



THE RECORD

A Community of Care

The front page of the Orchardhill Record shouldn't be a stage for the Manse family and isn't the most appropriate place for gratitude. Nonetheless the Minister's view, as one of congregation but perhaps noticing things slightly more broadly, might be of some use and this contribution is offered in that spirit.

The whole Manse family have been overwhelmed with messages of support and encouragement following the news that Katie, our eldest daughter, needs some health treatment overseas. You might expect members would be concerned for those in the Manse, and not least when they haven't been here terribly long. Yet the strength and sincerity of care shown by many Orchardhill people has been breathtaking, and more helpful than you can imagine.

Here's the important point: that care is shown broadly and generously not just to a family with some prominence in the church. It was demonstrated, too, in the huge response from our congregation – and also our community – to the Tree of Kindness initiative before Christmas. That care is also expressed as people ask after one another, as they telephone and visit with a faithfulness which clearly shows that they love deeply. Events at Christmas are, perhaps, our best opportunity to offer a warm welcome, and we did that as friends who live nearby and to those who travelled further joined with us.

There is a deep sense of being concerned to support one other, and not merely those whom we have known for many years. I encourage you to build on the foundations already laid over generations: love one another. Extend that loving care to those who join us that they may move quickly from being visitors to become friends. Extend our concern locally as we focus on serving our community and particularly those here who find themselves isolated. Extend it globally as we engage with caring ministries in India and elsewhere.

This, surely, is a witness to the world. "Everyone will know you are my disciples," Jesus said, "if you love one another." It is clear we do not care simply because we recognise a dull duty imposed on us. Our concern is heartfelt and is inspired by faith in Christ who demonstrates such love in action in ways that are deeply attractive and who echoes the wisdom passed down through generations, our calling to love one another.

Grant Barclay
Minister

Soundwaves

Soundwaves had a very successful first term cumulating in their Christmas Celebrations in the church to tell the story of Christmas in song and narration. Thanks to the many friends and members of Orchardhill who came out to support the children. We hope that you enjoyed the service as much as the children did.

The collection they raised £168.02, and a cheque for £170 has been sent to Children's Hospice Across Scotland (CHAS).



The children have already started rehearsals for this year's show which is "Soundwaves of the Seas". It will take place on Friday 23 and Saturday 24 March. Make a place in your diary for this spectacular event. Tickets will be on sale nearer the time.

Alexis Wallace

Christmas Fayre



Orchardhill's Christmas Fayre in November raised £5125 for our church's Heating Fund. Thanks to everyone who organised the event, helped in setting up and on the day, and supported the venture in whatever way.



See also page 12

Andrew Hood

On 8 December, at the invitation of Isabella Hood, I was privileged to attend the Annual Inspection and Awards Ceremony of ATC Squadron 2452 (Shawlands), the RAF's cadet training corps for this area. This is an exceptional company which frequently comes out top of the thousand Scottish cadet groups, and 2017 was no exception. What's more, our own Andrew Hood was by far the most decorated at this event, having picked up awards in umpteen disciplines.

Andrew's rise through the ATC ranks has been nothing short of meteoric. He was enrolled as a basic cadet in November 2012 but was quickly recognised as a star, being elevated to corporal in September 2014. Only a year after that, he became Sergeant Hood and then attained flight-sergeant status in December 2016.

Being the centenary of the founding of the Royal Air Force, 2017 was a big year for the ATC. It was a significant year also for FS Andrew Hood, whose list of sports achievements in that year alone is eye-watering:

- Selected to play in the Corps Senior Football Team v No 1 Radio School RAF Cosford with his team winning 6-0;*
- Selected to play in the inter-region senior football Competition at RAF Cranwell;*
- Selected to play in the winning West Scotland Wing football team where SE Scotland came second and Northern Ireland third;*
- Winning silver medal in the 100 metres and bronze in each of the 1500 metres and the team relay at the inter wing athletics championship;*
- Selected for the inter wing athletics championship in both the region athletics and the cross-country championships;*
- Winning three gold medals in the West Scotland Wing athletics championships;*
- Selected to compete in the wing small bore competition and making a significant contribution to 2452 Squadron's winning the trophy, and (as if just tagged on at the end!)*
- Awarded the squadron's Male Sports Cadet of the Year.*

