

Parish News

EAGLESHAM PARISH CHURCH

RESTORE and REPAIR

An unintended opportunity for works during the gradual return of church use to normal. Work being done to secure loose and dangerous stonework on the steeple along with some cleaning and general maintenance; removal of parts of the organ to Willis in Liverpool - repair work and for the technically minded.... A three-rank Furniture was put on the Great and the Claribel Flute was replaced with a Stopped Diapason. Fortunatley the Claribel was stored under the Bellows and this is being re-instated. The Mixture is being removed and a new Fifteenth will be put in its place. The Oboe and Bourdon have also been returned to Liverpool for factory attention.



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Safeguarding Co-ordinator
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Deaths

Aug 3rd Sheila Fleming, 85 Holehouse Rd

Aug 21st George Keith, 4 Quarry Lane

Sunday morning service

Under current restrictions the church can accommodate approximately 30 people downstairs. Because of this limitation there is a Booking System so as not to have to turn people away and to use the limited capacity to its full extent. Please telephone the church mobile 07787368549 to book a place, or email office@eagleshamparishchurch.co.uk.

Team Convenors

Outreach - Giles Blair

Admin - Maureen Hunter

Pastoral Care - Scott Whiteford

Youth Strategy - Tom Mann

Faith Development - Gillian Norval

Keep in touch with church activities

- Website.....www.eagleshamparishchurch.co.uk
- Facebook.....Eaglesham Parish Church
@Heartofvillage

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Comments, articles, suggestions for future issues to macintyre74@btinternet.com

From the Manse

Dear friends

It is possible that by the time this issue of Parish News is published, after months of closure, there will be people coming together for worship in our historic sanctuary.

At this stage of the restrictions which have been put in place to limit the spread of the Covid 19 pandemic it is uncertain which of these will still be in place. I think that we are not likely to be back to a pre Covid situation just yet.

Although we are still in a period of uncertainty with the pandemic claiming the health and sadly lives of people throughout the world the church continues to call for people to put their trust in God. There will of course be those who will have been painfully affected by this awful sickness and many, both at home and throughout the world, will have lost a loved one.

For some these circumstances will have been a great challenge to their faith. There will be many who have no faith who will say that their decision to turn their back on God is right. How can we believe in a God who allowed so many innocent people to suffer and die.

Our journey of life which we share with many millions of people all over the world is a journey which has at its very root free will. We have the freedom to choose, to decide the direction that we as individuals wish to go. The kind of life that we live, the way that we treat one another, how we choose to contribute to our society, our response to problems that we have to face, and crucially what we believe to be the way we live our life.

Our world can also be described as free. We all know that life is not always a bed of roses which looks so beautiful. We still have to take care of the thorns which may lie hidden but can have a painful sting. Our world is free and has its thorns. Each of us is confronted with illness, with tragedy, with disappointment with pain and sorrow and things which are even beyond our understanding. We certainly have been experiencing a phenomenon over these past months and the freedom that our world

shares with us has been expressed very clearly.

Our journey of faith in Christ is also a challenging one. It too is not without its thorns. Our faith is constantly faced with doubts, fears and disappointment. A serious illness in our family, the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, are among the things that can often affect our faith. In addition if the pleasures of life and material things have a disproportionate share of our life they can take their toll on our faith. They are the hidden thorns which can affect us and can lure us away from the pathway that Christ has prepared for us.

In this pandemic era we still have the task of continuing the work of the Church. We may not be able to enjoy the traditional features of church life. We may have to resort to innovation via the web. We may have to find new ways to worship. We may have to accept that those traditions which are dear to us may be forgotten. No matter how we may have to adjust the one thing that remains is the prime purpose of the church to establish God's kingdom here on earth

Your friend in Christ

John Lloyd

[written before the partial resumption of services on Aug30]

Christmas cards?...this early!

Crossreach, the CofS social care arm, has an excellent selection of cards - well worth a look. From 1st September you can see and order the Christmas Cards and Calendars on-line at shop.crossreach.org.uk. Paper copies of the Catalogue will be sent to previous customers. A paper copy can be requested by emailing webshop@crossreach.org.uk, or by phoning 0131 454 4374.

