

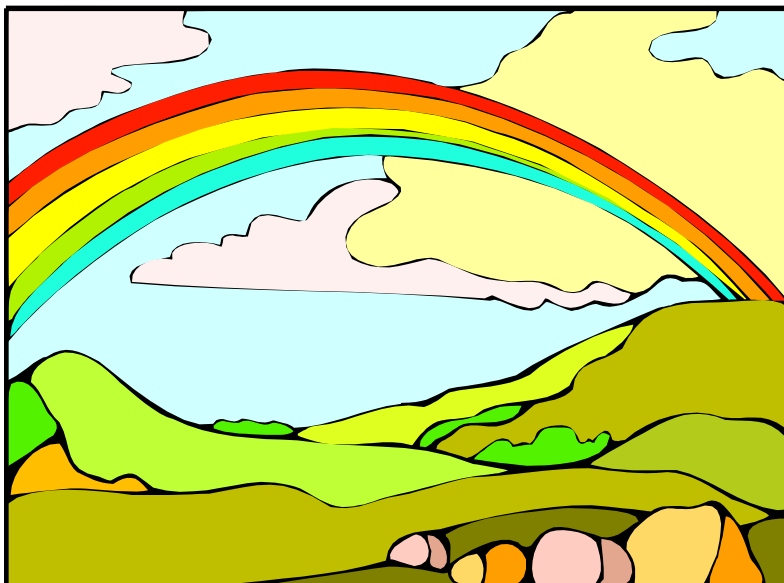
POLLOKSHIELDS CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, GLASGOW

Charity Number SCO13690

September 2011

No. 10

NEW VISION



Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds,
I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant.

Genesis 9:16

Our Mission Statement:

*'Showing forth the love of Christ in
a Multi-Faith Community'*

Minister:	The Rev David Black	423 4000
Session Clerk:	Mrs Mary Morrison	632 1659

SUNDAY SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

4th: Morning Worship, Junior Church and Crèche

11th: Sacrament of Holy Communion

18th: Presentation Service with Guest
Preacher, Rev Sandra Black, Moderator of
the Presbytery of Glasgow.
Followed by a Congregational lunch

25th: Morning Worship, Junior Church and Crèche

Copy date of the next New Vision is 18th September



Message from the Manse

When we launched “New Vision” last year, it was as a newsletter not a full scale magazine, because we had no one to edit a larger production. Yet fresh thinking brought forward new volunteers, and one year on, I want to use this article to highlight how much we depend on each other being willing to take responsibility in our life together as a church.

So much of what happens week by week does so because you, in a hundred different ways, put your faith into practical action, be it through serving coffees, reading the lesson in church, in seemingly endless rounds of meetings to move tiny steps forward in our development of the building.

And if you haven’t seen them yet, then yes, we will be sitting down to lunch on new chairs. We are grateful to the Glasgow City Council Local Fund for the grant which has allowed us to update the seating in the hall, making it not only more comfortable for ourselves but for all the groups and organisations which use our premises week by week.

That welcome of the community in our place also only happens because of volunteers – so let me start the new “session” not with a thank you for work done in the past but a thank you for all the work you will do on our behalf in the year to come.

David Black

Harvesters Wanted

Not necessarily to reap, or even to “plough the fields and scatter “, but to share in the preparation of our Harvest Thanksgiving service on Sunday 2nd October.

Building on the success of our “Art and Prayer” series which led to the Maundy Thursday service this year, you are invited to a series of reflections throughout September which will help shape our thinking on harvest this year.

Each meeting will be “stand alone” and you can come to one or all and there is no expectation you will end up “up front” at the service.

They will be held on Wednesday nights in the Session Room
7:30-8:30pm

Starting 7th September

PS Since one notable element of previous meetings has been the humour, I pass on the thought that if this is going to be a joint effort, then are we really “combine harvesting?”

David Black

Little People who have made a Big Impression Jephtha's Daughter

She was just the daughter of an Gileadite exile.

However from that unpromising start she became someone whose character and obedience carved her a place in Biblical history.

The Amalekites were at war with the Israelites. The latter were desperately in need of a leader. They thought of Jephtha, who had been living as a warrior, and begged him to return to the land of his birth and lead them in battle.

He agreed.

Before battle was joined he made a vow to God that if he gave him the victory then he would sacrifice to him as a burnt offering whoever first come to meet him on his triumphant return home.

Jephtha no doubt imagined that this would be a dog or a sheep, but even if it were a servant or a slave, well, in those days human sacrifices were not unheard of.

To his utter horror it was his lovely, his one and only daughter who came to meet him, singing and dancing.

Jephtha was a God fearing man, and he knew that he just had to fulfil his vow. His daughter too was pious and with great beauty of character told her father, "Do to me just as you promised."

And so it was. This tragic story tells us a lot about Jephtha, but it also raises his daughter from being 'a little person' to one of those who have made a lasting impression.

