

## Reconnecting

If you are a church member who hasn't attended for a while but would like to reconnect with your fellow members, why not come along and join in with some of our activities?

Soupa Tuesdays (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, 12-2pm) offer the chance to have a soup and sweet lunch with tea/coffee for £5 a head. Where could you get better? You are guaranteed to leave with a full tummy and lifted spirits! Again, helpers are most welcome.



In addition to our church service (every Sunday 10-11am) and communion services, we have the car wash, until November- look out for the banner, the children's organisations, regular fairs at Christmas and in the Spring and we organise the teas at the annual Skateraw fair. In all, a dizzying variety of opportunities to volunteer or just enjoy the fellowship of others in the Church family!

*The Church accepting the trophy for Best Dressed Stall at the Skateraw Fair.*

If you haven't been in touch for a while – come and join us - you will be made very welcome!

Contacts for all of the above can be found in the Reachout – any one of us will be happy to help you find out more, or check the website - [webmaster@newtonhillchurch.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@newtonhillchurch.org.uk)

*Moira Hogg*

# Reachout



**Newtonhill Parish Church Magazine**

**September 2016**

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

Dear Friends,

The General Assembly is seeking ways to help the Church of Scotland flourish. Perhaps that's not a word we often associate with the Church. We are all very aware that our denomination, in common with others, faces many challenges; older congregations, fewer young people, decreasing numbers of full-time ministers, increasing costs, more legislation to cope with. The Church's Council of Assembly has been looking at how we can face these well and how to best use the Church's still large resources of commitment, talent and money. They want to approach this positively and have been developing ideas on what our priorities should be.



However they are very aware that local congregations are the heart of the church and recognise that a fresh vision of how best to live and work together as the church needs to be rooted in the local congregations not imposed from Edinburgh. Accordingly the Assembly has set up a series of 16 roadshows to seek out input and reaction from church members in different parts of the country. The council of assembly's Secretary writes:

'On the Road' will take time to listen to your thinking. It will also share some new ideas which the General Assembly has agreed we should try out, asking how you respond to them. This process of listening and sharing will contribute to future planning – prioritising what we do to be more effective in supporting discipleship, mission and ministry. 'On the Road' is an open invitation to everyone connected with the Church... We want to hear from folks from every background and every congregation: don't leave it to someone else – come and have your say!

The most local one for us is at Queen's Cross church in Aberdeen from 11.00 – 15.00 on Saturday 22nd October. Why not go along and have your say, and take a friend or two? They will provide lunch so would like you to register on <http://churchofscotland.eventbrite.com>. More details on the Church of Scotland website <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>

## Who's Who at Newtonhill Church

<b>Minister</b>	Rev Hugh Conkey	39 St Ternans Road	Tel 730143
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Ken Cruickshank	Cluaran, 9 Cliff View	Tel 730180
<b>Clerk to the Congregational Board</b>	Myra Stewart	3 Puffin Court	Tel 730327
<b>Treasurer</b>	Zoe Ashby	58a St Ternans Road	Tel 730955
<b>FWO Treasurer &amp; Gift Aid Convenor</b>	Robbie Middleton	7 St Ternans Road	Tel 730852
<b>Roll Keeper</b>	Ken Cruickshank	Cluaran, 9 Cliff View	Tel 730180
<b>Safeguarding Coordinator</b>	Pauline Platt	2 St Michaels Road	Tel 730465
<b>Contacts for Organisations:</b>			
<b>Boys Brigade</b>	Ken Cruickshank		Tel 730180
<b>Girls Brigade</b>	Fiona Leslie		Tel 731418
<b>Sunday Fun Club</b>	Ailsa Conkey		Tel 730143
<b>JAFFA Children's Club</b>	Zoe Ashby		Tel 730955
<b>Guild</b>	Fiona Leslie		Tel 731418
<b>Bible Study</b>	The Minister		Tel 730143
<b>Publicity</b>	Wendy Croft		Tel:730829
<b>Deputy Clerk to the Congregational Board</b>	Jennifer Leighton		Tel 730850
<b>Website</b>	Steve Hill		<a href="mailto:webmaster@newtonhillchurch.org.uk">webmaster@newtonhillchurch.org.uk</a>

