



Williamwood Parish Church News Bulletin 4: 6th May 2020

This weekend is the first May holiday weekend of this year. We hope you will find different ways to enjoy the long weekend this year. It is also the 75th anniversary of VE day and, along with the rest of the nation, we give thanks for all who fought to secure peace in Europe so long ago so we can live in freedom now.

We hope everyone is staying well and coping with all the restrictions on our lives at this difficult and troubling time.

Elders are keeping in touch with people in their districts by telephone and we're grateful to all of them for the time and care they are giving to this. If you need help, please let them know. If you need help more urgently, don't wait for a call. Please feel free to call your elder or the Minister.

Closures and Cancellations



Our Sunday services remain cancelled and our buildings remained closed in line with instructions from the Scottish and UK Governments and from the Church of Scotland.

Thank you to everyone who is working hard to keep our congregational life going and making preparations (so far as we can) to resume worship and fellowship in our buildings. This week we say a particular 'thank you' to the Security Team who are also passing on mail to hall users where possible; to our finance, publicity and property committees and our Flower Convener.

The meeting of the Kirk Session due to be held on Wednesday 6th May is cancelled.

The May meeting of the Presbytery of Glasgow is cancelled.

The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, usually held in May each year will not take place this year. However a new Moderator will be installed in a short ceremony taking place in Edinburgh on Saturday 16th May and joined virtually by others around the country. The new Moderator, taking over from the Rt Rev Colin Sinclair is the Rev Dr Martin Fair, a parish minister in Arbroath who grew up in Thornliebank. His Chaplains are the Rev Catherine Beattie of Giffnock South and Rev Gregor MacIntyre of Faifley. (a role our own Minister carried out some years ago when the Very Rev David Lacy was Moderator). You can watch the service on the Church of Scotland website.



We were sorry to learn of the deaths of two of our members, Stan and Moira Ratcliffe, within eight days of each other. The funeral service which will be attended by close family is likely to take place on the 19 May. We hold all the family and their friends in our prayers at this sad time for them all.



CONGRATULATIONS!

1. To Euan Coyle; Keir Hird and Callum McKenzie, members of our Boys' Brigade who have been awarded their Queen's Badge, the highest award in the BB.
2. To the MacKillop family (and Jerry & Liz Taylor) on the birth of Blake Henry.
3. To Ross Johnstone on the birth of granddaughter Lily Anne



WORSHIP

Our Church web page has worship each Sunday for personal or household use. It also contains links to our Facebook page where you'll find hymns played by Sarah and others.

We are now having a Sunday Screen short service via Zoom at 10.30am each Sunday morning. It lasts half an hour and includes a time of worship and a time for chat. It's always good to see kent faces – and newcomers too! If you are able to join in and would like to do so, make sure Evelyn Wallace has your email address so she can send you an invitation with the link and/or password.

Each Sunday you'll find a service on BBC1 followed by *Reflections at the Quay* on BBC Scotland.

The Moderator of the General Assembly is posting a daily reflection on the Church of Scotland website and there are lots of services and messages available on line and on YouTube and Facebook.



Don't forget that Sarah has a hymn on our Facebook page on Sunday and at least one other day in the week. If you'd like to request a particular hymn or piece just get in touch with Sarah.

Guild members continue to hold **Telephone Coffee Mornings**. The next one is on 12th May from 10.30am - 11.30am. Make yourself a tea or a coffee and phone a friend from the Guild.

Christian Aid Week takes place from 10th-16th May.

Lots of the usual activities and services have been cancelled this year but in their place you will find daily worship for Christian Aid Week on the Christian Aid website. There will also be a daily quiz on the Christian Aid website.

THE GREAT WILLIAMWOOD WEB BAKE OFF

Why don't you join in our Lockdown Challenge and do some baking? There are three categories - Men; Children; Open. There are recipes sheets along with this News Bulletin and you can also find them on the church web page and Facebook page. Bake your goodies, decorate them as creatively as you can, take a photo and send it to the minister (jmathieson@churchofscotland.org.uk) by Sunday 24th May. There will be a prize for the best looking effort in each category – but you may have to bake more when we get back into our church building so we can find out what it tastes like!! Have fun – and good luck!!

FREEWILL OFFERING ENVELOPES A number of people have been asking about the Freewill Offering Envelopes. Linzi Barr will be distributing the envelopes on Friday – Sunday of this week. Anyone who does not get one and who would like one should contact Linzi directly on linzibarr@googlemail.com. As far as the open plate is concerned, would you consider putting the money aside and giving when we re-open. Thank You.

