

# Summer 2014

# The Bridge



Communion will be celebrated on

Sunday 8th June at 11am.

**Everyone is welcome**

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# From the Manse

## Something to think about!

My dear friends,

I send my love and best wishes to you, and to all the members of our Church Family, at Broxburn Parish Church. I also thank you for the many Easter cards I received. I wish you to know that I am very happy to be here, in your midst, as your Locum Minister.

I tend to ask people lots of questions, but today I would like to give you something to think about.

The success of a TV programme is measured by the size of its audience, the number of viewers it attracts. Awards are presented every year to the most popular stars and to the writers, directors and producers of shows. The world of entertainment is a highly competitive business.

This set me thinking about stars and performances and audiences, and success and popularity and entertainment, and I thought about the church. Many people have the wrong idea about the church. A congregation tends to think of itself as an audience, for whose special benefit the minister and the choir give their performances. The relationship God bears to this is rather like that of an absentee playwright or producer. But the true picture shows us the church as a stage, rather than a theatre. The congregation are, themselves, the actors, and the minister and the choir are but prompters, making suggestions and giving cues from the wings. And God? God is the audience! With that thought in mind, how would you rate your performance on God's 'stage'? Has it lost its 'sparkle'? Is your 'light' beginning to fade?

Jesus said, 'You are light for all the world. When a lamp is lit, it is not put under the meal-tub, but on a lamp stand where it gives light to everyone in the house'.

A piece of coal, once removed from the fire, soon flickers and dies, but place it back in the heart of the fire and it bursts into flames.

There is a place 'on-stage' for each one of us. Why not 'get back in the act'? You may have a hidden talent. You could,

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perhaps, even become a star! Now, there's something to think about!

Please forgive me for adding part of my last Letter. I think it needs to be said again!

In the present situation, with a shortage of ministers, it is essential that we present the best possible image of our church and ourselves, to any minister who may be interested in coming to lead us.

We are, indeed, fortunate in having a very able team of office-bearers who have been working hard making plans to sort out some of the problems which will improve our image. I feel sure that you will have heard of these plans. But we need your help. We can do it! But every person needs to help – even you! Your church needs you at this time, but it is also possibly true that you need your church! Think about that!

May God bless you, and your loved ones – always.

Your Locum Minister – and friend,

*Bob*

## Pastoral Care Group

Nat Beggs has decided to resign his position as Pastoral Care group coordinator although he will remain in the team.

Jean Turnbull is the new coordinator. Please contact Jean with details of anyone who would benefit from a visit.



### **Wednesday Services**

There will be no services during July & August.

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## Prayer Corner

Apologies first of all for the omission of my article in the March Bridge Magazine, the start of this year had been so trying. It was refreshing to hear from so many that they had missed my contribution, you never know how many, if any read your words.

It never ceases to amaze me the number of stories in the bible, both from the Old and New Testament where the traveller has an encounter with God or Jesus on a journey.

I was recently preaching on the story of the two travellers on the road to Emmaus that first Easter morning, a life changing journey for them.

It took the risen Jesus to remind them of what was written in the scriptures about the promise of the Messiah, his death and his resurrection, passages that they would have heard from many times before but they had never accepted the reality of these words in their hearts.

Too often we journey through life weighed down by the cares and concerns of everyday life failing to recognise the relief that is available if we would only unburden ourselves at the cross and walk with Jesus. He promised his yoke was light.

We as a congregation are about to start on a journey to find a new leader to take us forward. It is imperative that we through this journey are attentive to God speaking to us as we travel this road.

The journey may be long, it may be rough and take us on unfamiliar roads but we must be patient and obedient to God's word. He has chosen our next leader, pray that this person will respond to God's calling and the journey may be short.

It is important, very important at this time of vacancy we continue to meet regularly for Sunday worship to support and encourage each other along the road. God's work never ends and we are called to use our skills to see it continue.

