



The Herald

Castlehill Parish Church

Spring 2023

Editorial

It's lovely to see the number of articles being submitted for the latest edition of The Herald, thanks once again for all submissions. There are many new activities that have been going on throughout the winter months. One of these activities included children from Forehill Early Years Centre attending groups at the Church for some intergenerational learning. A number of pictures from these sessions are on the front cover of the magazine. From the feedback I've heard it has been a great success with both generations learning a lot from it!

There are a number of activities coming up in the next few months as we celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III as well as the end of session outings for many groups. I hope there's something for you to get involved in.

I'd like to wish you all a lovely, relaxing Summer (when it comes!).

Rachel Queen, Editor

Castlehill Parish Church, 1, Old Hillfoot Road, Ayr KA7 3LW

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Church Website:	www.castlehillchurch.org
Charity Number	SC001792

Have your say

If you have any comments to make on the Magazine, please feel free to do so by letter or email to herald@castlehillchurch.org. We are always pleased to consider any articles for the magazine from members of the congregation. These can also be sent to the same email address.

From The Manse



Dear Friends

As I write this letter, I am very conscious that as far as the country and the Church are concerned, we are in what might be termed a liminal stage of our life: in other words, we are on a journey where the destination and the duration do not seem terribly clear. This might seem frustrating after starting to exit the “black hole” of the pandemic which in many senses paralysed our community and church life. But is it not typical for every Easter? Before Easter we make the perilous journey with Jesus and his friends to Jerusalem, after Easter, we make the open-ended and unexpected journey: an adventure into a new and unknown future for the young Church. In this century, we have faced the challenging route through future planning and certain changes for every congregation in the Church of Scotland and at times the past year has been on a rough and rocky road! That stage now lies behind us for the former Ayr Presbytery Mission Plan has been accepted nationally and any last-minute changes caused by appeals look unlikely to affect our area.

The open-ended and unknown adventure still lies ahead. We have reached this far in faith, and we have shown that as a congregation we are able to respond to change without anxiety and to provide at least an attempt at answers for some of the modern problems over which we have no control. And I hope you feel that we have, if anything, been able to come closer to each other and to God through that time. I have no doubt that we can continue to do that and respond with hope to what the next stage of the journey holds for us at Castlehill and with St Leonard's.

As at the first Easter, our aim must be to avoid the inward-looking attitude of the disciples who were afraid of the unknown future. We have instead to look outwards to our community locally, nationally and globally and to continue to be warmly welcoming, caringly compassionate, always aware of the needs of each other and eager to leave none isolated on the journey ahead. As a young Church, while we may not feel young in age all the time, we can breathe an energy and enthusiasm into the Church in our area. Can we make that our Easter resolution for 2023, the basis of all our current planning?

Let's take an old song of faith as our refrain:

I do not know what lies ahead,
the way I cannot see;
yet one stands near to be my guide;
he'll show the way to me.

I know who holds the future,
and he'll guide me with his hand.
With God things don't just happen;
everything by him is planned.
So as I face tomorrow
with its problems large and small,
I'll trust the God of miracles,
give to him my all.

May you experience the blessings and hope of Easter in your homes!

Peace be with you.

Paul

EASTER SERVICES

LENT SERVICES

SUNDAY 26TH MARCH 6PM

SUNDAY 2ND APRIL 6PM

These will round off our Lenten reflections and last half an hour.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

As in previous years, we shall worship each night of Holy Week, and as we did last year, we shall share Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services with our friends from St Leonard's. Please come along and share in our preparation for Easter in this special week.

MONDAY 3RD APRIL 7PM CASTLEHILL

TUESDAY 4TH APRIL 7PM CASTLEHILL

WEDNESDAY 5TH APRIL 7PM CASTLEHILL

THURSDAY 6TH APRIL 7PM ST LEONARD'S

FRIDAY 7TH APRIL 7PM CASTLEHILL

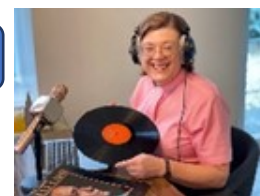
The Maundy Thursday Service will include Communion and St Leonard's use the same method at present as Castlehill.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

EASTER IS FOR ALL!

Worth remembering

1. Try not to worry too much, remember that Moses started off as a basket case and he did all right
2. When you get to your wits end, you will find God will be there.
3. And always remember, God promises a safe landing not necessarily a calm passage.



