

**POLLOKSHIELDS CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, GLASGOW**

Charity Number SCO13690

**No. 12**

**November 2011**

# NEW VISION



**We shall**

**Remember Them!**

## **Our Mission Statement:**

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

<b>Minister:</b>	<b>The Rev David Black</b>	<b>423 4000</b>
<b>Session Clerk:</b>	<b>Mrs Mary Morrison</b>	<b>632 1659</b>

## SUNDAY SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

- 6<sup>th</sup> Nov Morning Worship, Junior Church and  
Crèche
- 13<sup>th</sup> Nov Remembrance Service at 10:50am  
(there will be a Retiral Offering)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Nov Morning Worship, Junior Church and  
Crèche
- 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent: Service marking  
Guild Week



### MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The sum raised at the Macmillan Coffee Morning in aid of cancer support was £320 plus approximately £50 in Gift Aid.

Thank you to the Coffee Break Teams and all who supported this event.

Sadie Swan

### HARVEST RETIRING OFFERING: 2<sup>nd</sup> October

The sum raised for St Andrews, Malta was £330.  
50 people stayed for tea/coffee after the service.

**Copy date of the next New Vision is 20<sup>th</sup> November**



## Message from the Manse

Nowhere is the breakdown of the consumer led economy more obvious than in the way this year's Hallowe'en has been overwhelmed by the shelves of Christmas gifts and goodies in the supermarkets. It is as if they cannot wait for the one festival to be over before they get us to spend on the next (more profitable one).

Something significant is being lost in the rush, and it is something to do with the remembering which November brings us.

Hallowe'en is meant as the precursor to the celebrations of the Saints of the past, a time of remembering and reflecting on those who helped carry the faith in their day that it might speak into our time.

So too the remembering on and around Remembrance Sunday is to help us reflect on the present in the light of the past, with its losses and sufferings.

If we only skip blithely on to Christmas with its images of hope and future we forget why its necessary that a child be born as Saviour of the world – for our remembering shows us all too clearly that humanity cannot work its own salvation.

Therefore, take time to use all the opportunities this month brings to reflect on what is past – the good and the bad, the positive as well as destructive images they bring to mind, so that when Advent comes we are in proper frame of mind to see the joy and the wonder the promise of the Christ child brings us.

**David Black**

## Holiday Club - Mission Rescue

This year's holiday club was on a spy theme and was called Mission Rescue. The children (and adults too!) enjoyed hearing how God had a plan to rescue his people from slavery in Egypt, how he chose Moses to help him with that plan, and how difficult it was for Moses to free the people. They heard about the plagues God sent, and how God was able to do amazing things, even opening up the sea to allow the people to safely cross. In some ways it was a gruesome story but a story which helped the children understand that no matter how difficult things seem to be God always has a plan to rescue us from any tough situation, and he can be trusted. As well as the stories which were delivered via the Mission Rescue DVD, we enjoyed singing the Mission Rescue theme song and other songs with actions. We played games - a favourite being the parachute game where the children had to throw the bombs out of the parachute - as well as having fun with water balloons. The bombs for the parachute game were a reinvention of the props made a few years ago and they are used every year with a different purpose. I think they were onions last year! It's amazing how many uses these things can have, but testament to the resourcefulness and creativity among the group of leaders that they are able to come up with good ideas each year. Each day we took some photographs of the fun and these were displayed each morning as children and parents arrived. The culmination on the Friday was the fun for the children had playing on the bouncy castle, and as in other years, when 12.00 came on the Friday everyone was sad to

see the end of the holiday club for another year. However, we hope to be able to organise an event nearer to Christmas as we did last year so that we can have some festive fun together. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the team for their excellent input again this year. They really do work very hard at planning every detail of the week and it shows in the way the club runs so smoothly. A special thanks to our young helpers for giving up their time. We hope you enjoyed every minute! And also to our drama stars a big thank you. The drama is such an important part of the week and is essential to the programme but it wouldn't be possible without people willing to give their time and talents. One thing for your prayer is that the numbers were down this year and we aren't sure why. It may be that we were competing against other activities at that time, and we wondered whether to go for an evening slot next year instead of the morning. We will chat about it and think through all the implications of a change of time and let you know what we come up with. But for now, we simply reflect on another good and successful week with much fun had by all!

