

Port Glasgow New Parish Church



Everyone **is** WELCOME Here

Good News Magazine

December'23



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>





From your Minister and friend, William -

We come to our final magazine of the year and what a year it has been.

The Church of Scotland is going through one of the most challenging times in its history. The new Presbytery Mission Plans have been tough in a variety of different ways, especially if you are a congregation who has been marked

for closure. We have seen so many churches close and merge across Scotland this year and I am afraid that will be the case in 2024 too as we adjust to new ways of being the Church.

In 2019 we saw the union of St Martin's and St Andrew's to form New Parish Church. You will remember how you felt when this was discussed, announced and when for example, St Martin's closed down. That is how people will be feeling across Scotland right now. It feels like not just our local church is slowly but surely closing down but the whole organisation.

As much as it is not easy and we know that there will be tough decisions to come and we know that people will feel that sense of loss, look at what has been achieved here at New Parish Church since our union.

We had a successful union. We have a wonderful church family, a growing church with over 40 new members, we are very busy on a Sunday morning with nearly 30 children if they were

all there in the same week, very busy during the week, open 7 days, serving our community.

We also have so many future plans for our building to ensure that it is a “well equipped space in the right place.” I am delighted that soon we will open the new Sheena Morgan Hall, dedicated to a wonderful friend and servant of God.

Those examples show that there is hope for the future. Although closures and mergers will be hard, something new can grow and flourish as we work together to share the good news of Christ across our nation.

In Christ we have hope for the future. He is the hope given to us as a gift from God. He is the hope of the world assured through his work on the cross.

This Christmas time, come and join your church family as we celebrate the birth of the Messiah, the one who gives us hope, the one who taught us to love and to serve. We give thanks to God for sending us the best gift of all, his own son Jesus to be our Lord and our Saviour.

As Christmas and New Year approach, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your Minister and Friend – William



We recognise that Christmas can be a difficult time for those who are bereaved. This is why we hold a Blue Christmas Service which will help you to reflect, remember and give thanks for those people who have been part of your lives and continue to mean so much.

This service provides a space, a sense of quietness and peace and an opportunity to be surrounded by others who are also bereaved. You will have an opportunity during the service to add your loved one's name and message to our Blue Christmas tree.

If you wish to come through for tea and coffee or spend some time in silence in our church sanctuary, I will be on hand if you need any help and support.

Our Blue Christmas service will take place on Sunday 10th December at 3 pm and you are very welcome to attend. Please feel free to invite guests too. It could be that you have lost someone this year, last year or many years ago, everyone is welcome.

We look forward to seeing you at our Blue Christmas Service. If you need any more information, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Our church is here to help.



Christmas Arrangements

<i>Sunday 3rd December</i>	<i>First Sunday in Advent</i>
<i>Sunday 10th December</i>	<i>Service of Holy Communion at 11.00am</i> <i>Blue Christmas Service at 3.00pm</i>
<i>Sunday 17th December</i>	<i>Family Nativity Service</i>
<i>Sunday 24th December</i>	<i>Morning service at 11.00am</i> <i>Family Service at 6.00pm</i> <i>Carols & mince pies in the Hall /10.00pm</i> <i>Watchnight Service at 11.30pm</i>
<i>Monday 25th December</i>	<i>Christmas Day Service at 11.00am</i>
<i>Sunday 7th January</i>	<i>Morning Service at 11.00am</i>
<i>Sunday 4th February</i>	<i>OBU / Youth Service</i>
<i>Sunday 3rd March</i>	<i>BB Battalion Service</i>

Chaplaincy – Shipyard & Marchmont Care Home



Since 2020, I have been in discussion with Ferguson Marine about becoming their new Chaplain.

I am delighted that I am now officially the Chaplain to the yard and have been in recently for a tour of the site and the

Glen Sannox.

As we know, the yard has been very heavily criticized on an almost daily basis in regard to the two new ships. We will all have our own opinions I am sure but all I would say is from my trips to the yard I am blown away by the level of skill that I see from the workers and I genuinely pray for light at the end of the tunnel for them all. So many jobs and families rely on the yard remaining part of Port Glasgow for many more years to come. Please, keep our shipyard firmly in your prayers.