Need a Face Mask??? Sarah's Gran has kindly offered to sew facemasks which she will send to us from Buckie (in a box containing sealed bags of 1 or 2) for which we will invite donations for church funds. These mask have been in great demand in the north but we are next on her list. Watch out for more details but we think we will probably put them on the bench outside the church, along with a tub of sanitizer wipes, at some point during the day so you can collect any you want when out for a walk. You can check out the masks by visiting www.facebook.com/lorettascraftsbck/

WE NEED YOU!!

3rd Williamwood Guides are urgently seeking adult volunteers 18+ to run this unit from May 2020.

This is a small unit (currently 15) but very enthusiastic girls and we certainly don't want it to fold.

If you are interested in finding out more information please contact me at williamwood3rdguides@yahoo.com Lorna



Mark Gordon has sent an email out to all the boys of the 128 BB and as part of this he has asked them to recycle their crisp packets.



Below is a part of this communication as you may be a crisp lover and wish to join in too.

As you are likely aware, crisp packets do not routinely fit into one of the regular categories for the recycling bins we have at our homes, and we have an opportunity to avoid sending these to landfill, and therefore doing our part to help the environment.

Although we are currently in lockdown (STAY SAFE, STAY HOME), I would ask you to start saving your empty crisp packets until we are able to meet up again, and then we can gather them in and send them off to be 'cashed in' for a few pounds towards our BB funds. This will not be one of our biggest fundraising opportunities, but it will be beneficial to the environment, and therefore a doubly worthwhile project.

Life and Work May Edition

During this challenging period, Life and Work is committed to helping keep our Christian community connected and so we have made the May 2020 issue available on our website. Visit <https://www.lifeandwork.org/resources/free-download-may-2020>.

We have deliberately not provided the full digital experience as enjoyed by our loyal online subscribers and equally to protect our subscribers of the print edition. It has been a challenge for the editorial colleagues to shift direction of their content at the last minute in response to the speed of which the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted daily life. This also includes a change to what would have been coverage of the timetable and fringe diary of the General Assembly, it of course reads rather differently this year. What they have created will become an important historical record for the magazine of the Church of Scotland.

Highlights from this issue includes:

▪**FEEDING THE HUNGRY:** Reflection on foodbanks and impact of Covid-19▪

GOD HAS NOT FINISHED WITH SCOTLAND': The Moderator-Designate, the Rev Dr Martin Fair

▪**ASSEMBLY CANCELLATION:** Church's business meeting cancelled for first time in over 300 years

▪**WAR'S END:** The role of churches in peacebuilding across Europe on the 75th anniversary of VE Day

We trust you and your congregation will enjoy reading this issue.



To access our Facebook page you don't need to open an account or anything like that. Type Williamwood Parish Church into a search engine and you should be able to click on our church website. When you get on to the site, click on the F for Facebook and you're there!

Please find along with this newsletter an attachment with instructions on how to access Zoom, a Fairtrade Schools news "Thanks Choc-a Lot", and an invitation to the Williamwood Church Bake Off! On Friday, you will receive another e-mail with the link for Zoom.

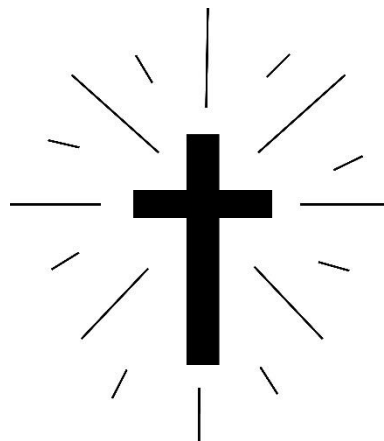
Please also pass on information to those who do not have access to digital forms of communication.



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CHURCH CONTACTS & INFORMATION

Safeguarding Contact: Minister / Neil Little	News Bulletin : Evelyn Wallace
Web Page: Editor: Joan Black	Facebook : Sarah Alexander



World Fair Trade Day is this **Saturday 9 May 2020**. It's a time to say a big 'thank you' to all the farmers and workers who work hard to produce our food and drinks.

THANK YOU!

We'd like to tell you a story ahead of World Fair Trade Day.

'Thank you for the chocolate' will take you on a journey to meet everybody involved in bringing chocolate to our shops, right from the very start of the process in the forests of West Africa. This simple photo story is suitable for even very young children to follow.



After you've enjoyed 'Thank you for the chocolate', your Home Learning Challenge this week is to **design** and **send** a **Thank You card** to the farmers and workers who work hard to provide us with our food and drink at this time.

There are **two ways** to send your card to farmers and workers:

1. Post your Thank You card on social media with the global hashtag #FairtradeTogether - this means that Fairtrade organisations in countries all around the world will see your message!
2. Send a picture of your Thank You card to schools@fairtrade.org.uk and we'll send them to Fairtrade producers across the world.