

# FOCUS

Summer 2010



**Kirk and Community News**  
For the Parishes of Cairngryffe and Symington

**Church of Scotland**  
**Cairngryffe with Symington Parish Churches**

Minister: Rev Dr Graham Houston  
16 Abington Road, Symington (01899 308838)

**Session Clerks:**

*Cairngryffe*- Mr Jack Meikle  
Glenbow Cottage, Thankerton (01899 308397)  
*Symington*- Mr Ross Russell  
Spindrift, Main Street, Symington (01899 308240)

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

May, June and August 9.30am Symington  
11.00am Cairngryffe

Joint Services during July 2010

04<sup>th</sup> July Cairngryffe at 11.00am (no service at Symington)  
11<sup>th</sup> July Symington at 11.00am (no service at Cairngryffe)  
18<sup>th</sup> July Cairngryffe at 11.00am (no service at Symington)  
25<sup>th</sup> July Symington at 11.00am (no service at Cairngryffe)



**COMMUNION SERVICES**

**Sunday June 6th 9.30am Symington**  
**11.00am Cairngryffe**

**Dates to Remember**

Saturday June 5th Tinto Village Day at Symington Playing Fields  
Sunday June 20th 9.30am Sunday School Prizegiving, Cairngryffe

**Board and Session Meetings**

Monday August 16th 7.30pm Kirk Session Cairngryffe.  
Monday October 25<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Joint Office Bearers Meeting at Symington.  
Monday November 1st 7.30pm Kirk Session Cairngryffe

Visit our websites at

[www.symingtonkirk.com](http://www.symingtonkirk.com) Webmaster Robert Carson

[www.cairngryffekirk.org.uk](http://www.cairngryffekirk.org.uk) Webmaster Jim Watt

## **From The Manse Summer 2010**

I hope that you will be able to make time for some time away during the summer. For many it's the only real break of the year and an important part of our energy gathering for the year to come. Of course 'holidays' is rooted in the words holy days, those days in the church calendar when it was the custom to allow people time off work to attend special services. It can still be a time for refreshment and renewal if we set aside time for attending worship in a different place from usual.

Renewal is also a biblical idea which has become part of conversation but in this Pentecost season it means much more than enjoying rest. God makes all things new and includes us if we let him. We hear this from Paul in 2 Corinthians 4:16 "Inwardly we are being renewed day by day." The gospel brings us hope of ongoing renewal and strengthening by the Holy Spirit. Let's make sure that we are in the place of renewal week by week. And have a happy summer.

Yours in Christ  
Graham Houston.

## **NEWS FROM THE PARISHES**

### **Deaths**

Mar 23<sup>rd</sup> Cairngryffe **Pete Callan** 23 Hillcrest Terrace, West End, Carstairs

April 16<sup>th</sup>, **Ronald Dalkin**, Brookside, Main Street, Symington

May 11<sup>th</sup> Holytown Crematorium **Marguerite Kirkpatrick** 3 Carding St Symington

May 24<sup>th</sup> Daldowie Crematorium **Robert Cook** 70 Mill Road Thankerton

## **THE GUILD**

### **Symington Guild**

Our February meeting was chaired by Gaynor Russell she introduced Karen Gillon M.S.P. who spoke and showed slides

of her recent visit to Malawi. We learned just how rife Malaria and H.I.V. are there, the majority of children being left orphans.

In March Peggy Prentice took the chair and welcomed Irene Houston who gave a very informative talk and presentation of slides on her and Graham's visit to Korea she said that they felt very privileged to have had the opportunity to go there.

In April our closing meeting was at Couter Mill where we enjoyed a lovely meal.

Meetings will resume on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. New members are always welcome.

For further information contact - Helen Anderson 308598 or Martha Cowan 308657

## **Cairngryffe Guild, Thankerton**

Cairngryffe Guild members shared an enjoyable meal at the Tinto Hotel on the evening of 14<sup>th</sup> April which was followed by the AGM.

The new session commences on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, at 7:30pm in Thankerton Village Hall, with a presentation by Mr Sandy Gilchrist entitled 'Quaint and Curious'. All will be made welcome.