I am also delighted that we are now back leading services with the residents of Marchmont Care Home.

I know this is something we did in the past and with Covid restrictions it did fall away. We have really wanted to get the services back up and running and I am delighted that on a monthly basis we are now able to do so.

William

Musical Evening

***Friday 24th November
at 7.00pm in the church
followed by a light supper***

Free entry



20 Pence a Day Scheme

Did you know that for over 20 years now we have been running a fund called the "Twenty Pence a Day Scheme?" This started in order to fund the installation of the link and disabled access toilets. Over the years a group of dedicated members have continued to contribute faithfully and I have to say a big thank you to them all.

Apart from the money raised for the link, which was over £100,000 the fund has paid for:

- The carpeting in the Church, over £5,000
- The upgrade of the Manse, over £50,000
- A new front door for the Manse, over £1,100
- The CCTV system around the Church, over £1,500

Plus various replacement items in the Manse including shower and toilet repairs.

Recently the fund has paid £6,000 for the security fences around the Church which has stopped the criminal damage and drug misuse at at the link door.

As I said, a band of willing members have been contributing over the years and I am now looking to widen this and appealing for more members of the congregation to join the scheme.

It is so simple just save twenty pence each day and put it in an envelope in the basket at the church vestibule. Kathleen has a supply of brown envelopes which she will be happy to pass onto you. We record the amount by name to allow us to claim Gift Aid back if you pay tax.

Some people pay by standing order each month and some people pay annually. It is completely up to you and as you can see provides great help to the Church.



Please give this some consideration and if you wish to join the scheme, just see Kathleen G.

Thanks, Robert Guthrie

The Season of Advent

During the four weeks leading up to Christmas, our Church Christmas tree will be erected and each week an Advent Candle will be lit symbolizing

Hope Peace Joy Love



***Port Glasgow
New Parish
Church***

***Chatty Cafe
Friday
11.30 - 1.30***



***Social Enterprise
free/small
donation***



***Chatty Cafe meets every
Friday at 11.30 - 1.30pm.
Come along and enjoy
delicious soup, toasties, tea
and fellowship.***

***Our Dove Cafe meets every
Wednesday at 1.30pm in the
church hall.***

***Do you know anyone living with
Dementia or caring for a family
member? Tell them about us.***





Harvest Thanksgiving

As part of our Harvest Celebrations this year, a collection was held for the Church Angels' Foodbank based at Port Glasgow United Reformed Church. Thanks to everyone, we were delighted to hand over loads of bags of groceries and £390 in cash.



THE LIGHTHOUSE
well-being group

Walking Football
Walk & Talk
Here to help

Our Lighthouse Well-Being group was chosen as a Co-op partner for 2023.

It meant that if you chose our group, every time you used your Co-op membership card, you were donating to our vital group.

I am delighted to announce that thanks to Co-op members, we have been given £1,780.



This is wonderful news and allows us to continue to provide free activities including

- Walking Football
- Walk, Talk and Breakfast
- Talking Together

Are you interested in joining us for all or some of the above. Why not visit our new Facebook page or get in touch

WBoyle@churchofscotland.org.uk



"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."(John 3:16 NIV)

This short prayer is well known to some of the ladies in the church because it is the Guild prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for loving me right where I am. Help me to know that love deep in my heart and enable that love to flow from me to those with whom I am in contact. Amen

In less than 40 words it sums up our relationship with God. The two-way relationship of receiving and sharing God's love. Love is at the heart of our relationship with God. Love should be present in all our conversations with God. God loves us constantly and unconditionally, as a parent loves a child but that love is only valuable if we take it and use it and pass it on to others. Love is the binding force which keeps us together. If we take it and selfishly keep it, then what a waste of God's wonderful love.