Parish News

Firstly, my best wishes to you all as we continue to face challenges during this difficult and concerning time. I do hope you are keeping well and coping with the physical, emotional and psychological challenges of surviving a pandemic.

I am delighted that we have now been able to reopen our church for worship, although the numbers who are able to attend are very small. John Lloyd and James Edgar continue to provide those of us who are unable to attend worship in the church with recorded teaching and we are all very grateful to them for their commitment to this. Gillian Norval has also provided us with weekly prayers to share. I would also like to thank Wendy Armstrong for her tireless work in monitoring the guidance from the Church of Scotland and Scottish Government to ensure that we keep everyone safe. Also to Wendy and to Jim Alexander for planning and implementing all necessary safety measures in the church and halls.

Church services have been very different from what we are used to however the conveners and the Music and Worship team are working on how we can develop and expand our worship so watch out for further developments!

Our locum minister John Lloyd was unfortunately taken in to hospital recently however I am delighted that he is now home and tells me he is feeling much better and is keen to continue working. In addition to recording his messages, John hopes to be preaching in the church as soon as possible. Our thanks also to our Interim Moderator John McPake for taking the service in his absence.

In order to expand on how we communicate with our members, we have asked those who have an email address to share this with us so that we can keep you informed as quickly and efficiently as possible. This will not replace elders' visits but will enhance our ability to share information. If you have not already done so please email our church office at office@eagleshamparishchurch.co.uk. If you do not have an email address don't worry we will do everything possible to

ensure you are still kept up to date with information.

You may have noticed activity around the church. Work is currently on-going to make essential repairs to our steeple. We are also having work done to restore our organ. Neither of these prevent access to the church so our services can continue.

With a little easing being allowed some of our youth work is restarting. Both EPYC and the BB are starting to meet although at present only outdoors and in limited numbers. It is great to see some of our ministry starting up again and I hope and pray that we will be able to expand on this as the guidance changes to permit more activities.

God bless and keep you and I hope we will be able to meet again soon.

Sheila Lamont, Session Clerk

Finance

Once again, a big thank you to everyone who is continuing to contribute to Church funds during this difficult time. We have continued to collect FWO envelopes (with the count done in the back garden when the weather allowed).

Our income has also been boosted by generous donations from 2 of our groups and, as a result of Brian Fraser's efforts, by a £10000 Government small business grant – thank you all.

The overall financial picture at the half year was quite positive thanks to our additional one-off income and reduced fabric and salary expenditure but obviously this won't continue during the second half of the year. Our biggest monthly expense is the £7400 Church of Scotland Ministry and mission contribution.

As Church services started again on 30th August our Church cleaner is no longer on furlough and as Kids' Time Out restarted on 17th August our hall Cleaner has been working 10 hours and furloughed for the remainder. Our organist and secretary continue to be furloughed.

At time of writing we are still waiting for advice from the Scottish Government and the Church of Scotland about allowing groups and organisations to use our premises. We know most groups are anxious to restart and we will do our utmost to facilitate this when we are able to do so.

Please continue to take care and stay safe.

Maureen Hunter, Admin Convener

HEALTH and SAFETY

It will be no surprise at all for you to learn that this has been a very challenging few months on the Health and Safety front in relation to our buildings.

All our buildings were closed at the start of the COVID lockdown at the end of March. This is the first time in many hundreds of years that our church and the previous church buildings on the site have not been open for Sunday worship and I know this has been sorely missed by many.

The Church of Scotland has been issuing regular updates on how we can safely re-open our buildings. As you will imagine, this is a complex and time consuming task, involving completing buildings checklists, Risk Assessments, work in our buildings to make them COVID-safe, Kirk Session discussions and applying to Presbytery for approval.

I'm pleased to let you know that this has progressed well but of necessity very carefully.

The church will be open for Sunday worship, albeit in a limited way, from 30th August.