One of the men I work with spoke about his drug and alcohol addiction like starting by dipping his toe into the water and then before he knew it, he was doing the front crawl. Well, you could say that was like my calling to the prison.

It was back in the early 90's I first got my taste for prison chaplaincy. I was in my early 20's, as a Training and Evangelism Student with the Church of Scotland, I found myself sitting having a cuppa and a chat in the chapel of HMP Saughton (as it was known as the time, now it is HMP Edinburgh) with a prisoner and it felt ok, actually it felt more than ok, it felt like the right thing to do. He was normal, a normal human being, why shouldn't I be able to have a normal happy conversation with him, even if it was in a prison.

When I was the minister in St John's Church in Gourrock a part-time post came up for HMP Greenock, however I didn't notice it till I had returned from a holiday. When I called up about the job, I was told that it was too late, the application deadline had past, so that was that nipped in the head.

Then in 2013 a post in HMP Kilmarnock came up, I went for it and got it. I knew it was the right thing, the right place, and the right time. I was older, more mature for you can't be naïve in prison, oh no, you have to have your wits about you at all times, no pulling the wool over my eyes.

As minister in Annbank linked with Tarbolton parish church I was part-time chaplain at HMP Kilmarnock and I loved all my communities. The prison liked me too and 4 ½ yrs later I was asked to consider becoming the first female full-time coordinating prison chaplain of HMP Barlinnie. How could I leave the parish? Where would we stay? Parish Ministries was my life, could I really do this? My loving patient husband said to me "If it is God's will it will all work out," and of course it did.

They say that there is the SPS way (Scottish Prison Service) and then there is the Barlinnie way. It is a unique prison, mostly because of its age and size but it is also run by the officers and not the prisoners. A strict regime, which the prisoners like. They know the routine, they know they are safe, and they know that every day, if they want, they can see a Chaplain.

The Chaplaincy Department is a Multi-Faith Centre, therefore, no matter what spiritual path a prisoner may be on we are obliged to help them fulfil that path. From giving out Buddhist news every week, rosary beads and Torah's I am kept busy. My work mainly consists of one-to-one pastoral care for it is whilst in prison you get time to reflect, to think through things especially what got you into this situation in the first place.

I hear lots of painful stories, many you just would never imagine any one person could go through and still be alive. It sadly makes you understand why someone would turn to drugs or alcohol for it takes the pain and memories away, even if just for a little while. Of course, we are trying to rehabilitate the men, show them there are other ways and for the chaplains we might be given the opportunity, if the prisoner wants it, to hear about the transforming power of a loving, merciful, and forgiving God.

It is a privilege to be with the men in HMP Barlinnie and I am grateful that I have been asked to share a little of my journey and story with you. All I ask is please do remember us on Prisoners Week which is always the last week in November and to pray with us. Thank you and God Bless each one of you.

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those who are held in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love: prisoners, their families and friends, prison staff, chaplains and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the activities of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another. To act justly. To love mercy. And walk humbly together with Christ. In His strength and in His Spirit. Now and every day, AMEN.

Some of you may ask who is Jill Clancy, and in her article, she explains that she is the full time coordinating prison chaplain of HMP Barlinnie. And what she did not say that she was also a DJ. DJ Jolly Jilly at Barbed Wireless radio station at the prison during the lock down and for that she received an award from the Chief Executive of the Prison Service. When in HMP Kilmarnock she also received an unsung hero award. And her connection to Castlehill Church? Well she was a visiting religious student who was here during the time of our Assistant Minister, Paul Beautyman In January she also gave an excellent talk at the Guild.

We are now three months into the current session and we have enjoyed a variety of events. The highlight of the session so far was our Burns' Lunch which was held on Sunday 29th January. Margaret and William produced an excellent "Bill o' Fare" with the usual haggis, neeps and champit tatties, along with oatcakes and cheese. We enjoyed the Address to a Haggis recited by Matthew Doolan, and the Selkirk Grace delivered by Graeme Watt. After the meal we were entertained by Jack Smith who gave us a very well delivered Address Tae a Thistle, then, an unplanned Willie Wastle recited by a very willing Samuel Dingwall. All the boys' performances were well received. There was a mix up which meant our closing act was not in attendance, the officers therefore stepped in and recited A Man's A Man For A' That, which went down well. The entertainment was finished off with an emotional rendition of Auld Lang Syne. Thanks go to all who participated in the entertainment, those who helped set up the hall and serve the food, to Margaret and William Graham for preparing the food, but most of all our thanks go to the families and friends of 17th Ayr Boys' Brigade who came to support the event, we very much appreciate it.

