

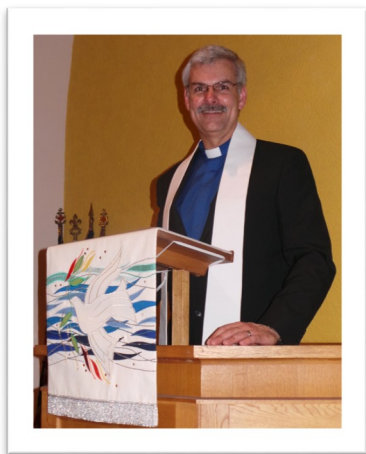
# August 2016

# The Bridge



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The next **Communion service** will be on  
**Sunday 11th September 2016**  
**at 11am & 6.30pm**  
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• **FRIENDLY** • **FAMILY** • **FELLOWSHIP** •



## From the Manse

Our world is in constant flux: Brexit, terror attacks in European cities, and two presidential hope-fulls in the USA competing for the highest office of the country. And, alas, change has also come to Broxburn! The jeweller in the main street changed ownership, the foot path along the canal has been surfaced, and (BREAKING NEWS) there is groundworks underway at the old Hall's facility. While I note all of the above it is the last one that I'm

more interested in. It is rumoured that a 180 homes will be built with the addition of two shops on the property. This may bring between 180 and 320 people to live here in town. This happens on the back of a steady increase in people moving into Broxburn and surrounding areas. Personally I regard this as a blessing for us; with more people coming in there is a vibrancy and enthusiasm filling the air, so to speak.

In addition to the higher numbers of people in town we, as a church, are presented with an enormous opportunity. People moving into our area are younger and often bring children and young people to our community. That occurs while we often mention to each other that we really need to get more young people involved with the life of the church. And it is at this point where we have caveat. We may not be ready and prepared for what is happening around us. There was a time thirty and more years ago when the church bell invited and called people to church. Those days are unfortunately a thing of the past. Suffice to say the heyday of the church is a thing of the past. We are more and more challenged to produce solutions to 21st Century problems of post-christianity, postmodernism, and post-churchism.

How could and should we then respond? While our initial reaction may be to deny the changes and even turn a blind eye to the ever changing world around us, I believe as Christians we particularly well equipped to deal with change. After all we believe in a faithful God who will not turn his back on us. We read in Psalm 94:14 "For the Lord will not cast off His people, neither will He forsake His inheritance". Web page contributor Martha Noebel presented the following acronym for the word CHANGES the other day:

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**C** - hrist

**H** - as

**A**

**N** - ew

**G** - ift

**E** - ach

**S** - econd

Allow me, therefore, to invite (read challenge) you to consider change as an opportunity rather than a threat. An opportunity to discover truths in the faith, an opportunity to meet new people, an opportunity to deepen existing relationships, and to grow into becoming more and more the people God wants us to be.

As a final thought: maybe we could spend more time praying, seeking guidance on, and discussing ways to invite and welcome strangers to our church. What do you think?

Many blessings

*Jaco*

## Diary Dates

28th August	<b>Back to School with God</b>
30th August	<b>Board Meeting</b>
31st August	<b>Midweek services resume</b>
11th September	<b>Communion</b>
24/25th September	<b>Flower Festival</b>
25th September	<b>BB/GB Dedication &amp; Harvest Service</b>
29th September	<b>Session Meeting</b>
5th October	<b>Guild Dedication Service</b>
13th November	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>
9th December	<b>GB Carol Concert</b>
10th December	<b>Christmas Fayre</b>

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## Prayer Corner

I am sure many agree that these last few weeks have brought great uncertainty to many in our land when we voted to leave the European Union in the recent referendum. Change in leadership of political parties, calls for a second independence referendum and instability in the financial markets.

It is re-assuring that we who profess to be Christian can move forward knowing that we have a God in whom we can trust.

I was watching the highlights of Mo Farah's race from the Rio Olympics when he took a tumble but up he got and proceeded to go on and win the race.

Paul reminds us to keep our eyes fixed firmly on Jesus, our saviour, to keep our eyes on the winning post, block out the distractions of this world which will only slow us up and cause us to stumble.

Great Britain has excelled in the medal table at the Olympics with an impressive clutch of gold, silver and bronze medals.

Sadly there can only be one winner in these competitions, the others are runners up but we know that in following Jesus we will all be awarded the prize, the promise of eternal life sharing with Him in the Heavenly Kingdom.

The prize that we will receive will not tarnish or be stolen, it is everlasting and something that cannot be earned, bought or acquired other than through our accepting Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.