During this season of Advent as we look forward to the birth of Jesus, we think of the Advent candles for hope, peace, joy, and love. God's love came to us at Christmas, in human form, as the baby born in Bethlehem. Think of the words of the hymn, Love came down at Christmas, and the third verse, "*Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine, love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.*"

Love, like a puppy, is not just for Christmas. The scriptures are full of passages about love. Love was present at Jesus' birth and at the time of his death. At the Last Supper, Jesus instructed the disciples, "to love one another". *Jesus said, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."* (John 13:34 NIV), and in Matthew's gospel, Jesus answered the teacher of the Law, "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment."* *The second is like it: love your neighbour as yourself.* (Matthew 22: 37) Why is love crucial to the greatest commandments? Love is at the centre of our faith. We need to give love to God and others.

Some people are easy to love but others are not. We need to love the unlovable too. God's love which he wants us to share is inclusive. Love draws together the lonely, the rejected and those who feel they have failed. Love accepts and forgives. So, when we pray for others, we must pray for all. In church, as in life, we have different personalities, brought together in one fellowship. Let's pray that love will bind us together.

When we pray, we should ask God to help us fulfil the two great commandments. As loving parents make plans for their children, so in his infinite love God makes plans for all of us.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV)



Tuesday Club

The Tuesday group started back on the 19th of September. We have had between 16 to 20 attending. The format at present is slightly different from before as we do not have as many speakers. We did have a visit from the Whoopie Singers and the ladies had a great afternoon. The ladies are enjoying this time of togetherness with plenty of chat, tea ,coffee and sometimes cake. Going forward, we will be visiting Erskine Garden Centre for afternoon tea which the ladies really enjoy.

Many thanks goes to Lena and Jean for all the years they have lead this group. Liz, Hilda and myself will continue with the group.

Mile of Two Pences

As the 11th of October the total in the fund stood at £1,639.38, this was made up of the 22nd Mile £202.34, the 23rd Mile £1,252,34 and the 24th Mile £194.70.



The Committee of Margaret Martin, Wilma Trann, Morag Kelly, Mary Black and Sheelagh Conn would like to say thank you to all who make donation to our fund.

Duty Team Rota

Date	Team	
7th Jan	Team 6	Gillian Wishart
14th Jan	Team 1	Dan Blaney
21st Jan	Team 2	Lynne Guthrie
28th Jan	Team 3	Murray Paterson
4th Feb	Team 4	Robert Guthrie
11th Feb	Team 5	Billy Mooney
18th Feb	Team 6	Gillian Wishart
25th Feb	Team 1	Dan Blaney
3rd Mar	Team 2	Lynne Guthrie
10th Mar	Team 3	Murray Paterson
17th Mar	Team 4	Robert Guthrie
24th Mar	Team 5	Bill Mooney
31st Mar	Team 6	Gillian Wishart

Church Cafe

A huge thank you to everyone who is supporting this worthwhile venture. To all those who volunteered for the rota, to the members who hand in biscuits and to all who come through after the Service to enjoy tea/coffee and a time of fellowship, your support is much appreciated.

All the money raised is used to buy equipment for the ongoing work of the church.

Thank you so much.



Old Boys' Union

There has been a change to the OBU Office-bearers, with Boyd Thomson taking over as President from the 3rd October 2023 and Ross Nugent taking over as Secretary. Any correspondence for the OBU should now be communicated to Ross at

E-Mail: ross.nugent@ntlworld.com Phone: 07933080626

The syllabus for 2024 is:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Jan 10th | Mr. W. Ross Nugent: President's Address. |
| Jan 17th | Mr. Bruce Newlands: Inverclyde Shed Project |
| Jan 24th | Provost Drew McKenzie: Butchery. |
| 31st Jan | Burns Supper: Provost Drew McKenzie. Immortal Memory 7.15 prompt |
| 4th Feb | Founders Day Service. PG New Parish Church |
| 7th Feb | Mr. Callum Harrison: Inverclyde Sports Hub |
| 14th Feb | Mr. Bob Webster: Inverclyde Tourist Trail |
| 21st Feb | Mr. George Wall: Inverclyde Children in Poverty |
| 28th Feb | Mr. Alan Aitken: The Boys' Brigade |
| 6th Mar | Mr. Alec Galloway: Stained Glass including Gallipoli Window |
| 13th Mar | Closing Business Meeting |