This edition of Reachout has been sponsored by Jack Towns, Alice Leith and Ann Howie. If you would like to sponsor Reachout please put your name on the list on the noticeboard.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Car Wash	3rd September (10am-12)
Music evening	16th September
BB/GB Dedication Service	18th September (10am)
Guild	21st September (7.30pm)
Kirk Session	28th September (7.30pm)
Car Wash	1st October (10am-12)
Guild	19th October (7.30pm)
Communion Sunday	30th October (10am)
Kirk Session	2nd November (7.30pm)
Car Wash	5th November (10am-12)
Remembrance Sunday	13th November (10am)
Guild	16th November (7.30pm)
Christmas Fair	26th November (10am-12)
Kirk Session	30th November (7.30pm)
Congregational Board	7th December (7.30pm)

In addition there are the following groups:

Jaffa Club for primary age children (every Thursday from 6.30 – 8.30 pm)

Girls Brigade P1-3 ( Mondays 6:15 – 7:15pm)

Girls Brigade P4+ (Mondays 7:00 – 8:45pm)

Boys Brigade Anchor Boys P2 – P3 (Tuesdays 6.30 – 7.30 pm)

Boys Brigade Junior Section P4 – P6 (Tuesdays 6.30 – 8.00 pm)

Sunday Fun Club (every Sunday at 10.00)

There is also a BIBLE STUDY GROUP which meets on Thursday evening from 7.30 to 9.00 pm

Closer to home our Harvest Service will again be supporting the work of Aberdeen Cyrenians in helping those struggling with homelessness. As always your gifts of money, or of suitable non-perishable foods (e.g. tinned goods especially meals, jars of sauce for pasta/curry, coffee, sugar) and of toiletries or fresh fruit and vegetables for this very good cause will be gratefully received.

Yours in Christ

Hugh

*In  
Loving  
Memory*



Mrs. Peggy Chuck  
3rd December 1921 - 9th August 2016

## WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

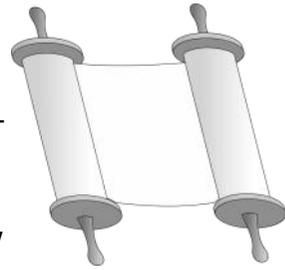
The Model Wife, A Portrait of Excellence –  
Proverbs 31:10-31

Chapter 31 of the Book of Proverbs in the Hebrew Bible is presented as advice which Lemuel's mother gave to him, about how a virtuous king should reign, and also detailing the attributes of a virtuous wife or ideal woman. The second section of text of this chapter directs women to be industrious and fear the Lord. The woman is the topic of numerous Bible studies and Christian women's ministries.

The 10th to 31st verses of the chapter are called Eisheth Hayil. It is a praise of the good wife, a definition of a perfect wife or "ideal woman" in Judaism. This "Woman of Worth" has been described as the personification of wisdom, the ideal wife of an ancient patriarchal imagination, or in some sense as a description of a particular class of Women in Israel, Persia, Syria-Palestine or in Hellenistic society - or on all those levels. It is one of the thirteen alphabetical acrostic poems in the Bible. Traditionally, the Eisheth Hayil was viewed as written by King Solomon and many prominent theologians continue to hold this belief. However there is a more recent branch of critical scholarship which suggests it was added to Proverbs later. This chapter is recited on Friday night, before Shabbat dinner in some Jewish homes. Some see this as a praise directed from the husband to his wife. It has also been suggested that the son in Proverbs 31 is King Solomon, receiving advice from Bathsheba, herself the wife of King David.

The word (Hayil) appears in verses 10 and 29 of the passage, thought as the summary of the good woman's character. Traditionally it has been translated "virtuous" or "noble." Some scholars have suggested that it rather means "forceful," "mighty," or "valiant" because the use of the word in the Tanakh is almost exclusively used regarding warfare.

*Research done by Wendy Croft*



The Church of Scotland  
World Mission Council



## LET US BUILD A HOUSE

WE BUILT IT!

In the March edition of Reachout, we appealed for help to build a house for victims of Nepal's earthquake. Our aim was to raise £500 to give a family shelter and a place to belong to again. We placed an outline of a house in the Church vestibule and invited you to buy a brick. A small brick would cost £5, a large brick £10. A sum of £50 would buy a window and £100 a door. Brick by brick the money was donated – and much, much more.

On the 30th June, The Church of Scotland World Mission Council sent a thank you letter to the Church for our gift of £1,335, almost three times as much as we had hoped we could raise. If you contributed as a member of the congregation, a member of one of the children's or adults' organisations or as a visitor to the church, we thank you for supporting this project. Our gift is much needed and will directly benefit families in Nepal.



## CAFÉ KIRK

Café Kirk is one year old at the beginning of September. We have had a busy but enjoyable first year welcoming people in our community café. It is on a Wednesday afternoon from 2-4pm up until the 30th November then we have a break for two months. We offer various coffees, teas and lovely home bakes. If you have not been please come along and support our café.