Every blessing

**Paul**



**Q:** What type of lighting had Noah's Ark

**A:** Flood Lighting.

**Chic Murray**

# A Thank You



Following the special service in September when we celebrated the long service given to the Church by the Minister and our members, notably Mrs Betty Miller, as Elder for 30 years and Miss Ella Cooper who helped organise 'Coffee Break' for over 40 years, it seems a good time to think about service in a wider context. I am thinking of all those people in the Church here who volunteer and give a large percentage of their time in the service of the Church and community.

There are those who it seems almost need to have a bed here (and you know who you are), such is their commitment to supporting the activities that go on in the buildings. The volunteering aspect of this is greatly appreciated by everyone and it seems right



There are of course many people involved in lots of the aspects of the life of the Church and giving of their time and talents which is such a positive thing and should be celebrated. I am always very conscious of this when I'm in early on a Sunday before communion and so many people are busying themselves about Church in many different ways. Although I have referred to certain individuals it is, also however right to recognise that everyone has a part to play, whether that is through their presence and sharing at worship or through prayer at home.

So - Thank you - to all those volunteers who give so much of their time here, and really to everyone for your contribution to the ongoing life and witness of the Church.

## **Mary Morrison**





## Thank You for the new Chairs for the Hall

We record here formally in our magazine our gratitude to Glasgow City Council's Local Area Grant fund for the donation of monies to provide new seating in the hall.

We now have 75 modern seats upholstered in purple cloth which have replaced the old plastic bucket chairs, making our hall more comfortable for all our various user groups.

Coupled with the changes we have made to the lighting, all those who use the hall – be it for church or community

events - comment on how much warmer and welcoming it feels.

We appreciate very much the support Glasgow City Council gives through this kind of Local Area Grant to enable us to fulfil our desire to make our premises a place where people of all faiths and none can come together in Pollokshields through a variety of community activities.

David Black on behalf of the Kirk Session.





# The Jews had a word for it – ‘Ichabod’ meaning ‘The Glory has Departed’

Some time ago my wife and I were discussing what our church used to be like. For example:

We remembered a congregation big enough to warrant 2 or even 3 services every Sunday.

There was a big Sunday School. As well as the Primary and Beginners departments we had four Intermediate classes. Our BB Company had a Bible Class meeting every Sunday. Three House Groups regularly met midweek for Bible Study. We had Congregational outings. There were DIY concerts, Anne Earnshaw’s ‘Strings and Things’ and the ‘Come Together’ group.

There was a lot going on in those days.

Is all this just nostalgia, or is there a feeling of ‘Ichabod’ (*the Glory has Departed*)? We are clearly just a shadow of our former selves?

So should we mourn, moan or mope and give up hope?

**NO! NO! NO!**

Remember Gideon-God said “Three hundred men will be enough to conquer the Midianites” With God on our side are our present numbers not enough for us to carry out God’s purposes? Of course they are! Remember that after the crucifixion only 11 disciples remained. And they began to change the world!

It is up to each one of us to strengthen ourselves by prayer (“Put on the whole armour of God”), by Bible reading and by godly fellowship, and so to offer ourselves in God’s service, and in His Name to go forth and conquer

**Douglas Miller**

## **World Mission – Used Stamps**

The World Mission would like to thank everyone who has donated their used stamps in 2010. The amount raised throughout Scotland was £2,409.00.

The money raised will help to support the Girls' Hostel at the St Colmuba's Religious Training Centre, Sialkot, Pakistan.

The money raised during 2011 Stamp Appeal will to help support a Place of Hope "Mount Olivet Boys' Home" Jamaica.

