

# CONTACT



No 515

The Parish  
Magazine  
of  
CARNOUSTIE  
CHURCH



Nov/Dec/Jan 2023/4

## From the Minister's Desk

**“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for He founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.”**

**Psalm 24: 1-2**

Dear Friends,

As we approach the winter, we are looking forward to the formation of the new congregation of *Carnoustie: Trinity* at the New Year. The Presbytery of Perth will mark our union with a special service on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January at 7 pm (Presbytery meets at 6.45 pm) in Carnoustie Church, and I hope we’ll have a good turnout to celebrate this new beginning.

In the meantime, work continues to finish the work on the West Aisle roof, and substantial grants mean that we are very close to putting the main project for Carnoustie Church out to tender – only waiting for the sale of the Philip Hall to be concluded. This is a great encouragement to us all and we give thanks to God that He has heard our pleas.

It seems to have been a very damp autumn here in Carnoustie – and indeed across Angus, as heavy flooding impacted Brechin and other parts.

It seems likely that the impacts of climate change are becoming more apparent to us all now.

Climate change has often seemed like a big problem affecting faraway places. Now, it's coming home to us in more storms and worse floods. The impacts on our local communities are real and – often – devastating. There are times when the whole business of the environment can feel hopeless. We wonder what is the point of sorting our recycling into ever increasing bins if large corporations seem to be pouring plastics into the sea in vast quantities.

We need to remember two things: first, the small actions of many millions of people make huge impacts. We can make a difference as part of a worldwide movement of ordinary people. And secondly, we are a part of such a movement: the Church. As Christians we are called to be stewards of the earth that God has made.

So let us not be fearful of all that lies ahead, but instead let us continue to play our part in caring for creation. The earth is the Lord's!  
Yours in the Grace and Peace of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Mike Goss

### **Prayer Focus**

We offer these thoughts to add to your own prayers:

1. **Carnoustie: Trinity** – As we establish the new Union, pray for a vision for the Mission of our congregation to the people of the local community.
2. **Israel / Gaza** – Pray for an end to the vicious conflict and the rebuilding of homes, lives and the search for lasting peace.
3. **Survivors of abuse** – Pray for all those who have suffered physical, mental or sexual abuse from others, that they would be given justice, peace and healing in their lives.

## Congregational Register

### Funerals

*“Jesus said, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me shall not perish, but have everlasting life.’”*

Sep 14 **James Patterson** \*

19 **Mrs Margaret Duncan** \*

22 **Alistair Ryan**

Nov 13 **Mrs Nancy Young** \*

### Coming Up

**Prayer Meetings Mondays 10 - 11 am** in the Manse (usually)

Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 10.30 am Remembrance (Barry and Carnoustie)  
12.30 pm War Memorial

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 7 pm Barry Kirk Session

Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 10 am Christian Aid Coffee Morning: Newton

Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 11 am Retiring Offering for Tearfund

Tue 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 4 pm Union Finance Team: Carnoustie

Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 9.30am-2pm Joint Office Bearers: Newton

Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Nov Pulpit Exchange – Mike and Annette

11 am The Lord’s Supper (Carnoustie)

Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 10 am Duncan Trust

Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 10 am-12 Carnoustie Christmas Coffee & Chat

Thur 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2 pm Barry Guild Christmas Afternoon Teas

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30 pm Carnoustie Kirk Session

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 12.30 pm Carnoustie Guild Christmas Lunch

**2024**

Thur 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 7 pm Service of Union - Carnoustie: Trinity  
(Presbytery meets at 6.45 pm)

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 4 pm Service of Loss and Hope: Carnoustie

## **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2023**

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Advent Sunday**

9.30 am **Barry Parish Church**

11 am **Carnoustie Church**

### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

9.30 am **Toy Gift Service – gifts for Angus Women's Aid – Barry**

11 am **Carnoustie Church**

7 pm **Christmas Musicale in Carnoustie Church**

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Lessons and Carols**

9.30 am **Barry Parish Church**

11 am **Carnoustie Church**

### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Eve)**

10.30 am Family Service – Joint service – **Barry Parish Church**

6.30 pm **Christingle** Service – bring a small orange with candle

Retiring Offering to be arranged

11.30 pm **Watchnight** Service – Offering for **Scottish Bible Society**

## **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Day)**

10.30 am Family Celebration – Joint service in **Carnoustie Church**

## **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

10.30 am Family Service – Joint service in **Carnoustie Church**

## **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

9.30 am Services resume in **Barry Parish Church**

11 am Services resume in **Carnoustie Church**

### **CrossReach News** (November 2023)

The folk at CrossReach are always busy and in this issue of the CrossReach News we are urged to keep up-to-date with all they are doing;

- a) on social media
- b) on their web site
- c) to listen in to the podcast “Chorus-CrossReach Voices”
- d) read the Impact report.