Food has featured in our Company Section Friday nights. As part of a vegan themed evening the boys really enjoyed the mess of baking vegan cakes. Some boys are more in tune with their domestic side than others, but they all loved the process if not the result.



The Boys' Brigade as an organisation have produced a great deal of programme material which we have been able to use throughout each of our Sections. Another themed programme we followed was Italian, which we delivered over two Fridays. The second Friday was given over to making pizzas, from scratch. The pizza masterclass was delivered by Rupert Vidion, the step father of Jack and Callum from the Company Section. He brought the pizza oven, the dough and all the toppings. We are very grateful to Rupert for the time and effort he gave to this event. The boys loved the whole process of rolling the dough, covering the pizzas with their choice of toppings and then consuming the fruits of their labour. A memorable night.

The Junior Section are enjoying healthy numbers at the moment. This is partly due to a presentation which was made to the pupils of Forehill Primary School. A very successful presentation was put together by Margaret Graham and delivered by Margaret and Colin Reid, this attracted some boys to Castlehill and they have settled in well. We have also attracted new recruits from Kincaidston Primary School.

The Junior Section have reintroduced figure marching to their programme which is being led by three of our Company Section boys, Benn Houston, along with Callum and Jack Smith. The boys are engaging with this very enthusiastically.

The Junior Section are planning a sleepover on Friday 23rd June into Saturday 24th June in the church halls. The motivation for this is to give the newer boys a flavour of what our weekends away are like without them being too far from home. The



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hope is we will get a larger commitment from the boys to come to our next weekend away which is to Dumfries House in November.

The Anchor Boys recently took part in the annual games afternoon at the Citadel. This is the one event in the year where the companies within the Battalion get together to share an event. 65 boys attended from 7 different companies. The event is a series of activities with each company providing materials for one activity, the boys move round from one to another. They really enjoy this event. The Anchors hold one competition annually which is a colouring competition. The presentations for this were made during the games' afternoon. Three 17th Ayr boys did well, Highly Commended Certificates were presented to Lukas O'Hanlon and Cole Watson, with a Commended Certificate going to Harris Reid.



Ian Queen

We are never too old to play

We are delighted to have been asked by Forehill Early Years Centre to come together with the children to share experiences and to learn from each other.

At our coffee shop and cosy space they entertained us with nursery rhymes and songs. They then asked us questions on a worksheet they brought along with them.

We look forward to having them back with us.

Background: Intergeneration Learning is the way that people of all ages can learn together and from each other. It is an important part of Lifelong Learning, where the generations work together to gain skills, values and knowledge.



Margaret Graham

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LONDON 2023 – Scottish Girlguiding

Day 1 – Friday 17th February 2023

Cara and I first began our journey to London by travelling up to Glasgow Central station to meet up with the fellow leaders and Rangers joining us on our trip to London. We successfully arrived in Glasgow and went out for meal at Wagamama's to get to know everyone. We had a yummy grilled chicken ramen and some dough cookie balls.

Then we made our way back to the station to board the Caledonian Sleeper Train at 9pm, we were greeted by the amazing staff aboard and shown to our rooms, the rooms had a small sink, wastebin and bunkbeds inside, they were definitely snug. The Sleeper experience was a unique once in a lifetime opportunity and I would personally recommend everyone to give it a go. The sleeper was comfortable and we were provided with a small snack and tea or coffee in the morning when we arrived at London Euston at 7:15am.

Day 2 – Saturday 18th February 2023

We arrived in London, said our goodbyes to the Caledonian sleeper train and off we went to our next destination.

In the morning we firstly went for a breakfast at Bills located in central London, the popular choice was pancakes and fruit with tea. We chatted with the other girls and discussed what we were excited for during the day!

After a yummy breakfast we took a small stroll to the Rochester Hotel to drop our bags off for the day and took a small day bag for during the day. We made our way through London, stopping at Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, Downing Street, the Mall, St James Park and then over to the London Eye which we had booked for 11am. We had beautiful weather, a lovely clear day and we could see the whole of London, amazing!!!!



Then it was time for Lunch! We crossed over the river Thames, passing some protests, to a hidden café called The Crypt, a cool café underground which had amazing, yummy food. We enjoyed a relaxed lunch as by this time we had worked up an appetite, then off we went to our tour of Westminster Abbey at 2pm with our lovely guide, Iain from Dundee. Here, we also met the chief guides Tracy and Megan who had been part of the organisation of the whole trip. We were given a very detailed tour around the whole abbey before the evening song service at 4:30pm.

