



## The Plant Sale Saturday 13th May 2023



### The 2023 Plant Sale

The Saturday of the Plant Sale was absolutely glorious - such a bonus - and it certainly seemed to put everyone in the mood for buying plants to enhance their gardens after the severe winter frosts. We had a queue outside and once the doors opened the plants just seemed to fly off the shelves. Well done to the check out team for all that 'adding up' under pressure. The grand total including the tea room and flower arrangements was £2,650. A great result, but it's not just about money, the sale is a real social event attracting people from the local community, dogs and children included!

Many thanks to everyone involved whether it was donating plants, assembling orders, helping on the day, running the tea-room or simply supporting the sale. Special thanks also to the Scouts whose help is very much appreciated.

Now there is much gardening to do, especially watering all these beautiful new plants. Wishing everyone a lovely summer and 'happy gardening'.

Marjorie McGhie



## Station Adoption

Ruth, Susan, Brian, and Pat visited Largs Train Station community garden on Saturday, 3rd June, as part of our station adoption. It was part of the volunteers week.

We received a warm welcome from the station volunteers who proudly showed us around. They explained that it was a community effort that kept this garden space running. It was beautiful and innovative space, and they explained the resources they used from funding, to getting community groups involved, ie local schools, care homes, they also had the help of the prisoner release system for the heavy work.

Their hospitality didn't end there, as we finished our visit with coffee and home made cakes.

We came away motivated to try some of their ideas. It was a lovely day out.

So next time you visit Largs Train Station spent a few moments to enjoy the beautiful station garden.

## Christian Aid 2023

Thank you everyone for your support for Christian Aid this year. Today I deposited £953 into the Christian Aid account.

This was made up from:

Coffee and tea donations x2	£113.90
Craft stall	£228.10
Soup and chat	£85.00
Donation envelopes	£526.00

Thank you also for the completed gift aid donation forms which will amount to an extra £87 approximately.

Thanks to Mags Cargey and Helen Thomson who helped to count and bag the money and assisted with the paperwork.

Ruth McCluskey

## Dear Friends

Turning water into wine. If you had to choose one superpower, that would be it, right? Super-strength, flight, X-ray vision - they're all very well in their own right, but they're not going to get you invited to parties. Turning water into wine, though.... Maybe that sounds a bit flippant, and I really don't mean to be. For many folk, though, this first of Jesus's miracles, according to John, seems a little out of keeping with what's to come. No one is ill. No one is dying. No one is hungry. This isn't exactly the raising of Lazarus or the feeding of the five thousand. For some folk this miracle seems a little, well, pointless. Scarcely more than a decent magic trick. "You were sure there was water in these jars, right? Well now, taste it. You're going to like this - not a lot, but you'll like it."

I've used words like 'superpower' and magic there. The point about this miracle - and all Jesus's miracles - is that they are neither of those things. I sometimes think that the word 'miracle' is not the best one we can use for this event - or the other things Jesus did. The problem is that when we think about miracles we can get caught up with the fact that these were amazing, supernatural, events that ran contrary to the laws of nature - as x-ray vision would, or as a well-performed magic trick seems to - and simply think, "Wow! That's amazing". And that's not the point.

I don't mean to be flippant about this passage. Quite the reverse. It's no accident that John tells the story of turning water into wine and reminds folk that it was the first of Jesus's signs. And that's the word John uses - 'signs'. This shifts the focus away from the incredible nature of the event itself to the person carrying it out: to Jesus. The way this word worked in Greek was that a 'sign' was a mark by which someone was known or recognised. In particular, in the New Testament, it's a sign by which Jesus is known and marked out as the Messiah, speaking and acting with the authority and power of God.

That's why the tasting of the wine is so important a part of the way John tells the story. He could have just said that the water had turned into wine, but Jesus's work is recognised by tasting. This is a sign that marks him out.

"Taste and see" is the message John communicates to these people with this story. This is a sign that the Christ they worship is, indeed, who they believe him to be. He is, indeed, the Messiah. His Cross does, indeed, bring the salvation they believe they have. The story of the wedding at Cana isn't just the story of a miracle - of a superpower or a brilliant magic trick. It's a sign and there's more to it than meets the eye.

This isn't just any old water that Jesus turns into wine. It's water that the Jews used for purification. They would use it in rituals that, in their view, rendered them spiritually clean. Now it has turned to wine - the element used at the Last Supper and by Christians from the earliest days of Christianity to represent the blood of Christ. OK, this story says to John's readers, you don't have the Temple any more. You don't have the rituals of Judaism any more. You don't need them any more. They aren't what puts you right with

God. Look, instead, to the one who turns water into wine; who has purified you through his Cross.

