

Haggs Manse  
July 2015



## **The Link**

**The Magazine of Haggs Parish Church**

**Summer 2015**

Hi folks

'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where the moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven.... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also' Matt. 6

As my time as your minister draws to its close I am having to look at all that I have acquired over the past nearly seventeen years and decide what goes with me and what goes out. As I consider this I am reminded of the boxes of clothes and treasures that I brought with me from Dundee and which have resided in cupboards or the eaves since I came. As we will be downsizing I need to decide what is important to me for the future.

I will take my memories of the times shared with you all here in Haggs Church, the happy times and the sad times and the gift of friendship that you have given me, which I will treasure always. I will also treasure the gifts that have been given to me to mark my retirement. When I look at my candle holder I will remember the special candle that we light at midnight on Christmas morning to remember all who have worshipped here in Haggs.

It has been a privilege to serve as your minister and I am glad that I have been able to celebrate this special time marking 175 years of worship in this very special building. It will retain a special place in my heart but more important will be the memories of the worship and mission of the people, the body of Christ, in this place. Whenever you have been asked there has always been a willingness to give of your time, talents or money to help others in need and to show the love of Christ to others.

As I leave you I know that this will be a challenging time for you but I believe that whatever we face in the future that Christ has promised to be with us and that our treasure is God's love shown in his Son. Wherever we are we are still part of the body of Christ here on earth.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for all that you have given to Drew and myself during our time here in Hagsgs Parish.

God bless you all  
Helen F Christie

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### **Editorial**

The Castlecary Hotel was an excellent venue for our 175 and Helen's retirement dinner and a good evening was enjoyed by all who came. The 175 Anniversary service takes place on 19<sup>th</sup> July and in August we have the Flower Festival to look forward to.

Jean McCheyne

### **Christian Aid 2015**

Once again this year, by participating in Christian Aid week, we helped to carry out the biggest act of Christian witness in Scotland, and in doing so have raised awareness of poverty, and the churches' concern for it, among hundreds of people in Hagsgs Parish. We collected the wonderful sum of £1,369.72 in our door-to-door collection this year.

This was in addition to the £618 raised through participation in this year's Forth Bridge Cross and the £500 raised for Nepal Appeal from our Christian Aid lunch.

So 'Thank you' for the part you played in making Christian Aid Week such a success again this year. By supporting Christian Aid you have ensured a transformation in the lives of many people in the poorest parts of the world.

### **Yoga for All**

The yoga sessions held in the Church Hall on Thursday evenings from 7 – 8.15pm have stopped for the summer. They will restart on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September.

We are looking for some new participants to join our yoga sessions so, if you would like to have some gentle relaxing exercise, then please come along and you will be made very welcome.

Sue Storrar

### **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September we will be serving coffee, teas and cakes in the Church Hall at 12 noon following the morning service. All proceeds will be donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Please come along and support this worthy cause and any donations of home baking will also be gratefully received prior to the service.

Thank you for your support. Fiona Schuit & Sue Storrar

### **'Hagsgs 175' School Fun Days**

We wanted to extend our 'Hagsgs 175' events out into the community and involve young people in our celebrations. During May Moira Martin, Jean McCheyne and Sue Storrar visited P4/5 pupils at Bankier and Head-of-Muir Primary Schools, dressed as Victorian ladies, to talk about life in Scotland 175 years ago. We explained about the life style of people who lived in that era and got the children to think about how this differed from their current life-styles.

The children were then encouraged to produce written or art work inspired by the visits. The varied and interesting work from the children was then displayed for the children to see in the church for the 'Fun Days' on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June.

As both these days were blessed with beautiful weather, the church buildings and the surrounding outdoor spaces could be utilised for a variety of singing, art, games, a quiz and outdoor activities that kept the boys and girls from both schools occupied for the mornings of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

Both days were opened by the minister, Rev Helen Christie, and concluded with everybody joining in singing seated on the grass under the tree beside the church.

It was wonderful to hear children's voices rejoicing at our 175 celebrations and this gives some hope that, as these young people have experienced church activities and fellowship together, they may return to Hags Church in the future.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make these 'Fun Days' such a success.

(Sue Storrar)



### **Fun Days with Head of Muir and Bankier schoolchildren**



## **Teas and Coffees**

During the course of the last year we have enjoyed the fellowship of teas and coffees in the hall after Church. I would like to thank everyone who helped provide these and also everyone who came along for a few minutes of friendship and fellowship.