Contacts:- **Mrs Margaret Watt, Secretary 01555 663394**  
**Mrs Mary McLellan, President 01555 871114**

## **SUNDAYZONE**

We finish for the summer on 23<sup>rd</sup> May with our prize giving and family outing to Almond Valley Heritage Centre in Livingston.

We have enjoyed a very busy year discovering the stories of Joseph, Moses, Jesus Lives, Church Growth and our current topic 'Light'. The children were wonderful in their execution of our nativity play 'The First Christmas' during the Christmas family service.

We have also held two fundraisers. The first being a coffee morning last October in aid of 'Jeans for Genes' and funds for our group where we raised a fantastic sum of £222. The second was in aid of the Unicef 'Day for Change' campaign in February where our collection for the day was donated to help children in Mozambique.

SundayZone will return on 5th September at 11.00am. Hope to see you there!

Donna, Hazel & Susan

### ***CAIRNGRYFFE SUNDAY SCHOOL.***

We have nearly finished another Sunday School Year ; many Old and New Testament Stories have been studied and enjoyed by both the children and the leaders.

We will be having our prize-giving and end of term fun-day on Sunday 20th of June.

After the school Summer Holidays our new session will commence on Sunday 22nd of August at 11am and look forward to welcoming children of pre-school and primary school age to our group.

For further information contact; Rosmairi Galloway Telephone; 01555 880779.

New members;

By resolution of Session on 1/3/2010

Mrs Moira and Mr Walter Jarvie, School House, Carmichael.

### ***WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAIRNGRYFFE***

This is to keep all our members up to date with what is happening in the Kirk Session at Cairngryffe.

\*I reported in our last Focus that we were waiting on the broken face on our large window being replaced, this has now been done and the firm did an excellent job. We look at this every Sunday but I doubt how many of us realize just what a beautiful window this is. I recently showed a photographer round the

church for a future wedding and his words were "I am completely blown away by your beautiful window"

\* The church calendar for 2011 is now being put together, this year we have followed a similar theme to 2010 and used old photos to give us more glimpses from the past.

\* The visitors in the congregation continue to visit our housebound members and the feedback I get is very positive. Please let me know if you are aware of anyone who you feel should be visited and I will try and arrange this, if you would like to be a visitor then speak to me please.

\*You will notice The new Carmichael School is taking shape and the story is it will be ready for August. The road works to put in the new drainage system appear to be causing more disruption but there will still be ample parking for our services on a Sunday, I am sure it will all be worth it when it is complete

**Jack Meikle, Session Clerk at Cairngryffe**

### ***WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SYMINGTON***

We had a very successful 'Souper Sunday' on 28 February which was well attended by members.

The choir has finished now for the summer and will resume in late August. Gaynor has expressed appreciation of the commitment from all members and of the support she has received from our friends at Cairngryffe during the past session. Next year promises to be interesting with a concert in October at Auchenloan and possibly another concert locally in the spring.

**CAIRNGRYFFE CHURCH SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

The Social Committee held another show of old photographs in Cairngryffe kirk on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The audience were treated to a wide range of interesting local items from the kirk's renovation in 1905 to a selection of 1930's "bathing belles" from Carmichael Rural. Next on the agenda is a BBQ at Carmichael schoolhouse at 2pm on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June. For further details phone Moira at the schoolhouse on 01555 880936 or 0781 015 6116