At the December ceremony a formal citation was read out expressing Andrew to be a fantastic representative of the ATC's West Scotland Wing and Scotland and Northern Ireland Region, having demonstrated excellent leadership and team-working qualities as well as helping many junior cadets develop their skills and knowledge thereby encouraging others to gain the cadet experience. It also described Andrew as determined, committed and enthusiastic, being a well-rounded young man, performing well in all activities, particularly in sports, as is abundantly clear from the above list. In the citation, Andrew was awarded The Commandant Air Cadets Certificate of Good Service and was further elevated at the ceremony to the highest cadet rank of cadet warrant officer, being congratulated by several "top brass" members who had come along specially to do so.

So, in future at the local ATC squadron, Andrew will mostly be giving rather than taking orders. It is clear, however, that he will not abuse his position. He is an asset not only in the ATC but also within Orchardhill where he is an excellent role model for our youngsters.



Gordon Thomson

Bridging the Challenges

It is not easy being a teenager in 2018. It is not like being a teenager in 1970 or 1950 or earlier. The world has changed in so many ways and our youngsters have to deal with so many stresses that are unique to the age in which they are growing up, going to school, making friends and finding their way in the world. Much is expected of them from the education system, the world of work and the world in general in which they live. They are constantly told that the world is in danger from climate change, pollution, extremists of different political persuasions, terrorists and predators, and, on top of this, they find themselves in a minority because going to church and being Christian is far from the norm for people their age. There are many interests and activities which vey for their attention on a Sunday morning, and talking about being Christian is not easy for them when they are at an age when they are desperate to fit in. In all honesty, do any of us find that easy?

However, nearly every Sunday we have a fantastic group of young people who come along to the church and share fellowship together in Bridges, worshipping, learning and having fun together. Most of them also help out in other aspects of church life as they volunteer to assist with Soundwaves, The Black Door Shop, the Summer Mission and many of the youth organisations etc, not to mention engaging with our very young children every week and helping in many other ways with a variety of events in our church.

Due to other commitments and her personal workload recently, Catriona Cook had to step down from the leadership role that she had been playing at the end of last year, but she still attends each week. In the absence of an obvious replacement, I offered, on a very temporary basis, to step into the breach in the interim until a proper and suitable replacement could be found. Along with other matters, this is being considered as part of our recent Vision deliberations. Personally, it is a privilege to spend time with our teenagers. They are bright, interesting, engaged, engaging, concerned, caring, funny, frivolous, deep..... just extraordinary, and I think we are all enjoying ourselves each week.

Last month we started, as part of what we do each week, to look at the book of Esther. We are taking a chapter a week and considering the story, the characters in it and their actions. We look at what is in the news that week and what is happening in the world today and consider the parallels that can be drawn, the lessons that should be learnt and the relevance for us today of this story from long ago. Needless to say there is a lot of talk of excessive wealth, powerful but flawed rulers, “yes” men, the treatment of women and the inequality that still exists in our world today.

Of course, not all of our time is spent in serious contemplation, and neither should it be. We like quizzes and games and lots of chocolate.

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Thinking Allowed

Orchardhill's Thinking Allowed series continues on Thursday 15 February with two TED talks – Ideas Worth Spreading.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichic, a Nigerian novelist, speaks on “The danger of a single story” from the list of “best TED talks of all time”, viewed over 12 million times. Our lives, our cultures are composed of many overlapping stories. Chimamanda Adichic tells the story of how she found her authentic cultural voice and warns that if we hear only a single story about another person or country we risk a critical misunderstanding.

She has been inspired by Nigerian history and tragedies all but forgotten by recent generations of Westerners, and her novels and stories are jewels in the crown of diasporan literature.

"If a story moves you, act on it" is the theme of Sisonke Msimang's lecture, which has been viewed on TED talks over 1.1 million times.