God bless

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In your personal prayer time

- **For the nomination committee that they will be faithful in prayer, constantly listening to God's leading**
- **For our locum, office bearers and leaders of our organisations that they will continue in their diligence**
- **For the staff in JAM that they have a restful summer break and seek spiritual filling over the coming months**
- **Our Queen, Elizabeth and her elected representatives as they govern this land.**
- **For the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and baton relay through the land**
- **For the unemployed, especially amongst our young folk, that they might find work.**
- **The sick, anxious, lonely, estranged and the bereaved that they will find God's peace and love.**
- **Our armed forces and their families, relief organisations that strive to bring peace, justice and relief to all in need.**
- **For Ruth, our Missionary Partner and her work in Malawi following her recent marriage.**

*David Wilkie*

*Congregational Prayer Secretary*

*01506 238644*

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## 'Home Fronts and Foreign Fields' exhibition

Strathbrock Community Centre Management committee are staging an exhibition at the community centre to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of World War 1. This will run from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November (Remembrance Sunday) and will be called 'Home Fronts and Foreign Fields.'

The exhibition will be in the form of a walk-through with display boards/cabinets which will contain letters/photographs/posters as well as medals/cap badges and other memorabilia of local servicemen and will also show how local people coped during that period.

We are asking local people in Broxburn & Uphall who had relatives who took part in the war to get in touch if they would like these items to be exhibited.

They will of course be returned at the end of the exhibition.

If you are able to help please get in touch with myself or by contacting Linda Sayers (Community Centre Co-ordinator) or Carol Cameron (Community worker) on 01506 771733 during office hours.

Thank you

*Robert Paul*



### SOYA

**Has now restarted for 2014. Anyone who wishes to contribute £1 per month should see Lilian Pattison.**



## Soup Lunches

4 <sup>th</sup> June	CrossReach
18 <sup>th</sup> June	FOCC. The children will be joining us for this lunch

### No lunches in July or August

3 <sup>rd</sup> September	The BUSY Project
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Mulanje Mission Hospital
1 <sup>st</sup> October	United Christian Broadcasts
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Tearfund
5 November	Blythswood Care (Shoeboxes Appeal)
19 <sup>th</sup> November	The Vine Trust
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Bethany

## Coffee Bars

There will be no regular coffee bars during July & August to give the teams a well-earned break. They will resume on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

However there will be Coffee Bar/Craft stalls in aid of the following:

Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Scottish Veterans Association
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Alzheimer's
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	Crohn's/Colitis



*Friends of Chernobyl's Children*  
*West Lothian*



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## FOCC

I am happy to say that our visit to see the children in Belarus in March went well. We met them all in their own houses and took them food, medical supplies and of course letters, pictures and love from their Scottish host families. We also

hosted a city party and a village party so that the children could all get together and meet each other and share some food and fun. It was so good to see them all and hear how they are all getting on.

We had a couple of pieces of bad news on the trip. Zhenya, who was hosted by Steven and Louise Turnbull in Uphall is not able to return this year for health reasons. He has been diagnosed with epilepsy. He is getting treatment for it and we hope that he can return to us in the future. Dasha is also unable to return. We will miss them both very much as they were big characters in our group and we look forward to seeing them again at some point in the future in Belarus, if not Scotland. This frees up 2 spaces for 2 new children to come and Maksim (13) will come to Steven and Louise for one year for a special visit. A new girl called Anya (8) will come to new hosts Heather and Gavin Kyle in Broxburn.

Many people in the congregation are always asking about Wee Dennis. We had a lovely visit to his house, as usual. He is well and is looking forward to coming back to Scotland to stay with Bob and Lilian again and see his many friends in the church. His "mum", who is one of the nicest, kindest ladies I have come across in the world, has just taken on a new child. A boy who is 19 months old. You really have to admire her for taking on and keeping Dennis for all these years as well as having her own grown up family and now taking on a new wee boy who has come from a terrible background. She is a real gem of a woman.

