



# *Tidings*



*September 2015*  
*Harvest*

Dear Friends

The middle of summer is upon us and hopefully, we can look forward to some weeks of warmth and even sunshine!

I remember when I was in Paisley, that there was an accent, in the time I am writing this letter, that it was “Greenock Fair”, followed by “Glasgow Fair”, then “Paisley Fair” and so the summer was laid out and I am sure there are comparable times in each area that can be applied.

Now in this time of holidays all year round, the old values don’t present in the same way, given there are a number who would choose what has been, still will remain and not just in holidays!

I am sure that, generationally, we all are in that boat. I have heard older people saying that they would not like to be a young person in this day and age and conversely, I hear the young folk, enthusing about the progress of the age which affords them the opportunity to look forward.

The “looking forward” is what it is all about and, while I am aware that there are folk who, for good reason, don’t want to do that, there are others who can’t wait to move on, so yet again, there are divergences in outlook and we all are part and parcel of that.

So, where are you and where am I?

That is a question that only can be answered in a singular, personal sense, but if the faith we have is rooted and grounded as it should be, then we can, with some positiveness, answer the question.

I know that there times when it is not summer in many lives, given the vagaries that we have to face. I know that there are times when the negative seems to outweigh the positive and often, there are good reasons for people being and feeling like that.

I never can subscribe to “pie in the sky” religion, because that is without base and substance, but I can offer to those who seek and this indeed, is a task for us all, the absolute assurance that the presence of God always is there for us all, even, or maybe particularly in the duller and less “summery” days.

It is to that we cling and it is in the strength of that we can look forward and so, not just in physical terms, but in the faith, let’s enjoy brightness and in that brightness, let us have hope, going on in the strength of the One who gave his all on Calvary on his darkest day, that the light of resurrection through love and in hope might be for all who would follow him.

Have a good summer and let’s all look forward in faith to what the next few months hold for us as God’s people.

Sincerely

*Norman*



## Crèche

A crèche is held in the Church Halls every Sunday from 10.30am until the end of the Church Service. If you would like to have a baby or a young child looked after during this time please come and see us in the room next to the Office.

*Catherine Southgate*



## Sunday Live!

Prize giving took place on Sunday 21 June and we trust our young congregation are enjoying their summer reading. Staff were rewarded with a special book prize for their enjoyment. We didn't forget the Minister either. His book prize was for perfect attendance!!

The start of the new session will be dependent on the works going on in the Church and the availability of space in the halls. Notice will be given in good time. We have in place new teaching material "Spill the Beans" to further the Christian education of our young people. We are rarin' to go!!

*Sandy Messer*

## 1970 Ladies' Club

The new session will begin on 10<sup>th</sup> September with a wide variety of speakers and topics.

10 September	Joyce Grenfell Impressions - Yvonne Warring
24 September	Glasgow Cathedral - Cameron Merrieweather
8 October	45 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner
22 October	A talk by Alasdair Gordon
5 November	Colour and Music - Bill Barr
19 November	Jewellery - Sandra Stevenson
3 December	Christmas Carols & Mince Pies - Naida Meek

We are looking forward to meeting up with present members and any ladies who would like to join us will be made very welcome.

*Avril Cunningham*  
*President*



## Saffronhall Singers

As the group does not meet over the summer months, there is very little to report in this magazine. Our new session will begin on Monday 28 September at 7.30pm in the Session Room, when we look forward to welcoming everyone back from the "summer" break. New members will be welcome also.

*Campbell Barr*

01698 329177

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## **Battalion Expedition**

Over the weekend of 5-7 June 2015 Russell Anderson, Cameron Marks, Andrew Reynolds, Sam Walker, Lewis McParlane, David Anderson and Struan Wilson all took part in the qualifying expedition for their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

The boys walked part of their route on the Friday evening then camped overnight. From early on Saturday morning it poured. Not only was the rain stotting down but there was a cold north wind and a significant wind chill factor.

