

Issue 34

The Link



**The magazine for the linked congregations and community of the
West Kirk of Calder and Polbeth Harwood**

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www.west-kirk-polbeth-harwood.co.uk



**Sunday Morning Worship takes place
in the West Kirk at 9.30 am
and in Polbeth Harwood at 11.15 am**

The Parish Record

Baptisms

26 July – Bailey Joel Macleod, Chapelton Court, Polbeth

9 August – Ellie Louise Logan, The Glebe, West Calder

30 August – Freya Margaret Millford, Drumgoyne Drive, Glasgow

Weddings

25 April – Nigel Brydon and Deborah Hamlyn

2 May – Justin Souter and Jacqueline Mackay

18 July – Jamie Young and Nicola Graham

Funerals

27 April – Nancy Rhodie, Learmonth Crescent, West Calder

28 April – Margaret Ann Paterson, Polbeth Place, Polbeth

29 April – John Easton, Burnside Terrace, Polbeth

2 May – Alan Lammie, Sutherland Way, Livingston

28 May – Marian Roy, Kirkgate, West Calder

8 June – Dick Whitson, Langside Crescent, Polbeth

19 June – Christine Connolly, Burnside Terrace, Polbeth

22 June – Nancy Martin, Polbeth Crescent, Polbeth

25 June – Ann Hope, Burngrange Cottages, West Calder

1 July – Eric Middleton, West End, West Calder

8 July – Tommy Glen, Parkhead Crescent, West Calder

18 July – Matt Hastie. Crofthead Nursing Home, Fauldhouse

20 July – Gordon Kelly. Briech Terrace, Briech

25 August – Jock McCormick, Ennis Court, Polbeth

26 August – Jean Nimmo, Dickson Court, West Calder

Traidcraft at Polbeth

The summer holidays are now over and the Traidcraft stall will be back each week from Wednesday 2 September and each Sunday morning before and after the morning service. The new Autumn/Winter catalogue is now available to browse for Christmas cards, gifts and many other goodies. Every purchase, however large or small, helps others in under-developed countries have a better quality of life. In many instances this allows children to attend school, something we take for granted, as our children return to school after the summer holiday.



A range of new confectionery is now available from the stall and many other items including, kitchen towels, rubber gloves and attractive storage baskets, snacks, biscuits etc.

Orders are welcome and can be taken at any time. Why not come along on a Wednesday when the Cafe too is open 10 am - 11.30 am and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a friendly chat with others.

We will look forward to seeing you there!

Margaret Dempster

West Kirk Fund Raising Group



The Group met in August to discuss fundraising ideas for the coming session. As usual, the Candy Bars will continue to be held on the first Saturday of the month. Morning coffee is served from 10 am and lunches from 12 noon.

There will be the usual stalls and any contributions are most appreciated. We look forward to welcoming our regular customers and also new ones. Come along and enjoy some home cooking and a friendly chat!

Our annual Whist Drive is on Monday 26 October, starting at 7 pm. This is a fun night with wonderful refreshments at the interval. Tickets are available at the church hall door.

Other events will be advertised in future editions of *The Link*.

Jill Murray (Convener)



BacktoChurchSunday

The West Kirk is taking part in the national "Back to Church Sunday" campaign and everyone is invited to come along to church on Sunday 4 October. This will coincide with our Harvest Thanksgiving service. If you've not been to church for some time, please come along, we'd love to see you there.

Luke 19:1-10 (NIV) Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'"

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

Jesus asks us all to come as we are. We are accepted. We are loved.

comeasyouare

West Kirk Guild Report

The new session of the Guild starts on Monday 5 October 2009 when we will meet in the Church Hall 7.15 pm.

A very warm welcome is given to all past members and to any ladies or gentlemen who would like to come and join us.

THIS YEAR'S THEME

What Does The Lord Require of You:

- To Act Justly
- To Love Mercy
- To Walk Humbly
- With Your God

Our first evening, will be opened by Mr Jim Milne, who will give a talk, "To Act Justly".