I still prefer to actually read the magazine and have laid out some at the back of the Church while other copies are circulating among Guild members.

There is an encouraging theme of hope throughout this issue. The recent campaign to raise funds has reached £100,000 for the Daisy Chain service in Govanhill which uses play, nurture and family support intervention to improve the lives of the under12s and also includes a branch for those in the Roma community.

A new collaboration with the University of Dundee in a project called “Art at the Start” is giving therapy to encourage and support parents of new infants. Peep into <https://youtu.be/Ow5ga30cA18> to learn more.

Although sad that the Short break service for children in Glasgow had to close, an opportunity arose to move into another building, inherit their staff and become the “Go2” service. So as well as what was happening there, the Short Breaks could and did start up again.

There are 2 new CrossReach posts-a Dementia Development Coordinator and a Dementia Ambassador. So again there is such a lot of hope the many more people caring for someone with dementia will have access to help support and fellowship.

Snippets about at least 5 other services are in the magazine too and also an appeal for applications to join the workforce.

*Now I have put in our Church folk's order to CrossReach for Calendars and cards. If you have missed out, you will find the catalogue on the table at the back of the church and may put in your own order.*

*Sandra*

### **Mission Aviation Fellowship**

I came across this article from MAF and thought you might be interested in other things that MAF provides apart from flights. Sometimes the partners and family members of the pilots and engineers find things that they can do to help the community in which they are living. This is one such story.

Hariëtte Knigge, the wife of an MAF Pilot in Papua New Guinea, has been visiting women in Wewak prison every week for the past four years. Hariëtte and fellow MAF spouse Helen Symmonds provide a mixture of Bible study and rehabilitation to bring the peace of God into prison life and prepare the women for the outside world.

Earlier this year, Hariëtte and Helen facilitated a trauma healing course. Helen shares, ‘the course was fantastic and very helpful. We must bring our wounds of the heart out. They come out in different ways and ultimately, we must bring them to Jesus.’

‘Since I’ve come to prison,’ says one participant, “I’ve found freedom. Before, I was stuck in a situation and I just found myself in a lot of trouble but, since I’ve been taken out of that situation, I’ve found freedom.”

“I guess that’s what the course is about, bringing people to a place where they can find freedom in their lives,” shares Helen.

As well as looking to the past through their trauma healing course, Hariëtte and Helen concentrate on securing the ladies’ futures. They teach cooking and conflict management and encourage the women to consider how they will rebuild their lives after prison.

Hariëtte says the ladies are “working on self-love, self-respect and courage to reach out to others in need.” Literacy among the women is low, so Hariëtte and Helen are helping them learn to read and write in Tok Pisin.

“To help the ladies with literacy, we started a pen pal letter project with ladies in the Netherlands. I found some Christian ladies online who are willing to write letters to the ladies in prison here. They do it in English and we translate it into Tok Pisin.

Then we help the ladies here in prison to write something back. It’s a really good practice in reading and writing, but it’s also very encouraging for both groups to share life, their favourite Bible verse and things like that.”

*Irene*

## **Project updates**

The last few weeks have been good ones as two very welcome grants have been received.

The Benefact Group has awarded us £34,600 and on behalf of the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland, £128,000 has been made available for our use. These awards plus the profit from the sale of the Philip Hall (once it is finally completed) will allow us to begin the planning preparations for the internal alterations.

Although the planning can begin and tenders can be made up ready to send out, it will still be several weeks before anyone will see any actual work being carried out. However, before any work can begin, the fixed cupboards in the church will have to be removed along with the cupboards beside the ramp area. If you can help with this work, please contact myself or the minister and we will get in touch when this has to be done.

If anyone has any belongings in the church they would like to remove while the preparation process is underway, please let either myself or the minister know so that access can be given to suit.

Storage out with the church will be required for books (including hymn books and bibles), banners etc. so if anyone can offer space for any of those and other items, again, please let myself or the minister know. It will not probably be required until well into January but knowing where things can be stored will be a huge help.

