

POLLOKSHIELDS CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, GLASGOW

December 2011/

No. 13

January 2012

NEW VISION



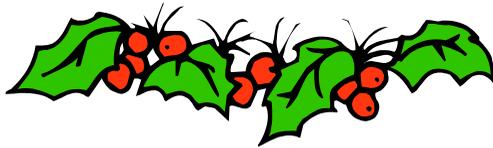
Our Mission Statement:

*'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 DECEMBER

- 4th Dec Sacrament of Holy Communion
11th Dec Gift Service
18th Dec Junior Church Nativity Play
24th Dec Watchnight Service; Lessons & Carols at
11:15pm
25th Dec Family Christmas Day Service



SUNDAY SERVICES IN JANUARY

- 1st Jan Morning Worship, Junior Church & Creche
8th Jan Morning Worship, Junior Church & Creche
15th Jan Morning Worship, Junior Church & Creche
22nd Jan Morning Worship, Junior Church & Creche
29th Jan Morning Worship, Junior Church & Creche

Copy date of the next New Vision is 22nd January



Message from the Manse

A year ago we were up to our knees in snow and plans for our Rededication service were knocked out of kilter.

However, the spirit engendered from then and throughout the winter's difficulties has resulted in a strengthening of our life together rather than weakening it.

Like the Finance Team, I want to congratulate you on your increased giving this year – an approximate 12% increase in committed giving is a phenomenal rise given the economic situation we all share.

More impressive is the way members have come and shared in leading worship and in experimenting in finding new ways to think about the Gospel. Our series of Conversations with Clare Radford, Community Theologian, the final event in a year of building on our "Hear I Am" series.

That series started from ideas we had when Sarah Brown was on her student placement with us, and its great to be able to report that she is now minister elect for Castlemilk East linked with Castlemilk West Churches, and we look forward to being with her for her Ordination and Induction in the new Year.



Before that though, there is all the usual excitement of Advent and Christmas services to share, Carols by Candlelight with our neighbours and Nativity service with the children (already well into rehearsal) as well as Watchnight service and a special All Age service for Christmas Day itself. We look forward to seeing you at any or all of these events.

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Rev David Black



A Little Chuckle

At a school Nativity play three young children were cast as Kings. Presenting their gifts at the stable, the first one said "Gold", the second said "Myrrh" and the third, "Frank sent this."



A bus stop was sited close to a church sign on which was written "Where will you be on judgement day?" Underneath someone had written – "Still waiting for a bus!"

Walking the Bridges



On 17th and 18th September we three Guild members, Fiona Punton, Janette Henderson and I, fulfilled our pledge to walk across the Forth, Tay, Skye and Erskine bridges. This was to commemorate the 10th anniversary of our trip to Papua New Guinea to see the Guild Project there in aid of Mission Aviation Fellowship and the walk across the Sydney Harbour Bridge which the other two did

As we walked we received great encouragement from Guild members at the different bridges who walked with us and wonderful hospitality on Skye and at our last bridge.

We did wonderfully well with sponsorship. As MAF's work in PNG is run by MAF Australia, my son's church in Wollongong sponsored me, raising \$410. Our congregation has given £425, the other two walkers have raised £700 while friends and guilds all over Scotland contributed £875. The grand total of £2000 along with the \$410 should give MAF approximately \$3500 for the work in PNG. This will go such a long way there, helping medical evacuations from remote villages and the work of the churches in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It will encourage the MAF personnel there as they seek to serve God often in lonely or difficult situations.

So, my deep gratitude to all who sponsored me. Your concern, your prayers and your money are greatly appreciated by me, by MAF and by the people they serve. Very many thanks. Elva Carlisle

The Innumerable Christ

by Hugh MacDiarmid

*"Other stars may have their Bethlehem, and their Calvary, too."
Professor J.Y.Simpson*

Wha kens on whatna Bethlehems
Earth twinkles like a star the nicht,
An' whatna shepherds lift their heids
In its unearthly licht?

'Yont a' the stars oor een can see
An farther than their lichts can fly,
I' mony an unco warl' the nicht
The fatefu' bairnies cry.

I' mony an unco warl' the nicht
The lift gaes black as pitch at noon,
An' sideways on their chests the heids
O' endless Christs roll doon.

An' when the earth's as cauld's the mune
An' a' its folk are lang syne deid,
On coontless stars the Babe maun cry
An' the Crucified maun bleed.