Evening song service was wonderful, so peaceful and was amazing to be a part of the service. We sang along with the choir through some hymns and verses from the bible. At the end of the service there was a section which was dedicated to the girl guides to remember the Baden Powells at their memorial where we laid a wreath and I read a small reading from Philipians 4:4-9. At the end of the service we had the opportunity to reflect and light a candle for our loved ones.



Then it was time for pizza! We all made our way along to Pizza Express with the chief guides, Tracy and Megan, and enjoyed a relaxed meal where we were able to talk about the day. After a very long day we made our way back the hotel for a well needed sleep.

Day 3 – Sunday 19th of February 2023

In the morning we got up and had a breakfast at the hotel before checking out with our bags to take the underground from Victoria to South Kensington. We made our way to the natural history museum! We had a great time walking around the exhibits, rocks and minerals, mammal history and the gift shop. The building itself was huge. We then made a trip to the gift shop to pick up some souvenirs!!!

Then we made our way on the underground to Kings Cross Station to pick up some lunch and catch a train to leave London at 1pm. Our train travelled up the east coast to Edinburgh where we then got a train to Glasgow and then a bus from Buchanan bus station back to Ayr.

I would like to say a massive thank you to Scottish Girlguiding for giving Cara and me this wonderful opportunity to travel to London and represent Scotland in London.

Thank you, Rhian Nilsson and Cara Cassidy.



Girlguiding

Guides and Rangers have been busy and having fun. We were busy in the run up to Christmas with arts, crafts and cake decorating. On a very frosty Monday night the girls enjoyed a cinema trip to see Matilda as a Christmas outing.

January saw us head down to Dunure on a very chilly afternoon. The girls and leaders walked to Port Sheughan and did some beach combing and litter picking for the Trefoil 80 badge. We also had use of the Kennedy Hall at the harbour for games and snacks, Winter doesn't stop the fun and friendship.

Congratulations to Cara, Rhian, Ashleigh and Olivia on completing their Ranger Silver Award. Ava, Molly, Ruth and Sophie completed Guide Silver. A lot of work was put in by our young members to achieve these awards.

February saw Rhian and Cara head to London with the Scottish chief Commissioner Elaine Rough and another 9 Rangers for the wreath laying ceremony for Baden Powell in Westminster Abbey. The girls had a fabulous time sightseeing and a trip on the London Eye as you've read about above.

As part of the 80 badge the Guides had a movie night with popcorn and ice cream watching the remake of St Trinians. As part of the celebrations for the Silver Awards we had Jill, a nail technician, come along to hold a session on nail art and we had mocktails.

Thinking Day service in church and fun day after provided girls with a chance to meet up and try new activities. Guides and Rangers provide a safe and happy environment for the girls to meet up and make friends

Christine, Angela and Trisha

THINKING DAY SERVICE

On 19th February we had our annual Thinking Day Service in the Church which was well attended. Thank you to Paul for arranging such a good service for the girls. Our County Commissioner, Fiona Robertson joined us, together with Mrs Nan Mclean representing the Trefoil Guild. Nan was there to represent the Trefoil Guild as it is their 80th birthday this year and they have produced a challenge for the girls to do, which we commenced on Thinking Day. Thank you to the girls who formed the colour party and to Ruth from Monday night Guides and the three girls from Dalrymple for doing the readings.



After the service we went through to the main hall, where cake had been provided and the girls had a packed lunch which formed one of their challenges by having a community picnic. Other challenges the girls spent the afternoon doing were making postcards to be handed into a nursing home, planting bulbs, yoga, name a country from each of the letters of eighty and a family tree. The afternoon finished off with a couple of campfire songs.

The units will continue to work on the challenge throughout the rest of the year.



Youth Church

Does your child want to learn more about the stories in the bible. Bring them along to Castlehill Church on a Sunday morning - drop them off at 10.45a.m and collect them at 12 noon from the main hall.

To learn more about our Youth Church speak with Paul or Margaret Graham.



For more information contact: maggie641.mg@gmail.com

Fabric Report

We hired another skip and with some help from a few people we soon filled it, hopefully this is the last major clear out. We will be doing our annual inspection of the buildings, both inside and out, and will make a list of work needing done. The car park has been improved with the help of William and he has offered to paint the white lines to make it more organised for parking. If you see something needing repaired, please let us know. We will need your help when the weather is better to do some outside painting, if you could help in any way we would be very grateful. We will keep you updated when this is getting done.

