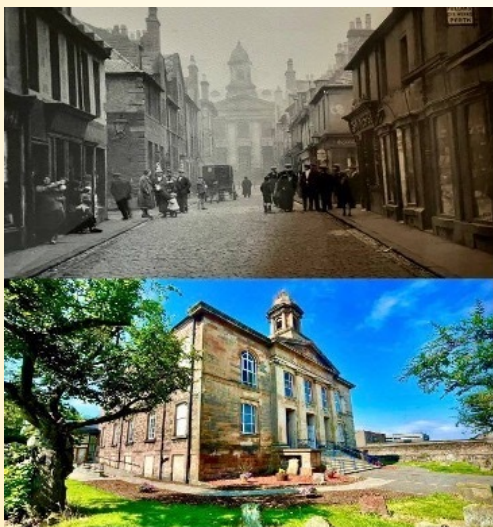


Port Glasgow New Parish Church



The Church of Scotland

200
Years
of
Port Glasgow
New Parish Church



Good News Magazine

March 2023

Services for March/April/May



- Sunday 12th March 11.00am Service of Holy Communion
- Sunday 19th March 11.00am Morning Worship
- Sunday 26th March 11.00am Morning Worship followed by Meeting of Trustees
- Sunday 2nd April 11.00am Palm Sunday
- Sunday 30th April 11.00am Service followed by Annual Stated Meeting
- Sunday 7th May 11.00am Service of Holy Baptism

Easter Week

Monday - Friday Services held in Port Glasgow New Parish Church



- Monday 3rd April 7.00pm Holy Week Service/The Guid
- Tuesday 4th April 7.00pm Holy Week Service
- Wednesday 5th April 7.00pm Holy Week Service
- Thursday 6th April 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Communion
- Friday 7th April 7.00pm Good Friday Service/Rev W Boyle
- Sunday 9th April 6.30am Dawn Service at Coronation Park
11.00am Family Easter Day Service.



From William, our Minister & Friend



Wow! What a year we had last year. If you were at the first service of 2023 you will have seen the video of all our highlights which lasted for 10 minutes. It genuinely could have been longer because there was so much to pack in.

This year our church celebrates its 200th year. What a great achievement, only possible because of God and the hard work, dedication and service you as God's people have put in to this church here in the centre of Port Glasgow.

As we reach our 200th year, we are in a good place. Our church is growing, not just on a Sunday morning but look at our facilities, they are used 7 days a week, from morning until night. There are around 20 plus children in our Sunday Club, a great bunch of children and around 270 young people in our youth organisations.

However, we have over 400 people on our membership roll which means there is still a large number of people that we are not connecting with. I appreciate for some of you that is due to ill health, mobility etc. If you are reading this and haven't been to church in sometime, we look forward to welcoming you back with us.

On Sunday 22nd January I was delighted that the Moderator of the General Assembly had chosen to come and spend a Sunday with us. The Moderator invited himself, he had heard about our congregation, especially through social media, had seen the amazing work that is going on here and wanted to come and see for himself.

The day was very special, he preached a powerful sermon and presented 5 of our well-loved and valued elders with long service certificates. I am extremely proud of everyone; I cannot thank you enough for how hard you worked to ensure that the Moderator's visit was a great day.

In general though, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who are connected and contributing to the life and work of our church all year round. Please be assured that I absolutely appreciate you all, everything that happens here happens because you are all an amazing bunch of people. You should all be proud of the part you play in ensuring this church continues to be missional and continues to serve the people of Port Glasgow every day of the week.

The role of Parish Minister has changed beyond all recognition. Sadly, the days of a parish minister visiting all of their parishioners from Monday to Sunday, sitting for a wee chat and a cup of tea are becoming more and more difficult. I am really struggling with this as much as I would love to do it.

Parishes are much larger, workload is increasing with myself carrying out just over 60 funerals last year, up from 38 the previous year. If our parish increases again with the new presbytery plan, that will obviously only increase.

This is why I absolutely appreciate all that you do. The church doesn't revolve round one person, it's all of us working together, serving our parish, serving our Lord. As I reach my third year with you, I look forward to us all coming together throughout the year to celebrate 200 years of this wonderful church.