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October 2009

Monday 5th To Act Justly (Jim Milne)
Tuesday 13th Autumn Rally Boghall Parish Church
Monday 19th TBC

November 2009

Monday 2nd "Memories of The West Kirk" (Young & Old)
Saturday 7th Guild Coffee Day
Monday 16th Guest Night (Ian Rintoul, A night at the pictures?)
Sunday 22nd Guild Week



Moira Jack (Secretary)

The Vine Trust Work Party



As you all know, in July I was a member of a work party out in Peru under the umbrella (or was it a parasol?) of The Vine Trust experiencing at first hand the work done with and for abandoned street boys. And what an experience it was!

We journeyed first from the capital, Lima, home to over 8 million people, into the Cordillera Blanca region of the Andes to work and spend time at Kusi, one of the homes built through the support of Union Biblica del Peru and The Vine Trust. The home sits in a lovely site under the peak of Nevado Huascarán, the highest mountain both in the Andes and the tropics.

To reach our second home near the town of Urubamba, in the Sacred Valley area of the Andes, we had to return to Lima then fly to the ancient Incan capital of Cuzco. Again the home, built this time all with money from Scotland, was in a beautiful position along the banks of the Urubamba river.



Both lovely settings in which the boys - 42 in each home – could, under the dedicated Christian commitment of their house parents, be helped to rebuild their lives and enjoy some of the childhood of which they had been cruelly deprived.



If ever you want to see God's love in action, then you must meet these people who work selflessly 24/7 to give their sons a better life.

I could write at length of this experience BUT to get a real flavour, why not come along to church on 27 September and I'll be able to tell you a whole lot more.

Liz Dyer

Harvest Thoughts

V3884 TES Connect

Plant Four Rows of Peas

1. Peace within ourselves
2. Peace with each other
3. Peace in our school
4. Peace in our world



Plant Four Rows of Squash

1. Squash unkindness
2. Squash rudeness
3. Squash unhelpfulness
4. Squash selfishness



Plant Four Rows of Lettuce

1. Lettuce be hardworking
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce show our care for one another



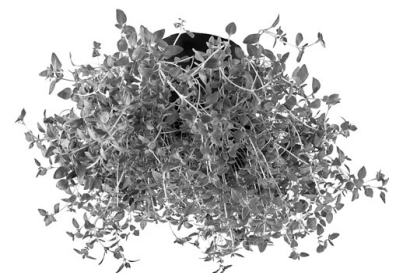
Plant Four Rows of Turnips

1. Turn up when you're needed
2. Turn up to lend a hand
3. Turn up to help one another
4. Turn up and make a difference



Plant Four Rows of Thyme

1. Thyme for ourselves
2. Thyme for each other
3. Thyme for family
4. Thyme for friends



Life & Work – September Issue

LIFE AND WORK

The Editorially Independent Magazine
of the Church of Scotland
www.lifeandwork.org

The Warm Heart of Africa

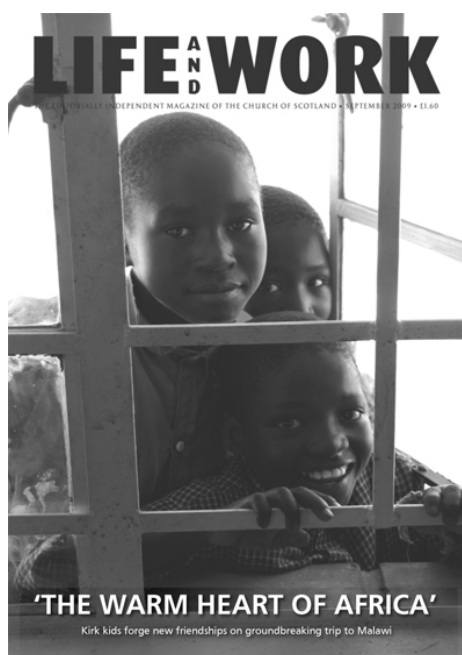
Thomas Baldwin joins a group of children from the Church of Scotland on a groundbreaking trip to Malawi.

A Moral Framework

Jackie Macadam meets Julia Ogilvy, award-winning businesswoman, Church of Scotland elder and author.