*1923. Copyright. Printed by kind permission of
Deirdre Grieve.*

Wha kens = who knows *whatna* = what (kind of)
the nicht = tonight *(a)yont* = beyond *a'* = all
oor een = our eyes *i' mony an unco warl'* = in many a
strange (unknown) world *lift* = sky
gaes = goes *cauld* = cold *mune* = moon
lang syne = long ago *maun* = must

Doors Open Day Civic Reception

To thank organisations taking part in Doors Open Day 2011 Glasgow City Council held a Civic Reception in the City Chambers on 16th November, and Irene Macleod asked us to represent the Church.

Following the official welcome, competition prizewinners were announced. In the photography competition, a runner up was "Light Projected on Stone", a lovely image of a stained glass window from Sherbrooke-St Gilbert's. Then we heard from young people from Castlemilk High and St Margaret Mary's Secondary Schools, who very confidently demonstrated their storytelling skills with two ghost stories set in Castlemilk. It was then time for a delicious buffet,

A presentation by the Maryhill Burgh Halls Trust followed, showing the imaginative redevelopment of a cluster of listed buildings, including the Burgh Hall itself, which is due to reopen in April. Originally, Maryhill Burgh Hall had twenty stained glass windows illustrating the area's rich industrial heritage, commissioned from Stephen Adam, who also designed some of the stained glass here in our own church.

Fortunately, the City Council took the Burgh Hall windows into safekeeping as the building became derelict, and after conservation, the windows will be restored to their original location. And – for the record – there really was a Mary Hill who owned the original estate!



This was the 22nd year of Doors Open Day, and this year there were 56,000 visitors across the city. Organisations were thanked for their efforts, and encouraged to take part again in 2012. We enjoyed the evening – thank you, Irene – and it is good to pass on the formal thanks

David and Sheila Hart

Just to say Thank You.....

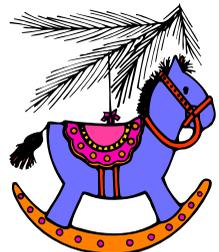
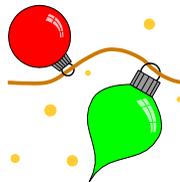
Many thanks for the anonymous donation to the Flower Fund which was received with the Church Offering. It was much appreciated.



Lillias Campbell

Church Christmas Tree

On Wednesday 7th December the Church Christmas Tree is being put up at 6:00pm. Why not come along on the night and help to decorate it or help with the Tree in the Hall~.





Christmas Brain Teaser

Famous Christmas Songs

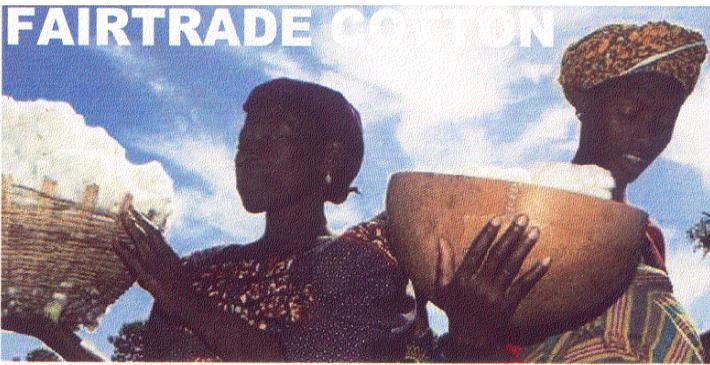
Name the carols from which these lines are taken:

1. "The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes..."
2. "Above your deep and dreamless sleep..."
3. "Hither page and stand by me..."
4. "Let every heart prepare him room ..."
5. "Oh they sailed into Bethlehem on Christmas Day..."
6. "From angels bending near the earth..."
7. "O Star of Wonder, star of light..."
8. "To certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay..."
9. "O come thou Rod of Jesse free..."
10. "Worship we our Jesus: but wherewith for sacred sign?"

Name the songs which these lines are taken:

1. "my true love gave to me..."
2. "well the weather outside is frightful..."
3. "O'er the fields we go ..."
4. "Now there's Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen..."
5. "ring-a-ling, hear them ring, soon it will be Christmas Day..."
6. "later we'll have some pumpkin pie..."
7. "there must have been some magic in that old silk hat..."
8. "you can say there's no such thing as Santa, but as for me and grandpa we believe..."
9. "glad tidings we bring to you and your kin..."
10. "toll the ancient yule-tide carol..."