We have been very busy preparing for the visit of the children from 23rd May – 21st June. They will be based in our halls each weekday during that period although we will be out and about most of the time. Its hard to believe that this is the 5th and final



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visit for our original children who came in 2010. To mark this special year we have a bumper programme of activities planned for the children throughout West Lothian and further afield. However if you do happen to see them in the halls or in the church then please say hello to them. Most of them will understand hello and may even reply J

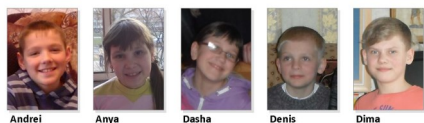
You will have at least 2 opportunities to meet the children. The first is at our midweek service and soup lunch on Wednesday 18th June at mid-day. There will be a short service in the church led by Kenny Turnbull, group co-ordinator and of course he will be joined by the children and 2 interpreters, who will all take part in (or more likely star in J) the service. Then at 7.30 pm on the same day Wednesday 18th June the children will put on a thank you concert in the church to say thank you to everybody who has contributed in any way to make their visit special. The concert is by no means a professional performance but is normally very entertaining and entry is free. Both events are open to all and it would be great to see as many of you there as possible to encourage and support the children.

Lastly on behalf of everyone involved in the charity I would like to say a big thank you to everyone in Broxburn Parish Church for the huge amount of encouragement and support you give us, not only in the lead up to and during the visit but the whole year round. It makes a massive difference to us. We are all volunteers in this charity and we know we cant do it all ourselves. The help and support from good people like yourselves makes our "work" much easier. With your help we will do our best to give these children the month of their lives and continue to support them when they return home. Thank you.

*Kenny Turnbull*

*Co-ordinator*

*Friends of Chernobyl's Children, Edinburgh West - West Lothian Group*



FOCC West Lothian 2014  
www.foccwestlothian.com  
Facebook.com/FOCCWestLothian



Boys' Brigade



Zhenya



Dennis' family



Anya





## Easter Mission

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## Easter Mission



Our annual Easter Mission ran this year from Monday 7 April to Friday 11 April.

I hope you noticed our new banner on the church railing during the week, which advertised the Mission. Through Matthew's Gospel *Mega Makers* taught about the miracles Jesus performed and God's love for us. The stories included Matthew's first encounter with Jesus, the calming of the storm, the raising to life of Jairus' daughter, the crucifixion and resurrection.

Approximately 80 children attended each day with over 100 individual children attending over the week. Learning was provided through drama, DVD, craft, games, worksheets and workbooks and, of course, 'the song' which we hope to sing in church in a few weeks. It would appear that every one, both children and adults, enjoyed the week, having great fun *while* learning about God.

I would like to thank all those who helped make the week a success: those in the congregation who made donations; Lidl, who once again provided the fruit for snack-time, the adults, without whom we could not run the Mission and who work together as a fantastic team; the young helpers who worked hard and made an extremely valuable contribution to the team and who willingly did everything that was asked of them; Stuart Cunningham, for the drama backdrop and organising the sound system, Sharon Morrison, for printing services; Blythe Rodger, who was responsible for organising the Mission this year as part of a Duke of Edinburgh Award; and last but not least, the children who attended, they were all very polite and well behaved and I'm sure everyone would agree made the hard work involved all worthwhile.

*Elspeth Rodger*



Locations and Services in West Lothian

**Main Office in Livingston – The Centre**  
**The Strathbrock Centre, Broxburn every Thurs (11-12)**  
**The Business Gateway, Greendykes Rd, Mon (9:30-10:30)**

Become a member, with access to:

- Savings Accounts (incl Santa Savers)
- Low Cost loans (incl Choices loan)
- Free savings and loans insurance
- Personal flexible service
- Prepaid Visa card
- Jam Jar Account
- Funeral Plans



**School Collections – The children can save too!**

**Do you have any spare time – interested in Volunteering?**

If we can help you, contact us on 01506 436666  
or pop into your nearest branch for more info.