Taste, too, and see. Taste and see that Christ can transform you and those around you; can transform the world. Taste and see that Christ can take what is old and make something new out of it; can renew it.

Your minister, and friend

Adam

## **Dear All**

In spreading the good news, there is sometimes bad news.

When we last met, we discussed the possibility of inviting members of the congregation to purchase pew bibles for the sanctuary. This had three elements to it:

1. Previous bibles, which are now well worn, would be sent on to an overseas charity.
2. Purchasing the bibles would allow us to reduce the order of service and printing costs due to the difference in translation between the lectern Bible and the Pew Bibles
3. It would be a good opportunity for current members to mark occasions in their own lives by dedicating Bibles in memory of loved ones/in celebration of family events etc.

The good news is that we have been successful in partnering up with an orphanage in Lilongwe, Malawi who would be delighted to receive the Bibles we have. The bad news is that due to an upturn in sales during the pandemic, the Bible we had intended on purchasing is now out of print.

The maximum number our suppliers can gather together just now is just 4!

So, we will shelve this particular venture, until the publishers release another printing run.

Adam



## Session Clerk Update

With this glorious weather, our Easter celebrations now seem some time ago. Our cluster church, Ibrox, invited us to their ecumenical Christian Passover service at the start of Holy Week - it was a fascinating evening, learning all about the traditions surrounding the Passover. It was a lovely opportunity to meet our neighbours from other local churches including St Leo's and Kinning Park. Our Maundy Thursday communion tradition continued this year, with the Good Friday service being held at Ibrox. Easter Day morning started with our traditional Easter breakfast with the much-anticipated Easter egg hunt commencing straight after the service. It was lovely to see all the children dashing round the church looking for all the hidden eggs and then sharing them all between the different families. Many thanks to the Social Committee and Julian Guse for making our Easter Day celebrations so enjoyable.

More recently we have enjoyed the community fellowship of our Annual Plant sale held on Saturday 13th May. The Plant Sale team, headed by Marjorie McGhie and Stuart Hislop, were just fantastic! It was a splendid event with the hall teeming with plants of all types and sizes - the sun shone, and the scouts were on hand to help people carry their plants as well as finding time to organise a bouncy castle for our children. The coffee and scone rooms were also popular with many staying and chatting, just enjoying the community fellowship that the morning presented. As usual, the Christian Aid Week commenced shortly afterwards kindly organised by Ruth McCluskey again this year. At the time of writing, we are preparing for our Pentecost celebrations with celebratory cake being offered after church.

At our recent Kirk Sessions of March and May two specific areas have been at the centre of our considerations. The March meeting focused on our accounts, expertly presented by our Church Treasurer, Iain Webster. Short term, we have been affected by the

increase in energy costs but longer term we will need to consider ways of fund raising. The Kirk Session has agreed to look at funding options including an appeal for increased giving alongside a considerably more structured fund-raising approach. At the May Kirk Session we made more progress on our committee structure with Adam leading a collaborative discussion session on committee remits and structure. We will continue to build on this work over the coming months and would encourage everyone to get involved in the wide-ranging work of our Church community.

The Glasgow Presbytery Mission Plan was given formal approval from the Faith Nurture Forum in May. Glasgow Presbytery now needs to adopt the approved plan and has planned to do so at its June meeting. It's been a long process and hopefully we'll reach some form of conclusion during the next month. I would like to thank Garry Borland, Andy Hadden and Ruth Sills who have worked alongside Adam and I in the preparation and submission on behalf of Sherbrooke Mossspark over the past year.

By the time this magazine goes to print, we will have said a fond farewell to William McCulloch, our student minister. A presentation was made to William at his last service with us on 4th June to reflect his considerable work with us and the strength of friendship we have built with him. Our thanks and prayers go with William and his family. For those of you who were in church on Sunday 30th April, you will have met our new Probationary Minister, Adaeze Goziem-Ibonye, who will be joining us from September; we very much look forward to welcoming her into our church community. I would also like to thank all those who gave me tremendous support as I struggled to deliver the service that morning!!

With many thanks and best wishes  
Clare

## **From the Social Committee**

We continue to provide "Food, Fun, and Fellowship" for our congregation and friends, and we really appreciate the willing helpers who contribute to the success of our events. Thank you.

Do put the following dates of our future events in your diaries

Friday 6th October Harvest Supper

Sunday 10th December [tbc] Christmas Lunch

Have a splendid summer.