Within a short time of leaving the campsite everyone was wet and cold. It was necessary to keep moving since standing for any length of time led to a chill factor verging on the baltic. By mid-morning the wind was even worse and the boys had to battle gamely against horizontal driving sleet and rain. The mist was down to low level and burns which could be forded easily in previous years were becoming raging torrents. Facing the worst weather conditions in years a decision was made to amend the routes to keep the boys at a safer and lower level rather than having them climb over some of the higher hills, where the wind and rain would have been a serious problem. The boys to their credit recovered quickly from the disappointment of not having to slog their way over the hills, and persevering against the conditions returned to the campsite in the early evening. Construction of a new hydro plant was underway in the area and part of the route involved crossing over a reservoir. In the morning the reservoir was virtually empty and no water was getting through the dam. By the time we came back at night the reservoir had risen by several feet and was thundering down the dam. It was a very stark indication of how much rain had fallen on the hills during the day.

It says a great deal for the character of the boys that they completed their route in extremely challenging weather conditions. Perhaps they knew that sympathy from those of us who were out supervising them would be in short supply, but they all showed great spirit and determination to tough it out and finish the Saturday route successfully. Fortunately Sunday morning was dry and bright and the final stage was expedited in jig time.

Successful completion of the expedition counts towards both their Queen's Badge and Silver Duke of Edinburgh work and congratulations are due to them for the effort and attitude they showed in keeping going in fairly tricky conditions.



## **World Mission Bike Ride – Le Tour de Towpaths**



On 27 June 2015 four boys, Struan Wilson, Jack Anderson, David Chisholm and Ewan McIntosh, three officers, Graham Horne, Iain Gray and yours truly, and a support team of Frank Gardiner, Jim Wilson, Stevie Chisholm and Scott McIntosh, took part in the Bike Ride to raise funds for the World Mission project by riding from Glasgow to Edinburgh along the Forth and Clyde and Union Canals - a distance in excess of fifty miles.

We left Bishopbriggs Sports Centre heading straight onto the towpath adjacent to the Forth and Clyde Canal. It was a cloudy morning with bursts of sunshine as we rode on the first leg to the Falkirk Wheel. Mr Horne set a good early pace and we were soon making excellent progress. The open countryside gave good views all round and the canal and surrounding area were peaceful and still. We carried on without any problems – apart from one small incident which I won't mention when the whole bunch of them rode off – I trust unwittingly – leaving me on my own to repair my handlebars which were gradually detaching themselves from my bike. The support team, who had arranged initially to meet us at the Falkirk Wheel, appeared at various bridges along the way to encourage and spur us on our way.

We arrived at the Falkirk Wheel where we met up with the support team and Gordon Scott, who was just back from a holiday abroad and well wrapped up against the Scottish summer. We transferred to the Union Canal and carried on our way.

After a short break we rode on to Linlithgow – a section which involved dismounting from our trusty steeds and walking through a couple of long, damp tunnels. Strangely by that stage the enjoyment of hammering along on the bikes made the walking quite frustrating.

The boys kept up a great pace and after a break for lunch at Linlithgow we set out on the next leg which was a long stretch past Bathgate to Ratho Adventure Centre. The towpath became far more uneven and legs began to feel tired and bahookies a little tender. By this time Struan Wilson was out in front. There were walkers, runners and other cyclists out on the towpath but Struan was taking no prisoners carving a way for us through the traffic – reminiscent of a cowcatcher on the front of a wild west steam train!

Trees and undergrowth shrouded the towpath and soon we lost sight of the open countryside and instead had to concentrate on navigating a more wet and muddy surface. By the time we reached Ratho it was evident that a little fatigue was beginning to set in but the boys showed great spirit and were determined to finish.

We headed off on the last stage to Harrison Park in Edinburgh. Along the way Graham Horne provided light relief by braking and swerving to avoid one of the boys in front of him and tumbling off into the canal. Unfortunately he managed to end up sitting in a huge patch of stinging nettles. Not great for him but highly entertaining for the rest of us. The boys were disappointed we didn't manage to capture the event on film and create a YouTube sensation.