Let our lives at this time of great uncertainty in our land reflect the love of Jesus in all we do, say and value. Let the love shine like a beckon a light that this world will never put out.

We have a God who keeps His promises, trust in Him and in Him alone

God Bless

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In your personal prayers please pray for

- **Our minister and office bearers that God will protect and lead them and their families**
- **Pray for our Queen and her Government in Westminster and Edinburgh as they rule over us in these continuing difficult times.**
- **For the vulnerable in our communities that they will be provided for, we remember the work of the food banks**
- **The sick, anxious, lonely, estranged and the bereaved that they will find God's peace and love.**
- **For the BUSY project as they continue in their work with the young folk in the community.**
- **For our young folk moving onto college or university that they can find a praying community.**
- **For youngsters starting school for the first time or moving onto high school, and for their parents.**
- **For all our leaders, officers, teachers and helpers of our church organisations as they start back after the Summer break**
- **That our fellowship might serve the community as Jesus did in His ministry**
- **For Dr Ruth Shakespeare, our Missionary Partner her work in Malawi, with a food shortage in the land and that folks will give to the Christian Aid appeal for Malawi to relieve the suffering.**

Please contact myself and the minister for prayer.

*David Wilkie*

*Congregational Prayer Secretary*

*01506 238644*



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## Treasurer's Update

It's hard to believe that we're more than halfway through the year – where has the time gone? As at the end of July, our total income year to date was £48,575.57, of which over £2,100 has been raised by Social and Fundraising via coffee bars, Sunday teas, soup lunches and collection boxes. Over £302 was raised by the Wee Jam Concert, over £850 raised in donations (including over £233 from the Easter Festival) and a further £1,032.50 donated by various groups for use of the halls. Included in our overall total is the £4,008.95 we've raised for charities via a combination of coffee bars, soup lunches, Sunday teas and retiring offerings and £5,703.94 tax reclaims received from HMRC.

Our expenditure over the same period has been £54,483.42, including passing on all the monies raised for charities and 7 months' donations to the BUSY Project. Apart from the normal running costs, the highest expense has been for fabric repairs (£4,737.35), with more bills still in the pipeline. Our insurance claim for the damage caused by the central heating leak is currently being finalised and we should be able to recoup the costs incurred. We've also paid out over £2,000 in printing/stationery costs, just under £800 in travel costs, over £410 in phone bills, over £330 in cleaning/toilet supplies, £325 in auditor's fees and £739 in Presbytery fees.

We're now in our 'lean period' where weekly donations drop as people go off on holiday but we have our 3rd tax reclaim to help boost the funds. Expenses continue to outstrip income and to help boost our working account meantime, I've arranged to transfer £5,000 in from our fabric fund.

We are currently in the process of changing banks, as our local RBS branch has now closed. We are moving the Church account to the local Bank of Scotland but it has taken much longer than expected to get through all the various processes involved. We have been assured that all existing direct debits and standing orders, both in and out, will switch automatically when the process is complete, hopefully early next month. We'll let you know.

*Sue Sneddon*  
*Treasurer*

## Flower festival

We are holding a flower festival in the church on Saturday 24th September from 10.00am till 4pm. Tickets £5 per adult & £1 per child. This price includes tea / coffee, sandwiches / cakes etc. There will also be a "silent auction " as part of the event along with some stalls selling plants / produce and craft work.

We will also have a children's garden competition where the children can bring along a miniature garden to the church on the Friday or on the Saturday morning and these will be judged later in the day.

Tickets for this event are available from the social & fundraising committee or you can contact Elaine Brown on 07936 363939. They will also be available at the coffee bars on Saturday mornings between 10.30 & 12.00.

## Guild

Broxburn Parish Guild begins the new session on Wednesday 5th October with a Dedication and Thanksgiving Service at 7.15 pm in the Small Hall.

We meet once a fortnight to enjoy the fellowship and a varied programme. All are welcome.

*Janet Watson*  
*Secretary*

**Reminder** Printed intimation sheets will re-start at the end of August. All intimations need to be submitted by Wednesday 5pm to ensure they are included in the following Sunday's intimations.

**[intimations@broxburnparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:intimations@broxburnparishchurch.org.uk)**

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Items for inclusion in the next issue should be submitted by early November 2016 to either Hugh Brown or Stuart Cunningham by email: **[hughb92@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:hughb92@blueyonder.co.uk)** or **[stu.c@tesco.net](mailto:stu.c@tesco.net)**

I can't believe that's the summer holidays over already!

We start back on Friday 2nd September with girls meeting at their normal times.