Through the Mount Olivet Boys' Home, the United Church in Jamaica and Cayman Islands and the Government of Jamaica provide a place of hope for young boys who have been abused or neglected. Established in 1973 with the conversion of a Presbyterian manse, the home now looks after around 30 boys with an average age of 12.

### **The Mount Olivet Boys' Home is committed to**

- Preparing the boys for post-institutional life
- Strengthening medical care including psychiatric and emotional support
- Providing comfortable living conditions
- Facilitating academic and vocational development
- Offering spiritual nurture and assistance with personal development
- Staff training facilitating recreation and positive socialisation

### **Needs and Development**

To advance this agenda, much work is needed

including:

- Refurbishing buildings following structural damage after successive hurricanes
- Improving the laundry area to conform to health and safety requirements and upgrade the staff area
- Reconfiguring of the water system to make it more efficient
- Installing solar equipment to harness natural resource and reduce utility bills

The amount raised, so far, this year up to 13<sup>th</sup> July 2011 is £1,209.00.

So, please, keep collecting your used stamps and put them in the box in the hall.

## **Harvest Thanksgiving Service**

The Flower Team wishes to thank all the volunteers who helped with the distribution of the Harvest Gifts on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

We are also very happy to report that Elva Carlisle delivered 4 boxes filled with your donations of groceries to the Lodging House Mission.

**Lillias Campbell**

## Handcrafted Cards

Thank you to everyone who has purchased cards.

Since Easter, over £100 has been raised. All proceeds go to the Guild.

Cards are on sale at the Wednesday morning Coffee Break, and I am happy to make cards for your special occasions.

Thank you again.

**Sheila Hart**

## New Vision Competition



In last month's New Vision we asked you to suggest a caption for the above picture.

Out of the submitted entries, the winner with the best caption from the Henderson Family with:

"The arrival of Percy the Polar Bear's nephew from the South Pole wasn't going to be as much fun as Percy had hoped!"

Highly commended: "Eat your heart out Evelyn!"

Commended: "Percy the Polar Bear had given up trying to get

*Pollokshields United Reformed Church  
in association with Hutchesons' Grammar School*

# **CONCERT**

**For J.U.I.C.E. in The GAMBIA**  
"unlocking the potential of people"

**SUNDAY 13 November 2011 at 6pm**

**Fotheringay Centre, Fotheringay Road,  
Pollokshields**

## **THE FOTHERINGAY PLAYERS**

*Conductor* David Bruce

*Leader* Donald McLeod

**Cimarosa Overture: The Secret Marriage**

**Chopin** Larghetto - Piano Concerto No 2  
*Soloist* Hebba Benyaghla

**Schubert** Symphony No 3 in D major

Entry by Donation at the door –  
suggested £8 (£5 concession)

The JUICE Project  
provides opportunities for discouraged and disadvantaged young  
people and women in The Gambia to learn, practice and develop  
enterprise skills.

## **The Guild**

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

### **October Meetings**

<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	2:30pm	"ROMANCE AT ROUKEN GLEN"	Mrs Joy Blair
<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	7:30pm	"LET'S TALK"	
<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	2:30pm	"STARTER PACKS"	Mrs Sarah Findlay
<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	7:30pm	"SINGING THE LORD'S SONG IN A STRANGE LAND"	Mr David Miller

New members and visitors will be most welcome at all Guild meetings

Guild Week takes place from 20<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> November  
To celebrate Guild Week, the Guild will conduct Sunday Worship on the 27<sup>th</sup> November

### **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.

Be in touch!  
Send us original articles,  
Views, snippets of news-  
Anything you would like to share with  
other people

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[webmaster@pollokshieldschurch.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@pollokshieldschurch.org.uk).

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The Church of Scotland

*The purpose of Vision is to record the life and work of the congregation. No editor on their own can know all that people do, feel and want, so it is up to you, whether your are an office bearer, the leader of an organisation to submit your articles.*

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