Cathedral of Green

Colin MacDonald reflects on the links between golf and spirituality.



A Rural Life Celebration

Bryan Kerr on the Scotland's Churches stand at the Royal Highland Show.

Missing Malawian Millions

Una Bartley explains the background to Christian Aid's tax campaign for Africa

The Chalmers Connection

John R Hume visits the rural parish church of Kilmany in Fife.

A Wise Monk

Ron Ferguson reflects on the life of Father Joe and the importance of genuine listening.

A Source of Inspiration

The Moderator reflects on conflict, climate and Calvin.

Crisy-hypo

The Very Rev Dr James Simpson looks at two forms of hypocrisy.

Plus: Another winning Parable for Today, Irvine and Kilmarnock Presbytery, and four-page supplement on the work of the Mission and Discipleship Council – all for just £1.60.

Jam Club Outing



The Jam Club (Sunday School) from Polbeth Harwood held their outing on Sunday 21 June.

On a fine day 9 adults and 9 young people set off after worship to visit the Silver Sands at Aberdour. We went in a mini bus and a car loaded down with a huge picnic which was enjoyed as soon as we arrived. After that it was a mad scramble into swimsuits to sample the temperature of the water (not very warm!!!). The not so brave sat on the sidelines and watched the fun.

Euan managed to get himself buried up to the neck in the sand and after a lot of effort he was freed in time to enjoy an ice cream with everyone else. A few of the girls borrowed an inflatable boat and had enormous fun pulling each other through the shallow water. The only one brave enough to actually have a swim was David, our minister. At teatime we all piled back onto the bus for the return journey, tired but very happy.



We look forward to having all the children back in Jam Club after the holidays.

Sandra Dixon



The Reluctant Disciple

What? Go to my neighbour? You've got to be joking!
That woman's a menace – an absolute bore!
And he's not much better; you'd need all Job's patience
If you had the neighbours I'm stuck with next door.



The people behind us are really the limit,
Their talk is appalling – their speech I deplore;
I know they are lonely; I think they have troubles,
But you can't get involved when you're living next door.

I'd stand in the pulpit and preach the glad tidings,
With eloquent fervour, entreat and implore,
I know that the Gospel has power to salvation,
But you can't see it making much difference next door.



Suppose, just suppose, that they did get converted,
And wanted to join us in worship and more,
Just think of the awkwardness, and of the problems,
And what they'd get off us living next door.

When I get into heaven there's sure to be someone,
Who's heard the good news on some far distant shore;
Through gifts that I sent so that they could have Bibles,
Just fancy they don't even have one next door!

Perhaps, when the roll-call is finished up yonder,
And the harvest is gathered on Heaven's bright shore;
When the Master is greeting the hosts of the ransomed,
Maybe he'll turn and address you once more ...

Perhaps He will say: "Yes, they're here in their millions,
From cities, from jungles, from earth's farthest shore;
The heathen have come, and the outcast, and weary,
But where are the people I gave you next door?"



Church Dance

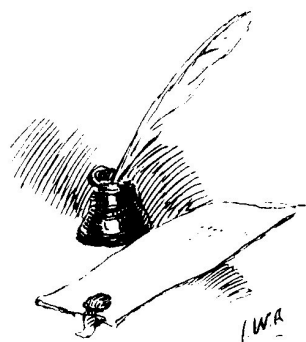
Our Dance will be held in West Calder Bowling club on Saturday 10 October at 7 pm. It will have the same format as last year, i.e. buffet supper followed by dancing to Willie McFarlane's Scottish Dance Band.

Tickets will hopefully cost £5 again this year and families are welcome. We had a couple of children and a few teenagers last year and they all enjoyed themselves as much as the "oldies".

Tickets will be on sale nearer the time, but in the meantime get the date into your diaries. See you there!!



Marian Kinsman



Contributions for the next edition ...

The next edition of *The Link* will be published at the beginning of November. Contributions can be **submitted at any time**; however the latest submission date for Issue 35 is Sunday 18 October.

Paws... for thought



"A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control."

Proverbs 29:11