We arrived finally at Harrison Park to see Louis and Alison Munn who had come in from their holiday in North Berwick to be there at the finish. It was great to have them there to cheer us in. After some photographs and a short rest we went off for a healthy and refreshing McDonalds. The sight of Graham Horne sitting in McDonalds covered in Calamine lotion is one which will linger in the memory for far too long.

It was a great day for a very worthwhile cause. Thanks are due to all the boys and officers who took part, to our tremendous support team – we couldn't have done it without you, and to Louis and Alison for taking time out to come and support us. Huge thanks are due also to M+H Van Hire in Burnbank for providing the van essential for transporting the bikes. More details about the project and the final total raised will be revealed in due course.

All sections of the Boys' Brigade start back on Wednesday 9 September - Anchor Boys & Bluebells at 5.30pm, Junior Section at 6.30pm and Company Section at 7.30pm

*Alistair Buttery*  
*Captain*



### **Anchor Boys and Bluebells**

The new session will begin on Wednesday 9 September. • We meet in the halls at 5.30 for an hour of fun, games, stories and crafts and all boys and girls who are aged 5 to 7 years and attend school are invited to come along to join us.

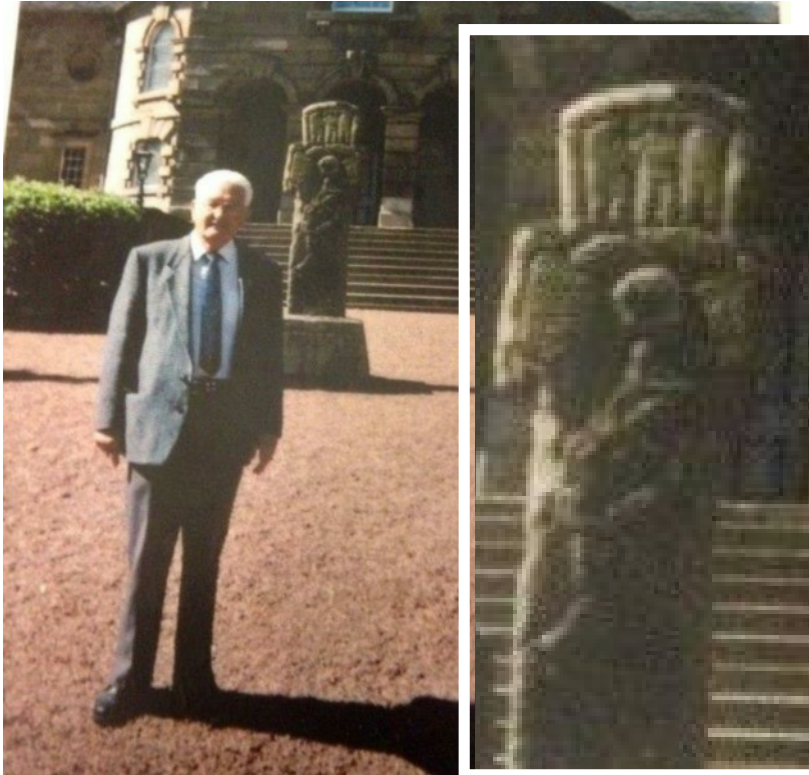
*Nanette McLean*  
*Leader in Charge*



## The Angel on the Netherton Cross

This article appeared on Historic Hamilton's Facebook page recently. In a brief survey no one I was able to talk to about it was aware of the effect of sunlight at a particular time of day on the Netherton Cross. Design or accident - I don't know but it would be good to hear from anyone who does.

Jim Henderson



### Historic Hamilton 21 July

Fiona McCloy Grant sent us this picture of her Uncle Hamish from Canada. She wrote,

"This is my Uncle Hamish he came over from Canada and went to his childhood church and got this photo taken in front of the Netherton cross if u look carefully u can see an angel in the cross u can only see it when the light shines in a certain way I have lived in Hamilton all my life and hadn't a clue about this"

The angel does stand out really clear, thanks for sending us the info on the angel Fiona.