The Fabric Team

Social Report

The Social group are having a Beetle Drive on 19th April, tickets will be on sale soon. We are also having a Coronation tea after church on Sunday 7th May, all are welcome. We have another date for your diary for the Christmas Fayre on the 25th November. There will be more details nearer the time. We would like to hear from you if there is any social gathering you would like to happen in church that we could organise for you.

The Social Team

Guild

We have had another successful winter session of the Guild. Our thanks go to the many speakers and entertainers who have given their time and talents to come along and speak to us.

Each year we support a local charity and this time it was the turn of Broken Chains who work tirelessly among those at the lowest point of their lives.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank everyone for all their support and for coming along to the Guild every week no matter what the weather. Our Summer Outing is on 17th May.

During the Summer I will be busy putting together our syllabus for next session, which starts on Wednesday, 4th October 2023 – a date for your diary.

In the meantime, I hope you all continue to keep well, stay safe and enjoy the Summer when it comes.

Dorothy Jack, Secretary



Finance

The church financial year ended on 31 December 2022. Members of the Congregational Board and Kirk Session are Trustees of our congregation. The seventeen pages of the Annual Report and Financial Accounts was emailed to Trustees who could then give approval by email. Four copies of the report were signed by our session clerk, Douglas Owens, and I and then they were passed to the Examiner for approval. I am awaiting details of where to send a copy to the Accounts Inspection Committee of the Presbytery of South West Scotland. A copy went to Church of Scotland headquarters in Edinburgh. Following approval by the Accounts Inspection Committee a copy will go to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

From the previous year the amount given by Standing Orders decreased and the amount given by Free Will Offering envelopes and open plate increased.

We were able to claim Gift Aid refund s of £13,042.

Fabric expenditure during the year was £6,463 as we did not have any major repairs and costs for heating, electricity, manse council tax, insurance and cleaning the church and halls were £15,043.

We replaced the projector in the church with a laser projector at a cost of £8,356 and installed a new induction loop system at a cost of £650.

If you are a tax payer and use a standing order or FWO envelopes or the Wee Kirks to give money to the church we could claim 25% of the amount given back from HMRC if you sign a Gift Aid Declaration form. Contact Margaret Devlin Tel. 01292 445118 for a form or it can be downloaded from the church website www.castlehillchurch.org under the publications section. Completed forms should be returned to Margaret.

Margaret Devlin

Castlehill Parish Church of Scotland Ayr

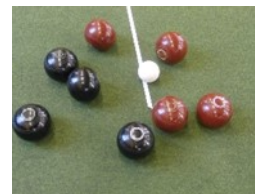
Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted funds	2022 Restricted funds	Total funds	2021 Total funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	82,169	25	82,194	77,092
Charitable activities	5	3,961	—	3,961	355
Other trading activities	6	26,622	—	26,622	14,630
Investment income	7	7,080	173	7,252	6,978
Total income		<u>119,832</u>	<u>198</u>	<u>120,029</u>	<u>99,055</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	8,9	105,334	777	106,111	107,017
Total expenditure		<u>105,334</u>	<u>777</u>	<u>106,111</u>	<u>107,017</u>
Net losses on investments	11	(33,276)	(776)	(34,051)	(3,911)
Net expenditure and net movement in funds		<u>(18,778)</u>	<u>(1,355)</u>	<u>(20,133)</u>	<u>(11,873)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		275,717	2,499	278,216	290,088
Total funds carried forward		<u>256,939</u>	<u>1,144</u>	<u>258,083</u>	<u>278,215</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Bowling Club



The Club has had a reasonably successful second half to the year. Numbers have been around 16-20 each Monday, a bit down on pre-covid times. However, we recognise that we lost many members over that time, and we have been encouraged by new arrivals who have been enjoying their afternoons.

We had to cancel one Monday due to no one being available to lay out the carpets. This is a task that some of the older members are unable to undertake. But that was just ONE Monday. We are grateful to some of the newer, younger members helping out in this area.

We did not hold any competitions this year until we saw what the numbers would be like, but next year we will look at this again and proceed accordingly. A Christmas party was held with everyone enjoying a great afternoon. The Annual General Meeting will be held on March 27th and we will have an end of season tea.

Our thanks to all who have attended and helped with furniture removal and providing a happy atmosphere which bodes well for next year.

It was with sadness that we learned of the passing of Isabella Kerr, wife of our past President David. Isabella was a regular member of the club and winner of a number of trophies. Our thoughts are with David and his family at this sad time. She will be fondly remembered by us all.