The Laird Hall is now able to be open for Kids Time Out which provides a much needed after school care service for children at the primary school.

We are now in the process of preparing the Carswell Centre for re-opening and this should start in a limited way over the next month or so.

It has struck me how important our buildings are not just to the church but to our community.

A huge number of people have helped in the process of preparing our buildings and I would like to thank them all - but particularly our Fabric Team who have been turning out cheerfully and willingly to make the necessary adaptations, under the capable direction of Jim Alexander. If you haven't experienced being with the Fabric Team I can assure you that they are extremely hard-working, and the banter is good. Thanks!

Wendy Armstrong

News from St Bridget's

Mass returned to Eaglesham on Saturday evening the 1st of August. Due to required social distancing the capacity is restricted to approximately 25 people per mass. In an effort to accommodate parishioners Fr Stephen Baillie will be saying two Saturday evening vigil masses at 5 and 6pm every week for the foreseeable future. Booking details for each week will be displayed on the St Bridget's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StBridgetsEaglesham> and via the parish website <https://stbridgetseaglesham.org/> each Tuesday/Wednesday prior to the next Saturday Vigil. We will be using an Eventbrite system to manage this. If you require help to make your booking please let us know.

A First Holy Communion Mass, originally scheduled for May, will be held for a small group of young people from Saint Joseph's Primary on Saturday 12th September at Saint Bridget's, Eaglesham. Numbers are restricted to selected family members. Please, however, keep these young people in your prayers.

Congratulations to Fr Baillie who was consecrated as and raised to the ranks of Canon of the Cathedral Chapter at St Mirin's Cathedral in Paisley on the 4th of August.

Thanks to our parishioner Helen Knotts Dougall who set up and led the Eaglesham and Waterfoot Helping Hands group of volunteers who helped provide supplies and support to those self-isolating in our community during the pandemic.

Danny McKendry, Chair of St Bridget's Parish Pastoral Council.

Embracing The Future

Recent Times

I'd guess that many generations have passed since people were last forbidden to enter a church building, or even to gather for worship. Even now that church can be open, worship is restricted. Joyful singing is silenced and there's definitely **no** close fellowship! It feels like we've been exiled; stranded in a strange land where the rules are new and ever-changing.

"How can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a foreign land?" Psalm 137:4

The Future

However, despite all the restrictions, unexpected and positive things have started to happen. Far more people have connected to online talks and services than regularly come to church. Although the internet feels quite alien for many people, it's clear that for others it's their go-to resource. God is providing new ways to connect with others.

The Challenge of Change

Change is a thorny issue. We know what we like, and we like what we know. But God has allowed the present circumstances to happen, and maybe he is nudging us towards change. Church as we have known it is familiar and comforting. But what is familiar for us can be uncomfortable for newcomers, and I don't just mean the pews! It's easy to forget that entering a church can feel like stepping into a strange country for someone who has never come to church before. Recent regulations emphasise just how challenging it can be for **all** of us to adapt to the new.

Locked Down?

In recent years we've been told that our national church is contracting; membership is falling, church buildings are closing. It's easy to feel that we're in a gravitational decline, maybe even trying to spread an outdated message. But the message we have been given is a message for all people in all times. Our task is to take Jesus' message to all peoples; not to contract, but to expand. Did we become locked-down in our hearts even before Covid 19 was dreamt of? When Jesus said that the fields are ready for harvest, he wasn't referring to wheat or barley, but to people. Can we look to the harvest of people this autumn?

God Transforms Situations

We look forward to God restoring us, just as he brought back the exiles from captivity:

"When the Lord brought back captives to Zion, we were like men who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy, Then it was said among the nations, The Lord has done great things for them." Psalm 126:1,2

How great it will be to be able to greet each other, to sit without measuring the distance, to sing without restraint! But even better when we see faces that are not so familiar, welcoming a God-given harvest of people. There are so many difficult and sad things which have happened this year and we need time to reflect and grieve. But God is **the** expert in producing good things from bad situations. The Christian message is centred on triumph over tragedy, life overcoming death. Jesus, the most perfect human being, was executed by the most sadistic means. Yet through his death he brings the offer of life to every human being. Let's take courage in facing change, even if it hurts, and embrace the opportunities God gives us to build up Jesus' body, the church.

