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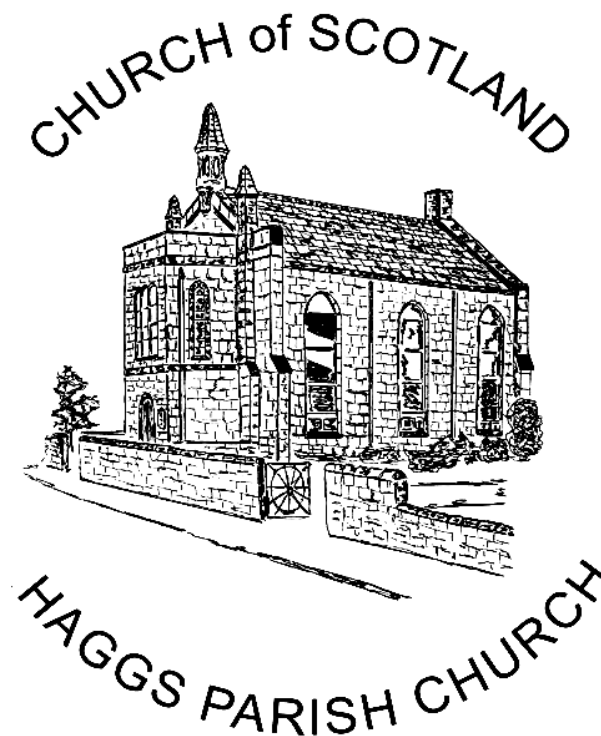
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The Link

The Magazine of Haggs Parish Church

Autumn 2012

**Autumn 2012
Haggs Manse**

Hi folks

*'Go forth and tell! O Church of God arise
Go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;
Go till all nations His great name adore
and serve Him, Lord and King for evermore'*

Yesterday I was in Dundee to attend the annual meeting of the Church of Scotland Guild. The meeting was once more in the Caird Hall and was well attended with the sound of wonderful singing. This year we will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Guild and we were reminded of the Guild motto “Whose we are and whom we serve”.

The theme for the meeting was “**Go tell**” and the verse quoted at the beginning of my letter was the very last verse of the hymn sung at the close of worship. The Guild with their focus on Worship, Prayer and Action can be an inspiration to us all in the Church.

For a number of years now the Guild has supported six different projects in a three year cycle; the support being given by learning more about the projects, praying for those involved and helping to change lives with the money donated. We were told on Saturday that the money raised over the last three year cycle was nearly £800,000. They are beginning a new cycle with new projects and with the new theme “**Go tell**” a reminder to us of our commission **to go tell the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ**.

As all our organisations begin again after the Summer break hopefully refreshed if not suntanned let us remember that a way of telling the Good News of our Lord Jesus is by living it out in our lives. Let us be there for our families and our communities showing God's love in our caring for one another.

God bless you all
Helen F Christie

Editorial

It has been a summer of Olympic Games. What effort and hard work has gone in to the striving for medals by the players in all fields. Did you notice just how often some of the winners thanked the Lord for their success? It was good to see.

We get our strength from the Lord to do what we have to do whether it is to run a race or get through an illness or bear the grief of losing a loved one – He is with us, if we believe. He is there with us, waiting on us to share our sorrow or gladness, giving us strength and guidance if only we ask. Let's not forget that!

The weather this summer has been rather mixed and when the sun came out we enjoyed it's warmth as did the garden and fields. The crops need the rain just like us and when it does not come it causes terrible problems and when it comes in excess it causes even more problems! But again let us thank the Lord for this climate of ours and let us strive to keep it 'green' for future generations by doing everything we can to re-use and recycle.

Talking of 'cycles' the school children are back in school and the organisations are beginning again and life will settle in to its autumn/winter routine. Give your support and prayers for the leaders of our organisations as they strive to give enjoyment and knowledge to our young folks. And may God go with you wherever you go.

Jean McCheyne

Résumé of our Stewardship Season– June 2012

First of all, thank you to everyone who supported our stewardship season.

As planned we had a number of events.

10th June: Informal communion

16th June: Exhibition and display of church activities and gift day in Church

17th June: We enjoyed our early service at Bankier community wing, preceded by continental breakfast. We also welcomed 2 new members at our 11.0 am service.

24th June: Our thanksgiving service included a baptism, the presentation of Sunday Club awards and a presentation to Morag Wales for long service to the junior Section of the Boys Brigade. The service was followed by a celebration lunch in the hall.

June was a busy month encompassing many aspects of stewardship, not just money.

However, our gift day raised £1010.50p and thanks to all who contributed. On the day about 30 people came to church to see the displays and have a cuppa. In total we received 49 envelopes which represents about a quarter of the number of households that make up our congregational roll. Approximately one third of which was gift aided which enables your church to increase the gift by 25% when tax is reclaimed from Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs. A little disappointing however that 75 % of the households on the roll did not feel able to contribute to help secure the Church's financial wellbeing. Please note that it is never too late to contribute, if you wish.