Stories are necessary, but they're not as magical as they seem, says writer Sisonke Msimang. In this funny and thoughtful talk, Msimang questions our emphasis on storytelling and spotlights the decline of facts. During a critical time when listening has been confused for action, she asks us to switch off our phones, step away from our screens, and step out into the real world to create a plan for justice.

As usual for a Thinking Allowed meeting, it has a preamble from 7.30pm leading to a start at 8.00.

Bridging the Challenges

Continued from page 4

I am sure you all enjoyed Bridges' film for the Nativity service. It cleverly incorporated many of the modern facets of life like social media and digital communication into the story that is so familiar to us all. The group worked hard to produce the short film which was well received. Bridges is going to be creating a service for a Sunday in September which they will lead, and I am looking forward to hearing their ideas and seeing how they put it all together.

We are so lucky to have these young people in our midst. I am looking forward to being with them for this period of time. Please help to support them and encourage them and engage with them because they are a very valuable part of our church family.

Shona Cook

Brains of the Church

Could you be the Orchardhill Eggheads? Could you beat the Church Chaser? Or are you The Weakest Link?

The Brains of the Church 2018 title will be decided on Sunday 25 February at 7.00pm in the church. Teams are invited to enter from any organisation or group around the church: even a family or group of friends. Teams should consist of up to four members (secondary school age upwards). Any teams whose members are all under 21 can have up to five in the team.



As this is a fundraising event (towards the significant future capital expenditure for the church premises), the cost will be £20 per team (£10 for under-21 teams) which will include refreshments. If you would like to enter a team, please contact Shona Fisher (shona.fisher2@mail.com; 01698 721607).

This event is designed to be a fun evening aimed at all ages. Last year's winners were a group from Fusion! Even if you are not in a team, please come along and support the Masterminds and even test yourself from the sidelines.

The Guild

On Monday 12 February the Guild will hear from Iain Lowdon, an elder in Carmunnock Church, about his experiences of being a Clydesider at the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Two weeks later, Monday 26 February, The Guild's memories will be tested as they play Musical Bingo.

Both meetings will be held in the Fellowship Room at 2.00pm. We look forward to welcoming everyone interested in these meetings.

Knitting Group

A knitting group is being set up in Orchardhill, starting on Sunday 11 February after the service from noon till 1.00pm. Everyone is welcome: just bring needles and wool. Project to be decided!

Tree of Kindness

As December began, everyone was busy writing their Christmas lists (no matter what their age), frantically looking for the right gift for their loved ones and, of course, the Christmas charity singles were out and battling for the prestigious Christmas number one title. But it was also the time of year when people begin to think of those less fortunate.

We live on the outskirts of Scotland's largest city where 34% of all children are estimated to be living in poverty – **that's more than 37,000 children**. Many are homeless or living in temporary accommodation, and so they probably had little prospects of receiving presents at Christmas.

This is where many in our community took the opportunity make a real difference in the lives of people living in poverty by getting involved in a very worthwhile project. Gift tags were attached to our Tree of Kindness, and people were invited to take a tag and buy a gift for a young person and bring it to the church office for distribution. It captured the enthusiasm of everyone in Orchardhill, organisations using our halls, people in Giffnock just passing by, and businesses in Hillington who saw it on social media.

The response exceeded all expectations, and because of your generosity and kindness, more than 300 children living in poverty received a gift at Christmas.

When trying to identify people in need we heard about the work that **Kind Scotland** undertakes in providing food hampers with additional fruit and vegetable trays to very vulnerable families across central Scotland. They do this through agencies they have been working with for more than 15 years and so were very comfortable that the gifts went to the most needy.

You might think it was a small thing to do, but YOU have made a big difference in another person's life! Thank you.

Lindsay Barr



Hosting Presbytery

Orchardhill will be hosting Glasgow Presbytery's meeting on Tuesday 13 March. It is the first time that a monthly meeting of the Presbytery has been held in our church.

Presbytery meetings are not private. They are an open court, and visitors are welcome to attend. So if you wish to see and hear what happens when Glasgow Presbytery is in session please come along to our church that evening. The meeting starts at 7.00pm.