**Friday 3rd March
2023**

**World Day of
Prayer**

**"I Have Heard About Your
Faith "**

*Details of services still to be
confirmed*

Sunday 14th May 2023

Christian Aid Sunday



Soup and Bread Lunch

Sunday 14th May

12.30 in Church Halls

Hello Everyone,

Firstly, let me start by saying "Thank You" for the welcome I've received at Port Glasgow New Parish since I joined you on January 1st.



I am a Ministry student for the United Reformed Church and my mode of ministry will be Non-Stipendiary Model 4 (NSM4), which is similar in some ways to Ordained Local Ministry in the Church of Scotland. However, one of the main differences is that my call to Ministry is supported by the Congregation where I will be ordained and work. This will be Greenock East United Reformed Church (formerly East Congregational Church). I have been an Elder in Greenock East URC since 1998.

I already know many of the lovely people of New Parish as I lived in Port Glasgow from age 8 to 24 and attended Port Glasgow High School. I also worked in The Co-Op at Dubbs Road for seven years.

After University, I became an English teacher and have worked in Notre Dame High School, Greenock since August 2000 and will continue to work there, post-Ordination.

I am married and have been blessed with two daughters and one son who are 20, 18 and 16.

I have been a lifelong member of 14th Greenock Boys' Brigade and have been the Company Captain since 2002. I am also a "No One Dies Alone Companion" with Compassionate Inverclyde and I try to volunteer at Port Glasgow Church Angels Foodbank, when I can.

My call to ministry began many years ago but I didn't act on it until I began training as a Lay Preacher in 2014. I completed that training in 2017, becoming a General Assembly Accredited Lay Preacher for the United Reformed Church.

Like many churches in the UK, the URC, is looking to equip the

kingdom through work in local congregations and in 2020 I offered for Ordination as a NSM4 minister. I was delighted to be accepted and have been well supported by family, friends, work colleagues and fellow Ordinands.

My training has three strands: The Scottish College (Congregational and United Reformed), Theology and Religious Studies at Aberdeen University and church placements. As part of training I am undertaking an Ecumenical placement to observe the life of a Parish minister in the Church of Scotland. I was very grateful that Rev. William and the Kirk Session were able to accommodate me.

So far, I've enjoyed being part of New Parish and I look forward to the months ahead. I am so impressed with how open and welcoming everyone has been and I am enjoying making new friends and reconnecting with old friends.

Every Blessing Derek McDonald



Our **Lighthouse Well-Being Group** continues to grow.

Walking Football continues to do very well, our team has grown again which is great and we are always open to welcoming new faces, even if you want to come along and have a look first before joining us. We meet every

Monday night from 6 pm in the large hall. At Christmas time, we had our first ever Walking Football Christmas night out which was well attended. Everyone had a great night and it's been so good to see how the team has grown into a good group of supportive friends.



Walk, talk and breakfast also continues, we meet every second Saturday in all weathers. Again, the group is open to everyone. We meet in the church car park at 10 am, go for short accessible walks and then return for some breakfast provided by amazing volunteers. I would encourage you to give it a go.

Future plan – We are now looking in to monthly gatherings where we can all come together perhaps in a venue such as Costa or the Tesco Café, simply to catch up, support each other and give people a place and a space to belong. It will also allow us to perhaps invite speakers along, for example from Man on Inverclyde, SAMH, etc or someone who can discuss a particular topic in regard to mental well-being.

We aim to keep our group completely FREE. We can only do this thanks to the generosity of local grant funding and from our new partnership with the Co-op.

Do you shop at the Co-op? Do you have a membership card? If you do, you can sign up to support our group. Every time you use your card at the checkout, you are raising money for our Lighthouse group. So far Co-op customers have raised £70 for our group, but you have until October, so that figure will hopefully continue to rise.

If you know of someone who might benefit from the Lighthouse group, please let them know, or perhaps it's yourself?

For more information, please speak to myself.

Thank you – Rev William

(WBoyle@churchofscotland.org.uk)



Sunday Morning Cafe

Church Cafe meets every Sunday after morning worship. Please feel free to come round to the hall and enjoy a cuppa and fellowship. A small donation is requested. All monies collected go to help provide equipment for the halls and church e.g. new electric hand driers for the toilets.

Church Cleaning Team



A huge **Thank You** to all members of the Church Cleaning Team who give of their time every Friday morning to ensure that our sanctuary is kept spick & span!

