



# By the way...

Easter  
2020

*As a result of the present Coronavirus outbreak, it wasn't feasible to produce the usual Church Newsletter, so we're trying to keep you updated online through Facebook and the church website.*

## Sad News.

Sadly, since our last edition of the Newsletter, the church has said "Farewell" to two of its 'Leading Lights'

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Joan Hallworth, our much loved organist for over 20 years, passed away in Ailsa Lodge, aged 96. Joan continued to play the organ for church services well into her 93<sup>rd</sup> year, and she will be remembered not only for her musical talent, but also for her baking and handicrafts. She had a wry sense of humour and was loved by old and young alike.



She was a lovely lady who worked tirelessly for the church which she loved.



Tragically, Finlay MacLennan, a much respected elder in our church for many years, passed away on March 28, having fought bravely against Covid-19 for 2 weeks. A very active member of our congregation, he supported all our church events, and carried out many practical tasks in his usual unassuming way.

Finlay was well known for his quiet wit and dry humour, and his kindness towards others. He could always be relied upon to be there when needed, and he will be greatly missed by us all. Our thoughts and prayers are with Trish, Ross and Angus at this sad time.

## After Glow

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.  
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.  
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways  
Of happy times, and laughing times, and bright and sunny days.  
I'd like the tears of those who weep to dry before the sun  
Of happy memories I leave, when life is done.

By H L Marshall

This Easter, *'living in the shadow of the Cross'* takes on a new meaning, as Coronavirus takes hold here. Langbank Church and Community have lost a much-loved friend to the virus and we continue to fear for our frail elderly, and for those with conditions which put them at risk.

We also fear for the strain put on health workers, and for the economic hardship being felt by many. The burden of care is heavy just now; some have too much time alone, others not quite enough. Whatever our role, we are in the midst of change together, at a time when *'loving our neighbour as ourselves'* may simply mean staying at home or remembering to wash our hands!

But the Easter Story does not end with the Cross. On the Cross, Jesus suffered and died for the sins of the world - yet after three days God raised him. And because of this, we know that God will raise us too. The darkness this virus is casting over the world will not have the last word. The test of our resilience lies in how we cope, and the resourcefulness of Langbank people. And the kindness of its Volunteers suggests the Village will cope well. The Church will be there among you, and praying for you always.

*(While the church building is closed, our website will carry a short, written service each Sunday under the Worship tab, see [www.langbankparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.langbankparishchurch.co.uk)).*

God bless,

Liz

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Visit our Website: [www.langbankparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.langbankparishchurch.co.uk) Charity No: SC015085

### Needing Help During Self Isolation?

The Langbank Volunteer Group is delivering prescriptions, click and collect and food boxes for the over 70 year olds in and around Langbank.

They are also doing this for people or families "At Risk" due to health issues, or self isolating due to illness, and of course to support NHS workers if they need supplies.

If we can be of assistance please contact 0777 623 8013 preferably by text, or leave a voice message.

Remember to include:

- Your Name
- Address
- Phone number
- And any reference numbers for example click and collect.

An on line payment system will be in place shortly for non pre-paid collections and deliveries.

*Our thanks go out to all those who are giving up their time and putting themselves at risk in order to look after neighbours and friends. Many people are relying on them for food and medicines. God works in lots of different ways.*

## Future Events.....

Obviously all future events have been cancelled meantime. Hopefully the **Fashion Show** scheduled for April, will take place in the Autumn, and there may be a slim chance that the **Plant Sale** will take place at the end of May. This is most likely to be done online, and the plants delivered directly to your door, but it all depends on whether Parklea will be permitted to continue with deliveries.

Also the church redevelopment is on hold until things return to normal.

.....So let's catch up with some Past Events



It seems a long time since we enjoyed the Village Christmas Tree Festival.

20 groups from the village decorated trees on the theme of a Christmas song, and displayed them in the church on the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> December. The ideas were varied and very imaginative and over 200 people visited during weekend. Entertainment was provided throughout by different groups of musicians; The Chamber Pots, The Langbank Singers, Stewart & Elspeth Munroe, Robert Lawrie and a quartet from the Clyde Coast Fiddlers. Tea and mince pies were served in the hall both days. Our thanks go to Gleddoch and Elspeth Munroe, for supplying all the mince pies. The money raised has gone to the church redevelopment fund.



## Family Beetle Drive

The Family Beetle Drive in January was a riotous affair, with the adults being noisier than the children. Dice flew round the tables, and the supper midway through, gave an opportunity for everyone to recharge their batteries for the second half of the evening.

A good time was had by all, even if they left with no voice and a headache.

## Close Shave Chorus



The Close Shave Chorus visited Langbank Church in February and treated us all to a most entertaining afternoon of familiar songs. In their multi-coloured waistcoats and red bow-ties, they brightened up a miserable wet day with their uplifting songs. The sum of £360 was raised, £180 of which has been added to the church's ongoing redevelopment fund.

## Quiz Night

In March, our annual Quiz Night with Sister Andrea was very well supported, with 8 teams competing for the much sought after Cadbury's Cream Eggs. There were 12 rounds of questions, with supper served half way through. Everyone enjoyed the evening and our thanks are due to Sister Andrea for coming up with such a wide variety of questions.