Douglas Miller

Christian Aid

Reaping a Harvest from a Salty Land

Those of us who give so generously to Christian Aid will be given the chance to see the effect of our gifts and to get a first hand account of the work being done. On Wednesday, 31 August 2011 at 7:00pm there will be a Roadshow by the staff of Christian Aid at South Shawlands Church in Regwood Street, Shawlands.

This church is near Tantallon Road.

This event will give us the opportunity to discover how prayer and fundraising, volunteering and campaigning with Christian Aid can help to end poverty, as well as getting a chance to learn more about the Harvest theme and partner stories.

KGR



King James Bible and Scotland

This year is the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible.

Divine Write: The King James Bible and Scotland exhibition will be held from September to December at the Mitchell Library in Glasgow.

Glasgow University has the finest collection of early Bibles called the Euing Collection. These Bibles will form the core of this special King James 400th anniversary event.

The Lodging House Mission



The Lodging House Mission would like to say thank you to everyone who donated food during their recent emergency appeal.

Due to your generous donations and donations from other churches they now have enough food, at the present time, in their store cupboard. So for now they are not looking for anymore donations.

The Lodging House is always amazed and welcomed by the donations they receive throughout the year. They however would like to say a big thank you to everyone who have helped build up their stock of food.

Without your help they would not be able to feed the amount of people who come through their doors looking to be fed.

Definitely the feeding of the five thousand.



THE GREAT COTTON STITCH-UP



In November 2010 we launched a major policy report, *The Great Cotton Stitch-Up*, which sets out the reasons why millions of cotton farmers are locked in poverty, our recommendations for changing this and how Fairtrade can be part of a more hopeful future for farmers.

The United States and the European Union have lavished an eye-watering \$31.45 billion in subsidies on their cotton farmers since 2001, the report revealed.

The shocking scale of the West's subsidies is one of the biggest reasons why 10 million West African cotton farmers are trapped in poverty. A wall of rich world subsidies effectively squeezes out West African cotton and dampens global prices. For West African countries who rely on cotton as one of their principal exports, it means they do not get the revenue to invest in infrastructure to create a sustainable garment industry.

The report also provides the ballast for an important new Fairtrade campaign demanding the phasing out and elimination of US and EU. The Stitch-Up campaign will accelerate over coming months in what is a vital year for the international trading system.

2011 will see attempts in Brussels to frame a new European Common Agriculture Policy currently costing Euro 55bn. The Stitch-Up report established that Europe pays its cotton farmers more in subsidies per pound than any other nation or trading bloc and is a principal

target for Fairtrade campaign activities. The US, which is overall the biggest cotton subsidiser having dished out \$24.45bn to 18,500 farms in nine years, is also framing a new Farm Bill – the mechanism it uses to pay its farmers tens of billions of dollars. In 2011, there will also be renewed efforts to kickstart the stalled Doha Development Round ahead of a tenth anniversary WTO ministerial meeting in November.

The Great Cotton Stitch-Up contrasted how one farm in the US scooped \$24.3m in subsidies during the past 14 years with Moussa Doumbia, a Mali cotton farmer who earns a paltry \$322 a year from his cotton farm. Moussa, who along with his two youngest children has malaria, relies on his cotton crop to feed his family. In Mali, 77% of people live on less than \$2 a day, just 43% of children go to school and life expectancy is 48.

In the 8,000-strong Mobiom Fairtrade co-op in southern Mali, 95% of eligible farmers' children go to school and Fairtrade premiums have been invested by the community to build a maternity unit and pay the wages of a mid-wife as well as many other projects to improve farmers' businesses.

■ **To read the report in full visit**

www.fairtrade.org.uk/products/cotton/default.aspx

■ **Take one easy action for cotton producers**

www.fairtrade.org.uk/products/cotton/take_action.aspx



An Unforgettable Experience

Ten years ago, in September 2001, I went to Papua New Guinea. The Guild had then as one of its projects the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship there so, together with Fiona Punton, the Information Officer, and Janette Henderson, Convener of the Projects Committee, I spent a fortnight flying in small planes learning what that work was.

We found a third world country with few roads, steep forested mountain ranges, villages with none of what we would consider basic essentials and a population only a couple of generations removed from head-hunting and cannibalism where inter-tribal violence frequently erupted.

We also found lives being saved by medical

evacuations, churches being able to function through subsidised flights for their personnel and the economy of villages being greatly helped by transport of their coffee crops. This was done by people who gave up comfortable lives in their home countries to follow Christ and his command to love God and their neighbour as themselves.

This was a very humbling experience. We who take for granted electricity, running water, shops with a great variety of food, the close proximity of medical help and easy travel, were so impressed by the commitment of the pilots, the engineers, the other missionaries we met who had given up most of these basics and who faced difficulties and at times danger.

On returning to Australia before flying home, Fiona and Janette walked across the top Sydney Harbour Bridge. (I took the photographs!) To commemorate the 10th anniversary of this life-enhancing trip, we will be walking across more bridges, the three of us this time. These will be the Forth, the Tay, the Skye and the Erskine bridges.

This will take place during the weekend of 17th and 18th September.

