

The Link



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

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*Polbeth Harwood Parish Church of Scotland
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Congregation 020156*

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

The Parish Record

Funerals

21 November - Bill Johnstone, Parkhead Crescent
24 November - Brian Coats, Langside Gardens
29 December - Ethel Summerville, Mungle Street
5 January - Maisie Forrester, Langside Gardens
7 January - Bill Bissett, Crosswoodburn
9 January - George Aitchison, Livingston Care Home
12 January - Irene Muir, Redmills Nursing Home
14 January - George Walker, Hartwood Road
20 January - Tom Deacon, Willow Bank
21 January - Ina Watson, Langside Gardens
21 January - Mark Lawton, Oakbank Cottages

Worship in the Linked Congregations

Sunday Morning Worship will take place at The West Kirk at 9.30 am and at Polbeth Harwood at 11.15 am each Sunday unless stated otherwise.

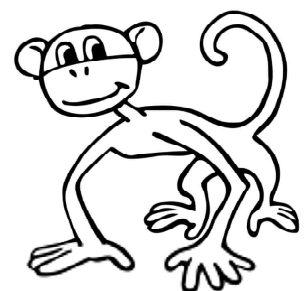
Cheeky Monkey Adventures

Cheeky Monkey is currently gearing up for an appearance at the Winter Warmers service on Sunday at the West Kirk!

We had great fun at the One Way Puppetry conference in East Kilbride at the end of November. We were treated to several excellent performances from Scottish puppet teams working with some very jazzy Christmas versions of songs. Aileen got one of the song collections and they might have made more of an appearance over the Christmas period if she hadn't left them on her desk, locked in, at work over the holidays still, there's always next year.

We are beginning to accumulate a small collection of animal puppets so if there are any budding puppeteers out there who'd like to join our team, please get in touch.

Cheeky and Aileen will be taking part in the Winter Warmer services at the West Kirk, after which Aileen will perhaps be concentrating a bit more on other development projects for a while ...



West Kirk Guild Report

Well here we are again another year over, I do hope everyone had a good Christmas, and that you managed to get out for some fresh air, be it by sledge or skis, we wish everyone a healthy 2010.

Monday 2 November 2009

Our evening was about "Memories of The West Kirk" and we were joined by the "Sunday Sofa Group" the group was led by Rob, who explained that they hoped to put together items and stories from the past about life in the "West Kirk of Calder Church".

After we heard some stories, it was suggested we go into groups as this would give a better chance of getting a lot more stories and information.

We had a most interesting evening hearing how the Church services were long ago, about Sunday school, when there were no women elders, when women always wore hats, and lots more.

Saturday 7 November 2009

Guild Coffee Day - we raised £693. Thanks to everyone who donated; all who helped on the day and those that came along to enjoy tea/coffee and lunch.

Monday 16 November 2009

Our Guest Night, with Ian Rintoul, "Evening at the Cinema" entertained us with films about Christmas preparations in the 1940s and 1950s; great memories of playing in the snow; visiting Santa. We finished with songs by Howard Keel.

Our members and guests were invited to join us in the hall for tea and goodies. There was a collection £67.95 which is being donated to St. John's Stroke Unit.

Sunday 22 November 2009

Guild Week - the service was conducted by the Convener Mrs Juanita Allan, the Guild committee and members.

Monday 7 December 2009

Guild members enjoyed an evening out to The Howden Park Centre to see the "Wizard of Oz" we all had a good night.

Thursday 10 December 2009

Liz Dyer and myself attended the Christmas Rally in St. John's Bathgate, The Convener was Mrs Juanita Allan, this was a lovely service enjoyed by all.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 1 February: Information Officer, Guild Office, Fiona Punton.

Monday 15 February: Hearing Dogs, Evie Johnstone.

*Moira Jack
(Guild Secretary)*

LIFE AND WORK

FEBRUARY EDITION

The Editorially Independent Magazine of the Church of Scotland

www.lifeandwork.org

Carers Special

Around one in eight of the population of Scotland are thought to be voluntary carers, saving the economy over £7 billion. Jackie Macadam focuses on carers' issues and the Church's involvement.

A Caring Church

Syd Graham, convenor of CrossReach, discusses the contribution of carers and how the churches can support them.

Seeds of Hope

The Sunflower Garden, a CrossReach project working with young carers.

A Quilt of Love

The work of a support group for families who care for the children of addicts.

A Carer With Connections

Profile of carer, campaigner and church elder Isobel Allan.

Securing the Reformation

Professor Peter Howie offers a portrait of the life of John Knox.

The Growing Church

In the first of a series looking at churches which are bucking the trend of falling numbers, Thomas Baldwin visits Arbroath: St Andrew's.

