



# THE RECORD

## Visiting Israel has Consequences

I write this on the morning it has been announced Priti Patel, the UK's International Development Secretary, has resigned following unauthorised high-level meetings in Israel while on holiday. I, too, have recently returned from there. My trip, though, was authorised, and while I met many people, none of them was in the government. Furthermore, I wasn't on holiday – honest!

Visiting Israel had consequences for Ms Patel – and for me. I was deeply affected by the people whom I met and the stories they told. For some, principally Jewish Israelis, it is a wonderful land: a place where it is easy to be Jewish, where the climate and countryside make outdoor pursuits enjoyable all year round, and where culture flourishes. It is so attractive that I hope to return in early May to lead a Church of Scotland pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

For others, however, it is a land of deep and enduring challenge. One-fifth of the Israeli population is Arab, and many of them suffer discrimination in health, education and other social services. Worse, the people living in the occupied West Bank find their lives severely restricted. They cannot leave without a permit, granted only sporadically. I spent a couple of weeks living in Bethlehem, where water is supplied only one day in 20, forcing householders to store water in tanks for up to three weeks. I had been aware of the difference in living conditions but needed to live there for a time to experience it directly.

We recall that another visit to Israel had global consequences. Christian faith invites us to believe that God became present in a new, human way in the birth of the Christ Child in the very place where movement today is restricted and water is held back. This Child's life and teaching transcended all borders and nations; his offer of living water, echoing the invitation of the prophets to drink freely and live, has energised and transformed societies, communities and individuals.

It is this God come among us, born in poverty and under oppression to displaced parents, who is our Saviour. No place and no people is off-limits to God. May you know, whatever your situation or spirit, the presence in love and peace of God in Christ in these days and always. And may we not fail to keep our eyes open to the plight of many in our world, that we may reflect Christ's light in all places.

**Grant Barclay**  
Minister

# Boys' Brigade Sleepover

Three young intrepid adventurers from Orchardhill's Boys' Brigade Junior Section plus one leader left the Memorial Halls on Friday 3 November and headed to the Giant Sleepover at Glasgow Science Centre. There we joined some 400+ boys and leaders from Inverness to Dumfries, Millport to Edinburgh. All the boys were excited at the prospect of the Sleepover, and they were 'high' on the anticipation of what was to come.

Our first port of call at 6.30pm, after registering and dumping our luggage, was the Science Show Theatre where Amy demonstrated 'Flame On!' She spoke about friction and how the friction of two sticks or two pieces of flint rubbed together would give a spark enough to light a fire. She also demonstrated the Telsa Coil, invented in 1891 and used to produce high voltage, low current, high frequency alternating-current electricity. She ended her demonstration with a tornado flame – a whirlwind induced by fire. Despite us sitting three rows from the back of the theatre we were able to feel the heat.

Free time was ours to explore until 8.00pm. The boys enjoyed exploring and experimenting, especially how energy underpins our modern lives. "Equipped with five senses, man explores the universe and calls the adventure science," said Edwin Hubble.

At 8.00 we entered the Planetarium. Unfortunately the sky at night over Glasgow was rather cloudy and misty, so we quickly time-travelled. Finding the North Star, we found some of the night-sky features – the Plough, the Milky Way, Orion, Ursa Major and more. Did you know that four planets have rings round them and all the other planets would fit into Jupiter as it is so large?

After this surfeit of information the boys explored other floors before we headed for our hot chocolate, supper, devotions at 10.00. It was now time to collect our luggage and head to floor 3 and find somewhere to lay our weary heads, overloaded with information.

Our activity sheet said: "23.00: Get ready for sleep!" Sleep, not a chance. We had picked an area above something like a wind tunnel on floor 2 – like the sound of the subway coming into a station. However, at midnight the lights were out, sleep came to each and everyone of us relatively quickly.

6.00am came all too soon – get up, wash, dress, pack up our belongings, leave our area clean, and head down for breakfast, all well organised by the Brigade Scotland staff. We then could explore floor 1 until we left at just after 8.00 and return three semi-sleepy boys home.

A very worthwhile Friday evening, and I am sure the boys learned a great deal as well as realising the Boys' Brigade is much wider than just our company. Boys from all over Scotland were there enjoying themselves. The Boys' Brigade cares for and challenges children and young people through a programme of informal education in a fun way. This was certainly a fun way.

Thank you to all who organised the event and to the Staff of the Science Centre. Our boys were well behaved, a credit to themselves, their parents and the 86<sup>th</sup>.

The sleepovers have been taking place since 2013, and almost 2000 boys have been attending. Here's to the next time!!

# Christmas with Soundwaves



**After the October break Soundwaves started preparations for Christmas. “Celebrate Christmas with Soundwaves” will be on Sunday 17 December at 6.30pm in the church. Please put the date in your diary, come along, and enjoy our Christmas evening.**

## Festive Café

The last day of the Orchard Community Café for this year will be 12 December. We will be having our Christmas lunch that day – festive soup and baking!

## Life and Work Subscriptions

A reminder to those who subscribe to Life and Work - the annual subscription of £30.00 is now due. We hope to be available in the Fellowship Room after the service on Sunday 28 January to collect the subscriptions. Payment may be made by cash or cheque (made payable to Orchardhill Parish Church).