FAIRTRADE COTTON



*'Since selling our cotton as Fairtrade, we are able to eat every day and all of my children go to school. With the premium we have built two class rooms'. *Moussa Keita, Fairtrade cotton farmer in Mali.*

7.5 million people, in 58 disadvantaged countries benefit from Fairtrade.

UK retail sales of Fairtrade cotton reached approx £100 million in 2008.

'Sales of ethical clothing have more than quadrupled in the last 5 years'.

**Mintel Ethical Clothing UK report 2008.*

Fairtrade cotton- the facts:

Cotton is a crucial cash crop for many developing countries and can often be the only means of income for farmers. As world prices for cotton decline, the price of fuel, food and raw materials continue to rise. Small-scale cotton growers across the world are struggling to survive, often work relentlessly for less than \$2 a day.

How Fairtrade certified cotton makes a difference:



Fairtrade ensures that farmers receive a fair and stable price for the cotton they produce. They also receive an additional amount which can be used to invest in community projects, such as building schools, health centres and improving water supply. Fairtrade standards have specific environmental requirements, and can act as a great bridge for farmers who are switching to

organic farming practices. Buying Fairtrade cotton means your company plays a direct part in improving the lives of disadvantaged farmers in the developing world.

The market for Fairtrade products:

The UK market for Fairtrade products has seen tremendous growth since their launch in 1992. Total retail sales in 2008 reached £700 million (an increase of 43% in comparison to 2007) and research shows that 7 in 10 UK households purchased product carrying the FAIRTRADE Mark.

Fairtrade certified cotton products were first launched in November 2005, and have again seen huge growth- with sales of garments made from Fairtrade cotton reaching 20 million units last year. This is fantastic news in the current economic climate, and provides tremendous reassurance for retailers knowing that shoppers continue to back Fairtrade's promise of a better deal from trade.

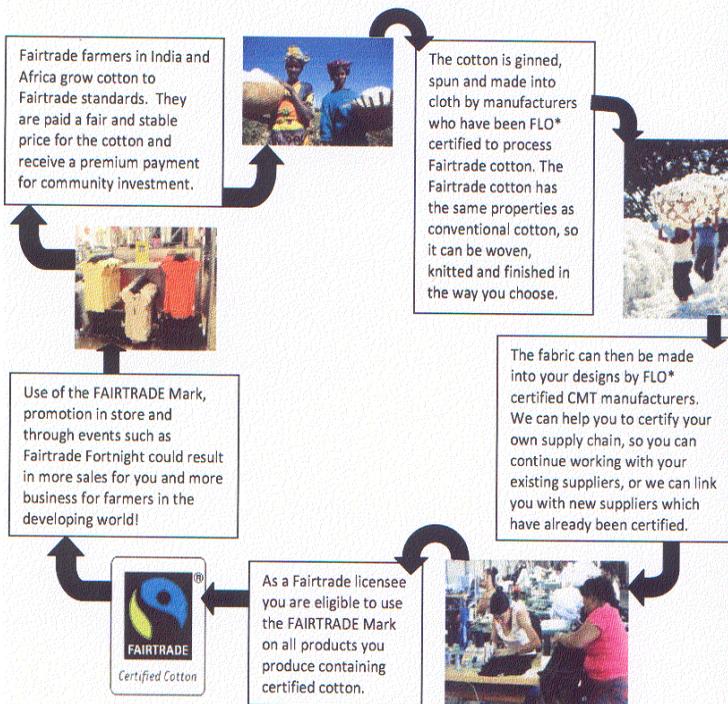
Benefits of Fairtrade cotton for your business:

As well as helping developing countries to work their way out of poverty, working with Fairtrade certified cotton has specific benefits for your business:

- Aligning your brand or business with Fairtrade's dynamic movement for change means being part of the UK's most trusted independent certification marks- **72%** of the UK population recognise the FAIRTRADE Mark.
- New marketing and PR opportunities, including Fairtrade Fortnight exposure.
- Full transparency of Fairtrade cotton in your supply chain
- Opportunity for staff motivation and engagement.



Fairtrade cotton- from farmer to consumer:



*FLO-Cert is part of the Fair Labelling Organisation which is the International body responsible for setting and monitoring the Fairtrade standards for cotton.

Fairtrade cotton products:

Fairtrade certified cotton can be used in most of the products you would normally associate with conventional cotton and can be easily integrated into your existing product ranges.

The Fairtrade standards require that all the cotton in a product must be sourced from registered suppliers and must make up at least 50% of the product's volume. For a full list of the standards which apply to the use of Fairtrade cotton please visit the following website:

<http://www.fairtrade.net/standards.html>.