*Published by kind permission of Historic Hamilton*



### Sunday Services

Until mid to late September Sunday Morning Services will continue to be held at 9.30am and 10.45am in the North Hall. On completion of the building works Sunday morning worship will revert to the normal time of 10.45am.

Any special services between now and November will be intimated in due course.

### Property Committee

At the time of writing this article we are 6 weeks into the rewiring and decoration of the Church. The electricians have completed the rewiring and installation of emergency lighting. The painter has completed the cupola and upper ceiling and when the scaffolding comes down later this week will complete the remainder of the Church over the next 3 weeks. Plaster repairs have been carried out and a new ceiling erected in the Vestry and one of the staircases. An upgraded security alarm is being installed and new carpet to the Sanctuary, Vestry and Choir Room is being fitted.

Volunteers will again be required to replace the pew bibles, hymn books and pew cushions etc and the date for this will be notified in due course.

We are on programme to return to the Church on Sunday 20 September.

*John Downie*  
Convener

### Link Committee

We held our outing on the 7 July to Loch Lomond Shores. We had heavy rain when we arrived, but it turned into a very nice warm day. Our next event is our autumn concert on Saturday 31 October. If you are over 80 your Elder will deliver the invitation with your Communion Card.

*Your Convener*  
*Jim Naismith*

### Fellowship Committee

In May a group of us went to Troon and enjoyed 18 holes of golf and had a meal in the clubhouse. The competition was won (again) by Robert Smith so congratulations to him.

In June, two groups of 33 people had a smashing day out on a canal boat, sailing from Edinburgh to Ratho and thereafter enjoying an excellent meal at West Lothian Golf Club, events which seemed to please everyone who took part.

Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control the Concert planned for 28 August in the Church has had to be postponed to some later time. The new date will be intimated as soon as we know it.

On 30 August the annual bowls day will be held at Hamilton Bowling Club. We can only hope for a dry day to let everyone have a good time.

Our yearly Charity Lunch will be held on 4 October in the North Hall. A decision has been made to give half the net proceeds to the Church and the remainder to British Heart Foundation, specifically in support of their defibrillator programme. Hopefully there will be greetings cards for sale and your support will be as generous as in previous years.

Arrangements are being made for the Carols by Candlelight service on 11 December and the Congregation Christmas Lunch on 13 December. As you are probably aware there will be no subsidy from the Local Authority this year for the lunch.

We have been able to get tickets for the Kings Theatre pantomime on 9 January, and more details re travel etc will be intimated in due course.

As always, if there are any ideas regarding an outing or visit somewhere please let any member of the committee know and we will consider any such suggestions.

*Iain McLean*  
Convener

## Guild

The Guild are embarking on a new 3 year strategy “BE BOLD BE STRONG”. Year one theme “GO IN PEACE”. A new set of 6 project partners has been introduced (more about that later).

Our syllabus has been prepared and we meet on the following dates:

- October 7 Dedication Service – Rev N McKee
- October 21 Craig Garrett – Casa Semear Update
- November 4 R Nimmo – A Clydesiders View
- November 18 Finanacial AGM & New Projects Information



I hope you have managed to recharge your batteries and are “raring to go”.

See you on October 7!

*Avril Boothroyd*  
*Coordinator*

## Choir

Preparation of the magazine article is early in August, and by this time we should be enjoying the remainder of the summer weeks before the start of our new session early in September. Summer, however, is the inoperative word in the sentence, but one advantage of disappointing summer weather on the mainland is that my garden has not needed watering this year!!

Many of the choir have been fortunate to seek out sunshine, and I know for quite a few of them, their vacation months continue to run through to October. However, there has been a good attendance of members during the summer months to lead worship in the North Hall, while renovations continue in the Church. I continue to be grateful for the stalwart support my choristers give me throughout the year.