Explorers      6.15pm - 7.30pm

Juniors        7.30pm - 9pm

Brigaders     7.30pm - 9pm

We're looking forward to seeing the girls again and any new girls are welcome.

For further information please contact:

*Alison Turnbull*

01506 852171

07984 315250

[alit@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:alit@blueyonder.co.uk)





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# Property Report

Over the last few months, and following the preparation of budgets for this year, the group has been reviewing all the projects currently being undertaken, programmed and the future works that will need done. We have prepared a project tracker and have been supported in this by members of the congregation. This has helped us to understand the extent and amount of work that is required to ensure our property is kept to an acceptable standard whilst also ensuring that weekly, monthly and yearly tasks are scheduled. As a Congregation we are responsible for the upkeep of the Church, halls and manse, so there's always lots to do.

Our review has also allowed us to highlight a number areas where members of the congregation would be able to assist. Shortly we plan to share this list in the hope that those members who are inclined, have time and are able, would volunteer to undertake some 'jobs'. From the conversations we've had, we understand that people don't always have time to be part of a committee, and make a regular commitment. So this would be an opportunity to help out on a more one off basis at a time that suits you and doing a task you've chosen.

Examples of these are: painting external doors or railings, redecorating the Session Room, meeting with contractors to get quotes, making telephone calls or being around to open and close our buildings when contractors need to visit. Where required all materials would be supplied.

If you want to find out a bit more or think you can help us in this way please contact me or a member of the property group.

*Stuart Cunningham*

## Recording of Sermons

We are now recording our service on a Sunday morning. They are available to listen online via our website:

<http://www.broxburnparishchurch.org.uk/sermons.html>

If you know of anyone who would be interested in receiving a copy on cd then please let us know. Either by emailing: [webteam@broxburnparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:webteam@broxburnparishchurch.org.uk) or by contacting the minister or your elder.

Broxburn Parish

# FLOWER

***Saturday 24th***  
***from 10am - 4pm***

Tickets: £5 adult  
(includes tea / juice /

*A silent auction will be held*

● **FRIENDLY** ● **FAMILY**



Church presents

# FESTIVAL

*th September*

*m in the church*

lts, £1 children  
(cakes / sandwiches)

*eld for the floral displays*

**FAMILY ● FELLOWSHIP**

The summer buzz programme was filled with some fantastic events:

1) A trip to Time Capsule to go swimming and Ice-skating.

2) A Trip to the Safari Park. Volunteers spent time looking out for young people in the park and having fun with them! Such a great relaxed opportunity to get them talking about how they're doing and share a little of our faith!

3) A Day trip to Soul Survivor. Volunteers spent the day with us at Lendrick Muir's Christian camping conference.

4) Mega Cafe. A big youth Cafe in Uphall South church hall and a BBQ. Relaxed & fun.

5) IMPACT. A Young-person-run Bible Study Day. Some of the young leaders had asked for a day of Bible Study during the summer. We had guest speakers and dinner for 20 young people as they heard the gospel and grew in faith. It was a great day.

These summer events really work to unify all the term-time Youth work we do. Summer BUZZ gathers young people from all our areas of ministry and also helps P7's transition up into the Academy. It's such a great time to touch base with young people and encourage and support them. Let's see what God will continue to do through us for them in the coming weeks!

The Busy Project also took 11 young people to Scripture Union Camp which they all loved and found very beneficial.

As you can see there are many opportunities to volunteer and work with young people via the Busy Project. There is a warm welcome for anyone who would like to help in any way at any time.

Thank-you

*Laura Gordon*

**Coffee Bars** are held in the church hall every Saturday morning between 10.30 & 12 with home baking available every week. These are usually to raise money for the church but we also support a number of charities through the year. So please come along and enjoy some fellowship and a nice cup of coffee!

There is a short **questionnaire** from the Communications Group included with this magazine. We would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to complete it and then place it in the box in the vestibule, or hand it to one of the duty team. Thank you.



Dear Friends,

Where has the summer gone? You may say "what summer"? Well, I cycle to work and this year I have not had my waterproofs on more days than I have had them on. i.e. it

has been drier than we think, although it is raining as I write this.

Why all this talk of rain? Well, the Juniors and Company section went to the Meggernie Outdoor Centre in Glen Lyon for our annual camp in May. We were looking for dryer weather than last year and we found it! The boys (and Staff) had a great time. We had 3 brand new campers who revelled in the experience of camping out in the great Scottish Outdoors, in the Highlands. We sang, praised, prayed, played football, went orienteering, climbed, did some archery, played frisbee golf, grass sledged, with and without sledges, followed a blind trail, listened to owls and ...played some more football. We also showed the Scouts how to camp. Brilliant!