Wellwood Grierson

Winter Activities Afternoons

Castlehill Church is taking part in the 'Warm Space Initiative ' by providing a winter activity afternoon every Thursday from 2pm until 4pm in the main hall.

We have several activities on offer. Currently we have a craft group who are enjoying developing their interests and learning new skills. We also have a number of people who enjoy doing jigsaws. Others are playing card games and dominoes and are having great fun but also a laugh. Some people are also bringing along their own hobbies such as stamp collecting and model making. We also have a quiet area for people who just want to sit and read, while enjoying some company. Throughout the afternoon tea and coffee is available.

Our aim has been to offer friendship to anyone in our community who may be lonely, while also supporting the cost-of-living crisis by providing a warm space. Since October numbers attending have averaged 24 and new faces are joining the activities, which is great to see. People have commented that there is a lovely friendly atmosphere and a happy buzz in the hall. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you some Thursday afternoon.

Liz Hardie



Castlehill Distribution.

One morning this year not that long ago Andrew and the team had the experience of three Ukrainians who were refugees staying in Ayr. They arrived asking about the food bank and how they could be supplied. Andrew took them to the fellowship area to explain how it all worked. It was when talking to them it came out only the gentlemen could understand what Andrew had said. He explained the ladies could not speak any English at all. Then he said to Andrew "It's ok I can translate what you have said to the ladies". Having thought they were all together in one family it transpired it was three individuals helping each other. We're pleased to say they are now being supported by South Ayrshire Foodbank and other agencies in the area.

An occasion for a quick thank you prayer to Jesus for being able to help.

Monday 6th February 2023

All volunteers were invited to a "Thank You" lunch for the work they have done over the past 20 months since starting the Foodbank distribution on Friday 4th June 2021. Also attending were Suzie Davies, Doreen Binning, and Cathy Smith, representing South Ayrshire Foodbank who we work with closely.

Friday 24th February 2023

We welcomed Sharon Dowey, MSP for South Scotland, Shadow Minister for Culture (fifth from left) along with Cathy Smith, South Ayrshire Food Bank (third from left). Sharon spent all morning with the team, discussing the issues raised and seeing how it all worked and why there is a need for the service.



The Foodbank is used well with past few weeks being very busy. Last week was one of the busiest with thirteen boxes issued. We are now able to work on a three teams rota of four along with a co-ordinator each week.

Your donations are always gratefully received. A list appears in the weekly Intimation notices.

Anyone interested in helping please contact Andrew Graham or Margaret Gerrard.

Recent events have highlighted the need for assistance throughout the world. Christian Aid is at the forefront of these efforts but must rely on the generosity of ordinary folk in communities such as those associated with Castlehill. Immediately after the earthquake disaster in Turkey/Syria, CA sent out an appeal for emergency funds. I am pleased to say that the congregation has responded with monetary donations beyond what I expected. A total of £795 was raised for which I must thank you most sincerely on behalf of CA and those in Asia Minor who will benefit. CA knows that money is tight, but you always seem to find something to help. However, these appeals show no sign of ending, so I must warn you that the CA Annual Appeal (complete with envelopes) will, as normal, come around in the month of May.



Allan Jack, CA Elder

Funerals

February

Marjorie Munro	Curtecan Place, Ayr
Margaret Robertson	Peggieshill Place, Ayr
Isobella Kerr	Hillfoot Crescent, Ayr
John Michael	Cedar Road, Ayr

March

Ian Colquhoun	Overnills Road, Ayr
Margaret White	Willow Park, Ayr

Flowers

Our thanks goes to the following people for donating flowers to the church between January and April:

Marion Reid, Sandra Wyllie, Morven Pettigrew, Dot McCormack, Mary Hendry, Pamela MacDougall, Frances Russell, Joanna Currie, Liz Reid and Liz Hardie, Liz Hunter, Elise Henderson and Cathy Carmichael, Tommy and Sandra Chalmers, May Ferris, Ellen Walters, Marjorie Laird, and Margaret McCormick.

Thanks also to the flower arranging team and delivery team:

Frances Russell, May Harris, Stella Nixon, Margaret Grierson, Allison Smith, Catherine Holland, Liz Hunter, Moira Alexander, Elizabeth Reid, Margaret Gerrard, Lyn McDermott and Margaret Devlin.

There are still a few spaces available for anyone looking to donate flowers, please contact Stella Nixon for further information.



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