During the choir break from midweek rehearsals, it is time for me to explore new repertoire and plan the programme of pieces to start our new session. In sourcing new writers and different styles of choral works, I hope my choice of new repertoire will be both meaningful, in music and text, contributing to our strong sense of worship.

Choir folders are now ready for collection to take us through to December, along with new pencils!! and we will begin that preparation on Wednesday 2 September at 7pm providing access is available to the Hall, and that we have returned to the Sanctuary for services.

*Helen C Simpson*  
*Organist*  
helensimps@sky.com



## Missionary Partners

I am sorry I do not have any new up to date news regarding our Mission Partners (the Short family) as I have not received a letter from them. I can tell you that Ezra will be 15 in September so I will be sending him a birthday card as I usually do on behalf of us all.

*Nessie Garrett*  
*Mission Partner Correspondent*



## The Monday Club

We start back on Monday 12 October in the North Hall at 1.30pm. Members will recall that we are now having an annual membership fee of £5. The members who went to the trip in April were due a refund and this will cover their membership payment for this session.

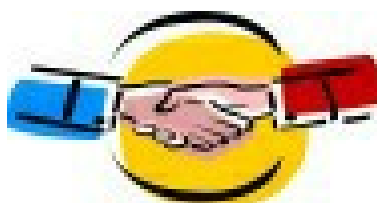
New members are always welcome to join us and with a varied selection of speakers and topics it's a pleasant way to fill in a couple of hours every second Monday afternoon.

Here is a list for the first part of our session:

12 October	Linda Ormiston
26 October	Rev Norman McKee
9 November	Marvyn McKay
26 November	St Andrews Hospice
7 December	Christmas Lunch
14 December	Financial AGM & Social

If you require any information about the Monday Club please do not hesitate to contact me on 01698 423274.

*Charlie Duguid*



## Talk! Talk!

Few car journeys, however short, are completed without the driver being assailed by a variety of signs and notices. When approaching a large construction site you are sometimes confronted with a warning like CAUTION: HEAVY PLANT CROSSING. I can't help picturing the biggest aspidochelone in the world with size 20 boots emerging ominously from the roadside ditch. Then there's the instruction that sometimes appears overhead on motorways, BELT UP IN THE BACK. I'm convinced this is in support of harassed parents whose children behind them are indulging in some kind of sibling altercation.

Signs, notices, Facebook, Twitter, magazines, 24 hour news programmes etc, etc... We humans have an insatiable desire to communicate. That's good in a troubled world. "Jaw, jaw is better than war, war", a political soundbite of some sixty years ago, is eternally and indisputably true - provided, of course, that there is goodwill and a willingness on both sides of a conflict. Nearer to home the example of Northern Ireland is, I think, inspirational. At some time, perhaps in the very far distant future, this more lasting peace, however fragile, **will** come to a desperately vexed Middle East.

Sadly, so many conflicts have a religious fanaticism and intolerance at their heart. No wonder then that the uncommitted are deterred, the agnostic is comforted and the atheist is cheered. So God-speed to all ecumenical and multi-faith rapprochement initiatives.

The "new commandment" ( St John Chapter 13 v 34) is sometimes a difficult one to obey...

*Keith Brown*

## Safeguarding News

We are pleased to report that we have now completed all the necessary PVG applications for volunteers in the church who work with young people and vulnerable adults and our congregational register is in the process of being updated to include the most recent returns. This has been a huge task and we are grateful to everyone who has been so supportive over the last 2-3 years. Hopefully, it will be a simple matter now to maintain the register, perhaps with an occasional addition as new volunteers come forward.

The Safeguarding Service has now launched a series of newsletters for coordinators in which various issues are brought to our attention. We will pass on any relevant information to the congregation through Tidings. Some of the key points mentioned are as follows.