If you have any free time and would like to join the team, please speak to Robert Guthrie,

Mile of Two Pences

As at the 2nd of February 2023 the total amount in the fund stood at £1367.08. This was made up from the 22nd Mile - £202.34 and the 23rd Mile - £1,164.74

The committee would like to say a very big thank you to all who made and continue to make donations to the fund.



Tuesday Club

If you are looking for a time of fun, fellowship and a cuppa, why not come along to the church hall on a Tuesday afternoon at 2.00pm.

You will enjoy loads of chat, lots of laughter and great fellowship.



New members are always welcome, so if you have a free

afternoon, the ladies would love to see you

Sing for Joy

Sing for Joy resumed on Tuesday 7th February at 7.30pm until 8.45pm in the Church. The initial dates are:

Tues 21st February

Tues 7th March

Tues 21st March

Tues 28th March



No musical ability necessary! Just a love of singing! Come along, bring your friends and enjoy great fun and fellowship as we join together in song.



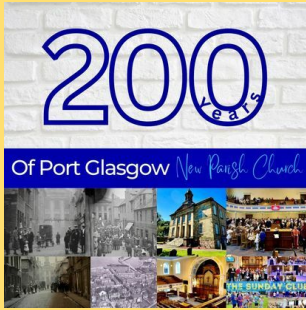
Old Boys' Union

The OBU would like to thank those members of the Church and the other visitors who attended the Church on Wednesday the 25th of January 2023 to listen to the Presentation by Dr Joe Morrow the Lord Lyon, King of Arms, entitled, "The Court of the Lord Lyon."

Joe sent an email the following day thanking me for inviting him and saying how pleased he was to have come to Port Glasgow and meet the people. He especially said he enjoyed the questions that were asked and could have taken many more.

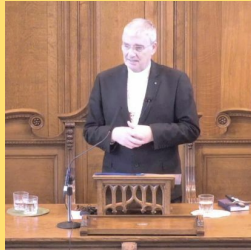


I would also like to say thanks to William and the Kirk Session for allowing the "Club" to use the Church Sanctuary for the Presentation. We had 26 OBU members present and about 70 church members and visitors who helped to swell our numbers and ensure a healthy collection of £181.00 for the Food Bank. This amount we will increase to £200.00 and present to the Food Bank at the earliest opportunity.



Sunday 22nd January '23

*What a great start to our 200th Celebrations! **A huge thank you** to everyone who donated towards the cost of the buffet, helped out either with the setting up, serving or cleaning up afterwards. Also to the group who ensured that the church and grounds were looking great great for the day. A great team effort. Keep looking out for our next event.*



**Visit by the Right Rev Dr
Iain Greenshields,
Moderator of the
General Assembly of
the Church of Scotland**

FLOWER ROTA

2nd April	Helen Findlay
9th April	Liz Thomson
16th April	Sheena MacFarlane
23rd April	Morag Tait
30th April	
7th May	
14th May	
21st May	Robert & Kathleen Guthrie
28th May	Lena Cupples
4th June	
11th June	Anne McAnally
	Myra MacFarlane
18th June	Wilma Trann
25th June	Ross Nugent



If anyone would like to give an offering of flowers, please contact Lena Cupples who will be delighted to hear from you.

Help Required.....

If you would be willing to help with any of the following, please have a chat with Robert / Sheena / Frances who will point you in the right direction.....

***Church Cafe, Pastoral Visiting Team,
Multi Media Team, Church Choir, Cleaning Team,
Sunday Duty Team, Church Website,
Delivering Flowers, Health & Safety Committee or any other aspect of
church life.***

New Presbytery Plan

At the November 2022 Kirk Session it was agreed to accept the Presbytery Plan which left us as a separate entity in Port Glasgow with Rev William Boyle as our Minister. It was also noted that Presbytery had recommended that Hamilton Bardrainney Church was to be linked with Wellpark Mid Kirk in Greenock.

On the 17th December 2022, all Inverclyde churches were invited to a meeting to discuss an update on the plan. On the 4th January we received sight of this new plan.

