



THE RECORD

Letter from America

No, I'm not trying to emulate Alistair Cooke – Orchardhill has its own – but a change of scene broadens one's view. I wandered along to Jacksonville Community Church partly because it sat outwith traditional denominations. I liked the aspiration in the name, and its custom-built complex on an industrial estate suggested it wouldn't feel too much like Orchardhill. It didn't!

There was a friendly but not intrusive welcome into a huge entry atrium where people mingled, picked up information from stalls, drank coffee and hung around until moments before the service started. We must get such a meeting space and use it as well as they did!

The service had essentially two parts. There was modern, energetic singing for 20 minutes. (I knew not a song, but with fewer than four lines none was difficult; whether they were worth remembering is another matter.)

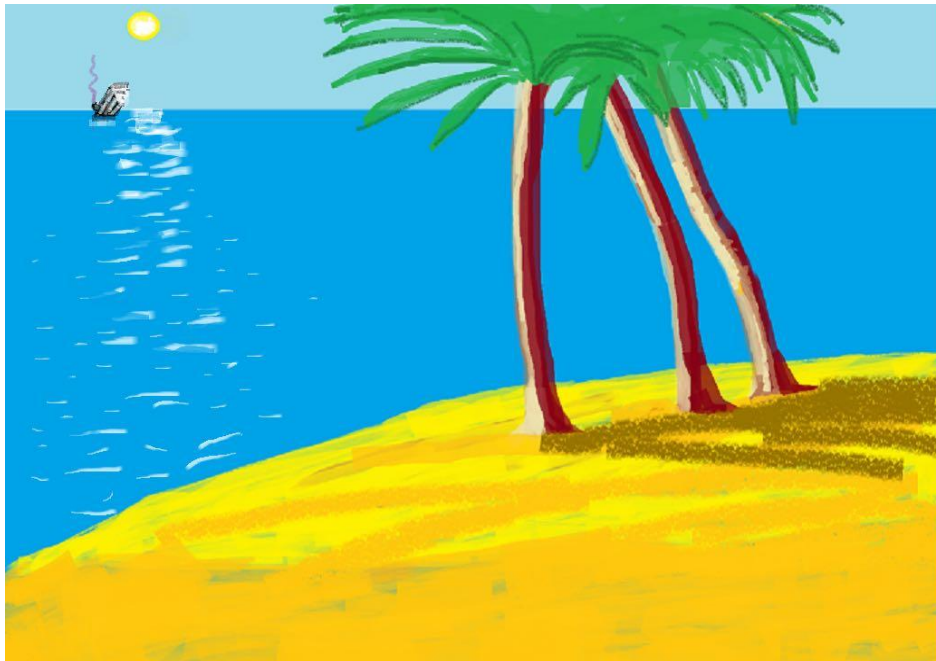
To separate the two sections there was an upbeat video about being motivated and ambitious. Then followed an enthusiastic talk for 35 minutes. Announcements at the end appeared as a video before an offering, quick blessing and an encouragement to get out quickly – the next service started 15 minutes later. There was little prayer and no formal scripture reading; there was no mention of the world beyond the worshippers' direct experience; nor were children involved in the service. I estimate 500 engaged adult worshippers were present.

Our parlous ecclesiastical condition in Scotland leaves little room for thoughts of superiority. However, there has to be more to the Good News of Jesus than a motivational talk largely detached from gritty reality and disengaged from the planet's plight.

We are now in Lent: a motivational season of a wholly different order. Thoughts of self-aggrandisement and fulfilment are put to one side, and endeavouring to follow Christ's example to worship the Lord and serve him only, Lent encourages us to draw closer to Jesus' God and ours. Christ's demonstration of holy and wholly committed devotion is saturated with humility and self-giving in obedience – even to death. Motivation and enthusiasm do matter, so do discipline and devotion. May this Lenten period enable you to grow in humble service and, more significantly, a deepening awareness of divine grace beyond telling.

Grant Barclay
Minister

It's Nearly Soundwaves Show Time



Rehearsals are well under way for Soundwaves' show this month. "Soundwaves of the Seas" will take place on Friday 23 and Saturday 24 March at 7.30pm in the Memorial Halls.

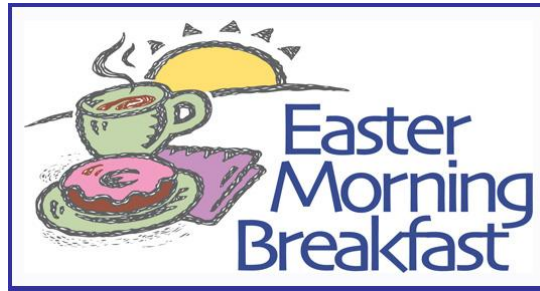
Please make a place in your diary for this spectacular event. Tickets can be bought from the Church Office, any Soundwaves leader or Alexis Wallace.

Thinking Allowed

Pádraig Ó Tuama, leader of the Corrymeela Community in Belfast, will be the Thinking Allowed speaker in Orchardhill Church on Thursday 15 March (7.30 for 8.00pm)

Pádraig, whose talk is titled "Literate not Literal", will reflect on reading the gospel stories as literature. He will also draw on his experiences leading the ongoing reconciliation work of the Corrymeela Community as it helps to build peace in Northern Ireland following the dark decades of The Troubles.