[info@westlothiancreditunion.co.uk](mailto:info@westlothiancreditunion.co.uk)

[www.westlothiancreditunion.co.uk](http://www.westlothiancreditunion.co.uk)

<http://www.facebook.com/westlothiancreditunion>

**Don't forget – Start saving now for this Christmas  
with our Santa Savers Account!**

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## **A not so typical weekend**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May** Douglas Leiper travelled to Larbert to the BB Scottish HQ to attend the 2014 Expedition and Outdoor Leadership Course.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May** – Craig Smith and I took the company to M&D's uniformed youth day with 171 others from the Battalion. An awesome day out as judges by our Junior Section.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May** – After returning from M&D's I also travelled to Larbert to assume my course tutor responsibilities at the 2014 Expedition and Outdoor Leadership Course

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>** – The Company assisted by Craig Smith, Stuart Cunningham, Andrew Macpherson, Marc Turnbull and myself hosted the annual end of session Battalion Church Service in our church at 3pm. We had many boys, staff and parents (including our own) from all the companies in West Lothian Battalion in our church, we even had two councillors attend.

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup>** – Company night, we had the Anchor Boys down at the park playing tag with a Frisbee. That was quite a weekend, we are not always quite so busy. However, as a result, the company had a ball at M&D's, 6 Juniors were presented with their Gold Awards and we now have another Advanced Expedition Leader within the company. We are also still the reigning Battalion Badminton Champions and have been for the past 5 years.

**Future date 26<sup>th</sup> May** – Display

We will present a Presidents Badge to Kaifan Yang.

We will recognise that Alistair & Calum are currently into the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their Queen's badge Work.

We will recognise 6 Gold Awards.

We will continue our DofE Expedition work during June with the seniors, the rest of the company will stop for the summer on the 26<sup>th</sup> May.

We resume on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August**. Followed by an Autumn Camp from 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> September.

In closing, Fiona Devlin's work pattern is changing so she will not be able to run the Anchor Boys next session. We now need more help to run the Anchor Boys, if you can spare us an hour from

6-7pm on a Monday evening then please contact me. It will be the quickest hour of your week they are a great bunch of boys.

Best wishes

*Jim Borland. Captain*

07803 032063

01506 417597

[2broxburn@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:2broxburn@boys-brigade.org.uk)

## Diary Dates

<b>25th May</b>	Meeting to elect a Nominating Committee after morning service.
<b>26th May</b>	Boys' Brigade Annual Display. 7pm
<b>29th May</b>	Session Meeting. 7.30pm
<b>30th May</b>	Girls' Brigade Parents Night. 7pm
<b>1st June</b>	JAM Prizegiving & BBQ
<b>5th &amp; 6th June</b>	Bridge Choir Concert
<b>24th June</b>	Board meeting. 7.30pm



**The Good News Trust Christian Library visits the Coffee Bar on the first Saturday of each month.**

## Hogmanay Family Celebration

Seeing in the New Year can sometimes be a bit of a non-event, so it has been suggested that we should hold a Family Celebration on Hogmanay 2014. The evening would start at 10pm and finish after 'the bells' at about 12.30.

There would be music and games and folks would be encouraged to bring their own snack food. It would also be a great social night and a chance to 'see out the old and bring in the new' in the company of friends and fellow church members.

If you would be interested in coming along, please e-mail Hugh Brown at: [hughb92@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:hughb92@blueyonder.co.uk) with an idea of how many people you would be bringing.

We are at the end of another year of GB which has passed again so quickly.

We have a great bunch of girls ( over 100 ) who have been along with regular attendance.

Lots of fun has been had on Friday nights doing badgework and we have been to many division events too. We have 5 girls working on their Queens Award and we wish them well, we also have 10 girls working for their Duke of Edinburgh and wish them well too.

One of our Brigaders has attained the highest award we could hope for in GB and joined the church in Feb. We wish Sarah well as she continues to grow in faith.