The Presbytery Planning Committee sent the following

“After having taken time to read the comments from the draft planning proposal and to consider the feedback we have received from various parties, the following revision to Port Glasgow is proposed by the Presbytery Planning team”

Port Glasgow New and Hamilton Bardrainney are invited to come together to discuss the future of the church in Port Glasgow, with Hamilton Bardrainney becoming a **local mission church**. This would enable the two different styles of worship and theology to co-exist in a way which demonstrated to the wider community, churches working together despite perceived historical differences, which we believe there is a desire to see healed and transformed.

The geography of the Port Glasgow area suggests that the unity of the church with its Port Glasgow identity, makes for a more sustainable model for the future, becoming a more cohesive ministry and better use of resources in that area. The increased burden on Rev William Boyle funerals, would mean that others would be encouraged to step up to assist in roles normally left to the minister alone. We would be suggesting the use of worship leaders and readers to help to make this a success. As yet, no OLM support has been allocated in Presbytery. Both buildings would remain as category “A”.

The meeting of all churches to discuss the above took place on the **10th January at Wellpark Mid Kirk**. As William had been on holiday for two weeks, it was not possible to call a Kirk Session¹²

prior to the above meeting on the 10th January. At that meeting the representatives from Port Glasgow New Parish reported that the Kirk Session had not had a chance to discuss the proposal, however a discussion paper would be prepared for the next Kirk Session meeting which was scheduled for 26th of January. It was felt that an outright yes or no would be wrong at this stage until all the facts were known and Kirk Session had the opportunity to discuss the draft plan.

At its meeting on the 26th January, following a great deal of discussion, it was agreed to go back to Presbytery with a whole list of unanswered questions before any decision could be made

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS STILL SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Sunday Duty Rota

Date	Team No	Leader
2nd Apr	Team 2	Jim Ferris
9th Apr	Team 3	Murray Paterson
16th Apr	Team 4	Robert Guthrie
23rd Apr	Team 5	Billy Mooney
30th Apr	Team 6	Gillian Wishart
7th May	Team 1	Dan Blaney
14th May	Team 2	Jim Ferris
21st May	Team 3	Murray Paterson
28th May	Team 4	Robert Guthrie
4th June	Team 5	Billy Mooney
11th June	Team 6	Gillian Wishart
18th June	Team 1	Dan Blaney
25th June	Team 2	Jim Ferris



Whose we are and Whom we serve



On Monday 23 January, the Guild started with our Scottish Afternoon when we enjoyed haggis, neeps and tatties cooked by our "chefs" Edith Marshall and Margaret Mooney. The haggis was piped in by Billy Mooney, carried in by Edith and addressed by Ross Nugent. After eating Ross and Billy entertained us with readings and piping. Everyone agreed it was a great afternoon.



We had a very interesting talk by Charlene Mitchell and Jen Dickson about the work of Inverclyde Youth for Christ. They do amazing work with the young people in Inverclyde in so many different ways and places.



In February, we learnt about the work of Your Voice. Doreen Borland shared with us her journey with dementia. We had a demonstration of flower arranging by Christine Woodward, one of our Guild members and a First Aid demonstration by Glen Miller. Something to interest everyone.

March brings our session for the year to a close with talks from Sheena MacFarlane and Liz Docherty and our Annual Business Meeting.

It has been a busy year and we have welcomed new members. There is always room for more, so why not come and join us for the second half of the session. Monday afternoon at 2pm in the small hall.

From the Guild to everyone in New Parish, we wish you a joyful and blessed Easter.



Let's
Pray!

***"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."
(Acts ch 2)***

How many recipe books do you have at home? Some people have lots and read them like a novel. Others have just a few, well-used with pages dog eared and covered in food marks. Some people make up their own recipes as they go and wait to see what the food tastes like. Some families have recipes which are passed down from generation to generation, not written down but done from memory. Whatever recipes you have or how you use them there are always key ingredients which need to be included to get the best results.

The verses from Acts at the top of the page are what Luke describes as the key ingredients for a fellowship of believers: spending time together, giving time to the teaching of the apostles and to fellowship; sharing everything by selling their possessions and giving to the poor; breaking bread together and praising God in worship and prayer. What happened when the key ingredients were used? ***The Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.***

A challenge for Lent! If we use the key ingredients in our recipe, as we journey to the cross during the season of Lent and if we show our faith by our actions as well as in our worship and prayer, with God's help, we will add to the numbers in New Parish and we will know Jesus much better by the time we get to Good Friday.