- There is a new version of a safeguarding self-assessment checklist for congregations. This is a tool for session to use to look at our safeguarding provision and check that we are fulfilling our obligations.
- Attention was drawn to the new safeguarding poster which makes it easier to identify the safeguarding coordinators. It also reminds everyone about the church's safeguarding message: **recognise, report and protect.**
- Any PVG Scheme member who has stopped working with children and /or protected adults in the Church of Scotland must notify Disclosure Scotland. The Safeguarding Service has produced a sample letter which can be sent or e-mailed to Disclosure Scotland. This letter is available on the Church of Scotland website or copies can be obtained from our own church office.

Volunteers are encouraged to attend a training event as soon as possible. The congregational register is then updated to indicate training has been undertaken. We have a note of those elders who have participated and would appreciate anyone else who has been on a training course notifying us.

*Nesella Barr* (01698 329177) / *David Young* (01698 425155)  
*Safeguarding Coordinators*



## Gift Aid

Many thanks to those who have responded to the appeal in the last magazine to consider the church's financial position. I am already noticing increased giving and several people have spoken to either Marilyn or me about increasing their offerings. With the Gift Aid scheme, I do not need to know if you make a change. If you give through the Free Will Offering envelopes, then Bill Nelson will give me a note of the total at the end of the year. For those who give by standing order, I get a copy of the bank statement each month, and I keep note in a spreadsheet which then transfers to HMRC when I make the claim. This means that you can vary your donations at will, very different from the Deed of Covenant Scheme when you had to commit to a fixed amount for a period of time. The one thing I do need to know is if you **stop** paying tax at any time. Once this happens, I can no longer make a claim on your behalf.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like further explanation on any point.

*Nesella Barr*  
*Gift Aid Convener*

01698 329177

[nesella.barr@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:nesella.barr@blueyonder.co.uk)

Loving God of all provision,  
we come to you in this season of relaxation and refreshment.

We see the evidence of your creation and  
we praise you for colour, sounds and senses.

We praise you that we are encouraged and  
enlivened when we are aware of all you do for us;  
in nature; in person; in community;  
in the depth of all we are and need.

You are the satisfier of all that is good for us and  
your wisdom is unceasingly without comparison and so,  
as we thank you and come to you in all praise,  
we pray that you will provide for all,  
as you provide for us,  
that the summer of the love you show will be  
evidenced in the lives of others whose lives  
matter to you as much as ours do.

So may it be as we give your Holy Name  
all Glory and Praise,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen.



### Rose Bowl List 2015

September	06	P Scott
	13	G Keir
	20	J Swinton
	27	M Gilbert
October	11	E Smith
	25	N Bar
November	01	G Dobbie
	15	L Craig
	29	M Henderson
December	06	F McIntosh
	13	E Reid

### Flower List 2015

September	06	Mrs McLean	28 Rosevale Crescent
	13	Mrs Downie	6 Stonebyres Court
	20	Boys' Brigade	
	27	Mrs McGilliard	Flat 3/5, 101 Townhead Street
October	04	Mrs Kerr	10 Dunscore Brae
	11	Mrs Porter	34 Marshall Grove
	18	Mrs Keir	6 Mauchline Court
	25	Mrs Dick	22 Burnblea Gardens
November	01	Mrs Lindsay	19 Swift Bank
	08	Mrs Stoddart	11 Wallace Place
	15	Mrs MacLean	12 Abercorn Crescent
	22	Mrs Davidson	Lauder Court
	29	Mrs Smith	5 Old Avon Road
December	06	Mrs MacLean	11 Bent Road
	13	Mrs Macintyre	1 Lilac Hill

**Donations to the fund are always welcome since they assist with the special occasions such as Harvest.**

**Anyone who organises their flowers through Liz McPherson please note when we are back in the Church the cost will be increased to £25 each Sunday.**