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen" Ephesians 3:20,21

A New Normality?

There has been much debate over what we should be hoping and praying for when the current situation ends. A letter from Rev Andrew McLuskey suggests that this is reflected in the Church's long stated concerns for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation.....

“In terms of ‘Justice’ we shall surely be looking above all at the need for social justice. The UK has been one of the most unequal countries in the world. This has to change – and not just for ethical reasons. Given the amount of money that has been poured into the economy to keep it just about going there will surely be riots in the streets if, for example, CEOs were to continue to receive wildly excessive remuneration.

On ‘Peace’ – war zones in the Middle East have disappeared from the radar in recent weeks but we need as soon as we can to redouble our efforts for peace wherever there is strife. Hopefully with a new commitment to the UN (whose financial agencies such as the IMF and World Bank will surely be needed more than ever to sort out the worldwide economic problems which have arisen in recent weeks and months).

In terms of ‘Integrity of Creation’ that now has also to be a central concern. This is not just to preserve the planet (a not unimportant concern!) but because it has been shown that diseases such as Covid-19 are directly related to ecological destruction.

An even bigger JPIC agenda now confronts us!”

and Marlies McLean quotes journalist and conservationist Simon Barnes...

“We all responded massively and, in many cases, heroically to the great emergency of the virus. We showed that when it comes to crisis, we can act together and act well. Well, when it comes to crisis, the destruction of nature and climate is more serious than anything

the human species has ever encountered. We acted with immense determination over the virus: we need to do the same thing but even more so for the still greater emergency that confronts us all. The difference is that now we know we can act together.”



An update from Claire Herbert, Chaplain at LHM

Here at LHM we are preparing and planning, as best we can, for the next steps. The Continuation of temporary housing support for the homeless via Government funding is uncertain but we shall continue to respond dynamically to the unfolding situation by delivering pastoral, advocacy and sustenance support wherever we can.

Many of you will be aware, through our daily updates on our Facebook page that we continue to provide food and toiletries parcels to the frontline street outreach teams from our partner agencies. If you have not visited our page we would encourage you to ‘like’ and ‘share’ and help us to raise awareness of all the work going on to make a difference in the lives of individuals with a lived experience of homelessness across the city.

We ask for your continued prayers for,

- the Lodging House Mission Family; our staff team, our volunteers and our agency partners.
- our vulnerable client group, who face uncertain futures.
- wisdom and compassion from those in positions of authority as they consider amending the temporary housing support for the homeless
- our wider church family and decision makers, as they consider what form Harvest worship and collections may take this year.

Let us look to the assurance of God's blessings amidst all the uncertainty.

CHURCH IN THE POST-COVID WORLD

In May 2019, the General Assembly agreed to all the proposals put forward to reenergise the Church and also to streamline the central organisation in Edinburgh. One of the central planks in the so-called Radical Action plan was a “Growth Fund” to be set up as a source of money to fund the establishment of new churches and other local mission initiatives.

Further preparatory work was done on both fronts during the rest of the year and, in fact, the proposed slimmed down central committees were formed on 1st January 2020, their first task being to decide on what work they would concentrate. There was talk of some powers being devolved to Presbyteries to help things happen faster without decisions having to be referred right up the chain for final approval.

Then of course, Covid 19 struck and everything was thrown into turmoil. Individual churches were (and still are) faced with financial uncertainty through a combination of loss of income from Hall lets and an assumed drop in givings from members who might not be able to catch up with free will offerings when worship resumed. All this is mirrored at Presbytery level and with the central church. Some congregations will struggle to continue to pay their Presbytery Dues and Ministry & Mission contributions because of their own income downturns. By far the largest percentage of M & M payments goes towards paying the salary and pension costs of the clergy and the deficit for 2020 is projected as being possibly up to £30million. If this comes about, most of the financial reserves will have to be plundered to meet the salary & pension bill. Needless to say, the Growth Fund was suspended for 2020 and it is not known if it can be revived in 2021. It will take till early next year to see how the central finances pan out before future plans can be made.