Prayer

Gracious God, we thank You that we can grow together in faith and share Your love with others. Help us to remember the key ingredients we need in our lives so that we can truly say we are Your disciples.

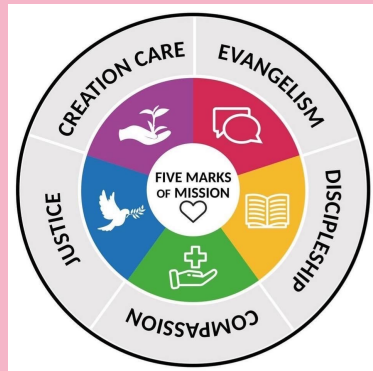
As we journey through Lent and to the foot of the cross let us give thanks in our prayers for the gift of Your Son, for the victory over death, and for His dying so that we could have life. Thank You for the plan You have for each of us and for the Bible and its stories which show us how to be like You. In Jesus' name we pray.

Helen Eckford (PrayerCo-ordinator)

Church of Scotland

Five Marks of Mission

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth



***Please share the word
about our Dove Cafe***

Port Glasgow New Parish Church



The Dove Cafe

A dementia friendly cafe for those with dementia and their carers.

The fourth Wednesday of every month from
1.30pm - 3.00pm

Everyone welcome
Come & Join Us on
Wednesday 22nd February
Wednesday 22nd March
Wednesday 26th April
Wednesday 24th May
Wednesday 28th June



**OUR CHURCH HAS BEEN
RECOGNISED BY THE
SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT**

Thank you to Paul O'Kane MSP for putting forward a motion in regard to our church at the Scottish Parliament.

Port Glasgow New Parish Church Celebrates 200th Anniversary

Submitted by: Paul O'Kane, West Scotland, Scottish Labour.

Supported by: Jeremy Balfour, Colin Beattie, Miles Briggs, Foyso Choudhury, Sharon Dowe, Murdo Fraser, Kenneth Gibson, Pam Gosal, Ross Greer (Registered interest), Bill Kidd, Ruth Maguire, Stuart McMillan, Collette Stevenson, Paul Sweeney, Martin Whitfield

That the Parliament recognises that Port Glasgow New Parish Church celebrated its 200th anniversary on 22 January 2023; understands that the Right Reverend Dr Iain Greenshields, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, attended the celebrations and presented church certificates to older church members for their long service, which spanned 30 years, before performing the ceremonial honour of cutting a 200th birthday cake; further understands that over 160 church members came together for a lunchtime celebratory buffet; recognises what it sees as the great work that the church, led by Parish Minister William Boyle, does for the local community, such as facilitating mental health and wellbeing initiatives including walking football, Walk and Talk, and the Dove Café; celebrates that the Port Glasgow New Parish Church has reached an incredible milestone, and wishes it the very best in continuing to be a great community institution for the people of Port Glasgow.



Do you enjoy singing? Your voice is needed for the choir. Mark and the choir would love to see some new faces on a Sunday morning. Why not give it some thought and give it a try!

Our Newly Refurbished Halls



A lot of work has been undertaken in our halls and it has definitely paid off! They are now looking so bright and welcoming. Thanks to the recent "Good As New" both toilets are going to be re-floored and money from the Sunday Morning Cafe will pay for two new electric hand dryers.

Pastoral Register

Deaths

Robert McBride

Marjory Sinclair



We extend our deepest sympathies to those who have suffered the loss of a loved one.

Annual Youth Statistics 2022

Junior Church (inc Lazars)	21
Boys' Brigade	51
Scouts	67
Girls' Brigade	68
Guides & Brownies	63

Total Boys 118

Total Girls 131

Total 270

Overall we have 270 youngsters in our Youth Organisations, an increase on the figure of 233 in 2020.

This is a great achievement in encouraging the youth back after the pandemic.

These young folk are looked after on a weekly basis by 56 adult leaders.

A huge thank you to everyone who gives of their time and talents in the service of our Lord,





In this edition of Sunday Club Reports, our Sunday Club reporters caught up with our very own Minister, Rev William Boyle to ask him some questions about himself and his role as a Minister.

Why did you become a Minister?

I have always attended church since I was baptised in 1984 (I will let you work out my age) I have been through the Sunday Club and youth organisations. Church has been a huge part of my life.