**Thank you for your generosity and co-operation.**

*E Gardiner*

01698 427852



### Flower Delivery

September	06	Mrs M Baird	41 Portland Place
	13	Mrs M Eadie	5 Birch Brae
	20	Mrs L Smith	1 Rosslyn Court
	27	Mrs M Green	Skellyton Nurseries
October	04	Mrs A Munn	35 Smithycroft
	11	Mrs M Frew	68 Burnbank Road
	18	Mrs S Nicholson	15 Towbhill Road
	25	Mrs J Jarvie	16 Hazel Park
November	01	Mrs N Barr	20 Bourtree Road
	08	Mrs J Dick	16 Chantinghall Road
	15	Miss M Dyet	18 Chantinghall Crescent
	22	Mrs N Naismith	3 Tarbert Court
	29	Mrs E Nelson	10 Lilac Hill
December	06	Mrs F Brown	1A Allanshaw Gardens
	13	Mrs M Henderson	67 Sycamore Drive

**Flowers are usually delivered after the Morning Service. If the date is unsuitable, please try to re-arrange or contact:**

*Kate Morrow*

01698 420748

## Christian Aid Quiz (Scottish Songs)

Here is a list of answers to the quiz. Unfortunately we didn't win any of the prizes but the news was that we were able to send a cheque for £74 to Edinburgh for Christian Aid. Many thanks to everyone who did the quiz. For your information to anyone who isn't aware that I am not the representative for for the Church now for Christian Aid. The new person is Amanda Strachan so any information etc should go to Amanda now and not me.

Many thanks

*Nessie Garrett*



## Scotland Scottish Songs CAW 2015 Paper Quiz Answers

1	Near those nice TSB and RBS buildings (2,3,6,5)	By Yon Bonnie Banks
2	Country of courage (8,3,5)	Scotland the Brave
3	National flora (6,2,8)	Flower of Scotland
4	Of riversides and hillsides (2,5,3,5)	Ye Banks and Braes
5	Lovely cake (6,6)	Bonnie Dundee
6	River aria (3,4,2,3,5)	The Song of the Clyde
7	Girl with a truck? Sounds like it! (5,6)	Annie Laurie
8	Tether new oar – to this? (3,5,4)	The Rowan Tree
9	Pretty lass from the west (6,4,2,6)	Bonnie Mary of Argyle
10	Air on a jam sandwich (3,5,5,4)	The Jeely Piece Song
11	Ace shot shaw – about Bannockburn? (5,3,3)	Scots Wha Hae
12	Celestial ship shanty (3,4,4,4)	The Skye Boat Song
13	Google maps might supply this information (3,4,3,3,5,2,6)	The Road and the Miles to Dundee
14	Power cut in Mull would render it thus (3,4,6)	The Dark Island
15	EU galls Danny – especially after the bells (4,4,4)	Auld Lang Syne
16	The Weegies anthem (1,6,2,7)	I Belong to Glasgow
17	Scientist's woodland (6,5)	Kelvin Grove
18	Returning from the east (9,4)	Westering Home
19	Family (2,3,4)	My Ain Folk
20	Scot's definition of "Aurora Borealis" (3,8,6,2,3,8)	The Northern Lights of Old Aberdeen
21	½d to stop the wean greetin' for this (8,5)	Coulter's Candy
22	Small barrel maker from the Ancient Kingdom (3,3,6,1,4)	The Wee Cooper O' Fife
23	Was he in the tartan army? (1,8,7)	A Scottish Soldier
24	Watered whisky? (11,4)	Campbeltown Loch
25	Admit to a passion for a famous dog (1,4,1,6)	I Love a Lassie
26	Girl's big day (8,7)	Mhairie's Wedding
27	Hazel-dark-haired lassie (3,5,6)	Nut Brown Maiden
28	Question you might ask of a duck in underpants (6,6,4,8)	Donald Where's Your Troosers?
29	So ugly man at bingo – across the minch? (8,4,4)	Mingulay Boat Song
30	Furious ben and herb (4,8,5)	Wild Mountain Thyme



## Olá, Amigos da Casa Semear (Hello, Friends of Casa Semear)



[www.casaabbaproject.co.uk](http://www.casaabbaproject.co.uk)

Hi Everyone.

