

# THE NEW WELLWYNDER

**NOVEMBER 2023**

Visit us at [www.newwellwynd.org.uk](http://www.newwellwynd.org.uk)

## Message from Lilly

Dear Friends,

As I sit here writing, next Wednesday will be All Saints Day. Further, tomorrow my son Fraser will set off to Frankfurt to run in the marathon taking place there. This got me thinking back to 10 years ago, when, for my sixtieth birthday, I ran my first marathon in Berlin. What an experience it was with over thirty seven thousand runners taking part.

It may surprise you but the beginning and the end of a marathon is not the hard part. The hard part is the bit between. Starting is easy, for the adrenalin is pumping and the excitement is building. In the same way when you see the finish line come into view it gives you such a sense of elation, such joy that your spirits lift along with your feet and carry you on to completion. No, starting and finishing are not the difficult bit - it's the bit between that causes the problem - for there's miles and miles of road in front of you and around the twenty mile mark you hit the wall! The point when a runner's glycogen (stored energy within the muscles) runs out. This forces you to slow down, sometimes to a walk and makes you doubt that you'll ever be able to finish what you've started. You just want to give up and go home. Aware of this, one of the Berlin Marathon sponsors set up a Motivation Wall at the twenty one and a half mile mark. This was a huge screen on which family and friends could post a personal video message to you which you could read as you ran past. For it's a well-known fact that the right word at this time can make all the difference and prevent you from losing heart or becoming discouraged. I didn't have a motivational message. But what did lift me were the folk running along with me and the spectators along the course. At one point I heard a young female voice shouting, "Lilly!" She'd read the name on my bib. I turned in the direction of her voice and she gave me a huge smile and shouted, "You're doing great.... You can make it.... Just keep going!"

Likewise, Fraser tells how when he hit the wall his feet felt like blocks of lead, when there in front of him, at a corner in the road, was a big group of really good looking girls who started shouting encouragement to him. "I kicked it up a notch and started running like an Olympian!" he said. "They were really good looking!"

When the going gets tough there's always the temptation to give up. But knowing there is folk rooting for you, feeling the love and support of those around you, knowing that you're part of something bigger than yourself, that you're not alone, that others have ran the race before you and completed the course, that is what really lifts you up and stops you from losing heart or getting discouraged. That is what helps you run on steadfastly towards the finishing line. This is true not only for the marathon runner. It is also true for the person of faith.

## Forthcoming Services

**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November**

10.45 a.m. Morning Worship  
*Remembrance Sunday*

**Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> November**

11 a.m. Morning Worship

**Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> November**

11 a.m. Morning Worship

**Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

11 a.m. Morning Worship  
First Sunday in Advent

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Tea and coffee will be served in the Church Hall after morning worship

**Wednesday Services at 12 noon**

**Delve in at 12**

Our midweek service on a Wednesday at 12 noon will continue during the autumn months.

**Sacrament of Holy Communion on the 6<sup>th</sup> December.**

All services are followed by tea and coffee.

## **Welcome Teams**

**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November**

Team Leader: Bobby Forrest  
Fraser Gillespie, Mairi Mitchell,  
Jim Thomson, William Watson.

**Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> November**

Team Leader: Maggie Weir  
Anne Learmonth, Irene Bremner,  
Liz Riddell.

**Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> November**

Team Leader: Moira Gartshore  
Matt Fleming, Margaret Jarvie,  
Jean Kinniburgh, George Randall,  
Ronnie Wright, Elaine McGuire.

**Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

Team Leader: David Watt  
Linda Francis, Margaret Jack,  
Allister Jack, Alison Sefton,  
David Walker, Andrew Paul.



In the Book of Hebrews, it seems that through hardship and opposition, an early Jewish Christian community is beginning to give up and abandon their faith and so the writer issues a clarion call to "keep on keeping on" and draw inspiration for the present from those who have gone before, that same great cloud of witnesses, who are ever present, reaching out and cheering us ever onwards towards the goal.

But then there's one more picture this writer wants us to see and take our inspiration from. The final and most important picture in the gallery of faith heroes is the picture of Jesus Christ. The supreme and perfect example of those who steadily pursues the Father's will to the end, Jesus our goal and companion in the race.