Pastoral Register



Deaths

William Kirkpatrick

Adam McCloy

Gilbert McGlynn

Beth McClelland

Jim McCallum

Donald Cameron

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

We warmly welcome to our Church family the following members

by ***Transference of Certificate***

Norrie Hansen

by ***Resolution of Kirk Session***

Chanell & Lee Rodger

by ***Profession of Faith***

Alison Carson

Ross Docherty

by ***Baptism***

James Alexander Carson



Church Flowers

January 2024

7th	Wilma Buchanan
14th	
21st	Wilma McDade
28th	Margaret Craig



February 2024

4th	Susan Steele & family
11th	Elsbeth Stirling
18th	Ellen Hill
25th	Ann Ferris



March 2024

3rd	
10th	
17th	Moira Henderson
24th	Doreen Borland
31st	

A huge thank you to everyone who so kindly donates flowers which enhance our chancel every Sunday.

If anyone would like to donate flowers, please contact Mrs Lena Cupples

01475 744290



New Parish Guild

The Guild started on the 9th of October. Our theme for this year is New Wine, New Wineskins. The Guild, like the church, is facing a time of change and we are thinking about how we move into the future while respecting the past.

Our first meeting was an informal one, a cheese and non-alcoholic wine. We welcomed back old faces and new. At our second meeting, our minister, the Rev Wiliam Boyle, talked about our theme and about the work the Guild does. At the following meeting our theme was "Something Old, Something New". It was a wonderful and sentimental sharing of things so special to us that we would not part with them. We had a brooch/pin from Empire Exhibition Scotland in 1938, watches and other jewellery, family photos, ornaments and other family memorabilia, including hand painted wedding china and a baby's first shoe, both of which has been in some of our church families for more than 100 years. The oldest item was a christening robe about 150 years old with connections to the Lithgow family! Our programme for October finished with a visit to the Cardwell Garden Centre.

In November we had a talk from Ian Wilson from our congregation who took us back to Port Glasgow in the 1700s. A interesting and informative talk. Our friend, Liz Smith, whose research into things Inverclyde is amazing, spoke to us about Gruesome Greenock, horrible but true tales from Greenock in bye gone days, a botched hanging and a coffin found in a lane ... It wouldn't happen in Port Glasgow. Would it?

Frances Boyd, OBE, had a wonderful story to tell as she entertained us with events and people who have crossed her

path. Thank you to all three speakers for taking the time to come and speak. We enjoyed everyone. The last week of November, Helen Eckford shared her memories about her trip to Malawi which she had made in August, while National Convener of the Guild.

December is a quieter month when we prepare for the birth of Jesus and celebrate Christmas with carol services and a Christmas lunch. We have a break from mid-December and return on the 15th of January when our speaker will be our good friend, Jack McHugh.

If you would like to join us for our busy Spring session, we meet in the small hall on Monday afternoons, from 2pm to 3.30 or 4pm. It depends how long we want to chat over a cuppa before we go home.

The members of the Guild wish you all a joyful Christmas and a good New Year in 2024.

Helen Eckford Guild Convener



A Date for Your Diary!

Our Sunday Club & Youth Organisations will be taking part in the Nativity Service on Sunday 17th December. Praise will be led by our organist and members of the Riverside Youth Band.





The Church of Scotland

Port Glasgow - *New Parish Church*

What's on at your Parish Church..

- Sunday Sunday Service / Sunday Club / Church Cafe
 - Monday The Guild at 2pm
Walking Football at 6.00pm / Line Dancing at 7.00pm
 - Tuesday HSCP at 10.00am
Tuesday Club at 2.00pm
Morton Fun Football at 4.30pm
2nd PG Girls' Brigade at 6.30pm
 - Wednesday HSCP at 10.00am
Dementia Cafe at 1.30pm
OBU at 7.30pm
2nd PG Boys' Brigade at 7.00pm
Talking Together (monthly) at 7.00pm
 - Thursday New Parish Playgroup at 10.30 - 12.00
Tai Chi at 11.00am
Chair Yoga at 1.30-3.00pm
2nd PG Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys & Juniors at 6.00pm
 - Friday Chatty Cafe at 11.30-1.30pm
Riverside Youth Band 4.00pm
2nd PG Boys' Brigade 4.30pm
 - Saturday Walk & Talk (every second week) at 10.00am
- There are also church youth organisations which meet in local schools*

Newark Primary School



- Monday 47th/97th Greenock and District Scouts at 6.15pm
- Thursday 1st Port Glasgow Girls' Brigade at 6.30pm

St Michael's Primary School

- Monday Rainbows, Brownies & Guides at 5.30pm



Mission & Outreach Committee

Our church Mission and Outreach Committee had their first meeting a few weeks ago and we all agreed that it was a very productive meeting. The group discussed what they think mission and outreach means within the church and why we need a committee.