To everyone who came along to help at GB and lead a session we say a big thank you.

As we move on from celebrating our 90th birthday last year we are greatly encouraged to see our organisation thriving when so many groups are struggling. We are looking forward to our 100th birthday so watch this space.

We restart at the end of August and if there are any new girls you will be made very welcome and if any adults would like to come along and help you too would be most welcome.

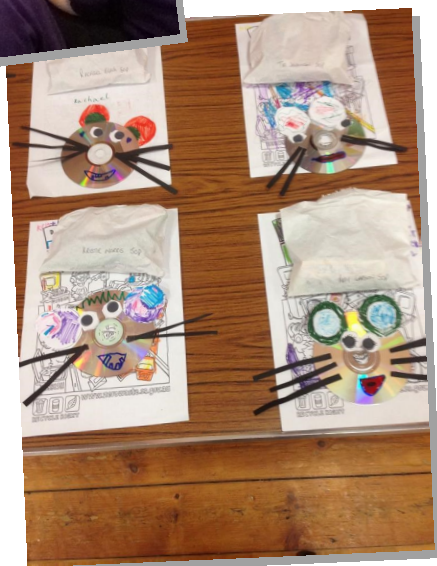
Many thanks to everyone for your support and prayers over the last year

*Alison Turnbull*

*Captain*

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





## The Bridge Choir Concert

Tickets are still available for the concerts on Thursday 5th & Friday 6th June at 7.30pm.

Adults are £6 & children £4.

Music includes songs by Simon & Garfunkel and The Carpenters and the Junior Choir will perform a Disney Medley.

The price also includes refreshments.



Thank you for your on-going support of the BUSY Project. We value your prayers, time and financial support as we work to share the good news of Jesus in our community.

**Easter Buzz** saw young people playing Lazertag in Motherwell; building dens; playing The Mine; painting nails; baking and looking for treasure in Broxburn and Uphall. It was great fun and involved a range of young people new and not so new to the Project.

**Summer Term** is time for exams and preparation for transitions. BUSY continues to work in Broxburn Academy in the breakfast club, drop-ins, Seasons for Growth and the Listening Service. We will also be visiting the P7 Transition camp and the P7 classes in all the feeder Primary Schools.

**BUSY young leaders** are involved in many of the activities we run and some will be helping at the 'Fit for a King' holiday club.

Look out for your **BUSY Church Representatives** giving you an update about BUSY in the church service sometime in June. There will be another opportunity to find out more about the work of BUSY at the BUSY Roadshow in August/September.

Look out for the BUSY stand at the gala days. Come and say hello!

**BUSY Thanksgiving Service**  
**The evening of Sunday 7th September in Broxburn Parish Church**  
**Speaker – Elaine Duncan**

# Funerals

## March

Beryl Walker

Cliff Simpson



## New members

Brian & Rachel Stephenson, Lucas Rodger,  
Catriona MacGillivray & Sarah Devlin.



**Remember to visit our website:**

**[www.broxburnparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.broxburnparishchurch.org.uk)**

**or like and share us on Facebook**

**[www.facebook.com/BroxburnParishChurch](https://www.facebook.com/BroxburnParishChurch)**

**The hall now has public Wi-Fi available for any users accessed  
by logging in to:**

**[BroxburnParishChurch\\_PublicWiFi](#)**

**Reminder** All intimations need to be with Elspeth by Wednesday 5pm to ensure they are included in the following Sunday's intimations. **[elspethrodger@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:elspethrodger@blueyonder.co.uk)**

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Items for inclusion in the next issue should be submitted by early August 2014 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)**

# Who's Who



## Locum Minister

Rev. Bob Nicol 01506 670391

## Session Clerk

Mr. John Macaulay 137 East Main Street 852947

## Congregational Board

Chair: Mrs. Felicity Murrie 31 Nicol Road 852464

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 21 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

## Safeguarding co-ordinator

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

## Social & Fundraising Convener

*Position vacant*