If anything, the experience of Covid 19 has made the Radical Action Plan even more necessary to promote growth in the Church and, like the central structure, the lower courts of the church will have to slim down and adapt to our new circumstances. Glasgow Presbytery has already appointed a small group to look into how Presbytery operates with a view to streamlining where possible. At congregational level, we shall all have to look realistically into the future. There will be an increasing shortage of ministers over the coming years unless more new candidates come forward, to say nothing about the churches’ ability to meet all the salary costs. In addition, we cannot afford to continue maintaining so many buildings and central funding to assist repair work and development projects will most likely be harder to come by.

There will be a shortened on-line General Assembly in early October which will take the first tentative steps forward and some guidance should emerge to allow Presbyteries to begin planning the future shape of the local church with more clarity.

The challenge facing the Church is that mission work must continue and Presbytery is actively looking at how that can be achieved. The first new congregation in Glasgow for several years became an independent charge on 1st January 2020 and their new minister was introduced in August at a service watched by most on line with a token presence in the sanctuary. There is a determination to go ahead, to open up other new possibilities and to find resources from where we can. This can be seen as a challenge from God to refocus on the true priorities of faith, setting an example to those around us and seeking to spread the Gospel in whatever way we can. There will be more on line presence in the future as it has become obvious that the internet can successfully reach people who are not attracted to worship in churches.

There remains much uncertainty as to where we shall be in 2021 but of one thing, we can all be absolutely sure – God remains in control and His Will cannot be thwarted by Covid 19 or by anything else. He is in this with us and we pray that He will guide us through to a new future, a reshaped church fit for whatever it is faced with after the Covid 19 restrictions can be removed.

Stuart W MacGill, Presbytery Elder

August 2020

Foodbank update...Castlemilk



The Carswell Centre remains open between 11am and noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays to receive foodbank donations. Since the last Parish News there have been changes at Barrhead which is anticipating moving premises. The new premises will be larger and better appointed. Since there will be a very large amount of stock to be transferred the volunteers are asking donations to be reduced meantime. Clients are still accessing the food bank as before. Numbers had been down for a time, possibly due to Government food boxes and the local High School organising food parcels. However, with the furlough scheme winding down, volunteers anticipate increased demand in the near future.

Since 23/6, your donations have been taken to Castlemilk Parish Church where a need was identified. They have been very warmly received. Grateful thanks, as always, to regular and new donors for such heart-warming generosity and concern for those in need at such a challenging time. One young lady brought us her donation which she had bought with her pocket money - bless her. Some items in current short supply are tinned rice, custard, tinned fruit and jellies.

Tuesday and Thursday 11-12 noon have been happy sociable occasions (socially distanced!) We remain indebted to Jim who has, between 23/6 and 25/8, enthusiastically delivered approximately 148 donation bags in the BB minibus - grateful thanks for its use.

And thank you one and all for making this such a success since we were unsure if it could even go ahead at the beginning of "lockdown."

Castlemilk Parish has shown amazing initiative in maintaining home deliveries of food and toiletries to approximately 75 households weekly. This is in addition to the 'come and collect' service for those who can do so. That is planned to develop into a weekly 'community pantry' where for £2.50 participants will be able to choose items up to the value of £15.

The minister, Sarah Brown, explained the origins of their work in an article in Life and Work. 'We already had a network of organisations, housing associations, community link health care

workers, and churches who work together to respond to the pre-existing food poverty in our community. Those for whom Universal Credit doesn't give enough to provide food for their households and others who were already feeling the pressure of austerity on their physical and mental health. Some have said we were lucky to have a group ready to respond to the Coronavirus Covid-19 crisis, but I think it is sad that we needed to have a group that is about responding to food poverty – when food is such a basic need. Through Castlemilk Together, one group provides pre-cooked meals to the elderly, another responds to the needs of families and the church co-ordinates the response to adult only households.'