How to access listings of registered suppliers:

All traders who are registered to be able to work with Fairtrade Cotton are listed within the Business Services section of the Fairtrade Foundation website which can be found at the following link:

http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/business_services/flo_certified_cotton_traders.aspx

If you plan to have a new supply chain registered please contact us at the Fairtrade Foundation for further information.

For more information on Fairtrade cotton please e-mail us on:

commercial@fairtrade.org.uk or direct to victoria.waugh@fairtrade.org.uk



20 million garments made using Fairtrade cotton were sold in 2008.

68% of the UK population recognise the FAIRTRADE Mark.

*TNS April 2009

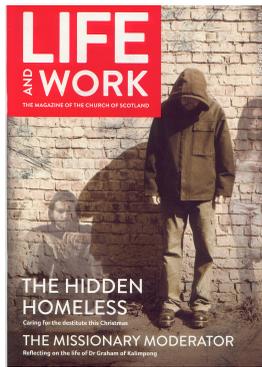
There are over 440 Fairtrade towns, 5000 Faith groups, 3000 schools registered for the 'Fairtrade Schools' programme and nearly 100 Fairtrade colleges and universities.

Clothing, bed linen, cushions, duvets, bath mats and even shoes are just some of the many cotton products which have been Fairtrade certified.

Some Funny Church Noticeboards



Murray Henderson



In Decembers Life & Work you will find the following articles

Prayer: Special reflection for readers

The Big Question: What's your most precious Christmas memory?

Letters: Opinion and Comment from our readers

Moderator: The Rt Rev David Arnott emphasises the importance of nurturing skills

A Gift To Be Opened: The Rev John Purves explains why Christmas should not simply be a 'nice' Gift

News: Reports from the local national and global church

The Growing Church: Thomas Balwin looks back at the end of the two-year series.

Bible Study: In the third part of his six-part series, the Very Rev Gilleasburig Macmillan looks at the 'two Josephs'

Out of Nazareth: The very Rev Dr James Simpson looks a

at how many great people have come out of small places.

Registers: Record of ministry and eldership change

Crosswords; Puzzle challenges for our readers

This month's special Features

Helping Those in Need:

David Bradwell reflects on churches working to support the homeless

The Hidden Homeless:

Thomas Balwin discovers how churches and charities will be caring for the destitute this Christmas

A 'Sharing of Lives': Jackie Macadam learns about the importance of congregational 'twinning'

The Missionary Moderator: On the 80th Anniversary of the election of Dr Graham of Kalimpong as Moderator, his Grandson, Nigel Graham reflects on a life whose legacy continues today.



Four Worms

Four worms and a lesson to be learned!!!

A minister decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon.

Four worms were placed into four separate jars

The first worm was put into a container of alcohol
The second worm was put into a container of cigarette
smoke

The third worm was put into a container of chocolate
syrup

The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean
soil

At the conclusion of the sermon the minister reported the
following results:

The first worm in alcohol – dead

The second worm in cigarette smoke – dead

The third worm in chocolate syrup – dead

The fourth worm in good clean soil – alive

So the minister asked the congregation – "what did you
learn from this demonstration?"

Maxine sitting in the back quickly raised her hand and
said, "As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate
syrup, you won't have worms!"

That pretty much ended the service.



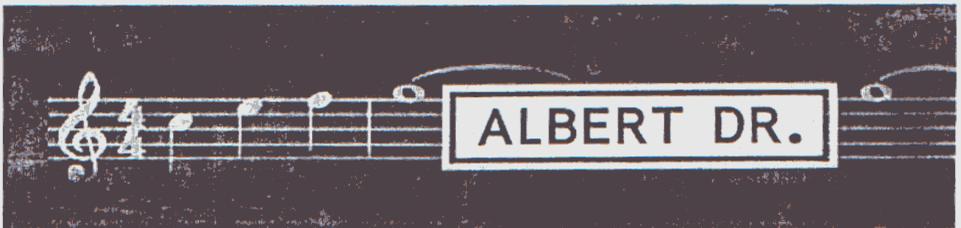
- R.A.T.S presents 'BABES IN THE WOOD' in St Ninians Church Hall, Albert Drive from Wednesday 30th November to Saturday 3rd December at 7:30pm also a Matinee on Saturday 3rd December at 2:30pm
- The next meeting of the youth group 'THE WAY' is on Sunday 11th December at 6:00pm – 8:00pm. You can take part in Christian Discussion, eat Pizzas or play games: Table Tennis, Air Hockey, Darts, Table Tennis, Pool Wii and lots of Chat & Banter.
- Bring in 2012 with Music and Word, 'Watchnight Over Glasgow Service' at Glasgow Cathedral on Hogmanay at 11:00pm.
- Do you have a garden and would like some help looking after it. Hutchesons Grammer School are running 'Community Action 2011 – 2012'. Senior Pupils from the school are happy to offer help with garden and ground maintenance over the winter. Contact Mr J McDougall, Depute Rector on 0141 423 2933 for more information.
- Make sure your 'Home's Prepared for the Winter'. In case the weather turns nasty, everyone should make a plan for their home and collect a few everyday things.
 - Emergency phone numbers
 - A torch and spare batteries
 - A radio and spare batteries
 - Three days worth of bottled water and food that won't go off