He is a poet and theologian who, since 2014, has been the leader of the Corrymeela Community, Ireland's oldest peace and reconciliation witness. His work encompasses reconciliation dealing with the legacy of The Troubles in Belfast and beyond. His first book of poetry, "Readings from the Book of Exile" was published 2012, and "Sorry for your Troubles" followed in 2013 and "In the Shelter" in 2015.



Orchardhill's Easter Breakfast will be on Sunday 1 April at 9.00am. A short service will be followed by cereal, bacon rolls, fruit juice, tea and coffee.

We need volunteers to help run this Easter Day event. For more information or to volunteer please contact the Church Office.

The Guild

Mrs Nan Steele will talk to The Guild on Monday 12 March about the Maxwells of Pollok.

The Guild's session closes on Monday 26 March, when Miss Irene Kinniburgh will reveal how children's imagination can be stimulated in a creative way in the classroom.

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

Presbytery at Orchardhill

As announced in last month's *Orchardhill Record*, we 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 at the meeting, 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.

Celebrating the Bard

It's not often I dress up in my kilt and wander along with my wife (complete with her tartan scarf) to the Orchardhill Guild on a Monday afternoon in late January! However, that's exactly what we and 36 others did on Monday 29 January.

Our Guild are in the process of reinventing themselves (with help from a few others), and they hosted a wonderful afternoon, celebrating the life of Robert Burns.

We were greeted by our marvellous and enthusiastic host, Marion Simpson, and the dulcet tones of Jim Mackinnon playing the small pipes.



Once the guests had assembled in the Fellowship Room, Bill Blackie, resplendent in his tartan trews, delivered an informative and humorous account of the life of our National Bard. We learned so much more about why the life and works of Robert Burns are so important and why he is revered worldwide, like no other poet in history.

Irene Kinniburgh entertained us with a passionate recital of Tam o' Shanter. Then Lindsay Barr, Susan Taylor and Fiona McAslan provided some beautiful Scottish songs, we even managed to sing along! In addition, Jo Weir, Shona Reid and Marion Simpson each contributed a poem before we all retired to enjoy an afternoon tea commemorating Rabbie, with the highlights being the haggis vol-au-vents and the Irn Bru for the toast! Oh yes, we also had the honour of eating and drinking out of the famous and very classy Guild crockery!

Great conversations ensued, as the Guild ladies looked after our every need and Bill Yuill was our talented photographer.

Most of all, this was a fabulous event where strangers were welcomed, new friendships were forged, old friendships were renewed and quality time was spent together.

Anyone fancy the idea of having a church Burns' Supper in January 2019?

Garry Crosbie



Welcomers' Rota

Entrance	Sanctuary	Greeters/Ushers
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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

APRIL

1	Neil Mackenzie	Roseanne Henderson	Gordon Thomson
8	Marion Watson	Jim Kerr	Neil Mackenzie
15	Gordon Thomson	Jim Kerr	Marion Watson
22	Anne Barr	Joyce Winning	Alex Mall
29	Alex Mall	Joyce Winning	Anne Barr

Offering Teams

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

APRIL

1	Roseanne Henderson 571 7375; David Evans 571 7846; Susan McQuilter 638 6936
8	Jim Kerr 638 2747; David Evans; Susan McQuilter
15	Jim Kerr; Norma Hannah 638 7515; Ian Cartlidge 571 7839
22	Joyce Winning 571 7617; Margaret Howard 571 7854; Ian Cartlidge
29	Joyce Winning; Margaret Howard; David Howard 571 7854

Scripture Readers

MARCH

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

APRIL

1 Jim Blair 8 Shona Fisher 15 Bill McMurtrie 22 Joyce Winning 29 Lindsay Barr

March Calendar

MARCH

Sunday	4	10.30am	Third Sunday in Lent Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay
Tuesday	6	7.30pm	Kirk Session	
Sunday	11	10.30am	Fourth Sunday in Lent Sacrament of the Lord's Supper	Rev Grant Barclay
Monday	12	2.00pm	The Guild (see page 3)	
Tuesday	13	7.00pm	Glasgow Presbytery meet in Orchardhill	
Wednesday	14	2.00pm	Afternoon Communion	
Thursday	15	7.30pm	Thinking Allowed (see page 2)	
Sunday	18	10.30am	Fifth Sunday in Lent Family Worship followed by Stated Annual Meeting	Rev Grant Barclay
Friday & Saturday	23 & 24	7.30pm	Soundwaves' show	
Sunday	25	10.30am	Palm Sunday Service led by the Choir	
Monday	26	2.00pm	The Guild (see page 3)	
Thursday	29	1.30pm	Giffnock Primary School Spring Service	
		tbc	Maundy Thursday Service*	
Friday	30	tbc	Good Friday Service*	

*At the time of publication the venues for the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Service were not known and will be confirmed nearer the time.

APRIL

Sunday	1	9.00am	Easter Breakfast	
		10.30am	Easter Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay
Sunday	8	10.30am	Family Worship	Rev Grant Barclay

Celebrating the Bard



Deadline for April's Record

Sunday 18 March is the deadline for the April 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 items, 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.

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