We will be restarting at the beginning of September and look forward to seeing you then.

Elizabeth Dunn

## **The Guild**

The Guild held a “Bunny Drive” in aid of Driving Force on March 9<sup>th</sup> – it was a very successful event and £160 was raised. Thanks to all who attended and helped in any way.

On April 6<sup>th</sup> we held our “Daffodil Tea”. This was an open meeting and we raised the sum of £106 towards our projects.

The AGM was held on April 20<sup>th</sup> for the disbursement of funds. We donated £200 each to 2 projects, The Julius project and Out of Africa (Malta) and £200 to the Church. Thank you very much to all who donated, came to our events and helped in any other ways to allow us to be able to donate to the projects. We are a very small Guild and the help of people attending our events is invaluable. We joined with the Carpet Bowlers in June for a day trip to Callander with a meal at the Lade Inn.

This year Helen and Drew are retiring and all members of the Guild wish them a long, relaxing and happy retirement.

Thanks again to Maisie and Bea for all the work they do to keep the Guild running smoothly.

Elma Findlay

## **Carpet Bowls**

Our drive this year was to Callander with a meal at the Lade Inn. It was a very enjoyable outing and we were joined by ladies from the Guild and other friends.

The Carpet Bowls are finished for a while but there will be an announcement made about the resumption. Elma Findlay

## **Praise Band**

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May the Praise Band led the singing for Pentecost as usual with some old favourites and some new ones. Members of the Praise Band wish Helen and Drew all good wishes for their retirement.

Elma Findlay

## **Boys Brigade**

All sections finished at the end of May and the beginning of June with the Anchor Boys going to Palacerigg Park. The Junior Section went to Girvan for their weekend camp staying at Girvan North Church. The camp was the first time for all the boys and some of the officers. Mr and Mrs Christie also joined us but did not stay in the hall. Everyone enjoyed themselves and behaved very well. The company section will have an outing at the beginning of the new session.

All sections start at the beginning of September - the Anchor Boys and Junior Section on Tuesday 1st September and Company Section Friday 4th September at Bankier School.

Anchor Boys for boys in P2,P3,

Junior Section for boys in P4,P5,P6

Company Section for boys in P7 to S6.

If you know of any boys in these age groups could you please ask them if they would like to come along and try the Boys Brigade.

Ernie Firth, Captain

## HAGGS 175

Our program of events to celebrate 175 years of Haggs Parish Church has been very successful and is now drawing to a close. From our Burns Supper in January, the visit of the Right Reverend John Chalmers, Moderator of the General Assembly in February, the dedication of our Snowdrop Garden in conjunction with Strathcarron Hospice, our Bohemians concert in March, the Christian Aid events in May, the local school fun days at church in June and our celebration dinner at the Castlecary Hotel celebrating 175 years of Haggs Parish Church and marking the forthcoming retirement of our minister Helen Christie, all of our events have been well supported and enjoyed by all participating.

Our service marking 175 years since the founding of Haggs Parish Church will be held on Sunday 19th July when we will have a number of former ministers and office bearers as guests. You are warmly invited to come along to this very special celebration and dress in period costume if you wish. The final event to close our celebrations will be a Flower Festival to be held in church from 21 – 23 August.

Thank you very much to all have worked so hard and contributed in any way to make our celebrations possible and be such a great success.

We now look forward to the next chapter in our history as we link with Denny old Parish Church. We give thanks for the ministry of Rev. Helen Christie over the past 16 and a half years and we wish her and her husband Drew a long and joyous retirement.  
Murray McCheyne, Session Clerk Pro tem.

Note Commemorative merchandise is still available in the church hall after Sunday Services.

Bookmarks no charge, Pens £1, Bone china mugs £5, Pottery goblets £10.

## Baptism

**“Suffer little children to come unto me**

March : Zoe Evelyn Cartwright

## Deaths

**‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord’**

March	Mrs Catherine Penman Mrs Elizabeth Ashbridge Mrs Catherine Motherwell	Bankview Bonnybridge Bankview
April	Mr Alexander Mathieson Mrs Christina Dunn	Banknock Longcroft
May.	Mr William Walls Mrs Joyce White Mr Duncan McKendry	Falkirk Bonnybridge Longcroft
June	Mrs Georgina Russell Mr James Smith	Bonnybridge Banknock



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