Visitors are not herded into a corner: you can sit anywhere. You cannot, of course, speak or vote. But you will be welcome to join in the praise which opens the meeting.

Afterwards, your Presbytery Elder, Bill McMurtrie will be interested in whatever comments you may have about the evening's proceedings.

Quiet Time

Looking for some peace and quiet? For the next few months the church will be open each Wednesday from 6.00 to 7.00pm for a period of quiet time. There will be a short time of spoken reflection from 6.30 to 6.45.

Please feel free to come along for as long or as short as you wish and as frequently or infrequently as suits.

We hope it may also provide an opportunity for anybody who wishes in our community to make use of this time and space.

We will be remembering our community during our prayer time. Any general or specific requests can be emailed to quiet-time@orchardhill.org.uk

Two New Ministers

Two East Renfrewshire churches have new Ministers. Rev Scott Blythe was inducted to Stamperland in deferred linkage with Netherlee on 20 November. Mr Blythe will become Minister of the linked charge when Rev Tom Nelson retires from Netherlee later this year. Rev Stuart Crawford was ordained and inducted at Newton Mearns Church on 7 December. Mr Crawford's wife, Fiona, took part in several Orchardhill services last year on her way to becoming a candidate for the ministry.



Welcome Rota

Entrance	Sanctuary	Greeters/Ushers
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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

MARCH

4	Jo Weir	Dorothy Cartlidge	May Liddle
11	May Liddle	Dorothy Cartlidge	Jo Weir
18	Jo Weir	Ian Anderson	Marion Watson
25	Shona Cook	Ian Anderson	Anne Barr

Offering Teams

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

MARCH

4	Dorothy Cartlidge 571 7839; Norma Hannah 638 7515; Lisel Tait 638 8345
11	Dorothy Cartlidge; Norma Hannah; Lisel Tait; Hilary Kennedy 638 6114
18	Ian Anderson 563 2395; Irene Kinniburgh 638 3722; Bruce Paterson 571 7862
25	Ian Anderson; Irene Kinniburgh 638 3722; Bruce Paterson

Scripture Readers

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

4 Colin Williamson 11 Anne Barr 18 Andrew Flockhart 25 Gillian Irvine

Communion Roll

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome into our Fellowship and Service:

John and Mary Macdonald, 13 Forres Avenue, Giffnock G46 6LH (district 34)

Kareen Roger, 32 Evan Drive, Giffnock G46 6NN (district 5)

DEATH

On 8 January 2018 William Kilpatrick, 36 Melford Avenue, Giffnock G46 6ND

Congregational Register

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Marguerite Douglas from Flat 22, 9 Waterford Road, Giffnock G46 7PJ to Parkhouse Manor Care Home, 557 Parkhouse Road, Barrhead G78 1TE

Jean Richmond from 47 Hilltree Court, Fenwick Road, Giffnock G46 6AA to Mearnskirk House, Old Mearns Road, Newton Mearns G77 5RZ

Deadline for March Record

Sunday 14 February is the deadline for the March edition of the *Orchardhill Record*.

Contributions should be sent by email to record-editor@orchardhill.org.uk before 1.00pm 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. We accept handwritten or typed item, though the source must be identified.

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

FEBRUARY

Sunday	4	10.30am	Family Worship
Sunday	11	10.30am	Family Worship
Monday	12	2.00pm	The Guild: A Commonwealth Games' Clydesider
Thursday	15	7.30pm	Thinking Allowed: TED Talks
Sunday	18	10.30am	Family Worship
Sunday	25	10.30am	Family Worship
		7.30pm	Brains of the Church quiz
Monday	26	2.00pm	The Guild: Musical Bingo

MARCH

Sunday	4	10.30am	Family Worship
Sunday	11	10.30am	Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Orchardhill Parish Church, Church Road, Giffnock, Glasgow G46 6JR

Phone: 0141 638 3604

Website: www.orchardhill.org.uk

Email: secretary@orchardhill.org.uk

Orchardhill Parish Church: Scottish Charity number SC009774

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All Fayre under the Ring of Light



Orchardhill's new Ring of Light shines over the Christmas Fayre (see also page 2)

The February calendar is on page 11