We discussed various statistics concerning our town of Port Glasgow and we were all shocked to discover that the town has a very high mortality rate of death by cancer, heart disease and alcohol. There is also a feeling from the locals that there is a lack of activities relating to Health & Wellbeing which would support children, young people and adult groups .

On a good note the people of Port Glasgow believe that one of our greatest assets is our community spirit.

We looked at what is already available in Port Glasgow and agreed there is a need to create something that isn't already being done. Some of our ideas were to employ someone using an already available fund which would enable us to connect with the community and try to gain some ideas on what they would like the church to provide.

We thought about having a service once a month out with the church, a Cafe Church idea. Different venues were suggested with one being Mojo's Cafe on Princes Street. Would this connect with those that don't attend the church building? How do we connect with families? Could we have a short 15 min service after New Parish Playgroup to connect with parents? As a group we have had some good ideas to work on. With Christmas fast approaching we focused on what is coming up within the church.

Blue Christmas is returning again this year with bereaved families being invited along to the service. Bubblegum and Fluff will be back for P5 pupils from Newark Primary. To tie in with this, the pupils of P5 from Newark Primary will be invited to create a poster on their idea of the Nativity Story which we hope will be displayed in Tesco, Port Glasgow.



Joyful Angel Project is running once more. Maureen is looking for volunteers to be our Angels and also looking for any nominations of recipients to receive our Joyful Angel gifts. Please see Maureen in church on a Sunday or contact the church pages.

As you can see the group discussed a lot in the meeting and look forward to their next one. Do you have any ideas on Mission and Outreach? Anyone wishing to join the committee would be more than welcome. Our next meeting is Tuesday 28th of November at 18:00.

Kind regards, Maureen W



Youth Movie Night Celebrating

Of Port Glasgow Youth Club

Saturday 25th November
 4.00pm—6.30pm
 New Parish Church Halls

Scouts

girlguiding

Sunday Club

This event is free and open to all members of our Sunday Club & Youth Organisations. Consent forms must be returned to your Youth Leaders by 16th November. A ticket is required for entry and will be issued on receipt of a Consent Form.



47th/97th Greenock and District Scouts

Hello again everyone, the team at the 47th have been working hard this session and we're not stopping anytime soon.

We welcomed back our young people in August, with faces old and new, and have hit the ground running with our badgework. Our Beavers have been working on their Communicators badge, and learning about the Membership badge as they have had so many new friends join them this session. Our Cubs and Scouts have been working on their Challenge badges, in particular the World badge, which encompasses a range of different subjects around world cultures and faiths. We were especially excited to be joined by Rev William to discuss the faith aspect of the World Challenge badge, and the Cubs and Scouts had lots of interesting questions for William.



Cubs and Scouts were also given the challenge to complete some at-home badges during their October break; these are typically badges that we cannot cover in a Monday night session. We are lucky to have been



shown collections belonging to our Cubs, as well as learning about their activities beyond Cubs and Scouts through the Sports Enthusiast badge. We're looking forward to issuing more at-home badges in the following weeks as we take time each week for our Cubs and Scouts to share their hobbies with us.

Cubs and Scouts had a fun time at camp in September on our first visit to Auchengillen. We were lucky with the weather that weekend as we got to enjoy kayaking, canoeing, and water-zorbing in the chilly sunshine, and pushed ourselves out of our comfort zones with rock-climbing. The leaders were also very brave to trust the Scouts with axe-throwing, and for the first time, air rifles. Our young people had such a fun time, that the Scouts have been pestering our leaders to go back as soon as possible, which is also a first.

