

By The Way.....

Easter 2024



### LET THERE BE MUSIC

2023 ended on a “high note” with the Langbank Singers delivering a sparkling programme of Christmas music. The “Christmas Fairy” tagged along in her finery; there were jingling bells, Santa hats and reindeer antlers a-plenty. The youngest member of the audience was enlisted into the percussion section (on jingle-bells) for the sing-along medley, thus ensuring a good time was had by all. The church’s renovation fund benefited with a generous donation of £210.



### 50:50 Proms

The now not-so-new year kicked off in February with a Prom. Stephen on piano, Mark violin and Janina viola delivered a delightful pot-pourri of classics, some familiar, some new to us (and one new to them, having been composed by Mark and Janina’s son). Their music took us on a round-the-world trip with composers from Scandinavia to Europe to America. The trio generously contributed their share of the day’s takings to the church’s renovation fund to the *tune* of £330. (*Was that pun intended?! – Editor*) The next Prom is in May with the Melville Ensemble (a woodwind group) coming on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2.30pm. **All concerts start at 2.30pm** and last an hour. **Donation tickets are £5 (children free)**, available after the service on a Sunday morning, at the Drop-in Café any Monday of the relevant month, and at the door on the day.

These latest visiting artistes, all three of them, commented on both the excellent acoustic and the excellent lighting – the latter of which is not always the case when performing in a church.

### Langbank 'Tinies'

On Friday 22nd March we are delighted to welcome the Langbank Playgroup and Under 3's back into the church for some Easter stories, songs and a treasure hunt around the church. There will be lots of fun and “music making” with some simple instruments available for our village youngsters to play on the day. A similar event held last year just before Christmas was a great success and we all look forward to this one being enjoyed every bit as much.



### Drop-in Café

If you're at a loose end any **Monday** afternoon, why not pop down to the Drop-in Café in the church hall from **2-4pm**. You can enjoy tea or coffee, home baking and a warm welcome.



### BINGO NIGHT

January's Family Bingo Night went with a swing. As you can see, a lot of concentration was needed, hoping for a 'Full House'. At half time, everyone was ready for a lovely supper.

# Church News



## Future of our Church....Update

The Kirk Sessions of Langbank and Houston & Killellan met a couple of weeks ago to discuss the Presbytery Plan for both congregations. This was a very constructive meeting, with both Kirk Sessions agreeing that, at this stage, a linkage would best meet the needs of both congregations, with a union being something which could be worked towards in the future. This suggestion now has to be accepted by Presbytery, and by the General Trustees in Edinburgh. Hopefully there will be more information in our next edition.

Dear Friends,

How quickly time passes. No sooner has the New Year come (and January with all the storms we had to contend with), but Easter is early this year being in March. Once the well-known author G K Chesterton said *"that a thing may be looked at nine hundred and ninety-nine times without consequence, but when we look at it for the thousandth time, we are in danger of seeing it for the first time."* I suppose it is similar to taking something for granted, and then one day suddenly or slowly, it begins to dawn on us how forgetful or neglectful we have been. That was like the disciples on the Emmaus Road when Jesus began to remind them of the scriptures and himself. They knew them, or so they thought, but it was only when he explained things, that they realised the truth, and later, (if I can use the expression) *"they began to wake up and smell the coffee."* With joy they returned to tell the others of the risen Lord Jesus.

Whatever number of Easters we have been blessed to know, don't take the message for granted. Let it be as though it is the first time, (or in the words of Chesterton the thousandth time), you have actually heard and understood the good news and the wonder of the resurrection, and the difference that makes to our life and view of the world. For as we begin to experience His transforming grace in our life, we can sing with genuine thanksgiving: "Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son, endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won!"

A happy and joyful Easter to you all.

Yours in His Service

Stuart



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## HOLY WEEK – 24<sup>TH</sup> TO 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> of Holy Week, there will be a chance for personal reflection in the church. Over the three evenings, from 7.30pm until 8pm, there will be a variety of Easter-flavoured music provided in the Sanctuary, organ, piano, cello and voice. People can pop in and out as they wish, and take a few minutes to reflect on what Easter is truly about.

Tea and coffee will be served in the hall at the end of each evening.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services are being held in Houston & Killellan Church at 7.30 both evenings.

Everyone is welcome to join us for our **Easter Sunday Service** in the church on **Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 10am**. The service will be conducted by the Rev Ian Bell.

Remember to bring along a spring flower to place on the cross during the service.

## Anyone looking for a free upright piano?

If so, there is one at the church, which is looking for a good home. If interested email [langbankcnl@gmail.com](mailto:langbankcnl@gmail.com) for more information.

# More Information and Village News



## CHURCH ROOF

At long last permission has been granted for work to start on the church roof. In the near future, scaffolding will be erected at the front of the church, and entry to the sanctuary will have to be through the hall entrance. Hopefully there won't be too much disruption while this essential work is carried out.

### MUSIC IN WORSHIP

The Church Choir regularly contributes to morning worship with an introit and anthem most Sundays throughout the year.