The grants that have been awarded will allow the main part of the work to begin but furnishings such as chairs and tables, kitchen appliances and crockery etc. will still have to be bought and those costs have not been



able to be considered as yet so fundraising still continues. Please keep supporting all the events, quizzes etc., every £1 helps.

Thanks as always for your prayers and support, these awards have been such a boost to the morale of the project team who work so hard.

*Irene*

### **Guild Project StarChild.**

The Guild and Guild Study Group are supporting “StarChild” a national guild project based in Jinja, Uganda. “StarChild” means finding the light in every child and the project will support children with autism and also those with special needs to realise their potential in a society where they are not valued.

So far the money raised by guilds in Scotland has helped to build a sanctuary for these children named the Sunflower Sanctuary (hence the sunflowers on the stall) and work is now in progress to complete the work internally.

Along with donation from the Study group and the recent craft stall after the morning service the sum of £273.50 was raised for the project. Many thanks to everyone who donated to the stall and helped to serve and a big thankyou to everyone who supported us on a very wet Sunday Morning!!

*Evelyn.*

## Flower List

### **12th November**

Mrs D Edwards

Mrs B Picken

Mrs M Whyte

### **17th December**

Mrs M Duffus

Mrs A Gruber

The Robertson Family

### **28th January**

Mrs L Banks

Mrs J MacLaren

Mrs G Reid

As Christmas approaches once more, this seems to be an appropriate time to thank all who have provided the flowers that have helped to decorate the Church during 2023. On behalf of the Flower Committee, may I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and hope that 2024 will be a good year for you all.

Sandra Penman  
(Flower Convener)

## The Guild

Firstly, and most importantly, our Christmas Lunch in the Station Hotel on December 15<sup>th</sup> is actually at 12.30pm for 1pm and not as originally stated in the last edition of Contact as 1.30pm for 2pm!! Can you imagine coming in late and almost missing your lunch!! Sadly, our lunch coincides with another outing to the Rep. Theatre which involves a meal so some members will have to miss out.

In September, it was so good to have our speaker, Graham McGeogh from Unida managing to be with us this time. What a wonderful speaker he was, totally unfazed by the workman banging away on the roof! He had to rush off back to Glasgow and then back to Brazil.

October brought Sandra back with her adventures of her cruise. I was really disappointed to have missed that meeting. We have one meeting before our Lunch Date. Alison Scott will be introducing the Rev Jonathon Humphrey whom she has had the pleasure of meeting before.

If you haven't been to a Guild meeting before why not give it a go, I'm sure you won't be disappointed. Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas! God bless you all!

*Pru Milne*

## **Sponsored cycle in aid of the Church Project**

I'd like to say a huge thanks to everyone who sponsored and supported me on my recent sponsored cycle in aid of the church project. This has raised £3040 to date, with gift aid yet to be added, and hopefully has raised some awareness of the project outwith our congregation.

My journey started in Berwick, and was done in two stretches of 5 days each, cycling around 40-50 miles a day. After a rainy morning to start the journey the weather improved significantly. There was a huge variety in scenery – from the rolling (and surprisingly steep!) hills of the Borders, up the east coast and through the centre of Edinburgh. Across the Forth Bridge into Dunfermline to stay with Mike's aunt overnight, then north by Glenfarg, and more hills, to Perth.

Through back roads by Bankfoot to Dunkeld, there were plenty of places to stop along the way for coffee and cake. In spite of dreading Drumochter summit it was a lovely cycle, on a completely deserted old, well-surfaced A9. My first 5-day segment finished in Aviemore, so the second half also started there.

From Aviemore to the youth hostel in Inverness was a delight – through pine and birchwoods in glorious sunshine. Over the breezy Kessock bridge and the Black Isle, the ferry from Cromarty to Nigg took me through Easter Ross, staying overnight with a friend.

The next day was the only seriously rainy day, though it did mean that my feet stayed wet for three days. North of Lairg the road became single track, and although the scenery was superb, it was more difficult dealing with drivers unused to the roads. Once reaching the stunning north coast there were some more roller-coaster hills before passing through Thurso and reaching John o'Groats, where Mike was waiting with the campervan.

In total the journey was 426 miles, but the surprise for me was the total height gain – around 27000 feet! We do live in an incredibly beautiful and varied country.

In addition to those who sponsored me, a number of friends and relatives gave me overnight accommodation and some cycled with me for stretches, which was great, and I really appreciated their support and could not have done the trip without their help.

*Rhona Goss*

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