Lorna  
Convener

Communion dates: Sunday 25th June, Sunday 27th August and Sunday 3rd December  
Harvest Festival: Sunday 8th October

## **Messy Church**

Tuesday 23rd May saw the last Messy Church of the session. It was a really good night with the children learning about creation and making creation crafts. It was good to see how excited the children were about coming and how much mums and grans enjoyed it too. We had a delicious buffet with a fabulous cake made and decorated by Kirsty one mum said this was the best meal she had had in a long time a proper treat!

**Muddy Church** will run monthly on Saturdays through the summer.

June 24th Bellahouston Park 11:30 -1:00pm

Elephant near House for an Art Lover.

July 22nd Bellahouston Park 11:30 -1:00pm

New picnic benches in Bellahouston Park, off Mosspark Boulevard almost straight across from the Mosspark Bowling Green.

August 26th Bellahouston Park 11:30 -1:00pm

New picnic benches in Bellahouston Park, off Mosspark Boulevard almost straight across from the Mosspark Bowling Green.

If you are available, please come along and bring a picnic lunch.

Susan Graham

Church & Community Development Worker

## **A.M. Chorus**

The A.M. Chorus meets on Wednesdays at 10am with refreshments afterwards. Everyone is enjoying the chance to chat over a coffee, a very important part of belonging to our community choir. We have done a lot of singing too!

This has been the year we started to explore singing in 2 parts. Highlights have been taking part in the Carols by Candlelight Service and the Service on Easter Day. We also sang to the Guild at Mosspark. Before we break for the summer we will take part in Alice's Concert of Harp and Song, when among other songs we'll sing The Bare Necessities of Life.

After the summer we will be learning some new songs as well as singing our favourites- I can't wait!

Grace Guse



## Women's Group Summer Social

The annual Women's Group Summer Social took place on Thursday 1st June. We were at a new venue this year as Hilary Harris, cafe manager at Bargacree Cafe in the Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice, had asked us if we would hold the event at the Hospice.

Over 60 ladies attended on a beautiful evening, and we enjoyed fabulous food and service from Hilary's team. Thank you to everyone involved in organising the evening. It was heartwarming to see so many people come together and to be able to support the Hospice.

Jan

## Flower Power



Flowers and plants brighten up our church week by week and on special occasions by a team of creative handy people.

Recently I had a voucher to use in a gardening centre and had really no idea of what I was going to leave the shop with when I spied a new display of items for Spring planting to give Summer colours. There were so many to choose from. I was in a dilemma!

Then just like the like the song from Joseph and the amazing Technicolour Dream-coat I had a flash of light!

I immediately picked red, white and then yellow flowers and have planted them

So its watch this space inside and or perhaps outside our church to see my efforts.

The flower team are always look for a helping hand for Harvest and Christmas preparations. If you would like to join us please let Hazel know. The team are always happy to help with any special church arrangements you wish.

Most Sundays I take photographs of the lovely flowers and Mags put them onto the Flower Page on our website. This means people who cant manage to see the lovely flowers can look at them on their iPad or tablet.

Thanks for reading - Brian Innes





## Seeking Shelter

The war in Ukraine forced me and my son to seek shelter and a safe place. We found it in a wonderful country, Scotland.

Such an opportunity was given to us by the lovely Williams family. They opened not only the door of their home but their hearts. Clare and Nigel became real Scottish parents to me. They surrounded me and Artem with great love, support and care. Their friends became our friends. With their help, we felt comfortable, safe and at home in an unfamiliar country.

We have been living in Glasgow for almost a year now and are happy to be here. Artem studies in a good school and successfully finished the academic year. Attends scout club and football club. He dreams of becoming a lawyer in the future. It makes me happy as a mother.

I finished the Esol course in college and received confirmation for the social care course for next year. I already have a job in the social sector. It is my happiness to work with people and help them.

Thanks to Cosgrove and Sherbrooke Mossspark Parish Church, I have the opportunity to help Ukrainians living in Glasgow. Their desire to support and unite Ukrainians and Scots into one friendly community. We had a coffee afternoon together, studied Ukrainian and Scottish culture studied the language. This is an incredible opportunity to be part of a good and noble cause. It inspires and creates a desire to move forward and develop.

My dream is peace in my native country. My thoughts are with my parents and relatives who remained in Ukraine. But Scotland became my home and gave me many friends and opportunities. For which I sincerely thank God.

Yuliia Kohut

**Exciting news!** New parent/carers toddlers' group starting soon, if you are able to help Susan with this venture, please talk to her. We are looking for helpers on a Rota perhaps once a month or every 6 weeks depending on numbers of helpers. If you can help clean the toys, please also speak to Susan we are looking to have the toys shining clean prior to starting.