Our early service at Bankier was well received by those who attended. Again a small number – about 30 came along. A special thank you to all who took part, prepared the breakfast and who came along to support this new venture.

Thank you to the organising team, to the organisation representatives who prepared the displays in church, to the ladies who organised the food and the celebration lunch, to the musicians at the Bankier service and to our Minister for leading our worship and activities through the month.

Really, just a huge thank you to all who helped in any way to plan, organise, lead and support our stewardship season.

The early morning service, preceded by continental breakfast, at Bankier School community wing is to be repeated on 16th September to again provide an opportunity for fellowship and worship for those who find it difficult to attend the 11.00am service at Hags Parish Church.

Murray McCheyne 2nd August 2012

Christian Aid

We were able to send the magnificent sum of £ 2,548.30 to Christian Aid this summer following the Christian Aid week collection, Bridge Cross Walk and Lunch. We would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way to raising this donation.

As we celebrate harvest this autumn we will be thinking again of those people in West Africa who are experiencing a drought crisis that has left 19 million people in desperate need. In Mali families fleeing from fighting between rebel troops and the government are arriving in communities already in the grip of severe hunger. There is simply not enough food to go around.

With more than 4 million children at risk, Christian Aid urgently needs help to provide food and water.

Although our farmers have experienced a difficult harvest this year, due to the excessively rainy spring and early summer, our families will still have food to eat. Please think of those families in other parts of the World who are not as fortunate and remember them in your prayers and give generously to Christian Aid at the Harvest Lunch.

Christian Aid is also supporting a campaign on behalf of millions of landless Indian people who are living in poverty. The climax will see 100,000 landless people, many barefoot, marching for a month this autumn from Gwalior (near the Taj Mahal) to Delhi, in one of the biggest non-violent campaigns that the world has ever witnessed. It is estimated that access to land could lift 400 million people out of poverty as they would then be able to grow food for their own families. It is an issue of profound injustice.

Thanks for your continued support,

Sue Storrar & Jean McCheyne

Yoga

General yoga classes have restarted in the Church Hall on a Thursday evening from 7.00-8.15pm.

The term 'yoga' means the yoking together of the body, mind and spirit so the whole person can stay fit, focussed and relaxed. Yoga practice concentrates on living well today as regrets over the past are useless, as are fantasies about the future. Today is the reality you can do something about, today you can act.

So come along and try yoga and find out if it can help you.

Please contact Sue Storrar (01324-840757) for more details.

The Sunday Club

We begin our new session on Sunday 26th August.

The programme has been made up and the leaders are looking forward to the new session all we need is **YOU**.

Last year the Sunday club members made a spring banner and another is planned so get your thinking caps on.

We had a great outing to the Safari Park when the sun shone for us. None of the leaders or children were fed to the lions and all returned home safely, tired out but happy.

Shona Laird. (Leader)

The Guild

The Guild Dedication Service will be held in Sunday 30th September in the Church at the morning Service.

The opening meeting will be on Monday 1st October at 2.00 pm in the Church Hall.

It is hoped that all members will be able to attend both these meetings.

The Guild did not have an outing this year because transport is too expensive, however all members enjoyed a lunch in the Railway Inn on Monday 28th May.

The Caird Hall in Dundee is once again the venue for the Annual Meeting of the Church of Scotland Guild on Saturday 25th of August at 10.30 am.

The Hall is a truly splendid venue which gives you a tremendous sense of occasion and atmosphere for all the highlights of the Guild year.

Four Guild members will be attending this meeting and a video purchased so that our members can enjoy the proceedings at a later date.

This year the Guild celebrates 125 years since its formation in 1887 agreed by the General Assembly.

This year's theme is "A Faith to Proclaim" and the following years is "A Fellowship to Build" and lastly "A World to Serve".

The Guild Syllabus has been compiled and we will be having a varied programme during the forthcoming months.

Bea Miller

1st Haggs Boys Brigade

The new session of the Boys Brigade will start on the following dates.

The Anchor Boys commence on Tuesday 4th September 2012 in Bankier Primary – (6.00 – 7.00 pm).

The Junior Section commence on Tuesday 4th September 2012 in Bankier Primary – (7.00 – 9.00 pm).

The Company Section commence on Friday 7th September 2012 in Bankier Primary – (7.45 - 9.45 pm).

For further information contact Ernie Firth on: 01324 840460.

All new boys most welcome.