From Lent to Pentecost

The Rev Martin Allen starts a new series guiding readers through this period of the Christian year.

Too Harshly Judged?

The latest Biblical figure up for reputation rehabilitation is the Apostle Peter.

Restoring Economic Faith

Dr Murdo Macdonald focuses on the church's responsibility to rebuild trust in financial institutions.

Plus Glasgow Presbytery, Paisley Abbey, all the regular columnists, news, letters, reviews and crosswords – all for just £1.60.

LIFE AND WORK

THE EDITORIALY INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND • FEBRUARY 2010 • £1.60



CARING SPECIAL

THE SUNFLOWER GARDEN
working with the youngest carers

**THE CHURCH'S ROLE IN SUPPORTING
SCOTLAND'S CARERS**

West Kirk Flower Rota



If you can help with either arranging or delivering the flowers, please get in touch with Margaret Greenhorn (01506 871139).

If you would like to donate flowers please add your name to the list in the vestibule.

West Kirk Fundraising Group Report

The Christmas Candy Bar seems a long time ago but we need to thank everyone for helping to raise the wonderful sum of £2,042. It was a most successful and enjoyable day.

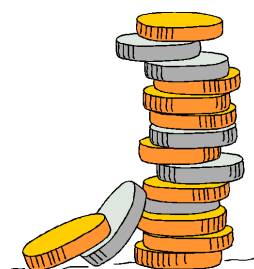
Throughout 2009, the Candy Bars plus the Whist Drive raised the huge total of £6845. This helps greatly in the maintenance and upkeep of the West Kirk.

The February Candy Bar, staffed by the Group will be on Saturday 6th. The Youth Link and friends will staff the one on March 6th.

As Easter falls in the first week of April please note that the "April Event" will be held on Saturday March 27th. This will be run by the Guild.

We look forward to seeing you throughout 2010.

Thank you for your continued support of what is now an enjoyable social occasion.



*Jill Murray
(Convener)*

Michael Mouse Christmas Drama

The JAM Club at Polbeth Harwood put on a wonderful Christmas Nativity Drama on Sunday 20 December.



more pictures available at polbethharwood.co.uk

Church Holiday

Are you interested in joining us on our annual church holiday?



St Annes-on-Sea: Lindum Hotel

Saturday 10 July 2010 - Saturday 17 July 2010

FAMILY OWNED AND RUN ** E.T.C. (2009), 79 roomed hotel situated on the seafront and centrally positioned. All bedrooms have private facilities, television, radio, telephone, hair dryer and tea/coffee making facilities.

The hotel has an outstanding reputation for its quality food and hospitality. Facilities include sauna, solarium, jacuzzi, pool table and sun lounge.

Excursions

- Lancashire and the Yorkshire Dales including Clitheroe and Skipton (full-day).
- Southport, which has gained the reputation of being the floral capital of England's north west (half-day).
- Blackpool, with plenty of time for sightseeing (half-day).
- A morning in Liverpool's Albert Dock. Attractions include the Merseyside Maritime Museum, the Tate Gallery and 'The Beatles Story'. In the afternoon moving onto Liverpool's city centre where you can spend time browsing the many shops and attractions at the heart of this bustling city (full-day).
- To the beautiful Lake District. You will visit the popular towns of Bowness-on-Windermere, set on the shores of Lake Windermere, Ambleside and Grasmere, of Wordsworth fame.

Cost

- only £395!
- additional £17 for a single room
- additional £16 for holiday insurance

Where do I find out more?

Contact Marian Kinsman (01506 871125) for further information.



Traidcraft at Polbeth Harwood

Our Fair Trade stall at Polbeth continues to be available to everyone on a Sunday morning before and after worship and then also on a Wednesday between 10 am and 11 am when teas and coffees are served at the "Wednesday Cafe".

It is a good time to gather and enjoy a friendly chat with others who drop in. Everyone is made very welcome, so why not come and join us! Over the pre Christmas period many of you ordered gifts and Christmas cards which greatly increased our sales which is much appreciated.

On 6 January, Damasi, in Tanzania, the little boy that is sponsored through Compassion UK celebrated his 10th birthday. The proceeds from the Traidcraft stall make this possible so please do remember to support this very worthwhile cause throughout the year. Fairtrade Fortnight this year runs from February 22nd to March 7th. This is a nationwide time to focus on buying Fair Trade goods from wherever available, stalls or shop.



Many thanks to all our supporters.

Margaret Dempster

Contributions for the next edition ...

Contributions for the next edition of The Link Magazine must be submitted by the first Sunday after the 15th of the month. For the Easter issue, this will be Sunday 21st March.

Contributions can be sent via email, or handed in person to either Rev David Albon or Colin Dempster.



Paws for thought ...

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16