July at Casa Semear brings the opportunity for some to escape the favela, the cramped living spaces and the dangers of the streets and escape to the countryside outside of Sao Paulo. Two separate groups from those involved at Casa Semear, one the 9 to 11 year olds and the second the teenagers, go on a fun, weekend and four-day long camp which are hosted and led by the missionaries who serve at the project. The camps take place about two hours outside of the city in a large camping area with great facilities, swimming pools, sports courts, a river, hiking trails, waterfalls, and lush green forests.

The kids who now look forward to this opportunity every year, enjoyed their time at camp exploring nature, swimming, playing competitive games, singing around the campfire, and learning from the Word of God. The theme of the camps this year was Jonah, so each day they learned various biblical principles from this book. Both groups had a blast, and their lives were impacted and abundantly blessed by this group camp experience.

As you can imagine an event like this takes a lot of planning and effort. But also it takes a lot of support and financial backing. Not only to cover the campsite and the transport, but also the food, resources and equipment involved. Fortunately there always seems to be a very generous sponsor who appears at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour and covers some of these costs. If you feel you could help with future camps in some way then let me know, even better go and take part yourself.



July Weekend Camp (9-11 Yrs)



July 4 Day Camp (Teens)

As you can imagine there are many more photos from the activities and fun of the camps and I would encourage you to view them online at [www.casasemear.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.casasemear.blogspot.co.uk).

We are always keen to keep strong contacts with our friends in Sao Paulo Brazil and especially casa Semear and nothing confirms this more than when some of our team actually go to Brazil and help, hands on, with the work being done there. This year is no exception and in a couple of months Kirsty and Callum Buchan from St Mary's Episcopal Church in Hamilton will be doing just that. Kirsty has been before a few times both on her own and in a larger group, but this will be Callum's first trip. We wish them a safe journey and hope to hear of their experiences on returning.

Also I am delighted to confirm that I will be back in Scotland and presenting at the Hamilton Old Parish Church Guild at their afternoon meeting on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October. I believe this will be an open event and I look forward to seeing you all then and bringing you up to speed with the latest developments from Casa Semear.

For further information or to receive newsletters or to arrange a presentation either at home or for an organisation, please feel free to contact me either through the website, on Facebook or by email on [craig.garrett@burohappold.com](mailto:craig.garrett@burohappold.com) or call Craig Garrett on 00971 504501224.



The verse that comes to mind when looking at these photos is Psalm 126:3.

**"The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy."**



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***Entered into Eternal Life.***  
***"I am the Resurrection and the Life"***

*God of grace and peace, in your Son Jesus Christ  
 You have given us new birth into a living hope.  
 Strengthen us now to live in the power of the resurrection  
 and keep us united with our loved one  
 from whom in death we are not divided;  
 for You live and reign forever and ever. Amen*

*29 May 2015  
 George Douglas Stirling, 5 Hamilton Park North*

*8 July 2015  
 Jack Ginn, 65 Wellhall Road*

## *Weddings*

***"That they be the one"***

*26 June 2015  
 Lynn Young to Ross McKie*



## *Baptisms*

***"Let the children come to me"***

*17 May 2015  
 Ross William Hooper*

*21 June 2015  
 Harris James William Balfour*



Lord and God, provider of all peace in life, at this time of the year when we take into account what has been done and what is being done for us in the name of good, we pray for peace.

We are aware that peace is what we all need; it is what is deep in the hearts of so many.

We are sure that there are more who desire peace instead of war and so our prayer is that that may be established, as it will be appreciated.

As then we pray for peace, we pray for those who seek it and act for it in so many places where so much comes up against them.

Praising you for the courage of all who put their own lives in danger in the search for a solution to the threat of terror , we pray that through time and by your wisdom, O God, peace may be established and those who seek otherwise, will be brought to book for the wrong that their evil produces.

Hear and bless in the Name and for the Sake of Jesus Christ, who gave his own life in ultimate sacrifice,

For His love's sake we pray,  
Amen.

