

18 May

Old Halls Development

You may have already seen the proposed development where the Old Halls are at the moment.

You can find out more about it on the council website [here](#) (Application TP/ED/23/0192). They have taken into consideration heritage and street view and also retaining the keystone with the Old Hall dates in the new building.

If you would like to respond to the application, in support or otherwise, you can comment on the council website.

Pentecost

Let us celebrate being the community we are and all the diversity we are and find a way to bind ourselves together.

Pentecost Sunday is 28th May, and we offer an intergenerational service where everyone knows a place to belong. After the coronation service we have had, we know we can respond to the occasion and so you are invited, only if you feel comfortable, and genuinely so, to wear bright colours. It will be a sunny day, of course. We'll have a service that celebrates the community we are and long to become, with music and words and the response to shape that space. 10.30 for everyone on Sunday 28th May.

Presbytery Plan

There is not much to update yet on the Presbytery Plan.

What we know is that what was submitted is undergoing some amendments. The official word is that "The plan is progressing through its various stages of approval in a rather stately fashion."

The latest news is that it is hoped the plan will be approved this week after further discussion around building designations. It will then be presented to the June meeting of Presbytery in this updated form. We haven't heard anything at all, so we are presuming there is no change to the plan in this area.

If it is agreed at the June meeting, then it will take effect from then. By way of reminder, we are in a three-way grouping with The Cross and Cairns churches but have the length of the plan (5 years) to discuss how that will eventually be shaped.

Coronation Celebration

Royal pageants and coronations don't come round that often, so we made a point of celebrating our community with some fun and imagination over the coronation weekend. Here are some photos.



Christian Aid Week 14-20 May **It's still Christian Aid Week and there's still time to give.**

You can give through JustGiving (www.justgiving.com/page/bearsdenchristianaidweek2023)

or directly into the church account (Account Name: New Kilpatrick Parish Church, Sort Code: 80-05-57, Account number: 00701598 Reference: Christian Aid) or simply hand your donation into the church office or pop it through the manse letterbox. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity - once again!

"The Chosen"

A weekly series each Tuesday night until 20 June, with a break on 30 May.

Each Tuesday, we start at 7pm, where we show the Series 2 episode for the week (with some light refreshments). Then at 8pm we have a group discussion until approximately 8.30pm. This Tuesday, it's Episode 5. All episodes are available on the internet.

NK Heritage Forum

The Heritage Forum is a group for all those with an interest in the history of New Kilpatrick Parish.

The next meeting is on Thursday, 25 May at 7.30pm in the hall, when Donald Shankland will give a talk on the old shops in Bearsden. All welcome!

General Assembly

The General Assembly meets from Saturday this week and I am a commissioner.

The reports and proposed deliverances are all online on the Church of Scotland website and can be downloaded. The Assembly Trustees Report makes rather dramatic reading. There are simply not enough ministers, and, with the new way of paying to central funds, it means that 85% of charges cannot fully pay for their ministry, even with the reduction of ministers (a total 450 with 150 mission development staff, but even that is going to be overestimated and there are 1200 charges at the moment). It means that the two funds that pay for ministry will run dry by 2027! Yet, on the other hand, the report about presbytery planning feels rather upbeat, though it doesn't feel like that on the ground.

It feels like the church is trying to keep doing all it has done and be the church it always has been in the same way it has over the last few generations but is not willing to make more

meaningful decisions about what we need to be in the very near future.

The draw on reserves this year will be £13.4 million and that cannot last any length of time. The church structure is being reorganised again, moving away from the model decided just a few years ago into a broader body called the Faith Action Programme Leadership Team (I'll never remember that), with four different areas of work to focus on: Mission Support, People and Training, Public Life and Social Justice, Resource and Presence. In addition, there will be a fundamental assessment of what is essential work over the next few years and what can be stopped.

Looking for good news in it all is really recognising the moment when we have to become something else, but that is reading between the lines. We haven't yet been able to shift from the cultural view of who we are, and the Theological Forum's report on what it means to be church doesn't take us very far along that line either, still hanging on to how we have always understood ourselves and very little creative thinking.

It will be a stressful week for the church but yet, and genuinely, maybe one for rebirth, where we might find folk of vision to lead us, ideas being shaped and a sense that what we are about to face might actually lease the ideas and vision we need. I'll let you know how it all goes in the next bulletin, though you can keep abreast of it all on the Church of Scotland website livestream.

St Gregory's Food Bank

Please keep filling our trug.

The St. Gregory's team have been aiming to increase the nutritional value of the basic bags, so tins of meat, fish and vegetables would be most welcome along with the usual non-perishable foods and baby essentials. Monetary donations are also extremely welcome. The Halls are open Mon. to Fri. (9.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.) and Sunday mornings.

Kelvingrove Organ Concerts

Chris Nickol will be playing the Kelvingrove Art Gallery organ on the following dates:

Sunday 21st at 3pm

Saturday May 27th at 1pm.

Those we have lost

We record their names here and celebrate what they have been to us.

Eleanor Lang Middleton Drive, Milngavie
(25.04.23)

Diary

Thursday 18 May

Daybreak 1.30pm in the hall

Friday, 19 May

Coffee Pot 10am in the hall.

Sunday, 21 May

Morning Worship 10.30am, in church,

No Evening Service - Taizé Service

postponed.

Last Evening Service next Sunday.

Tuesday 23 May

SingSong! 2pm in the hall

Bible Study: "The Chosen" 7pm in the hall

Wednesday 24 May

Midweek Service 11am in the hall,
followed by coffee and cake.

Thursday 25 May

Daybreak 1.30pm in the hall

NK Heritage Forum 7.30pm in the hall

Friday 26 May

Coffee Pot 10am in the hall

Sunday 28 May

Morning Worship for Pentecost

10.30am in church

Iona Communion 6.30pm in the church.

Last Evening Service before the summer.

Tuesday 30 May

Business Committee 7.30pm in the hall

Wednesday 31 May

Midweek Service 11am in the hall, followed
by coffee and cake.

Thursday 1 June

Daybreak 1.30pm in the hall