We start back on Monday 29th August at the usual times. This year we will be building things that fly, pushing things about that don't fly and winning the Battalion Badminton Trophy.

If there is enough interest I will put a bus on again to the Scottish Airshow at Ayr on Saturday 3rd September, This trip will be open to all boys and parents and any spare seats will be offered to members of the congregation – Let me know if you are interested.

Once again, if you know of any boys in P1 to S6 who might benefit from what we do please give their parents/carers my contact details.  
 God Bless

*Jim Borland*

Captain

2broxburn@boys-brigade.org.uk

07803 032063

01506 417597





*Friends of Chernobyl's Children  
West Lothian*



## FOCC

What a great visit we had from the 20 children in June. They all had such a good time. It was particularly pleasing to see our 5 new children do so well, despite appearing to be so small and fragile. One of the new

children - Ksusha was due to be hosted by Bob and Lilian Pattison, but Bob and Lilian had to pull out of the visit with only a few weeks to go due to Lilian's illness and Ksusha was hosted by our reserve hosts Paul and Fiona. Lilian was able to make the concert and watch the children all perform so well for us. Lilian sadly passed away after our visit and will be missed by us all in FOCC. Lilian and Bob were involved in the charity from before FOCC West Lothian was "born" and have been heavily involved in

the running of activities and fundraising events as well as hosting Vadzim and Dzianis for 3 years each.

The concert was a lovely celebration of the visit but it was also a time to say goodbye to Dasha, Masha and Vadzim. It's been great to see them grow up with us over the last 5 years and they go with our best wishes. We will



**Ksusha**

of course keep in touch with them on our visits to Belarus. It was great to have a visit from 8 of our older children who are finished on the programme now. They were here for 2 weeks in August. All of them are teenagers now and very grown up. They are all doing well.

We also welcome our 11 August/September group children back for their second visit. Two of our boys from that group were unable to travel this year but we will stay in touch with them and we hope that they can return next year. This has freed up a



**Zarina**

space for a new girl called Zarina to come on board and we look forward to welcoming her to Scotland for her first visit.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support this year, with our three groups, as we put our love into action. It is very much appreciated. 1 John Chapter 3 verse 16-18

*Kenny Turnbull  
Co-ordinator  
FOCC West Lothian*

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## Christmas Card competition 2016

The Communications Group is again organising a competition to design a Christmas card for distribution to our congregation with the Christmas edition of the magazine.

**All young people are invited to submit a design that reflects the theme: 'Light for the World.'**

Entries should be given to Hugh Brown, Stuart Cunningham or posted to the Communication Group tray in the vestibule.

The closing date is  
**Sunday 2nd November**

The winner will receive a framed print of the card plus a gift voucher.

Please ensure your name and age are written on the **back** of the submitted design.



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## Broxburn's Got Talent?

You know how it is, you rehearse and rehearse and rehearse and then on First Night it all goes pear-shaped when the nerves cut in - not so with the Bridge Choir at its Annual concerts on 2nd and 3rd June. What a pleasure for us all from the opening number "Life is a Cabaret" through songs of the shows and films of all eras this concert was a delight. Yes, there were one or two problems on the technical side which were quickly dealt with and probably not obvious to most of us; yes, it was slightly late in starting but once started the sheer joy of singing came through. The enjoyment of all involved was obvious. The Chorus numbers were varied in tempo and pace and never dragged. The diction was usually clear and the movement of the choir on and off to allow for soloists was slick and well organised. The Ladies Chorus piece "Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again" came over beautifully and the Mens Chorus piece of "You've Got a Friend in Me" was a masterpiece of multi-tasking, clicking fingers, walking about and singing too! Well done boys. The Junior Choir, as ever, stole the show with songs from Bugsy Malone, Wizard of Oz, Pocahontas and Hairspray. Their soloists, Hannah Stevenson, Hannah Turnbull, Mia Cunningham, Lois Young, Emma Grant and Sarah Brown sang with a maturity beyond their years and made this old dear very happy! A special mention should go to Gracie Young for the splurge moment in Bad Guys from Bugsy Malone and congratulations are due to Alistair MacPherson for cleaning himself up so quickly and being able to re-join





the seniors in their next number.

Kirsten McPake's solo, the haunting, wistful "Maybe This Time" from Cabaret sent shivers down my spine, and the second half duet from Leah Heath and Sandy Riddell of "Who wants to be a Millionaire" was choice, well balanced voices with just the right amount of humour. (Don't worry, Sandy. Larry Hagman did it too!)