The old year ended with a FINAL FLING CAROL SING with everyone enjoying a service jam-packed with Christmas music. Over the last few months, the visiting ministers have introduced the congregation to some new (to us) hymns. From time to time the Higham Quartet makes a return visit to the church, most recently in January when they played for the service, their music adding a different dimension to the worship. All in all, the choir and congregation are in good voice!

### QUIET TIME



With the lighter nights and slightly warmer weather, it is perhaps more conducive to enter the quiet space of the sanctuary for some 'me time'. Before, or after, visiting the Drop-in Café any Monday afternoon why not pop in to enjoy some peace and quiet for a few minutes? Sometimes it's good to "get away from it all". Even if it's too chilly to sit, why not just walk around the sanctuary to see what you can see: read the names on the plaques on the walls, have a look at the schoolboy graffiti, enjoy the stained glass, and be astonished at the cost of the installation of the organ. What else can you see?

## Soup & Sandwich Lunch

The Soup and Sandwich Lunches recommenced in December, the first since Covid. The event was funded by Renfrewshire Council's Winter Connection Grant, and was therefore free of charge from December to March.

The lunches were previously a fund raiser for Langbank Church Redevelopment Fund, so the next lunch on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, at 12.00 will be for the usual donation of £5.00.

We were joined this month by a group of pupils from the school, who had achieved their Community Award. Well done!

Thank you to all the volunteers who work hard to make this worthwhile event possible.



### Coming up....

Friday April 26<sup>th</sup> - Taylor's Fashion Show, 7.30pm in the church.

Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>- Plant Sale in the church carpark, 10.30 – 12.30. Refreshments in the church hall.

Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup> - 50/50 Prom with The Melville Woodwind Ensemble, 2.30 in the church.

Wednesdays April 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> – Soup & Sandwich Lunches in the Village Hall.

Other regular events in the church hall ....

**2nd & 4th Monday** of the month @ 7.30pm - Langbank Camera Club

**Thursday 11 to 12.30pm** – Langbank Singers

**Friday 10 to 11.30am** – Under 3s



# What's Happening



## Quiz Night



Our annual Quiz Night with Sister Andrea was a sell-out. 60 folk crammed into the Village Hall, and sorted themselves into teams. Once again, we found out how much we didn't know! The winning team each went home with a well deserved bar of chocolate. Everyone enjoyed a delicious supper. Many thanks to Sister Andrea for once again giving us such an enjoyable evening.

### VILLAGE HALL

	AM	PM
<b>Monday</b>	Move It or Lose It 10.30 - 11.30am	Dog Sniffing 6.00 - 7.00pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Pilates 9.30 - 10.30am	Available to hire
<b>Wednesday</b>	Available to hire	Circuits 6.00 - 7.00pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Seasonal Yoga 10.00 - 11.00am	Pilates 6.15 - 7.15pm
<b>Friday</b>	Playgroup (ages 3-5) 9.00am-12.00pm	Available to hire
<b>Saturday</b>	Available to hire	Available to hire
<b>Sunday</b>	Available to hire	Available to hire

If you want any information about these classes or you are interested in hiring the hall for either a regular activity or for individual lets please email [langbankvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:langbankvillagehall@gmail.com) in the first instance. If your enquiry is urgent or you can't contact via email then you can contact Alyssa on 07714143545.

As well as the above regular events please look out for details of other events on the VillageHall FB Page, the LangbankCommunity FB page and Village noticeboards. The Village Hall is a great resource, which is managed by a volunteer committee, so we would encourage everyone to make use of it as much as possible.

## LANGBANK COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND LANGBANK SWINGPARK REGENERATION

The LCC meets the second Wednesday of each month in the Village Hall at 7.30pm – these are open meetings with everyone made welcome. The LCC consists of a small committed group of volunteers, but as with everyone they only have 24 hours in a day and many also volunteer on other village groups, so if you can spare some time please come along and provide support.

The LSR is constantly striving to improve our outdoor spaces. There are two new developments taking place over the next month or so – the construction of a new hut to the rear of the MUGA and the installation of outdoor sports equipment in Station Road playing field. LSR are also a small group of volunteers with limits on their time and what can often seem like a never ending Village wish list, so if you can spare some time please consider helping out. One of the big successes has been the Village MUGA and it is fantastic to see the children enjoy the Get Active Coaching sessions on a Wednesday night from 6.30 – 8.30pm (all children age 6-16 welcome). These sessions are currently funded by the RC Winter Connections Grant, however this is only for 8 sessions and the group are keen for ideas/suggestion and importantly HELP to raise funds for further sessions – not to mention help with everything else on the wish list!



For more information on LCC and LSR activities please see the Langbank Community website, LangbankCommunity FB page or email [info@langbank-community.com](mailto:info@langbank-community.com). If you don't have access to any of these you can call Jacqueline Doherty on 01475 540728.

Langbank Parish Church: **Sunday Service - 10.00am**

Visit our website: [www.langbankparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.langbankparishchurch.co.uk)

Charity No: **SC015085**