We are looking forward to hosting our annual group camp again in a couple of weeks, where Beavers, Cubs and Scouts will be going to Lapwing Lodge for a weekend in the woods (but we will be sleeping indoors). You will also hopefully have seen us standing proud in our uniforms at Remembrance Sunday, paying our respects to those we lost through war. In the weeks ahead we'll also be wrapping up some final badges for the year, and looking forward to a quiet break over Christmas.



While we always ask that you consider if volunteering with the 47th would be an option for you, we must express that we are constantly in search of volunteers and if this is something you have been thinking about please get in touch. Our group relies on the dedication of its volunteers to run each week and we are eternally grateful for the time and talent that they bring to our group.

Let me also express our gratitude for the continued support of New Parish Church and the community. It is a joy to bring you these updates with each issue of this magazine and it gives us an opportunity to reflect on the time we've spent, the work we've done with our young people and the difference we are hopefully making in each of their lives.

1st Port Glasgow Girls' Brigade

We were delighted to begin the new session in August and welcome the girls back into 1st PG GB. We've had a strong start with lots of new girls in Explorers and Juniors, which is superb. The girls have settled well into the routine of Thursday nights at Girls' Brigade.

Badgework activities have begun in all three Sections. 'Exploring the Ocean' is the theme in Explorers. So far, they have explored the stories of Noah and Jonah, learned the names of the Oceans and where they are situated. They have learned about different sea creatures and made Sharks and Jellyfish. They still have lots more Exploring to do as we go through the session.

The Juniors have started their topics – their Spiritual topic is 'Behind the Badge'. This is based on the different elements of the GB Badge and the symbolism they portray. Today the GB badge is a symbol that unites our members around the world.

The Educational topic is 'All About Bumblebees', raising awareness of bumblebees in the UK and their importance to our lives.

'Sugar Rush' is their Physical topic. Sugar is something that's loved around the world. They'll learn about how sugar is produced, the history of sugar and hear about the small-scale sugar cane farmers whose lives are reliant on this sweet treat.



Rounding off the badge work is their Service topic 'Sustainability'. The Physical and Service topics are led by our three trainee leaders, to complete their Gold Leadership training. After which they will be Commissioned as Leaders in Girls' Brigade.

The Brigaders are 'Exploring the Bible' and seeking to understand that it was never meant to be a solitary activity. This topic gets them talking together about stories in the Bible and thinking about what they mean to them.

The Educational topic is 'Quick Creative Exercises' where videos introduce quick activities designed to promote creativity. They can inspire new ways of thinking, explore the world we know differently or spark the imagination. Most of all they are great fun.

The Physical topic is 'Commonwealth Ceilidh'. As part of the Culture 2014 celebrations, the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society was commissioned by Get Scotland Dancing to develop a ceilidh with three brand new dances. The Brigaders will learn these dances, as well as the traditional ones.

The Service badgework is being kept under wraps at the moment. They are organising a special event - all will be revealed at a later date.

We are running monthly Squad Challenges with Juniors and Brigaders. They made arches, that a ball would roll under, using midget gems and cocktail sticks - it would have been easier if it wasn't the warmest night of the session and the midget gems were squidgy!!

Another month they were given sheets of A4 paper and had to cut a hole in one so that Wendy could climb through the hole. Sounds impossible but it's not - if you cut it the right way! Two squads made holes big enough for their smallest girls to go through but one managed a hole big enough for Wendy!!

On Thursday 30th November, 60 of us are heading to the Beacon Arts Centre to see the Greenock Players Pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We are delighted that two of our Brigaders are in the Pantomime and we're excited to see them on the stage. We also have Christmas Crafts, our Christmas Party and the Church Nativity to look forward to.

Our numbers are 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

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

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year

2nd Port Glasgow Anchor Boys

Thursday evenings continue to be busy for the 2nd Port Glasgow Anchor Boys. Our varied programme provides opportunities for every boy to learn, grow and discover in a safe, fun, caring environment which is rooted in the Christian faith.

It's great to have boys in primary one, two and three from schools all over Inverclyde. We come from different schools but on a Thursday night we come together as a Boys' Brigade family.