When I turned 30, I was working in Tesco as a Manager and I began to think about the future. Is this what I want to be doing for the rest of my life? I gradually felt God was calling me into ministry and that only grew stronger and stronger as the months and years progressed. I then decided to explore my calling.

Did you always want to be a Minister?

No, I actually always wanted to be a police officer from a very young age. Later in life I decided that if it wasn't Ministry, I went in to I would want to work alongside children with additional learning needs.

What do you like best about being a Minister?

There is so much to mention but I do love being there for people at every stage of their life. It is such a privilege to conduct Baptism' and Weddings for example.

What is the worst thing about being a Minister?

Being stuck at my desk with emails or admin, etc, I prefer being out and about.

Did you go to the Boys' Brigade?

Yes, I attended the BB in St Margaret's Church, Greenock.

Did you go to Sunday Club?

Yes, I went through the Sunday Club and Bible class. I then became a Sunday Club leader.

The 2nd Port Glasgow

Boys' Brigade



The Company Section has been very busy since our last Magazine Entry.

Our Seniors kicked things off with a Night of Games and Fun at Auchenfoil at the end of October.

Our Company nights on a Wednesday have been very busy with Fall-In, Band Practice, Drill and Recruit Training as well as Gymnastics and Squad Competitions.

Also we have had some specialist classes with First Aid, Map Reading, Armistice Wreath Making and a discussion on how we Generate Electricity and get this to our house via Grid Supply Points and Primary/Secondary Substations.

Some of our young recruits finished off their training with a walk round the Greenock Cut and down the Waterman's Road on a beautiful sunny Saturday afternoon, with the highlight of dining at the Fisherman's Cafe at Cornalees for a well-deserved burger.

Our Thursdays nights include our Bible Class, Band Learners, Band Practice and Hall Sports (these have proved to be popular and great fun).

On Fridays our boys continue to work hard at Table Tennis and our A and B teams have reached the Scottish Quarter finals that were played in mid-February and have finished first and third in the local District Competition.



In National Competitions our boys have also competed at Fifa, Football 5's, and Master Team as well as Table Tennis all with varying success, however, always having a good fun day out.

In November our Band played at the annual Armistice Day Parade and a few of us went to the Toll Boys' Monument at Glasgow Road to lay our Armistice Wreath, a 2nd Port Glasgow Bugler played the Last Post and Reveille at the short service here.



In December, just before the Christmas break, we held our Annual Games night, playing Darts, Pillow Fight, Table Tennis, Shuv Halfpenny and Pool, followed by a carry out supper from a local Takeaway.

Our two King's Badge Boys (Sandy and Lewis) and our three President's Badge Boys (Charlie, Jake and Layton) continue to work hard and are doing BB Service and Community Service towards a final goal of achieving the BB highest award, the King's Badge.

We look ahead to more good times in the second half of the session and towards our Display on Friday 21st April '23 in the church.

2nd Port Glasgow Boys' Brigade - Anchor Boys



The Anchor Boys have been having great fun on a Thursday night with all their activities. They are now preparing hard for their Parents' Night which will be held on Thursday 30th March in the church at 7.00pm.



The boys look forward to seeing all their families and friends joining them for this special evening.



TALENTED members of Riverside Youth Band have celebrated a host of musical successes over the past few weeks.

Celebrations were in order for principal euphonium player Rachel O'Connor, after she accepted an offer to study trombone at the Royal Academy of Music in London.

The former Inverclyde Academy pupil, already a student at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's Junior Conservatoire (Music), will commence studies on the undergraduate degree in London in September.



Meanwhile, RYB pupils enjoyed plenty of successes at the recent Inverclyde Music Festival, which returned after a Covid-enforced absence.



The senior brass solo competition saw bass trombonist Hannah McInnes come first, winning the JA Sloan Trophy, ahead of Andrea Crumlish (tenor horn) and Ash Paton (cornet) in joint second.

Trombonist Scott Smith won his solo class, as did baritone player, Stuart Smith, while in their class, Kyle Baxter (cornet) was second and trombone player Andrew Smith was third 23.

Andrea performed at the festival's celebration concert in Greenock Town Hall and was awarded the Gerard F Gordon Trophy in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the festival, in which she excelled in a range of classes including brass, piano and singing.