My dear Friends you are a wonderful congregation with a great history and heritage. As you set out in this new stage of your journey together know that you are not alone. You have each other for support and encouragement. Further there is that great cloud of witnesses who have gone before you cheering you onward.

And in case even that isn't enough I'd like to leave you with this one last thought ....

Remember: The task ahead of us is never as great as the 'POWER' behind us. The Risen Christ goes before you to accompany you every step of the way.

Love and God's blessing

*Lilly*

## **Hello**

Hello everyone. My name is Bill Henderson, and I have been asked to be your locum minister now that Robbie has moved down-river. I am really looking forward to this, and to getting to know you all. I am a Reader in the Church of Scotland, and also an elder in Blantyre Old Parish Church. It is my pleasure to bring you greetings from Blantyre, and I hope you will permit me to take greetings back there. We are all part of the great Church of Jesus Christ, and it is good that we encourage and support each other in our work. I am married to Susan and we have four grown-up children, and two grandsons. We are very lucky that our children all live in the Glasgow area so we are able to see them quite easily. For most of my life I worked in manufacturing industry, most recently at Tunnocks in Uddingston. I retired last year, and have spent the past 12 months as locum minister covering Hanna Rankine's maternity leave along the road at Clarkston Parish Church. So I am gradually learning my way around Airdrie.

Robbie was here for a long time, and I know you will miss him very much. We now go in to a new phase as a congregation, with the added interest of external changes coming from mission planning. So things are going to change. I will do my best to guide you through these changes, and I will try to be gentle with you. Please do tell me if you think I could do things better, or indeed if you think I've actually managed to do something right. Also, I don't know what music you like to sing. If you have any favourites, or any hymns that hold special memories for you, please let me know about them and I'll try to work them all in. One thing I am always keen to do, and this is especially important in a vacancy, is to include members of the congregation in as many different activities as possible.

## **Thank You**

**Elizabeth Edwards** would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers received during her recent illness. Thanks also to Robbie for his visits which were very much appreciated.

**Harry and Morag Shaw** would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers received on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary. These were very much appreciated.

**Avis Bennett** would like to thank everyone for the lovely flowers and kind thoughts which were very much appreciated.

**Margaret Reid** would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers received. They were very much appreciated.

**Edwin and Isobel Craig** would like to thank the congregation for the lovely flowers received which were very much appreciated.

**George Thomson** would like to thank the congregation of New Wellwynd Church for the beautiful flowers received at Harvest.

## **Senior Circle**

The Senior Circle meets every second Tuesday at 2pm. Doors open at 1.30pm. Our forthcoming meetings include:

**7<sup>th</sup> November** - Margaret Jack and David Walker

**21<sup>st</sup> November** - Bill McLoy

**5<sup>th</sup> December** - Arts and Crafts with Avril and Helen

Be assured of a warm welcome whether you are new to the Group or have already returned since we resumed in September.

*Liz Riddell*

## **CAMEO**

A warm invitation is extended to everyone to attend our meetings in November. On the 14<sup>th</sup> our guest speaker is Laura Digan and then on the 28<sup>th</sup> we will be producing some Christmas crafts under the watchful eye of Elizabeth Robertson. All welcome.

*Jean Kinniburgh*



That may be in terms of participating in worship, in assisting in other activities around the Church, in pastoral visiting, or maybe in community events. If anyone has any skills or ideas that they would like to take forward please say so.

Blessings,

**Bill**

## **Farewell to Robbie and Carol**

On Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023 we said farewell to Robbie and Carol after 22 years of dedicated service to our Church. The following is an extract of the address given by Gibby Cox.

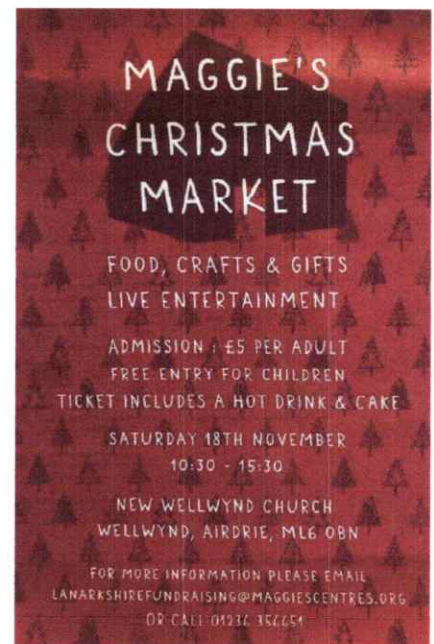
2001. Harry Potter was the number one film. Bob the Builder was the number one hit song. The World Trade Center was attacked. And the Hamilton's arrived in Arthur Avenue. That latter point may not be part of world history, but I can assure you it will remain fixed as an important time in New Wellwynd history.