Ernie Firth

A Quiz for Everyone

1. How many gold medals did Team GB win?
2. How many medals did team GB win in total?
3. How many rings make up the Olympic symbol?
4. What do the rings symbolize?
5. What are the colours of the Olympic rings?
6. How often are the Olympic Games held?
7. When will the next Olympics be staged?
8. Where will they be held?
9. Where will the Commonwealth Games be held?
10. When will they be held?

Answers to quiz on second back page

1st Haggs Junior Section Camp to Girvan North Church. 1st to 3rd June, 2012.

Our B.B. family arrived in Girvan on Friday around 8.30pm for our 32nd week-end camp with a special Jubilee theme. After setting up the halls, squads and bunting, the boys had a walk round Girvan while supper was being prepared. Then the “must have” hot dogs were served, along with all the home baking lovingly prepared for us by parents and friends, followed by a team quiz to gain points for the squad competition, which would last throughout the week-end, organized by our young officers. Then a few games and into the sleeping bags for a good night’s rest.

Saturday dawned, and the boys were up early. After breakfast, they went to the park to play football and other games, then back for lunch. The weather was very kind to us but as it was a little on the windy side, we had lunch in the hall instead of at the front as planned. After this, the sun really did come out and the boys made for the beach, playing in the sand and some even paddling in the ice cold water. Girvan now boasts a brand new play park on the front and time was spent there too while we sat and enjoyed the sunshine.

Our evening meal was a barbecue followed by, make your own knickerbocker glory, then more quizzes and down to the town to the arcades and back for lots of team games in the Church hall and supper for us all. As they were very tired, the boys slept early and then we enjoyed some officer time and reminisced over the past 32 years we had been at Girvan.

After Sunday breakfast, we attended the Church service and then had our, much looked forward to, Jubilee lunch. We sang the National anthem and toasted the Queen in blue lemonade. We had a special union flag cake with a flag in it, jubilee crackers, which contained crowns and questions about the Queen, skipped hats with the union flag on them and anything else that had the party theme, even jubilee red, white and blue lollipops.

We came home around 6pm on Sunday, tired but happy. I was very sad that it was my last camp, as was David, one of our young men who is off to university in Edinburgh. As they left for home they were given a Jubilee mug as a reminder of the fun we had at Girvan.

The new session starts on 4th September, so if you know any boys in primaries 4, 5, or 6 please encourage them to come along.

Morag Wales.

Winning the Race

Have you been watching the Olympics? What an achievement for these sportsmen and women to win Bronze, Silver or Gold medals but we have to remember the ones who competed and tried their best but did not win a medal.

It was the taking part in the Olympics that mattered. The men and women had trained for years and would have loved to have won a medal but there was only to be one winner.

As you return to school after the summer take a lead from them and work hard to the best of your ability to reach your goal.
See: Philippians Chapter 3 v12-14.

Carpet Bowling

The Carpet Bowling will resume after the summer recess on Wednesday 29th August at 12.30 pm in the Church Hall.

The Members had a successive outing to St Andrews on the 16th May, the weather was beautiful and the shops were inviting, at 4.30 pm the members re-joined the bus to be taken to Anstruther for tea and then a lovely run home in the evening sunshine.

We are always trying to recruit new members, so do come along and enjoy a fun afternoon and a lovely “cuppa”.

Bea Miller

Answers to Quiz

1. 29 gold
2. 65 (29 gold, 17 silver, 19 bronze)
3. 5
4. The five continents of the World
5. Red, black, blue, green and yellow
6. Usually every four years
7. 2016
8. Rio de Janeiro. Brazil
9. Glasgow Scotland 11.29
10. 2014

Baptisms

“Suffer little children to come unto me”

24 June Rhys Stirling McNiven
1 July Logan James Cochrane
12 Aug Hope Leah Sharon McMichael

Marriages

“Whom God has joined together”

11 May Anna MacKay to Gordon Drummond
25 Nadine Allam to David Brown
10 June Linda Paterson to Neil Scott
30 Ann Hamilton to Douglas Watson
16 July Lisa Singleton to Stephen Blackwood
22 Gayle Harris to Derek Minnis
3 Aug Jaclyn McIlvogue to Steven Pavia
19 Gillian Kelso to Layton Monteith

Deaths

'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord'

May Mr William McGonigle . Bonnybridge
Mrs Margaret Forrest Camelon
Miss Agnes Marshall Dennyloanhead
Mrs Martha Wilson Bonnybridge
Mr George Binnie Longcroft

June Mrs Margaret Haining ... Bonnybridge
Mrs Helen Ure Dennyloanhead
Mr John Tuddenham Banknock

July Mr James Duncan Stoneywood
Mrs Daisy Dance Banknock
Mrs Mabel Glass Carron
Mr Hamish Black Allandale

Aug Mr William Rankine Dennyloanhead
Mrs Catherine McIlroy .. Banknock
Baby O'Donnell Bannockburn