Further solo success for Riverside members came in the West of Scotland Solo Championships on February 4. In the senior solo category, Andrea Crumlish was second, ahead of Siobhan Crumlish in third and Hannah McInnes in fourth.

All three qualified for the Scottish Solo Championships, as did Ash Paton, who gained a Gold Award in the intermediate solo class, in which Scott and Andrew Smith received Silver Awards.

Baritone player Stuart Smith, meanwhile, received a Gold Award in the junior solo competition.

Riverside Youth Band also returned to the stage at Inverclyde Music Festival, with musical director Mark Good commenting: "Getting the opportunity to perform at Inverclyde Music Festival has been wonderful for so many of our young people, who have excelled themselves at this prestigious event.

"Between the festival and the West of Scotland solo competition, it has been a busy start to the year but it has been very worthwhile indeed."

Mark continued: "I'm also very proud of Rachel O'Connor, as she prepares to begin studies at London's Royal Academy of Music later in the year. Her achievements are testament to her dedication; Rachel can succeed in anything she turns her mind to, and I wish her all the very best at this exciting stage in her musical life."

1st Port Glasgow Girls' Brigade

The Company had a busy December starting with our visit to the Beacon to see Sleeping Beauty. It was a wonderful night and we were delighted to see two of our Brigaders, Emily and Ellis, on stage.



We then had a Christmas story and crafts night where we each made a Rudolph using a large chocolate coin. We were excited to have the whole Company together for our Christmas Party. It was an evening of games, dancing, Christmas treats, singing round the

Christmas tree and finally the distribution of selection boxes.

The highlight of the month for some of our Explorers was participating in the Bundle of Joy Nativity in Church.



After a well-earned rest we started back in January with a cake decorating evening to compliment the Explorers story about Camilla the Cupcake Fairy. This is one of a series of "Fairy" stories where each has a meaningful message. So far, we've also heard about Annie the Apple Pie Fairy and Lola the Lollipop Fairy.



Badgework activities have continued in all three Sections. We've had forward rolls and roly-polies; spinning tops; Chromatography butterflies; emergency planning; First Aid; sewing and lots more.

As part of the new Clyde Division of the Girls' Brigade we are looking forward to events for each section. The leaders have had a Quiz and Pizza night, where the results were close with our team winning by one point. The next event is a Baking and Challenge day for the Brigaders. The Juniors have an Easter Eggstravaganza and The Explorers a Hawaiian Party to look forward to in March and April.

At the start of June, we are going to camp at Fordell Firs in Fife. We had some spaces left so are delighted that 2nd Port Glasgow Company are joining us. We haven't camped since 2019, so for most of the girls it will be their first experience of camp.

Our numbers are quite good at the moment but there is still space for more girls in all three sections. All school age girls are welcome to join us.

Explorers P1-P3 6.00-7.00pm

Juniors P4-P7 7.10-8.30pm

Brigaders S1-S5 7.10-8.30pm

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our Annual Parents' Night which will be held in the Church on Saturday 20th May '23 at 7.15pm

See our Facebook page "1st Port Glasgow Girls' Brigade" or contact us at 1stportgb@gmail.com if you require any more information.

2nd Port Glasgow Girls' Brigade

Thank you to everyone who attended our quiz night, it was really nice to meet people face to face again and thanks to Buster for the questions.

We have a busy session ahead completing badge work and we are looking forward to our 95th celebrations which will comprise of a memory afternoon on Sunday the 30th of April at 3pm in Church.

Eight girls and 2 leaders have been invited to join the 1st GB at camp in Fife, it will be an amazing experience for our girls and hopefully we will have nice weather with no midges.

47th Greenock and District Scouts

We're happy to report that the Gang Show was a rousing success and those members of our group who took part had a wonderful time performing and making new friends and despite six very tiring shows and months of rehearsals to get to that point, they are looking forward to taking part again in 2024.



We continued working hard on our badges right up to Christmas, with Beavers working on their Cooks badge, Cubs and Scouts spending a few weeks looking at our Global Issues badge which has inspired the Scouts to consider options for some community involvement which we hope to be able to share more with you in due course.