*Margaret Brooks*

### THE GIRLS' BRIGADE

1st Newtonhill Girls' Brigade

It is hard to believe that this is our 21st session of Girls' Brigade in Newtonhill so we decided to do something different for enrolment evening and had all the girls stay for an hour to celebrate, we had some party games, parachute games as well as decorating our own piece of birthday cake.

We were delighted to welcome 7 new girls and hope that they will all return next week. We would still welcome any other girl who would like to be part of GB. P1-3 meet from 6:15 – 7:15pm and P4+ from 7:00 – 8:45pm.

We have a very full programme planned and will as usual participate in the various Divisional events and competitions.

If you would like to know more about Girls' Brigade please contact me.

*Fiona Leslie*



### LIFE BEFORE COMPUTERS

Do you remember when..  
A memory was something you lost with age  
An application was for applying for employment  
A programme was a TV show  
A cursor used profanities  
A keyboard was a piano  
A web was a spider's home  
A virus was the flu  
And a hard drive was a long trip by car?

### CHURCH CHOIR

Have you ever wanted to sing in a choir but were too shy or nervous about auditions?

Well now is your chance. Join our church choir on Sunday mornings after the Sunday morning service from 11.30pm until 12.30pm.

We will be learning new songs/ hymns and will happily welcome all ages and abilities. No experience necessary, just a love of music and a willingness to enjoy yourself.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our first practice on Sunday 28th August.

Any questions, just ask.

*Margaret Dickson*



## ABOUT BOOK AID

In 1980s a desperate plea came from Africa and other countries where economic crises and foreign currency restrictions had reduced supplies of Christian books (and, indeed, books in general) to an all-time low. This cry for help from vast numbers of Christians suffering from "Book Famine", became impossible to ignore.



In response to this situation, **Book Aid Charitable Trust**

<http://www.book-aid.org/index.php> was set up in order to make large shipments of new and second-hand Christian books and Bibles to these needy areas. It concentrates mainly on Africa, Asia and the Caribbean, with smaller shipments being sent to other areas.

Books are gathered by volunteers through a network of UK collection points. They are then transported to the main warehouse in London. Those that have been requested by overseas Christian bookshops are sorted, boxed and placed on pallets ready for shipment. When the books reach their destination they are sold at affordable prices by Christian bookshops and churches. The money raised is used to enhance and develop local literature initiatives and support Christian ministries.

Smaller shipments of more scholarly books are regularly made to equip Bible College libraries where they are used to train a new generation of ministers of the Gospel. Those books not required overseas are sold at Book Aid bookshops in the United Kingdom and the money raised is used to pay the charity's shipping and administration costs.

Since 1988 over 22 million Christian Books and Bible have been shipped to book hungry areas thanks to the generosity of British Christians and publishers, who have given books to help the overseas church in their time of need.

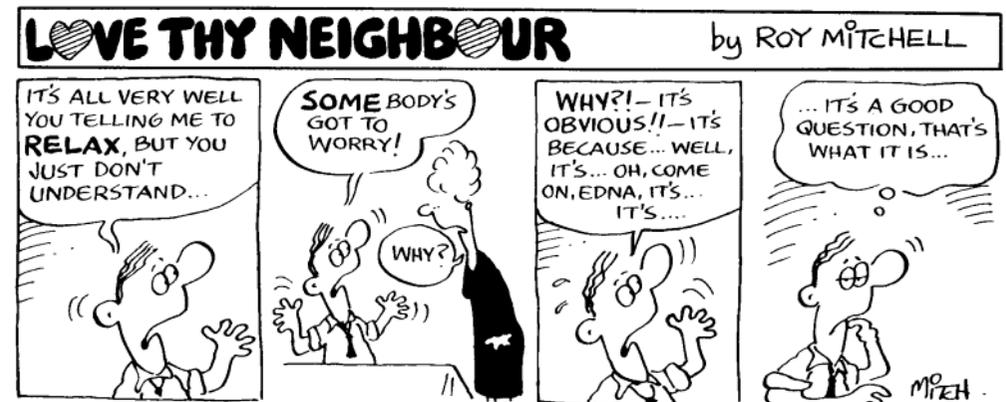
## GUILD DATES



The Guild meets on the third Wednesday of the month from September-November at 7 30pm. Our first speaker on the 21st September will be Rev Dr Melvin Griffith speaking on the theme "Go in Joy". On 19th October we welcome Vanda and Bill Hughes from Downies who are to speak about their work in the Phillipines. Mrs Taylor from Somebody Cares will be our speaker on the 16th November. We look forward to seeing you on the above dates. The Guild is open to males as well as females.