**Charlie Todd (Convener) 308327**

**FLOWER LISTS**

SUNDAY	CAIRNGRYFFE	SYMINGTON
16 <sup>th</sup> May 2010	Agnes Mundell	May Lindsay
23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2010	Isobel McClymont	Penny Nisbet
30 <sup>th</sup> May 2010	Carole Gardner	Jean McCurrach
06 <sup>th</sup> June 2010	Carole Gardiner	Frances Sandilands
14 <sup>th</sup> June 2010	Elizabeth Galloway	Peggy Prentice (Park)
20 <sup>th</sup> June 2010	Hilda Jeffrey	Laura Dewson
27 <sup>th</sup> June 2010	Ann Murray	Pat Allan
04 <sup>th</sup> July 2010	Sheena Baillie	Jenny Newlands
11 <sup>th</sup> July 2010	Margaret Watt	Susan Craig
18 <sup>th</sup> July 2010	Cathryn Forrest	Margaret Prentice (Leafield)
25 <sup>th</sup> July 2010	Claire Scott	Nan McKie
01 <sup>st</sup> Aug 2010	Marion Clarkson	Jessie Duff
08 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2010	Sadie Campbell	Gaynor Russell
15 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2010	Ena Meikle	Martha Cowan
22 <sup>nd</sup> Aug 2010	Flora Ireland	Olive Hunter
29 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2010	Margaret Lawson	Annie Gilchrist
05 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2010	Mrs Pahnke	Christina McKenzie
12 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2010	Mamie Gilmour	Betty Morton

**CAIRNGRYFFE EVERYOUNG CLUB**

A Mystery Tour is planned for **Thursday 1st July** to round off the activities for this session. Meetings will resume on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October** in Thankerton Village hall at 2.00pm.

For more information contact **Sadie Campbell** at 01899 308328

**FROM OUR KIRK TREASURERS**

**Cairngryffe Church**

Jan - April 2010

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Offerings	5,300	Ministry & Mission	3,960
Donations	119	Travel Expenses	240
Calendars	95	Joint Congregational	1,500
Social Comm	145	Salaries	899
Misc	20	Printing & Stationery	191
Tax Back	4,279	Insurance	1,406
		Calendars	225
		Misc	228
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>9,958</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>8,649</b>

There has also been expenditure of £6,871 for window grills for the church from the Fabric Fund

**Linzi Struthers, Treasurer**

**Symington Church**

Treasurer's Report

Our Expenditure continues to exceed Income as outlined below. However the tax rebate, resulting from the "Gift Aid" scheme, should offset the balance when it is claimed later in the year.

Income to date	£	Expenditure to date	£
<b>Offerings</b>	<b>9,366</b>	<b>Ministry &amp; Mission</b>	<b>8,253</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>Staff Costs</b>	<b>481</b>
		<b>Building Costs</b>	<b>2,063</b>
		<b>Joint Cong Account</b>	<b>500</b>
		<b>Other costs</b>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>9,766</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>11,297</b>

**Robert Carson, Treasurer**

## ***PRESBYTERY NEWS***

### **Presbytery Report**

The Right Reverend Bill Hewitt, Moderator of the General Assembly, visited Lanark Presbytery in March visiting churches in Carluke, Carstairs and Biggar. He addressed members of Presbytery at their March meeting about the visits he had undertaken in Scotland and also in South Africa and India. He was looking forward to visiting the Holy Land later in his year of office.

You should know by now of the financial problems faced by the Church, and Presbytery is asking church members to pray that the correct decisions on the way forward are made. The May meeting of Presbytery started with a short session of prayer on this.

Also at the May meeting, Mary McLellan from Cairngryffe gave a talk on the 'New Beginnings' Charity which assists the homeless in the area.

Presbytery has contacted South Lanarkshire Council to express its dismay concerning the closure of a number of registration offices throughout the area which could have a serious impact on some of the most vulnerable people in our communities at times e.g. of bereavement.

The recent tragic event at Lanark Grammar school highlighted problems faced by the school chaplains who were unable to fulfill their counseling role. Officials from South Lanarkshire and the school senior management felt that the chaplains were not required. Rev Alan Gibson noted that during a similar situation at Carstairs Primary, the head teacher had given him full support and encouragement to counsel the pupils.

Meetings are being arranged throughout Scotland to discuss a consultation paper from the Special Commission on Same-sex relationships and the Ministry. This Commission was set up by

the General Assembly in 2009 with the task of reporting back in 2011. Presbytery meets on 18<sup>th</sup> May to discuss this.

Kirk Sessions are being urged to send at least one representative to a public meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> May at Carluke, St. John's at 7.30, regarding the End of Life Assistance Bill which is currently going through the Scottish Parliament. Local MSP, Karen Gillan would like to hear comments from the churches.