The group celebrated their well-earned Christmas break with a trip to Elev8 indoor trampoline park where the kids had a fantastic time blowing off some steam and enjoying tasty treats. We also drew the prizes for our raffle and were able to send some lovely gifts home with some of our children for their families to enjoy as their generosity in participating in our raffle allowed it to continue to fund our group's activities.

We're now back again into the new year working on new badges; Beavers had a small celebration for Burns' Night and have begun working on their Navigator Stage 1 badge, and Cubs and Scouts have just completed their Communications badge, where they learned about different forms of communication including some basic British Sign Language. They moved on next to their Science badge, which included a trip to Glasgow Science Centre in February which they enjoyed greatly.

While we are happy to be seeing continued growth in all our sections, welcoming new friends to Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts week after week, we sadly have to share the unfortunate news that we have closed our Wednesday Cub section for the time being.

At this time, there is not enough volunteer support to sustain the section, and it is our hope that when we do have this structure in place we will be able to open the section again. In the meantime, we are welcoming any children who are able to join us as Cubs on Mondays and have reached out to other nearby groups for those who cannot manage on Mondays but would like to continue their Scouting journey. Our Wednesday Beavers will continue to run as normal.

Looking ahead to the next few months, our group have a number of camps planned out for each of our sections locally at Everton Campsite and an exciting camp planned in May for Cubs and Scouts who will be visiting Lochgoilhead to experience a range of outdoor activities which cannot be provided elsewhere.

We also continue to encourage our Scouts to be involved in the planning of their camps to give them the opportunity to develop their own planning skills that they will need as they continue on through Scouting. We look forward to sharing all the fun of these upcoming camps in the future.



As always we are grateful for the continued support we get from our community to provide these experiences for our children. The support we receive lets us show our kids how our community sees their value and they in turn value their own community and understand the importance of their part in it and we hope you see their value too.



<i>Wednesday 22nd March</i>	<i>Dove Cafe at 1.30pm</i>
<i>Thursday 23rd March</i>	<i>Kirk Session Meeting</i>
<i>Sunday 26th March</i>	<i>Meeting of Trustees</i>
<i>Monday 27th March</i>	<i>Bubblegum & Fluff / Newark P.S</i>
<i>Thursday 30th March</i>	<i>Anchor Boys Parents' Night at 7.00pm in Church</i>
<i>Sunday 9th April</i>	<i>Easter Sunday</i>
<i>Saturday 15th April</i>	<i>Guild Coffee Morning</i>
<i>Friday 21st April</i>	<i>BB Parents' Night in Church at 7.00</i>
<i>Wednesday 26th April</i>	<i>Dove Cafe at 1.30pm</i>
<i>Sunday 30th April</i>	<i>Annual Stated Meeting</i> <i>95th Anniversary of 2nd Port GB</i>
<i>Sunday 14th May</i>	<i>Christian Aid Soup & Bread</i>
<i>Saturday 20th May</i>	<i>1st GB Parents' Night in church at 7.15pm</i>
<i>Wednesday 24th May</i>	<i>Dove Cafe at 1.30pm</i>



If you require to contact our minister, Rev William Boyle,
 either phone **01475 745407** or
 email **WBoyle@churchofscotland.org.uk**

For Sunday Morning Worship and all Church News tune into our
 Facebook Page - Port Glasgow New Parish Church
 YouTube channel - portglasgownewparishchurch
 Twitter page - newparishchurchportglasgow.uk
 Instagram - portparish

Also our church web page can be found on
<http://newparishchurchportglasgow.uk>



Who's Who in Port Glasgow New Parish

Minister	Rev William Boyle
Session Clerks	Robert Guthrie 01475 744790 Sheena MacFarlane OBE 01505 873514 Frances Boyd 01505 873437
Organist	Mark Robertson
Treasurer	Gillian Wishart
Resource	Jean Finlay
Youth Mission	Sheena MacFarlane
Safe Guarding	Lynne Guthrie Donna Hendry
Prayer	Helen Eckford
Pastoral Care	Sheena MacFarlane
Flowers	Lena Cupples
Property	Ian Dunnachie
Data Protection	Lorna Stein
Fire, Health & Safety	Shaun Conway
Hall Lets	Margaret Vize
20p Convenor	Kathleen Guthrie
2p Convenor	Sheelagh Conn
Church Web Page	Anne McAnnally





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Port Glasgow** ❤️

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