We are already getting excited about Christmas when we begin our activities with the Christmas Movie afternoon being organised by the church. We can't wait to join the other organisations for this and the Nativity Service which will be held on the 17th December.

Wishing all our friends and families a very blessed Christmas.

Charlene x

2nd Port Glasgow Girls' Brigade

The girls are enjoying meeting on a Tuesday evening and we have welcomed a few new girls. Everybody is having fun and fellowship. The girls have been baking and enjoying different crafts.

This year we are again helping the Rotary Club in their appeal "Pants for all". This helps children and adults who cannot afford undergarments.

We are holding a Christmas Beetle Drive on Tuesday the 17th of December, entry is free and all are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper.

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who send the girls along every Tuesday evening and a big thank you to all the officers.

A very Merry Christmas to you all



New Parish Playgroup

Every Thursday dozens of parents, grandparents and carers bring their babies and toddlers along to play, meet new friends and enjoy a cuppa and snacks together at the playgroup.



It's a thriving and busy group. We recently had a Halloween party which was a huge hit amongst the kids and adults alike. We have lots lined up for the playgroup as we run up to Christmas, including the Playgroup Christmas party which will take place on Thursday 21st December.

Due to the popularity of the playgroup, the decision has been taken to add an additional play session to meet the demand of our service users and growing numbers.

After the Christmas & New Year holidays, the playgroup will resume on Thursday 18th January. From then, we'll be offering two play sessions on a Thursday morning in the large hall. It will be £2.00 per family and the sessions will be from 9.30 - 11.00 and 11.30 - 1.00pm.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the play group and we look forward to welcoming some new families in the new year.

Pamela & The Playgroup Team



2nd Port Glasgow BB - Company Section

The Company/Senior Sections started the new session on Wednesday, 16th August and to mid-September we engaged in a whirlwind of activities during the first 4 weeks of our new session and this just whizzed by.

Our first two Wednesday nights were less formal, playing Hall Sports and Games and allowing old acquaintances to get together and new boys getting to know each other and our staff.

Hall Sports and games have been popular.

A more formal Wednesday (uniform night) and programme started at the beginning of September and with boys now in their squads, our programme is, Fall In and Inspection, Band Practice, Recruit Training, Drill, Warm Up, Gymnastic Classes and Hall Sports.

On our first Thursday night we were at Coronation Park and held the ever popular Park Sports (Rounders, Volleyball and Football).

Also on a Thursday our Band Learners, Band Practice and Hall Sports got underway and more recently Bible Class. On Fridays our Table Tennis Club returned at 4:30pm till 6pm.

Our Queen's Badge and President's Badge boys, Charlie, Jake, Luke, Cameron, Jack and Ben got underway commencing or continuing their Community and Company services and engaging in their skill activities.

The period from mid-September to the end of October has been busy for our Company/Senior boys.

Wednesday nights (Uniform Night) our boys are in their Squads for the session and so our Fall in on a Wednesday is more formal.

Sargeants are- L Irvine, S McQuilken

Squad 1 - C McQuilken, M Webster, S Buchanan, C Logan, D Hamilton

Squad 2 - J Denyer, B Hammerman, J Donnachie, J Knight,

Squad 3 - L Wolfenden, S Galbraith, F Hill, K Learie

Squad 4 - J Wilson, C Hall, M Peebles, C Deegan

On Thursday, 12th October our annual Enrolment Service took place and this was well attended by Boys, Officers, Parents and Friends.

At this service our young band gave a short performance and William conducted the formal part of enrolling our boys and officers.

We are delighted that eight recruits received their first award in the Company Section, The Company Badge, and their new Company Section Arm Bands. Well done to Cooper, Craig, David, Fraser, Jai, James, Kyle and Stewart,

Our Table Tennis Club has continued on Fridays and on Friday, 13th October we had a great night of Table Tennis with our boys getting a chance to play matches against the New Scots team made up of Afghanistan and Indian players. The international matches were played competitively and in a good fun atmosphere.



Our coaching sessions took on a new approach when 2 Scottish coaches came along to take a very intense and fun session on another Friday.

The new table tennis players in our A team took on the 44th Glasgow in the National Table Tennis Competition.