**Jim and Aileen Blair**

# Preparing for the Fayre



***Orchardhill's Christmas Fayre was held the day before this edition of the Orchardhill Record was published. In the weeks before the event, of course, busy hands were at work in preparing for the Fayre – in kitchens and at the Orchard Café and elsewhere.***



# Lunchtime Communion



In early November our minister led a short Communion Service for our elderly members followed by a soup and home-baking lunch, which was served by the Orchard Café team. What a pleasure it was to chat with so many familiar older friends, some of whom who can no longer attend the Sunday morning services!

## Thank You from Marion and Craig

Marion and Craig would like to thank all of our friends in Orchardhill for the love shown to us over the past 14 months of Kirstie's illness and for all of the cards and messages we have received. Your support has meant a great deal to us. Thanks also must go to Rev John Spiers, Rev John Miller and CrossWords for making Kirstie's Thanksgiving Service so special.

As most of you are aware, all of Kirstie's colleagues at Pikeman Nursery and some of her friends and family in the name of Kirstie's Krew took part in the special 10k sponsored walk for the Beatson Cancer Hospital, which took place three weeks before she died. They raised a total of £6150, of which £850 was raised at her funeral in Orchardhill.

A great big thank you to everyone. Kirstie would have been proud of you.

**Marion and Craig**



working in partnership with  
Community Outreach



invites you to join us in a



## Tree of Kindness

'Tis the season to give a present to a child or teenager in need so that they will experience the joy of Christmas by receiving a gift.

Please stop by **Orchardhill Church** and pick up a **Tree of Kindness** gift tag from the living tree beside the church tower entrance. Then purchase a suitable gift or toy and bring it back to the Orchardhill Church Office so that it can be delivered to young people in need during the Christmas Season.

Gifts should be returned unwrapped or in a gift bag please, with the tag attached, to the Church Office during opening hours, 9am - 1pm Tuesday to Friday until 20<sup>th</sup> December.

*Sometimes the small things you do can make a big difference in another person's life!*

- Step 1: choose a card by looking at the person's details on the card
- Step 2: go out and buy a suitable gift for the person on the card
- Step 3: bring the gift to Orchardhill Church Office with the card attached
- Step 4: tell a friend about **Tree of Kindness**

**Together WE can make a difference in our Community**

# KIND Scotland Support

The **Tree of Kindness** is a new initiative where Orchardhill is partnering with **KIND Scotland** to help tackle the grave issue of poverty affecting so many people in Scotland. The organisations which **KIND** supports include:

## **Quarriers Family Resource Centre**

The centre works with families experiencing difficulties. These difficulties can arise as a result of a range of issues such as poverty, domestic abuse or mental health. To achieve a more balanced family life, the centre offers programmes to aid bonding, attachment and the building of positive relationships.

Support is achieved through the provision of help given on an individual or group basis. Activities that provide this type of support include a women's group, a dad's group, literacy support, drop-in, playtime and parenting classes.

## **Family Addiction Support Services**

FASS was started by parents in Glasgow in 1986 who were concerned by the growing drug problem in the city. Since then FASS has helped countless families and individuals to cope with the effects of addiction. FASS offers free one-to-one support to family members affected by alcohol or drug problems. They have a large number of affiliated groups meeting throughout Glasgow - family support groups, bereavement groups and kinships groups. FASS aims to promote the needs of families affected by addiction and to assist them to access support available to them.

## **Glasgow's Young Persons Befriending Service**

This service provides support to isolated and vulnerable 8-18-year-olds living in the Glasgow area. The service matches adult volunteers with young people who are experiencing difficulties. The young people get the opportunity to have fun but also to build a relationship with a supportive adult, experience personal development and have access to activities and community resources otherwise outwith their reach.

This year they are also looking to support **Glasgow Care Foundation**. For 140 years this organisation has been supporting and caring for people in Glasgow. They strive to help people turn their lives around and give them a chance. They do this by meeting the urgent needs of those referred to them by Social Services and other agencies. Their support is very practical and includes helping families with gifts at Christmas.

# Online Advent Calendar

Each day in Advent this year, from Sunday 3 December to Christmas Eve, Orchardhill's website will feature a short video from one of our members where they show the box they made and tell a little about what God With Us means to them.

We hope that this will give you different perspectives on God being present in the world as we prepare for Christmas, and that you'll enjoy seeing what people thought about and what they created. The website is [www.orchardhill.org.uk](http://www.orchardhill.org.uk). Why not tweet using the hashtag #notjustthebox, and let your friends know?

## Guides' Congratulations

The 2<sup>nd</sup> A Giffnock Guides congratulate Emily Worthington on completing of her Baden-Powell Challenge Badge. This badge is the highest award available to girls in the company section of the Guide Association and is the culmination of hard work before moving on to the Senior Section.

The girls had the opportunity to practise CPR, the recovery position, and how to help a choking casualty when Craig and Karine from St Andrew's Ambulance visited the unit. We also learned about defibrillator use. We only hope that we do not need to use it! We also had a session on wound simulation and rescue scenarios.

