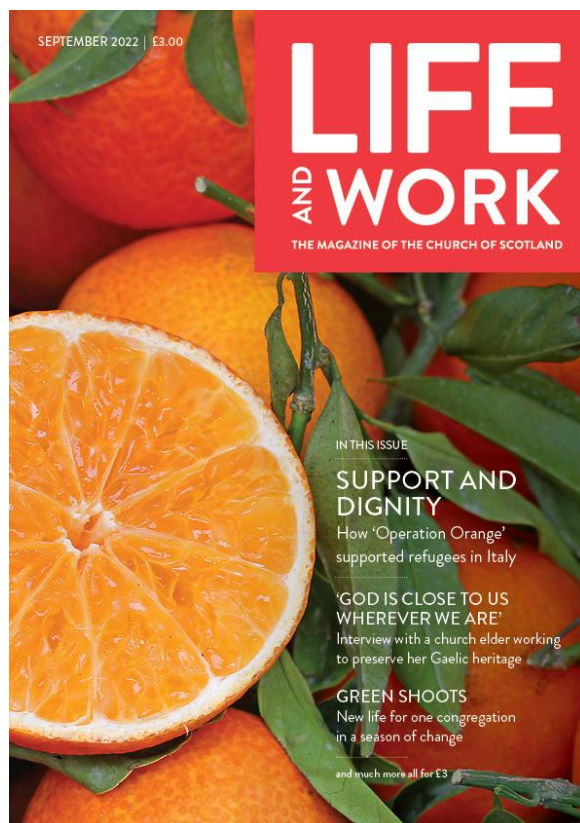
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

SUPPORT AND DIGNITY How 'Operation Orange' supported refugees in Italy.

GOD IS CLOSE TO US WHEREVER WE ARE
Interview with a church elder working to preserve her Gaelic heritage.

GREEN SHOOTS New life for one congregation in a season of change.

And much more across 52 pages.



Walk and Talk

Walking for whatever reason, is more enjoyable with someone else. Walking and talking is a great way to communicate with family, friends, and also with God.

The point is that we are doing two things at the same time. We are not just taking exercise or travelling. As we walk together, we are in communion with one another. Both Enoch and Noah 'walked with God' (Genesis 5:24; 6:9). They didn't just sit, kneel or stand with God (the kind of actions we would often associate with spending time with God), but they were also in *communion* with God when doing something else. While you are doing other things – working, eating, exercising or relaxing – you can be in communion with God at the same time.

Personally, I also find it the best way to pray. This has been my pattern for the last few years. After reading the Bible each day, I go out and walk around our local park – which is almost deserted early in the morning. I note down anything I sense the Holy Spirit saying as I pray. You can pray as you walk to the bus stop or walk from one activity to the next. Talk as you walk.

The Bible has a great deal to say about walking with God. It is how you were intended to live. God's desire for you is that you *walk humbly* in a relationship with him (Micah 6:8). This is what Jesus has made possible – for you to *walk as Jesus did* (1 John 2:6). You may stumble from time to time, but one day you will *walk with him* 'dressed in white' (Revelation 3:4)



Orchardhill Morning Summer Club 2022

The week before the schools went back Indiana Jones strapped his bag to his side and placed his hat on his head as he joined us at the 2022 Orchardhill Morning Summer Club – At the Movies....Most mornings between 50 & 60 primary school children joined in games, crafts, bible stories and activities – not to forget breakfast and songs – including one especially written for us by David Fisher to the tune Raiders of the Lost Ark.

A selection of photos below shows the fun that was had, and I would like to thank all those who helped in so many ways.

Fiona Carmichael





CHIPS Summer Café 2022

After a 2 year hiatus due to COVID, we were delighted to deliver a full 5 night programme of CHIPS cafe .

Over 20 local young people of secondary school age came along each night and participated in games, activities, songs and tuck shop - as well as listening to our nightly speakers.

The theme for this year was TV programmes. On Monday everyone enjoyed "The Ultimate Gameshow." "The Chrystal maze" saw the children crack 6 codes to unlock their escape box. Whilst on Tuesday "Ninja warriors" saw them tackle an inflatable assault course the size of the main hall!! On Wednesday, showstopper creations were produced for the "Great Chips Bake off", and on Friday we headed to Huntly Park for "Total Wipeout" and a BBQ.

We invited guest speakers to come along each night - who all educated, entertained and challenged the group in many different ways. Coincidentally they also all encouraged the teenagers to seek out adventure near and far, on their journey with God.

The week would not have been possible without the dedicated team who assisted in the planning, set up, and delivery of CHIPS Cafe and, of course, the many members of the church staff and congregation who provided both practical and spiritual backup.

We are looking for new members to join the planning team for 2023, so if you think you can assist in any way please contact Gillian Brogan on gilly_bean75@hotmail.com

The Black Door Shop

As the community starts to venture out more we are seeing footfall on a Saturday morning increase, with a few people coming in to look at the items on our shelves. From speaking to them we know they come from Thornliebank, Giffnock and Newton Mearns.

We have been fortunate to have had the assistance of four young people and their parents, who have helped clean the items on the shelves and prepare them for their next life journey. The young people earn Saltire Hours when they are with us. This is a Volunteer Program run via the Scottish Government and Local Authority, and Stephen Bennett is an authorised issuer of certificates, which are available at various hours.

Open Invitation

You will be very welcome to pop in on a Saturday morning to see for yourself how busy it is, with cars arriving from 10am filled with donations. It is remarkable and humbling for us to be part of this venture helping those in need. Once you see for yourself, you may be inclined to pop in and become involved in receiving the items.

