



WORSHIPPING TOGETHER SHERBROOKE MOSSPARK & IBROX PARISH CHURCHES

To all our new friends at Sherbrooke Mosspark.

A huge thank you from the Ibrox folk for the wonderful, warm welcome which has been extended to us while our church is undergoing the renovation work. On Sunday 9th July, at the end of a hectic and exhausting week clearing our halls, we arrived to a lovely welcome. It's fair to say we were a wee bit unsure (though why? I don't know) but our worries proved to be completely unfounded and it has been wonderful sharing worship with you each Sunday. Everyone has gone out of their way to help us find our way around your building and to answer any questions we have. It was an inspired idea to give us name badges each week which helps us all to address each other by name (although, I must confess, I am still having to look at these badges each week!).

To Adam and Tara, we thank you for all the work you are doing, working together to provide us with stimulating services each week.

We look forward to the weeks ahead where we will continue to worship together and to get to know each other a bit more.

Thanks to you all once again.

Linda Tainsh

Soup & Chat

Tuesday 13th September 2023

Thank you everyone who came to Soup and Chat at lunchtime, your donations added to the ones from June have made £135 which we have given to the Red Cross appeal for the earthquake in Morocco.

Thank you,

Grace 🙏

Dear All

Ministers very often rely on a table of suggested readings for each day and week of the year to give direction and structure to our preaching and also our own spiritual lives. The lectionary keeps us right as to when we should be celebrating the Christian festivals.

The time between Pentecost and Advent in the Lectionary is the longest section, and is known as “Ordinary Time.” However, there is nothing ordinary about “Ordinary Time”. I have been reflecting on the last few months and planning ahead, and the months have been packed with lots of “extraordinary time!

Holiday destinations and settlements flooded burned as climate change becomes more prevalent. Strikes continue and the first passports with the King’s head are printed. Oppenheimer and Barbie become the most unlikely Box Office duo

Closer to home Ibrox have joined us for worship while their building undergoes an exciting renovation. Our dear friend and trusted colleague, Cameron Aitken passed away suddenly on the 18th June and we filled the church to celebrate his life six weeks later.

Packed into Ordinary Time, there have been sponsored walks and cycles, preparations for Harvest with a Ceilidh and Supper on the 7th October, planning for the future and celebrating past achievements, learning from mistakes, times of deep conversation, abiding laughter and joy as well as sorrows and regrets, and painful journeys.

By calling something ordinary, we almost suggest that nothing of note happens, but we do ourselves a disservice thinking that way. Extraordinary things happen, and ordinary things happen. In the midst of those ordinary humdrum routines of life, and the highlights of celebration, as well as the pain of bereavement and loss, we find God. God is there in our lives, wherever we go, and whatever we do. So, as you read through our news, join us in our celebrations, journey with us in our hopes and fears, and find God.

God comes to us in the most ordinary of moments, and if we take time to scratch below the surface, we will marvel at the most extraordinary things of our Christian lives, and that, with God, we can make it happen.

May God bless your ordinary and extraordinary time.

Adam

Session Clerk Update



At the time of writing we are enjoying a rather lovely Indian summer with the resumption of watering the summer bedding bought at our plant sale in May. The current weather very much reminds me of the fantastic weather Nigel and I enjoyed during our trip to the Outer Hebrides in June in our campervan. We travelled from the Butt of Lewis all the way down to the tip of Barra. What a super time we had visiting the Callanish stones, worshipping at Howmore Church (home

for Myra Lamont in South Uist) and loving the beautiful islands bathed in the most amazing weather. The midges were even on holiday (due to the sunshine and gentle breeze) and our dog Harvey enjoyed all the beaches and walking we did. Other trips in the campervan were made to Liverpool (to visit Nigel's niece and family) and the Lake District (to visit Nigel's brother).

Sadly while we were away, we received the sad news of Cameron Aitken's death - right after the morning service at Howmore. A sad time for us all and he will be sorely missed. Cameron's memorial service held in early August was a fitting tribute to his contribution to our Church community with representatives attending from the Scout Association through to the many organisations who use our halls and sanctuary on a regular basis and had got to know Cameron very well over the years. Thanks must go to the Social committee who organised the catering afterwards with Cameron's favourite cakes featuring strongly. A small selection committee (comprising of Anne McCaig, Iain Webster and me) then started the arduous process of recruiting a new Church officer aiming to have the post filled by the start of the 'new term' in September. Interviews were held in August and Rebekah Dillon was appointed as our Church officer with effect from 22nd August. Many of you will have welcomed Rebekah into her new role already and I would ask you all to provide as much support as you can over the coming months.