Our President's Badge/Queen's Badge boys have been busy. Jake, Jack and Luke have managed to complete their Community Service at Parklea Branching Out and Sport in the Port. Cameron and Charlie still have some hours to do to complete their Community Service.

Jake, Jack, Luke, Cameron, Charlie and Ben are continuing their Company Service hours doing various activities from manning the control desk at the Church Sunday Service, Table Tennis Coaching, Teaching Bell Lire and Drumming to our Band Learners and helping out at the Anchor Boys.



A busy start to November can be looked forward to by our boys with Armistice and more Battalion Competitions and National Competitions that are all coming thick and fast.

Finally our meeting times on a Thursday, from 25th October have been extended to accommodate our Bible Class and thanks to William for coming along recently and speaking at our Bible Class.



Riverside musicians enjoy national stage as organisation looks to the future

Inverclyde's Riverside Youth Band has enjoyed a few months to remember as the organisation enjoys a busy spell in the build-up to the festive period. Six members recently took part in the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland's residential course at Strathallan School in Perthshire.

Two members gained principal seats, with Ash Paton (principal rep cornet) and Scott Crumlish (principal percussion) joined in the senior band by Andrea Crumlish, Siobhan Crumlish and Katie Livingstone. Catherine Darroch was a part of NYBBS' thriving Reserve Band, and was in the back row cornet team which won an award for Best Section.

Ash and Scott were part of the principals ensemble which performed live on ITV's Good Morning Britain, as part of the launch of the Edinburgh International Festival, while both bands also took part in performances in the capital's Princes Street Gardens and Perth Concert Hall. Seven young members also attended NYBBS' open day, with a view to attending the course in future.

Meanwhile, Riverside also recently held its latest pBuzz camp, offering young people across Inverclyde the opportunity to take the first steps in their music making journey.

Led by Laura Good, with assistance from senior Riverside players, the successful event ran for several days in Port Glasgow Salvation Army, as youngsters learned about the basics of playing a brass instrument and music theory through a variety of games and immersive activities.



Riverside Youth Band also played its part in the community, providing music for Port Glasgow New Parish Church's Praise in the Park event in Coronation Park.

Reflecting on the events, Mark Good, musical director, explained: "Taking part in the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland saw our members learn from internationally-renowned conductors and tutorial staff, while making friendships to last a lifetime.

Our pBuzz camp has now become an annual fixture and it was wonderful to see young people immerse themselves in the various activities. Now, our organisation offers a pathway from beginners to experienced young performers

As the magazine was going to print, Riverside was looking forward to a busy schedule of engagements, including a concert to commemorate Port Glasgow New Parish Church's 200th anniversary and a trip to the Scottish Youth Brass Band Championships.

The band will host its Christmas concert in Port Glasgow Community Campus on Friday 15th December. The event starts at 7pm and promises to be an evening for the whole family. Tickets are available at

<http://shorturl.at/dqIMN>

Riverside Youth Band rehearses in Port Glasgow New Parish Church on Friday afternoons, with more young brass and percussion players welcome to get involved. Contact Duncan: info@riversideyouthband.co.uk or call 07974106888



Good As New Sale

Huge Thank You to Joan McIlhinney and her team for all their hard work at our recent sale. A super sum of £800 was raised. Well done everyone.....

Advanced notice - The team will be holding a one off Christmas Sale on Saturday 4th December from 10.00 - 1.00pm Again, lots of bargains!!



Oh Holy Night

***Wishing you every blessing
for a happy, peaceful
Christmas Season and a
joyous New Year.***

***May you be aware of God's
love and joy at this time.***

Who's Who in Port Glasgow:New Parish Church

Minister	Rev William Boyle
Session Clerks	Robert Guthrie Sheena MacFarlane Frances Boyd
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
Property	Ian Dunnachie
Health & Safety	Frances Boyd
Mission & Outreach	Rev William Boyle
Church Flowers	Lena Cupples
Hall Lets	Margaret Vize
Data Protection	Lorna Stein
20p Convener	Kathleen Guthrie
2p Convener	Sheelagh Conn
Church Web Page	Anne McAnally

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Church Website www.portglasgownewparishchurch.uk

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