If we, the Congregation, thought that we were in for a quiet settling in period – surprise! Because immediately things began to change. Members of the Congregation started taking part in services, doing readings and prayers. Children's addresses became one of the highlights of a Sunday morning, with children learning so much. Many will always remember being able to make a clootie dumpling in a microwave, as Robbie demonstrated one morning. Then there was Pepper the hand puppet – didn't everybody love him? We had races up and down the aisles, we had quizzes and of course the annual holiday club. The children were enthusiastic, understanding that there was a place for them in the church. Children loved you, Robbie.

Other improvements were implemented. Kirk Session meetings were scheduled with a published agenda and Board and Session membership increased so quickly that someone claimed that Robbie was giving away Green Shield stamps. There was an exciting buzz about the place. To me, another sign of Robbie's success was the number of students and others that were placed under his tutelage. Members will remember names like Gavin Black, Jim Murphy, Beverley Stevenson, Maxine Buck, Laura Digan, John Carswell, Ronnie MacKinnon, and Eckhart Bosch.

Chaplaincy was another focus. At Airdrie Academy the chaplaincy was split three ways – I think you will guess who embraced this – with trips to the War Graves being a highlight. Robbie returned from his last trip to Belgium with the pupils only two weeks ago. Alongside the Academy, Robbie had chaplaincy with Rochsolloch and Victoria schools, as well as supporting Mavisbank. Such an inspiration to young people!

From schools, Robbie decided to turn his attention to what might be termed his community side, soon becoming chairman of Airdrie Burns Club, board member at Airdrie Savings Bank and board member of Airdrie Citizens Advice Bureau. Being politically astute, it was no surprise to see Robbie at Friday's snack bar with local and sometimes national politicians. I recall at least one, maybe two occasions, a cabinet minister with his security guard was present, having a snack, with Jean complaining that they never paid. During Robbie's spare time, we have seen our Church refurbished, with new carpeting throughout, re-upholstered choir chairs to match



## **Maggie's Christmas Cards**

On behalf of Maggie's Cancer Centre, there is a selection of this year's cards on sale in the Large Hall after Sunday Services.

## **Christmas Concert**

The New Wellwynd Church Choir and the Gleniffer Singers are performing together in a Christmas Concert, with a good variety of Christmas music and song. This is being held in the Church on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced £5 and includes refreshments. All proceeds are going to St Andrew's Hospice here in Airdrie.

## **Nearly New**

Liz and the team at the Nearly New would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to their bric-a-brac. Stocks have been fully replenished and no further items are required at this time.

## **Airdrie Christian Aid Group Kilt Walk 2023**

The Airdrie Churches Christian Aid Group are delighted to announce that £1,055 has been raised to date by Maureen Dempsie and Liz Riddell's participation in this event. Many thanks to all who have contributed.

**Christian Aid**  
We believe in life before death



and the sanctuary and halls repainted. Pulpit falls now represent the Church calendar.

We have new lighting and an integrated sound system, together with Wi-Fi connection. The Wi-Fi allows housebound – together with former members from as far away as the Isle of Man, London, France and Turkey – to join us in worship.

You may be thinking that I had forgotten about the rest of the family? Not true. When congregations are looking for a minister, it is always underlined it is the minister and not a minister's wife you are looking for. So, you could say wives are a bit of a gamble. Weren't we lucky! I reckon you could call our situation a BOGOF – buy one get one free! Carol is a strong, competent woman, always working in the background, helping Robbie in everything that he does and seeking no praise. You will agree New Wellwynd was definitely very fortunate. Everyone loves Carol - it's impossible not to.

Over the years, we have had the pleasure of being close to the Hamilton's – Robbie, Carol and Daniel, adding Carol's parents Bill – who sadly died – and Eunice.

From Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet comes the quote parting is such sweet sorrow. But that does not apply on this occasion. Having such love and care for Robbie and the family, we can only thank God for directing Robbie on his journey given what lies ahead for congregations repositioning and recovering from the pandemic.

*Gibby Cox*

## **Last Call and Thank You**

Dear Friends

It is hard to believe that it is now three weeks since my last Sunday and I have now had my first week as Presbytery Clerk! I wanted to say a big thank you to all of you for your kindness and generosity in the farewell that you gave Carol and me. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the gifts - the individual gifts and what was gathered in as a congregation. I also want to say once again a big thank you for the time that we have shared together in worship, work and witness. I could not have served in a better place or with better people and I will be ever thankful. We have shared a lot together and I am sorry that, heading into the future, I will not be able to share in your joys and sorrows as I once did but I will always hold you in my prayers and in my heart. Thanks once again and every blessing. Your friend and brother in Christ.

*Robbie*



## **Scottish Poppy Appeal 2023**

**Poppyscotland** provide support for current and former members of the Armed Forces as well as their families. This support, in recognition of their sacrifices and service, is holistic and bespoke. They have helped countless men, women and families with issues linked to their time in the Armed Forces or with struggles adjusting from military to civilian life. They even help with needs that have arisen long after someone has left the Armed Forces. Whenever, wherever support is needed, they are there. At this time of year, as we remember and mark Remembrance, they ask for our help. So if you can, please donate generously to this year's Scottish Poppy Appeal.

*The Editor*

## **Flower Calendar**

On Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December the Flower Calendar for 2024 will be ready in the Church. The Calendar is located on the wall on the right hand side of the door as you leave the Church to go into the hall. If you wish to choose a specific Sunday to put flowers in the Church, please write your name against that date. If you are happy for the flower committee to organise and arrange your flowers just give your donation (about £25) to one of the Flower Conveners. Flowers will then be collected from the florist and arranged on your behalf. You may, however, wish to buy and arrange your own choice of flowers. You are very welcome to do so, but please let the flower Conveners know in advance. The flower service is very much appreciated – thank you. Flower Conveners: Avril Cockburn (01236 769134), Margaret Jack (01236 767898)

## **The Poppy**

Nature created a flower, with petals of brilliant red.

Who'd have thought such a beautiful flower would be used to remember the dead.

For when the guns stopped firing and there was only mud and rain.

God sent down his little red flowers, to cover the lads who remain.

So remember every November, when we hold our Remembrance Day.

Of the lads who lie neath the poppies, and the price they had to pay.

## **Useful Contacts**

**Locum Minister:** Bill Henderson  
01698 829938

**Session Clerk Pro Tem:** David Watt  
01698 853921

**Treasurer:** David Watt  
01698 853921

**Gift Aid:** David Walker  
01236 747075

**Roll Keeper:** Allister Jack  
01236 767898

**Hall Convener:** John Clydesdale  
07512912016

**Magazine Editor:** George Randall  
01236 763102

**Organist:** David Stewart  
07774674345

# REMEMBRANCE DAY



## WORD SEARCH



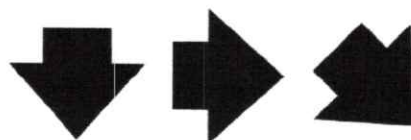
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Soldier Silence Memorial Eleventh Honour Wreath

Remembrance Day Chelsea Pensioners Commemorate

November Cenotaph Remember Cemetery The Last Post

War Army Bugle Cross Poppy Medal





## Kids' Corner

### Remembrance

In times of war, there are always people trying to help and protect others. People in our Armed Forces – the Army, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force work to protect people during such conflicts and emergencies. They work all over the world, helping to protect people from harm, defend countries and keep peace.

Remembrance is a time when we remember and give thanks for all the people who help and protect others both now and in the past. Remembrance is hope for a peaceful future.

We remember those soldiers, sailors, airmen and women who fought to protect us in the past and bring peace to a troubled world.

We remember our Armed Forces of today who continue to protect us.

We remember the emergency services who look after us during difficult times.

We remember anyone who has been hurt or who died through conflict.

Remembrance Day is on the 11<sup>th</sup> November every year. People buy and wear poppies to show their thanks.

**Dear Father in Heaven teach us to love our neighbours and live in peace.**