We are now resuming the normal pattern of church life with the various groups recommencing - Soup and Chat, Women's Group, uniformed organisations, Guild, Kirk Sessions etc. Our worshiping has been augmented with Ibrox Parish Church now joining us on both Thursday and Sunday services as their building work commences. I have really enjoyed meeting the Ibrox members and look forward to our shared services over the coming year.

While we said a fond farewell to Willian McCulloch in May, we have now welcomed our new probationer, Adaeze Goziem-Ibonye. For those of you in church on that fateful Sunday when I had to lead the service, you will remember that Adaeze had decided to

visit us that morning and got very much thrown in at the deep end! We look forward to getting to know Adaeze more.

As we look forward to the Autumn there are various dates and events on the horizon: with a Ceilidh on Saturday 7th October followed by our Harvest Festival Sunday 8th October. Remembrance service on 12th November when our poppy project will be unveiled as well as all the dates now slotting into the diary for our Christmas celebrations.

Much to look forward to as we enjoy our continued fellowship.

Clare
Session Clerk

AM Chorus

The new session of the AM Chorus began on Wednesday 13th September at 10am in the church hall. There are around 30 members who enjoy a 'good sing' followed by the opportunity to have a chat over a cup of coffee.

We meet weekly for an enjoyable hour of singing under the enthusiastic guidance of Grace Guse ably accompanied on the piano by Muriel Manning. Our repertoire includes a selection of traditional favourites, songs from the shows and some new songs. Once again we are delighted to have been invited to join with the church choir at the Carols by Candlelight service and also hope to sing joyfully to audiences on other occasions during the year.

New members are always welcome - the more the merrier - come along and join in!

We are hugely grateful to Grace for her unfailing patience and encouragement and look forward to the new session with great anticipation.

The AM Chorus support team



Church Officer

Hello, I am Rebekah, the new church officer. I have just recently returned from a year studying abroad in Australia and am now in my fourth year at the University of Glasgow studying sociology. I am looking forward to getting to know everyone more and the organisations that use the church.

My contact details are
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159th Scout Troop Update

This year we decided to go slightly further afield than Auchengillan and crossed Hadrian's Wall into Northumberland. Fifteen Scouts and five Explorer Scouts accompanied by five Leaders headed down to Kielder Water Scout Campsite in a minibus, transit van and a couple of cars. One of our thoughts of heading slightly east and south was to avoid the west coast pain inflicted by the dreaded midge. Well, that was wrong and I can report the midges of Kielder Water are as plentiful and vicious as their northerly cousins.

Our campsite, being a clearing in a forest, isolated from the road and dwellings, was beautifully quiet and also very damp. The rain held off just long enough for us to erect half the marquee but that was enough to shelter in as the heavens opened during our arrival and pitching of camp; thankfully, whilst it remained generally grey and damp the river running through our site never washed tents or Scouts away into the huge lake and we remained in our own circle of existence, appearing for the odd food top up and to stop camp fever getting too extreme.

We packed a lot into the 5 nights away, with water based activities, such as building a jenga tower out of paddleboards in the middle of a cold and windy Lake (what are you talking about? it's true, that was our quest and all the Leaders were onboard. or not as it happens). The Troop also undertook Bell Boating, which looked like an elongated Hawaiian Canoe with paddles down each side:great fun. A long Zip wire was onsite and gave a wonderful and fast run through the forest before smashing into the tripod holding the structure together. Great design.

Off site activities include some hiking (too much for some) and a visit to the Bird of Prey sanctuary on the Lake. An impressive Sea Eagle was giving the Keepers something to think about.

Overall it was a most successful camp and a formula we would like to continue with in the years to come.

Nigel Williams
159th Scout Troop

Community Outreach Update

As the schools go back after the summer holidays, I am very excited to be going back to Mossspark Primary School. I have the wonderful opportunity of going into each class every term, and tell a bible story. It is hard to believe that this is now my third year of going into the school. Every class has been fantastic, but two classes have stood out.

The very first class I went into, a great wee primary one class they listened so well not taking their wee eyes off my pictures. After my story was finished the teacher asked if the children had any questions. I was surprised at the questions, they showed a great interest, the children wanted to know more. I have now asked the teacher in every class "is it all right if the children can ask questions?" Only once have I had a class who didn't ask questions.

The second class that stood out was last year's primary seven. They stood out for the depth of questions they asked and the enthusiasm they had. The teacher asked me if I had time for them to keep asking questions. More than half an hour was spent asking and answering questions. I have been amazed at the deep questions children ask and how when I give an answer several hands go up and I am asked a deeper question. Anyone who thinks that children today are not interested in God are wrong for their questions tell a different story.

