



WALLNEUK NORTH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

NEWS UPDATE @ WNC

Abercorn Street, Paisley PA3 4AG

Our Church's website: www.wallneuknorthchurch.co.uk

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Dear Friends,

I hope you all will have a wonderful and blessed Easter, I just want to say a big thanks to all who sent us Easter Cards and greetings and to all those who took part in the Holy Week services. I appreciate the efforts of our mission team, who circulate our Holy Week programme in our Wallneuk North Parish. Holy Week in the Christian year is the week immediately before Easter. This week as a whole, with special observances, is to be found in the Apostolically Constitutions dating from the latter half of the third century and fourth century.

The Gospels recount events which occurred on the corresponding days between Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, His Last Supper and Good Friday.

I personally, enjoyed the witness walk on Palm Sunday with a pony, it would have been ideal to have a donkey, but unfortunately we could not locate one in time. We have improved our march this year and we hope to have more ideas and suggestions to develop it further.

I would also like to express my appreciation to Robert Turner for making the slides and power point presentation, showing parts of Jesus of Nazareth. Thanks also to Harry McIlreavy for leading the worship inside our church, while we were marching outside, and for sourcing the pony.

On Easter Sunday we have a baptism and I encourage our congregation to renew their baptismal vows and rededicate their lives to the Lord. I do understand for some reason that some of you are not able to attend church services regularly; however, if you wish a home communion or feel a need to rededicate your life to the Lord, I would be more than happy to visit you and spend some time with you. Please feel free to arrange through your elder or directly contact me personally.

Yours in His Love, *Peter Gill*

It was a beautiful day, with blue skies and warm sunshine, as the Palm Sunday celebrations get underway.



CHRISTIAN AID

May is a busy month for Christian Aid and there are a number of events that you are invited to be involved in.

There are red canvas shopping bags, with the Christian Aid logo printed on them; they are attractive and if you would like to purchase one, they only cost £1. If you would like to purchase one—see Ana Simpson.

Table-Top Sale

There will be a table-top sales event, organised by the local Paisley Committee, which will be held in Wallneuk North church on Saturday, May 14, from 10am until 12noon.

Our stall is the sunshine stall for which we would appreciate donations of any item, which is brightly coloured, such as: dusters, washing cloths, packets of biscuits, sweets, scarves, gloves, etc.

The other stalls cover: tombola, plants, home baking, toiletry, bric-a-brac and maybe face painting. If you want to support these stalls, please do so.

Over the next two Sundays there will be boxes available to place your donations in.

There will also be a tearoom available.

Erskine Bridge Crossing

The Erskine Bridge Cross is on Saturday, May 7, and it would be a great help if car owners would offer lifts to non-car owners, to enable them to take part.

Sponsorship forms are now available from Ana Simpson.

Some members who cannot cross the bridge on the official date, may be able to participate on an alternative date—*look out for details.*

Bread and Cheese Lunch

The Bread and Cheese Lunch will be held on Sunday, May 15, in the large hall. Donations of breads, cheeses, butter, milk, oatcakes and such like, will be appreciated.

The hall will be set up on Saturday afternoon, after the table-top sale. It would be a great help if anyone can manage along for about 12.30pm.

Door-to-door Fund-raising

Another worthwhile fund-raiser starts off on Monday, May 16, with door-to-door collections in our parish.

Envelopes and collector labels will be available in hall one on Sundays, May 8 and 15.

This exercise does bring in a good deal of money, which is why a lot of people, doing a little, will be very welcome.

Christian Aid means a lot of work for the churches, which is why it is important to remember that Christian Aid grew out of the churches after the second world war. It is our baby and we have to support it.

Thank you for any help that you can give.



Pictured here are Andrew and Louise Dow after their wedding on Saturday, March 26

LENTEN STUDIES

A five-week course, using the York booklets, as our study material, and this year was exceptionally good and interesting.

It was easy to grasp and, as expected, took us over the Easter period, with each week having a specific part of the Easter Story to concentrate on.

One of the good aspects of the courses is the opportunity it gives for group members to share their own experiences with each other.

Each evening ended with a light supper, which helps to engender a good fellowship ending to the evening.

Try it next year.

PACT (Paisley Action of Churches Together)

The next event is Songs of Praise, in Barshaw Park, in mid-June and there will be a Praise Band.

It is always a good afternoon, regardless of the weather, as we meet in a marquee.

See you there!

JARS OF GRACE

Thanks to everyone for their donations, and those who helped to bag the money, which has been lodged in the bank.

The total amount collected this year was just over £230, which, disappointingly, is our smallest amount ever.

Please keep filling your jars over the summer period in the knowledge that the money does such good work for children in depressed countries, especially in respect of supplying fresh water.

Jar labels will be available later in the year for this very worthwhile cause.

We have been supporting UNICEF, through jars-of-grace, for over 20 years now.

Let's keep it going!

On being retired . . .

We never thought that this day would come, but it has!!

We have both spent all our lives in the life of the church and in church manse. This has meant that we were surrounded by 'extended families' in the church community - a very privileged position. It has been a 40-year whirlwind, which has taken us from Edinburgh to Govan, Ayrshire, Paisley and Shetland, involving us in many projects in church and community, and often taking us across the world.

It has been a thrilling and rewarding experience as servants of the church.

We are now entering a new phase in our lives, and Shetland is now our home, where we have bought our own house at last!

We are in Cunningsburgh on the East Coast, facing the island of Mousa, famous for its Pictish Broch. We have an expanse of grassed area round the house and we intend to develop a 'Shetland Garden' with grasses and sea pinks. Tom also has been given a plot to the back of the house for his vegetables!

We have many good friends here and our social life is very busy.....music and cultural festivals being high on the agenda.

During the last year Tom has become involved in promoting Youth Volunteering and he will continue to follow this through. Marian is very involved with the local Choral Society and still doing a bit of supply teaching.

In time, we will continue our hobbies of knitting and piano accompaniment (Marian) and candle-making and stone-polishing (Tom), and we are going to write our experiences in book form, and also write a book for children, based on our own childhood memories.

Recently, we attended my cousin's son's BB Display and Marian had to hold Tom back from volunteering to be the new BB Captain (Ana—please note!!!!). We have attended worship in two local churches and we will find somewhere eventually to settle.

As part of his farewell presentation, Tom was given money to buy a digital SLR camera, so he will pursue his hobby of photography, for which there is great scope here in the islands—landscape, seascape and wildlife, with all the seasonal variations.

Shetland is an inspiring and peaceful place for us to retire. We often feel the distance from our family, especially since our grandson Reuben's arrival, but now that we are retired, we hope to come to Paisley as often as we can....and isn't Skype a wonderful thing?!



We have amazing memories of all the places we have lived and people we have met and worked with, and this is a source of great satisfaction to us, for which we give thanks to God.

In Shetland we don't lock our doors, and so when people visit, they just walk in..... there's an open door here for any travelling 60° North.

Tom and Marian made a very welcome visit to our church on Palm Sunday and both were delighted to be involved in the celebrations. Both were very impressed with the activities and passed very favourable comments on our church's new technology.