Donations

We continue to be well supported by the communities around us, with donations each week which take two or three van trips to convey them to Maslows Refugee Centre in Govan. It is now not possible to keep the donations in the shop area, so we have had to make use of the space under the hall for temporary storage. The van comes on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week.

On Saturday we start with a floor mat 4mtrs square empty, and by 3pm it looks like the image below.



Litter

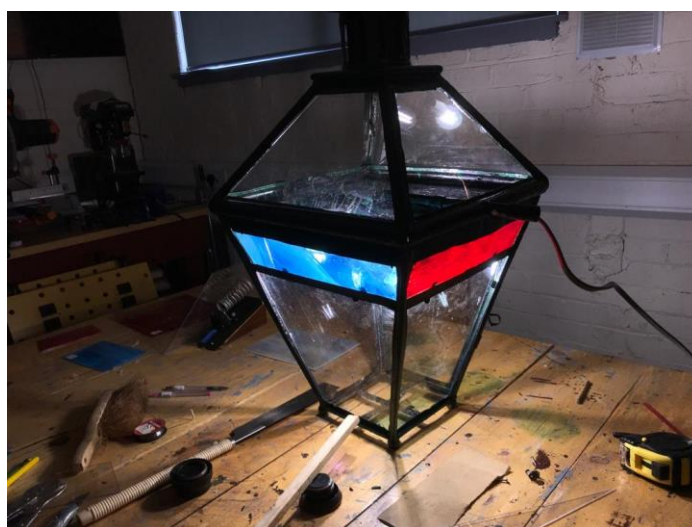
A party of litter collectors leave the workshop every Saturday around 8am, and lift from 4 - 6 bags of litter for the streets around the church covering Fenwick Road, The Library Car Park, the Bill Board at Lidl and return. The Local Authority collects the filled bags at the start of the week. You are welcome to join us on this venture or to go out at other times.

Below are some of the BB Boys promoting litter picking in the Community.



Workshop Area

The 100 year old lamp that was fitted at the rear door of the Church Hall is almost ready to be repositioned, having been subjected to a bit of TLC. It now has 4 LED lamps fitted rather than when it was new, when it had a gas lamp.



We continue to make planters to order and here are a few that we have made.



We have supplied our planters, as you will see, to well beyond our doorstep with one client being Drumchapel Tennis Club, and to two homes in Old Kilpatrick, with the other being more local. If you would like a planter of any size or shape please let us know.

We are available on Saturdays from 8am till around 2pm if you would like to pop in for a chat and a cuppa. During the week you are likely to find us in as well, to service the filling of the vans and get donations in.

Help is always wanted and if you like having a chat and could help by sorting out the donations, checking they were labelled with what is in the bag, you will be very welcome.

Many thanks for taking the time to read about the community outreach at Orchardhill via the Black Door Shop and Orchardhill Community Hub.

Kind Regards
Stephen Bennett
Captain
86th Glasgow Boys' Brigade
bb@orchardhill.org.uk

Platinum Jubilee

On Thursday the 2nd of June we held a barbeque garden party to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The food and drink was plentiful and there was a bouncy castle and games for the children.

Over the day we had in excess of 200 people who attended from within the church and the wider community.

The glorious weather helped to make the event a memorable occasion.



In the evening we were led by our choir in a Platinum Jubilee Thanksgiving service, which was also well attended, and the day was rounded off with a cup of tea and plenty of chat.



Congregational Roll

Baptisms

Leo Mancini

Cathy Tyson

New Members

Cathy Tyson (by Profession of Faith)

Alex Cleland

Date for your diary

Orchardhill Parish Church is delighted to host Radio 4's flagship political panel show Any Questions?

Friday 21 October from 7.00pm



The poster features the BBC Radio 4 logo at the top left, with the frequency 92-95 FM below it. The title 'Any Questions?' is prominently displayed in a large, bold, blue font. Below the title, a paragraph of text describes the show: 'It's your chance to ask a question and influence the debate with BBC Radio 4's Any Questions? Any Questions? follows the 8pm News every Friday. On Saturdays Any Questions? is repeated after the One O'Clock News and is followed by Any Answers? If you have any comments for Any Answers? please call 03700 16 144.' The website 'bbc.co.uk/radio4' is listed below this text. A large, red, diagonal stamp reading 'TICKETS COMING SOON' is overlaid across the center of the poster. At the bottom, the live location is given as 'Orchardhill Parish Church, Church Road, Giffnock, G46 6JR'. The date 'Friday 21 October 2022' is printed, followed by a line for the start time 'On: ... (Doors open from 6.45-7.15pm)'.

BBC RADIO 4
92-95 FM

Any Questions?

It's your chance to ask a question and influence the debate with BBC Radio 4's Any Questions?

Any Questions? follows the 8pm News every Friday. On Saturdays Any Questions? is repeated after the One O'Clock News and is followed by Any Answers? If you have any comments for Any Answers? please call 03700 16 144.

bbc.co.uk/radio4

TICKETS COMING SOON

Live from: Orchardhill Parish Church, Church Road, Giffnock, G46 6JR

On: Friday 21 October 2022 (Doors open from 6.45-7.15pm)



At Orchardhill



More fun was had back at Messy Church when we learnt about the emergency services and what we can all do to help each other. It was great to learn new songs, a grace, a benediction and there was a lovely pasta dinner for everyone.

Next Messy Church is Friday 30th September 4-6pm— it would be lovely to see you and your family there

Orchardhill Parish Church, Church Road, Giffnock Glasgow G46 6JR
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email: secretary@orchardhill.org.uk

Orchardhill Parish Church: Scottish Charity number SC 009774