**The venue for the Christmas meal will be posted at a later date.**

*Margaret Brooks*



their time spent at Newtonhill and Portlethen in the early part of Jim's ministry.

Jim has been Pastor of Faith, at Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church, Georgia, USA, since 2013, having previously been Pastor at Northminster Presbyterian Church. Between 2007 and 2009 he was Director of Church Relations at Presbyterian College. He also served as the Pastor and Head of Staff of Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill SC from 2009 to 2013.

## *Jim Farquharson*

### **ON A LIGHTER NOTE**

A father was reading bible stories to his young son. He read "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city and not to look back, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt."

His son asked, "what happened to the flea?"

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him in front of the service station.

Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "Sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

### **What types of books are needed?**

For the overseas program, Book Aid would like the following books:

- All kinds of Christian books regardless of age or doctrinal stance.
- Books on theology, Bible commentaries, Bible encyclopedias and dictionaries.
- Books on biblical languages, including lexicons and books on grammar.
- Bibles of any version [except New English Bible] regardless of age
- Ladybird Books - both religious and secular.

Currently the desperate need is for bibles, so check out your cupboards for any older versions which have been superseded by your favourite modern translation -even one book is worth donating as "mony a mickle maks a muckle"! Unfortunately they are unable to use secular books (i.e. Non-Christian); school text books (including RE books); dated reading notes / used Sunday School material; magazines; hymn books or non-book items (e.g. CD's, Videos, Cassette Tapes)

### **Where do the containers of books go?**

Over the last twenty-seven years (up to end December 2014) **310** 20ft containers have been sent to eighteen different nations:

Nigeria [110], Ghana [40], Uganda [23], India [26], Kenya [18], Zimbabwe [15], Zambia [12], Malawi [11], Sierra Leone [11], Cameroon [10], Guyana [7], South Africa [6], Liberia [5], Tanzania [5], Jamaica [4], Philippines [3], Barbados [2], Papua New Guinea [2]

Other smaller shipments have also been sent to overseas Bible College libraries and to other countries.

### **How can I get my books to Book Aid?**

There is a network of almost 200 collecting points right across the UK and our local collection point is the CLC Bookshop, Credo Centre, 14-20 John Street, **Aberdeen** AB25 1BT. However if you contact me on 01569 730558 or [cdy@supanet.com](mailto:cdy@supanet.com) I will come and collect any donations for onward dispatch to Book Aid.

*Colin Young*

## GUARDIANS OF ANCORA



You can just feel the joy and enthusiasm bursting out of the picture of this year's holiday club, Guardians of Ancora, from both our dedicated team of leaders and the 40 –odd children we had every day. Based around the characters and background of Scripture Union's free video game of the same name, designed to encourage children to learn bible stories while they play it, the club enabled us all to have great fun while thinking about stories of Jesus and his love for people.

It was lovely to see the children developing trust and relationships with the leaders as time went on; from the little girl who was so quiet on Monday we thought she might not come back but blossomed thereafter, to the crowd with their noses pressed against the doors every morning waiting for 9.30, to the girl who cried on Friday because the club was over. Feedback from the parents was encouraging; their children were having a super time and they appreciated the Church doing something for their family and the village.

Everyone has fun, but it is a **lot** of work for the team, and I want to say a big thank you to all those who gave of their time, talents and energy so generously; those who have been coming back for years, and those for whom this was the first time. I also want to pass on thanks, on behalf of the team, to all those who supported us in different ways, by giving, helping in the background and especially by praying for us. We are sowing seeds of faith in young people's lives, which is why all the work is worthwhile, but only God can give the growth, so we want to thank him most of all. **Hugh Conkey**

## JIM SIMPSON'S COFFEE MORNING

It was indeed a pleasure to welcome another visit from one of our former ministers Jim Simpson during July, but also difficult to believe that it has been exactly 20 years since he left the parish to take up a charge at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Roswell, Georgia USA in 1996. Doesn't time fly?

After making enquiries as to whether the 'Fly Cup' was still in existence, Jim and his wife Janice indicated that while touring and visiting friends in the area they would also like to drop by for a coffee and renew old acquaintances at Newtonhill Church.

Following their initial approach, Margaret Brooks did a great job arranging a welcoming coffee morning on Wednesday July 20 and although unable to attend herself due to illness, over 30 members turned up to welcome Jim and Janice and take the opportunity for a chat and catch-up, as well as enjoying the wonderful tea, scones and biscuits provided and served by a willing team of church helpers.



Jim and Janice thank everyone for the warmth of their welcome and for being able to share with everyone the happy memories of