The girls are looking forward to a visit to Eastwood Theatre for Eastwood Entertainers' pantomime and then a Christmas party before the end of the session.

## Where is it?

Orchardhill's Calendar is not in its usual place on the back page this month. Covering December and January as well as early February, the Calendar is on page 10.

The list of Welcomers for December, January and February is on page 9. The Offering and Counting Rota is on page 11. So is the list of Scripture Readers.



# Welcomers' Rota

	Entrance	Sanctuary	Greeters/Ushers
<b>DECEMBER</b>			
3	Anne Barr	Fiona Bissett	Sandra Cherrie
10	Sandra Cherrie	Fiona Bissett	Anne Barr
17	Anne Barr	Fiona Bissett	Isobel Vance
24	Irene Kinniburgh	Fiona Bissett	Anne Barr
31	Nanette Davidson	Irene Kinniburgh	Jim Blair

## JANUARY

7	Nanette Davidson	Sandra Cherrie	Shona Cook
14	Shona Cook	Sandra Cherrie	Nanette Davidson
21	Nanette Davidson	Sandra Cherrie	Shona Cook
28	Jim Blair	Sandra Cherrie	Irene Kinniburgh

## FEBRUARY

4	Irene Kinniburgh	Bill Yuill	Jim Blair
11	Jim Blair	Bill Yuill	Irene Kinniburgh
18	Irene Kinniburgh	Bill Yuill	May Liddle
25	May Liddle	Bill Yuill	Jo Weir

# Deadline for February's *Record*

The *Orchardhill Record* will not be published in January. The first edition of 2018 will be in February, for which the deadline will be 14 January.

Contributions should be sent by email to [record-editor@orchardhill.org.uk](mailto:record-editor@orchardhill.org.uk) before 1.00pm on deadline day or left in the relevant slot in the rack in the church corridor no later than 10.30am. Using that email address ensures that every contribution goes to the editorial team not just the editor. We prefer contributions to be sent by email, and we cannot accept any handwritten or typed item that does not identify the source.

A photograph or logo **must not be embedded** in the article. Please send photos and the like as separate attachments to allow flexibility in laying out pages. Nor can we accept pdf files.

The editor acknowledges every contribution. Contact him before the deadline if he has not confirmed that he has received your contribution.

# Orchardhill Calendar

## DECEMBER

Sun	3	10.30am	First Sunday in Advent Sacrament of the Lord's Supper	Rev Grant Barclay
Tue	5	7.30pm	Congregational Board	
Sun	10	10.30am	Second Sunday in Advent Choir cantata: Invitation to a Miracle by Joseph M Martin	
Tue	12	10.30am -noon	Orchard Cafe Christmas Lunch	
Sun	17	10.30am	Third Sunday in Advent Stepping Stones and CrossWords Service	
		6.30pm	Christmas with Soundwaves	
Wed	20	1.30pm	Giffnock Primary School Winter Service	
Sun	24	10.30am	Fourth Sunday in Advent Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay
		6.00- 7.00pm	Kids' Time Christmas	
		10.45pm	Mulled Wine and Mince Pies	
		11.15pm	Community Singing with the Choir followed by Midnight Service	
Mon	25	10.00am	Christmas Day Family Worship	
Sun	31	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay

## JANUARY

Sun	7	10.30am	Family Worship with Communion	Rev Grant Barclay
Sun	14	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay
Sun	21	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay
Sun	28	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay

## FEBRUARY

Sun	4	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay
Sun	11	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay

# Offering and Counting

## DECEMBER

3	Fiona Bissett 638 6394; Andrew Flockhart 586 8867; Anne Anderson 563 2395; Norma Hannah 638 7515;
10	Fiona Bissett; Andrew Flockhart; Richard Park 638 0273
17	Fiona Bissett; Andrew Flockhart; Richard Park
24	Fiona Bissett; Andrew Flockhart; Richard Park
31	Norma Hannah 638 7515; Allan Rennie 882 9703

## JANUARY

7	Sandra Cherrie 638 9702; Angela Peacock 638 0026; Willie Hendry 644 0351
14	Sandra Cherrie; Angela Peacock; Willie Hendry
21	Sandra Cherrie; Shona Fletcher 639 4523; Allan Rennie 882 9703
28	Sandra Cherrie; Shona Fletcher; Allan Rennie

## FEBRUARY

4	Bill Yuill 638 2400; Evelyn McMurtrie 571 2512; Jim Mackinnon 638 2123
11	Bill Yuill; Evelyn McMurtrie; Jim Mackinnon
18	Bill Yuill; Gordon Ross 638 1207; Jim Mackinnon
25	Bill Yuill; Gordon Ross; Jim Mackinnon

# Scripture Readers

## DECEMBER

3 Ian Cartlidge    10 Linda Moir    17 David Howard    24 Judy Byrne    31 Fergus Cook

## JANUARY

7 Margaret Howard    14 Shona Cook    21 Angela Peacock    28 Donald Carmichael

## FEBRUARY

4 Dave Thomson    11 Gillian Brogan    18 Lindsay Barr    25 Shona Fisher

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