If you would like to sponsor me in this, I would be very grateful. Sponsor forms will be available in the hall and the vestibule, or see me. All money raised will be given to Mission Aviation Fellowship for their work in Papua New Guinea where it will be very well used and thankfully received

Elva Carlisle



Holiday Club

“Mission Rescue”
August 8th – 12th

Below are some photographs from during the week. An article from the leader, Mr Paul Cathcart will be in next month’s magazine.

The children had fun the whole week long and a big thank you to all the helpers



Two ways in which you can help your Church

Preparing for Christmas

This year we have decided to have printed a church Christmas card for sale. The money raised from the cards will go to church funds.

An example of the card will be on display shortly and you will be advised the cost per card. The price depends on how much it cost for them to be printed.

You will be advised when we receive the card via the yellow intimation sheets.

Please help to support your church by purchasing some cards.

Doors Open Day

We have been invited to take part in this years Glasgow Doors Open Day. We will be open on 17th September 10:00am – 4:00pm.

Matthew Hynes will play an Organ recital. We will have two soloists Lyndsey Izzard and Matthew Todd, and our choir will also be taking part.

If you can help on the day by welcoming the visitors please speak to Irene Macleod. You can decide how long you wish to be on duty.

As usual the Guild will be providing the refreshments by holding their Coffee Morning from 10:00am – 12noon. They will also provide the visitors with refreshments in the afternoon.

We hope you are able to come along and support this event.

Religious Leaders meet in Helmand

Religious Leaders from different faiths have come together in Central Helmand, Afghanistan to learn more about each other.

Operating in the Nad-e Ali (South) area of Helmand are Afghan Army and Police, Royal Marines from 45 Commando and Gurkhas from the 2nd Battalion the Royal Gurkha Rifles.

When the local elders heard that the Gurkhas' religious advisers were planning a visit, they organised a shura (meeting) for the representatives of the different religions to come together and discuss the similarities shared by their faiths.

Seated on a carpet, drinking chai (Afghan tea) was an Islamic Mullah, a Hindu Pandit, a Buddhist Lama and a Christian Padre-the Church of Scotland's Rev Dr Scott Shackleton, who is chaplain to 45 Commando Royal

marines.

The senior Mullah for the area, Mullah Ahdin led the shura which involved a wide ranging and fascinating discussion of various topics from the funding of religious activities to farming skill in their respective countries and from politics to schooling and even dietary habits. Mullah Ahdin was particularly interested to learn about the UK's multi-faith society, and that soldiers from all faiths are eligible to and do, join the Armed Forces.

Dr Shackleton said: "this special meeting can only help in deepening our understanding of people of different faiths and cultures and thus forging a common purpose for the good of all humanity. We have been blessed indeed in being given this opportunity to meet these special people in this unique setting"

The Guild

The Guild theme for 2011 -2012
"Called to walk humbly with God"

The new session of the Guild starts on Monday 5th September

September Meetings

5 th Sept	7:30pm	Opening Meeting	
12 th Sept	2:30pm	"Heresay"	Mr Kenneth Ross
19 th Sept	7:30pm	"The Guild Theme"	Rev Stephen Pacitti
26 th Sept		No Meeting	

New members or visitors will be most welcome at any of our meetings

Rainbows

Rainbows meet on Tuesday 6:00pm – 7:00pm for ages 5 – 7 years in the Hall. Rainbows play games; do craft work and have lots of fun. They then progress to Brownies at the age of 7 years.

Brownies

Brownies meet on Wednesday 5:30pm – 7:10pm for ages 7 – 11 years in the Hall. Brownies are involved in badge work, games and have lots of fun.

They progress to Guides at the age of 11 years.

Guides

Guides meet on Wednesday 7:30pm – 9:00pm for ages 11 – 15 years in the Hall. Guides play games, learn to cook and work towards Guide badges.

ACTIVITIES held at OUR CHURCH

SUNDAY

10:15am	Church Choir	(Church)
11:00am	Junior Church	(Church + Hall)
11:00am	Crèche	(Church + Session Room)
3:30pm	Scottish Asian Christian Fellowship	(Hall 1 st Sunday in month)

MONDAY

10:00am – 12:00	Parent & Toddler Group (Art & Craft)	(Hall)
12:00–1:00pm	Lunch Club	(Session Room)
2:30pm or 7:30pm	The Guild	(Alternate Weeks)

TUESDAY

6:00pm–7:00pm	Rainbow Guides	(Ages 5-7 years)
7:30pm	Kirk Session	(1 st of month)
7:30pm	Bible Study	(2 nd & 4th of month)

WEDNESDAY

9:45am–10:00am	Midweek Service	(Session Room)
10:00am–11:45am	Coffee Break	(Hall)
5:30pm–7:10pm	Brownies	(Ages 7-11 years)
7:30pm–9:00pm	Guides	(Ages 11-15 years)
7:15pm–8:15pm	Church Choir	

THURSDAY

12:00– 1:00pm	Lunch Club	(Session Room)
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FRIDAY

10:00am – 12:00	Parent & Toddler Group	(Hall)
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