The Guild

Due to social restrictions the Committee has been unable to meet together, but we have been keeping in touch with each other. Unfortunately, the way things stand we feel that our Guild meetings on Wednesday evenings cannot take place this side of Christmas, therefore cancelling will mean that we will not be able to complete our 2019/20 year with our usual AGM and Bring and Buy Sale combination. The Committee being unable to meet has also meant that we have not been able to arrange a new syllabus for 2020/21 which would include arrangements for what will be a delayed 90th birthday party next year, an event which we are very much looking forward to.

Regrettably we will also be unable to hold our 2020 Christmas Cracker coffee morning in November. For our final meeting before Christmas this year we would have been looking forward to welcoming our own Church Choir, however we shall make sure to invite them again.

One thing we are delighted to be able to do just now is to deliver the Mary's Meals Bag-Packs which you all contributed to so kindly during last winter. We had stored approx. 24 bags in the Carswell Centre, and we will deliver to Mary's Meals Glasgow Store on the 11th September. We are sure the boys and girls who will receive the bags will appreciate the items inside, pencils, note-books, a few items of clothing, toiletries, and a small ball to play with much joy.

As we emerge from strict lockdown we hope that everyone has enjoyed meeting once again with family and friends, but with regulations and restrictions regarding group meetings the Guild will need to wait a little longer for this pleasure.

We shall keep members, and of course anyone who would like to join the Guild, informed as to when we can restart our Wednesday evenings again to enjoy our usual fellowship. In the meantime take care, and we look forward to catching up with our members as soon as we are allowed, we have missed their company.

Fiona Hamilton, Secretary.

Boys Brigade

Over the last few months, there has been a huge amount of work done in the background by the staff preparing to re start the BB. After following guidance from the Government and the Brigade UK, we think we are nearly there!

We aim to be back up and running from the middle of September although the format will be quite different. During the first few weeks we will run an outdoor programme utilising the marquee [set up at the rear of the Laird Halls], the Orry and the park. I aim to keep the marquee up for as long as its needed. This is a great covered outdoor space that can be used by any of the organisations.

Once we get the green light from the Church of Scotland, we can get back into the halls [hopefully before the weather turns]. Once in the halls, the boys and staff will be split into "bubbles" where they will operate in a safe manner. The programme will be a little different however, we will make it fun and exciting for the boys with plenty of activities.

During this "stage" our timings have changed slightly.....

Anchor Boys Tuesday [P1 - P3] - 6:45 - 7:45

Junior Section Thursday [P4 - P6] - 7:00 - 8:15

Company Section Friday [P7 - S6] - 7:00 - 8:30

If you know anyone that wants to join us, please ask them to get in touch on the below number. Stay Safe and Stedfast.

Martin Fraser, Captain, 07943859551

Anchor Boys

'We hope you all had as enjoyable a summer as possible. All going well, we have a provisional starting date of Tuesday 15th September. If you know of anybody who would like to send their boy to Anchor Boys, please ask them to drop us an email at anchorboys205@gmail.com

Ally & Elaine, Officers in Charge, Anchor Boys'



Mary's Meals

For obvious reasons the seasonal Mary's Meals lunches which would have been due to start again are in abeyance. However support has continued in the form of the bag-packs collected by the guild and pictured here before delivery to the charity's Glasgow base

Tearfund

For a few years Eaglesham Church has supported the Cambodia Hope Organisation, a Tearfund 'connected church' project aimed in particular at reducing people trafficking in a vulnerable area through various forms of social support provided by church partners there. This specific link is ending as explained in a message from Tearfund. "In these challenging times, we recognise the need to safeguard the work of our partners by finding new ways to reduce admin costs and free up funds for their work. After much careful consideration, we have made the decision to bring the Connected Church scheme to an end. From the week of 14 September, your Connected Church regular giving commitment will be transferred to our Tearfund Partner Church programme. This change will allow us to direct your support to wherever the need is greatest globally, and enable it to go further and wider."