No choir is ever complete without its Conductor, in this case the athletic Alan Gilmour who deserves a special mention for leaping on and off his podium. And praise indeed to the two accompanists Alan Hastie for the Seniors and Moya Boonzaaier for the Juniors who both carefully trod that fine line between giving sufficient support and taking over, ably assisted by Simone Boonzaaier as page-turner. Hugh Brown's informative compering added to the success of the show but the definite winner on the night was the music itself shared so generously with us.

All through the Concert I was having difficulty not joining in familiar numbers but finally the audience's turn came in the Finale reprise of "All You Need is Love". That topped off a great night of entertainment for all and here's to the next concert.

Broxburn's got talent? Judging on this concert, it certainly has!

*Review by  
Sally North*



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# Project Romania

This year 11 of us from Broxburn Academy went to Cluj in Romania along with 3 teachers and Val Heath. The week started with a day trip to the salt mine. It was nice to see the sites in Romania and a day out helped our group get to know each other and bond. On our second day the whole team went to the Orphanage where we decorated tote bags and played games with all the kids.

It was sad to see how little the kids had and how something as simple as a tote bag made their day. Our third day we spent our morning in the high school and taught Scottish themed lessons



such as food tasting, making a thistle and also translating the Scottish anthem into Romanian. In the afternoon our team split in two and some went back to the orphanage and others went

to do a DIY project at an elderly ladies home who had lost her son and husband and wasn't able to perform the task herself.

The third day was similar. We

taught our lessons at the high school, then half of us went to the orphanage again and the rest went to do another DIY project. On our final day we went to the high school once again in the morning where the School performed a show for us and even learned Scottish Folk Dancing to perform to us. Then all of us headed to the orphanage one last time where said goodbye to all the kids and left behind toys for them to play with. Our day ended with a barbeque with some people who work for the charity Elpis who had been helping us throughout our trip by either giving us lifts or providing us with food. Again we said goodbye to the people we met and heading back to base to get



some sleep before we left at 3am for our flight back to Scotland. Overall it was a humbling and emotional trip.

*Kayleigh Lamond*



## Crèche

We are pleased to say that a crèche is now available on Sundays during morning worship. This will be held in the Session room and will be supervised by 2 adults who have been PVG registered. Should you wish to bring your child along there are also baby changing facilities and high chairs. If you want to discuss any issues relating to the crèche please speak to either Elaine Brown or Fiona Devlin.

## Bridge Choir

Summer (of sorts) has disappeared all too quickly once again. Where does time go?

We said goodbye to one of our sopranos at the end of last session. Alice and her husband Derek are moving to the West Coast of Scotland. Alice will be missed in the choir but we wish them well at the start of a new chapter in their lives.

The choir restarts at the beginning of September to begin rehearsals on the new repertoire for this session.

Thank you to everyone who attended our choir concerts in June and special thanks to those of you who helped out in any way on the nights. There are too many to name here but you know who you are!

*Janice MacPherson*  
*Secretary*

# Who's Who



## Minister

Rev. Dr. Jaco Boonzaaier      The Manse, 2 Church Street      337560

## Session Clerk

Mr. John Macaulay      137 East Main Street      852947

## Congregational Board

Clerk:      Mrs. Anne Gunn      3 Kirkhill Court      856984

## Treasurer

Mrs. Sue Sneddon      15 West Hall Road      07758 195274

## Gift Aid Convener

Miss Jean Weir      135 Houston Gardens      855626

## Roll Keeper

Mr. Stuart Cunningham      15 Badger Brook      855952

## Prayer Secretary

Mr. David Wilkie      55 Goschen Place      238644

## Pastoral Care Group co-ordinator

Mrs. Jean Turnbull      19 Fergusson Road      854109

## Organist

Mr. James Lawrie      13 Queens Avenue      856609

## Church Officer

Mr. John Macaulay      137 East Main Street      852947

## Hall Convener

Mrs. Alison Turnbull      31 Queens Road      852171

## Property Convener

Mr. Robert Pattison      12 Houston Gardens      855505

## Communications co-ordinator

Mr. Hugh Brown      92 Gyle Park Gardens      0131 334 1384  
Corstorphine

## Social Co-ordinator

Mrs. Linda Taylor      18 Galloway Crescent      07809 678326

## Safeguarding co-ordinator & Fundraising co-ordinator

Mrs. Elaine Brown      92 Gyle Park Gardens      0131 334 1384  
Corstorphine