Doing a few small things now, could save a lot of trouble later. Find out more at www.readyscotland.org



Would you like to sing with your neighbours?

You may have seen us on Albert Drive// We may have already met// You may have seen something written in chalk on the street// You may have seen us walking in the morning// You may have seen us carrying our sign 'I'm trying to meet my neighbour'



Our names are Joshua and Josee. We are part of the group of artists working in collaboration with Tramway and The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland to make a piece of outdoor theatre about one street in Glasgow.

This street is Albert Drive.

On Sunday 11th December an audience will walk up Albert Drive, where small performances will be hosted on the street, starting at the Tramway at 1pm. We are looking for people, of all ages and abilities who like to sing, to join with us in creating and performing a song about the idea of 'neighbour' as part of this event.

If you're interested or would like to know more, please get in touch ASAP.

We look forward to meeting you if we haven't already...

Joshua and Josee

albertdrive@albertdrive.com

07947718704

Scotland's Churches Scheme

Scotland's Pilgrim Ways

The Scheme's major new initiative on Scotland's Pilgrim Ways has been developed and a pilot project is underway which will use our extensive, unique database of church buildings and sacred places in the identification, compilation and promotion of an initial five pilgrim routes across Scotland.

- St Columba Way (Kintyre to Iona and beyond)
- St Ninian Way (Withorn to Glasgow/Stirling)
- St Andrew Way (Iona to St Andrews)
 St Margaret Way (Edinburgh to St Andrews)
- St Cuthbert Way (Edinburgh/Melrose to Lindisfarne)

Further routes will be developed such as a St Mungo Way and, following the experience of the pilot, it is planned to extend the network of routes across the country. This initiative, being strongly encouraged by the Scottish Government VisitScotland, Scottish Enterprise and Historic Scotland, will be a significant extension of the work in opening up our fine church heritage to visitors.

Answers to Christmas Carols

1. Away in a manger-composed in 1895, words written 10 years earlier
2. O little Town of Bethlehem-written in 1868 by Phillips Brook
3. Good King Wenceslas – Born in the 10th century
4. Joy to the World – dates back to 1719
5. I saw three ships-said to be an old English Victorian carol
6. It came upon the Midnight clear-stated as a poem
7. We Three Kings of Orient are-written in 1857
8. The First Noel-origin unknown but thought to date to 16th century
9. O come O come Emmanuel-translated from Latin in 1851
10. Love came down at Christmas-written in 1885 by Christina Rossetti

Christmas Songs

1. 12 days of Christmas-originally a children's rhyme
2. Let it snow-a famous hit in 1945
3. Jingle Bells-Written by James Lord Pierpoint in 1857
4. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer-Rudolph was created by Robert L May in 1939
5. Silver Bells- in a movie called "The Lemon Drop Kid" in 1951
6. Rockin' around the Christmas tree-recorded by Brenda Lee
7. Frosty the Snowman-recorded by Gene Autry
8. Grandma got ran over by a reindeer-not for the faint hearted
9. We wish you a Merry Christmas-first introduced in West Country of England
10. Deck the Halls-18th century

The Guild

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

December Meetings

5th 2:30pm CHRISTMAS TEA

12th 7:30pm CHRISTMAS PARTY



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



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

The contents of NEW VISION are now reproduced electronically on the Church's web site, so if anyone has any objection to personal photographs or details being made public in this way they should speak to the web-master, David Hart, in church or at:

webmaster@pollokshieldschurch.org.uk.

Views expressed by contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor nor of
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.

Editor: Elizabeth McKissock
elizmckissock@pollokshieldschurch.org.uk

Printed and published by
Pollokshields Church of Scotland, Glasgow
www.pollokshieldschurch.org.uk