Church treasurers have also been informed about the actual cost of employing a minister and the amount required to support the activities of the Church of Scotland. Each congregation should know whether they pay their way or are aid receiving. Lanark Presbytery as a whole is aid receiving.

### **Lambert Allan, Elder to Presbytery**

#### **CARMICHAEL CARPET BOWLING CLUB**

Jack Meikle has written an excellent and informative booklet entitled "The History of Carmichael Carpet Bowling Club – The First Hundred Years 1910 – 2010" to help mark the Club's Centenary Year. It covers the development of the game in the early days as well as the history of the Club. At £4 I can thoroughly recommend it – the Ed.

Available from **Jack Meikle (secretary) 01899 308397**

#### ***TINTO VILLAGE DAY***

TINTO VILLAGE DAY - is nearly here - make sure you don't miss it on **Saturday 5th June**.

**Tinto Village Day Committee**

#### ***THE UPPERWARD PARISHES HISTORY PROJECT***

The Editor and Jack Meikle have now collected and scanned over 1,100 photographs and postcards of the three parishes with a few more still in the pipeline. The intention now is to make them available in book form to compliment William Fleming's 3 excellent books (tele 01555 661386). One photograph book covering all 3 parishes is now 95% complete.

We have also been joined by Ross Russell (Session Clerk at Symington), who is working on a Symington volume and Tom Brown who is working on Libberton/Quothquan. Volunteers to work on other parishes would be most welcome as would a loan of further photographs and postcards.

### ***NEW WEBSITE PROMOTING THE AREA***

www.biggarr.org.uk has just been launched. Covering the ML12 area, it is designed to help businesses promote themselves; to assist organisations and communities develop and interact more extensively; to attract more visitors.

An entry on the site is free for 2010. Please contact Joan Keys on 01899 221259

### ***Editor's Note***

Thank you to all contributors who provided the information contained in this newsletter.

The autumn edition of **FOCUS** will be issued early in September. Contributions from both community and church groups and organisations, covering the period from September 2010 up to the end of November 2010 should be sent to me by

**Sunday 29th August 2010 at the latest.**

**For those organisations which have an annual syllabus, it would be very helpful if I could receive a copy prior to the August deadline.**

The Editor Charlie Todd can be reached at: - 63 Station Road, Thankerton, ML12 6NZ Tel: 01899 308327  
or by **email** at [charles.todd@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:charles.todd@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

## **PRAYER PAGE**

### **Prayer and Praise Services**

Cairngryffe and Symington churches look forward to welcoming everyone for this final Prayer & Praise in this session. If you know of anyone who is on their own and might enjoy a bit of company and fellowship please bring them along to the next Payer and Praise on the **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at Cairngryffe Church.**

If you find coming difficult because of transport issues please contact either Sandra Stewart or George Mathew and we will try to arrange a lift.

In both Symington and Cairngryffe Church vestibule you will find a box for prayer requests.

**This coming Prayer and Praise will be the last until September when we are expecting to have a change of day. The date and time of the next Prayer and Praise will be intimated nearer September.**

### **Keep the following in your thoughts and Prayers:**

- All who are recovering from major surgery or illness. For those who are still sick, at home and in hospital, and for the bereaved.
- The continuing conflict in Afghanistan and our Armed Forces working there.
- The Church of Scotland General Assembly and the many important issues that will be discussed at this.
- Our minister Graham his wife Irene and their family.
- The agencies who work with people who have drug and alcohol abuse problems.
- Remember all who are homeless and the Agencies working with those affected.
- New Beginnings – Clydesdale as it continues to grow and for the volunteers who are working to help provide starter packs for people who were previously homeless and have just moved in to new accommodation.

**Lord God be with us through these summer months. Help us to keep in our prayers the many issues we have brought before you these past months.**

**You know our needs and the needs of all the people and situations we have prayed for. In Jesus name we pray. Amen**

### **Prayer Promoters**

Cairngryffe – Sandra Stewart Tel: 01555 880655  
Symington – George Mathew Tel: 01899 308648