Thanks Susan

## Keeping in Touch over the Summer

If you use WhatsApp on your mobile phone you might like to know about our Sherbrooke Mossspark groups.

We have two.

SMP Notice Board and SMP Connect. SMP stands for Sherbrooke Mossspark Parish

Question: What is SMP Notice Board?

Answer: It is a group where only the Administrators of the group post messages. No one else can share or reply to messages.

The administrators of this group are:

The Minister

The Session Clerk

Mags Cargey posts on behalf of the administrators or a member of the congregation with an appropriate Sherbrooke Mossspark Parish news item.

The purpose of this group is to post appropriate church news and information

Question: What is SMP Connect?

Answer: It is a group where all members of the group can post and reply to messages which are helpful and informative for the members of the group.

Q: Is this group the same as SMP Notice Board

A: No

Why? Members of SMP Connect can post and reply to posts.

To join the groups you must have WhatsApp on your smart phone. Then send your mobile number to Mags and she will add you to the group of your choice or both should you wish.

Mags Mobile: 07774684260

Email: [mcargey@mac.com](mailto:mcargey@mac.com)



When I wrote in the last magazine I mentioned about time going to fast, well my time on placement at Sherbrooke Mossspark has come to an end. Adam has completed my paperwork and I am moving on to my next placement. Adam has been kind enough to agree to be my supervisor as I move to a summer placement at The Preshal Trust in Govan. I will be completing 6 weeks full time over the summer months and will experience the different activities and work that is undertaken at Preshal. Adam will meet with me to make sure I am meeting the markers set for the placement and continue to give guidance and advice as required. I will do a 4 weeks summer placement in Hospital Chaplaincy next year and this will complete the 10 weeks summer placement I have to do.

When I set out on my path into ministry there were areas, I knew reasonably well and other areas I knew little about. My placements at Pollokshaws Parish and Sherbrooke Mossspark Parish have proven to be beneficial in different ways and add to the whole 'formation' of ministry. I mentioned previously that I hoped to do a part placement in Lindisfarne, this wasn't to be, and this is why I am doing 6 weeks at The Preshal Trust. When things don't go to plan it can be a bit disheartening, however there is a scripture passage on a wallet I was given a few years ago, the passage is from Jeremiah 29 verse 11: 11 For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

The passage has become quite significant to me as when I think I have plans made and arrangements in place, something can change. This change can be frustrating, but on reflection - the change is what God's plans have been for me. Realising and understanding God's plans for is not easy, it means we are not in control of every situation. This realisation is what has led me to train for ministry and brought me to different places, where I have been welcomed and been able to learn and develop.

God's plans for the Church of Scotland have yet to be fully revealed, but I am sure there will be a good future behind the plans and as a congregation, Sherbrooke Mossspark will be able to grow and flourish under the Ministry of Adam, who I am sure is part of God's plan for the parish of Sherbrooke Mossspark. Yes, there will be changes and things that may be different and a bit of adjustment needed, but the same is true for the whole of

the Church of Scotland. Change causes uncertainty but is a good way of refreshing and refocussing our spiritual minds on what is needed now and not in the past.

At the service on Sunday 04 June, I was presented with a new tie, to replace the one Adam cut on Easter Sunday; a new mug to replace the one I got Adam to smash at an All-Age Talk; a stuffed duck for my dog, Murdo and a card with a cheque. I am grateful to you all for these gifts and card and will remember my time with you and hopefully, I will see you at some point in the future!

Thank you for those who offered constructive advice, encouragement and all for allowing me to be a part of your Church Family. I also appreciate the patience and time from Adam. All this and more has made my time at Sherbrooke great and beneficial! We all must trust in God's Plans in different ways!

Your friend!  
William

William A McCulloch  
2nd Year Ministry Candidate



### **Women's Group Poppy Project 2023**

In November last year, I was aware that the idea of a poppy 'installation', originally started at the Tower of London, had become a tradition in many churches and organisations. I remember the floral one we had in our sanctuary which cascaded from the pulpit after a lot of hard work and dedication of our Flower committee. Could the Women's Group create a more lasting memorial symbol for our Church Sanctuary?

I am sure many of you will have ideas of how we might create a knitted poppy installation, eg should we have it as a cascade or create another image. Mags has set up on our website a Poppy Project page where you can submit your installation ideas. Ideas can also be sent to the office by post if you do not use the internet. Closing date Sunday 23rd July. There is also on the website page a poppy count and fun poppy photo page along side the pattern. All information will be on the website.

We also have a Poppy Project Notice Board in the large hall where all updates will be displayed. So far we have 66 knitted poppies.

Clare