We in Eaglesham will continue our current level of support for Tearfund

Flying the Flag

As all will be aware and with much great disappointment for Boys & Staff our 65th consecutive summer camp In Arran did not go ahead. However the flag did fly for the 65th consecutive year as some of the the staff and a few parents went down to a glorious sunny Kings Cross to do much needed maintenance work on the Glasgow fair weekend.

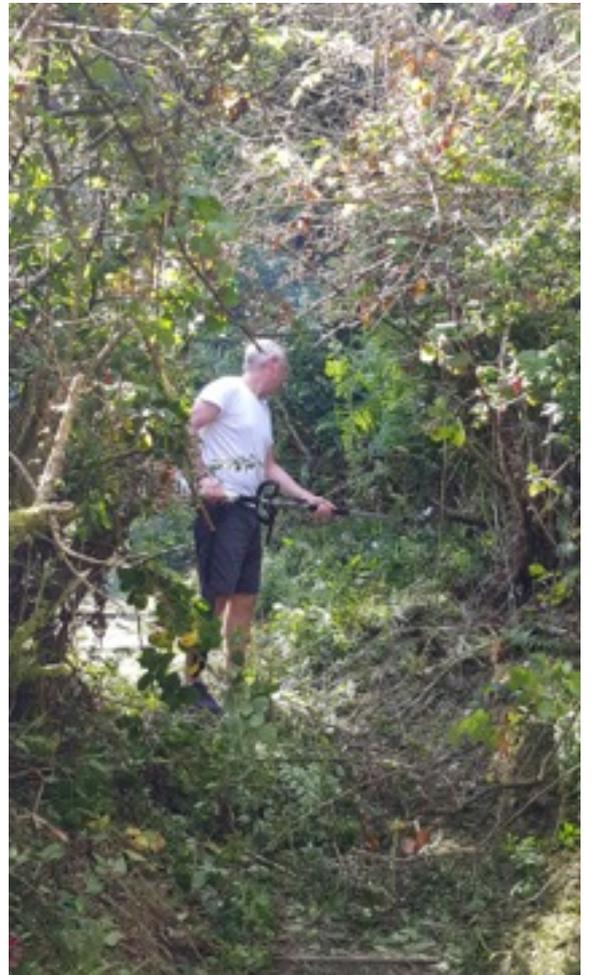
The Laird, Bennie and McPherson benches were stripped back and re varnished to look like new once again. The paths were strimmed and trees cut back as well as our toilet block being deep cleaned. Mr Haddow who owns the field was delighted to see us down looking after the site. He commented the site has never looked so good.

Our kitchen marquee was also up for cooking and shelter. So I suppose in a way we can still say the 205th continue our consecutive camping at the site.

Eaglesham Boys Brigade have been camping in Arran since 1926. Back then in Pirnmill around the other side. We have a long and strong association with Arran and Whiting Bay, its church and people.

In the next few years Mr Haddow who is in his 80's and owns much of kings Cross Point is selling up and has included us in the future of the new owners(whoever they may be) to still to be able to camp on the field. All will unfold in the next few years.

Richard Burt
Camp O/C



Walking Group Although we haven't met as a walking group for several months, many of us have met in passing, as we have taken our daily exercise in or around the village. It has been good to catch up with each other, comparing routes taken and agreeing how fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful area.

Always we have thought ahead wondering when we would be able to start up our usual outings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

It has been decided to aim for Wednesday, 23rd. of September. This walk will be in or around the Village, as we cannot travel together in cars. Nor will we be able to go indoors, as a group, for our usual refreshments, but we can each carry a drink, biscuit etc. to sustain ourselves, if we wish.

I'm certainly looking forward to, as I'm sure all the members of the Group are, to resuming our walks.

Pat Wishart



Local illustrations from Pat - silaging at Thorntonhall; mother and foal at East Moorhouse; lesser butterfly orchid along Humber Rd