Messy Church is held in Mossspark Bowling club once a month. The school is good at advertising this, in some classes the teacher asks the children who are going to go along, about a third of the hands go up but, we get nowhere near a third of the school. Many children tell me they can't come because they have another club or mums working and they are away to grans or after school. We are living in a busy world with so much on the church has so much to compete with. Messy Church is a great event with a brilliant team and each month the children and their parents are treated to a lovely two-course meal. They have a bible story and craft time, games, a song, and a prayer.

Corkerhill railway station platform has been looking bright and colourful with the beautiful planters. During the warm weather several church members living in Mossspark made many visits to the station with bottle after bottle of water. Planting flowers in a station may seem a strange way to promote the gospel but showing an interest in the environment and adding beauty shows God's beautiful creation and Love in a unique way. More volunteers for the station would be great, there is so much more we could do if we had more help, so if you have an interest in gardening and perhaps have filled every inch of your garden there is plenty of space at the station for more planters.

Susan Graham
Community Outreach Officer



Henry Abbott My South Korea Adventure

As many of you know, I was selected along with Nicholas, another of the Explorer Scouts from our unit, to attend the 25th World Scout Jamboree in South Korea this summer.

The trip had been the product of a culmination of training camps, small expeditions and group meetups that gave us a chance to meet and get to know the other scouts from the Clyde unit (our unit, the “Tartan Teacakes”) and the other Scottish units that help to make up the UK contingent.

We left for Korea on the 26th of July and after an almost 24hr journey we arrived in Seoul, and stayed in a hotel that was overrun with UK scouts for the next 6 days. We spent our time getting over the jet lag, acclimatising ourselves to the ridiculous heatwave that Seoul was experiencing, and exploring this new and exciting city.

We visited Seoul tower, saw palaces and temples, felt the immense size of the mega city, and even went to the DMZ up at the border. But all this was just the build-up to the biggest disaster in Jamboree history.

The first shock was learning that the entire camp was flooded and that the drainage systems in place were essentially useless. This managed to delay our journey to camp for a day, but nonetheless we made it there on the 2nd of August, and it was full on from the moment we stepped off the bus.

The opening ceremony was that night, but we had arrived late to our site, so we had a limited time to get our entire camp set up and dinner made. The resilience of our troop (and our desire to get to the festival) pulled through and managed to join the march to the stage and site for the ceremony. We were the attraction of the entire Jamboree with our kilts and bagpipes blaring, we felt on top of the world. The opening ceremony went by in a blur, there was music, lights, and Bear Grylls.

Sufficiently tired out after our day, we returned to the campsite and set our alarms for 5.30am to avoid baking in the heat of our tents once the sun was up.

On our first full day we went to the water sport activities base, there we met scouts from all over the world, went on massive water slides and had a lot of water fights. We were all thoroughly excited and although the heat was killing us, we were ready to fully

immerse ourselves in all the jamboree had to offer, this was until we found out that all the hospitals were full of scouts collapsed from heat stroke, even one of the girls from our unit fell victim. And so, the next day of activities was cancelled due to the heat, but this didn't stop us from finding other scouts, learning about their cultures, and playing Swiss drinking games (with water).

Although, that night we found out that, due to unsanitary conditions in combination with the heat and an inbound typhoon the entire UK contingent was due to be evacuated the very next day. Everyone got up the next morning feeling despondent but there was no time for moping as we quickly packed up our camp and were in a bus back to Seoul by noon.

This time we stayed in a hotel in Gangnam, here we spent the rest of our time going around Seoul, taking a day off for results day, swimming, and living it up in true Gangnam Style.

Overall, even though the Jamboree had gone tremendously off course, we made the most of our trip and I had an incredible time and am extremely thankful for the support that I received before, during and after the jamboree, because without it, it could have been a very different experience.

Henry Abbott

Refugees needing help - 7/9/23

There has been a call for toys and clothing. What is required is children's clothing for age 3-11 years, female clothes, and men's shoes (particularly size 8). If anyone has any items, please email me to arrange how I will get these from you to where they need to go.

Thanks

Susan

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The Railway People Gardeners Group

The railway station Gardener's group got together earlier in summer to change the Spring flower display to one with bright bedding plants in our trough and two new barrels. Our summer weather as you know has been mixed with rain and sun we can still see a bright display of colourful plants due to the warmth in the air and hope for the many passengers on trains they to also enjoy the display. Hopefully noticing our plaque as a witness to the station.

If you would like a look and not on a train between Glasgow and Paisley you can take a walk through Pollok Park by path along side Pollok House exiting top of Corkerhill Road and walking down to the station on right.

Anyone willing to help with further planting or watering just mention to Ruth. Pat, Brian, Christine McMillan or Susan Graham.