



Cornerstone



Prayer

is the breath, the watchword,
the comfort, the strength,
the honor of a Christian.

—Spurgeon

The Future of Our Church

In this issue, on p2, the main article comes from our minister. It concerns radical plans to “future proof” the Church of Scotland. These plans, which will be debated at this year’s General Assembly, are designed to safeguard the Church’s finances and reconnect it to communities increasingly turning their backs on religion. It promises to be an exciting and controversial debate. We pray that the minister can report on a successful outcome when he returns to Cadzow.

Despite this general loss of interest in the church our magazine is still proving popular and I consider that we now have more readers than ever. Certainly I have no problems in getting an increasing amount of material from our members and there is much I could highlight from the list on the right but at this stage I would simply draw your attention to the photograph of the BB Junior Section on p7 and comment that if the future of our church depends on the development of such likeable young men as these, We could do worse!

Editor

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A Message from our Minister



As I write this morning the Church of Scotland is preparing for the annual General Assembly; as you read this note, the decisions made at that meeting could be some of the most significant of this generation. Of course, every Assembly would like to believe that its decisions affect the course of the Church, and they do, but some more than others. This Assembly however, may well be different. There is much at stake, most clearly in the Report known simply as “The Radical Action Plan.” Sounds exciting, doesn’t it? The plan is a follow-on from last years’ Assembly in which the Council of Assembly presented a plan for a way forward that was a bit lacklustre in a Church facing potentially terminal decline. The Radical Action Plan is a far more radical attempt to address our real problems and it presents the Assembly with some, you guessed it, radical proposals.

It seems the Church of Scotland has become a bit top-heavy and there are now more Councils with too many people and more employees with too little connection to the parish church to properly function as a representative body. The Church has come to serve the Assembly rather than vice versa. The Radical Action Plan is intended to streamline the bureaucracy and to facilitate decision making, manage money with greater transparency and generally free the Church to do the work of ministry and mission to which it is called. There is to be a new body of trustees, a chief executive, fewer Councils with fewer people that demand fewer man-hours to run them (the Committee to which I have been recently appointed is slated for dissolution before I’ve attended my first meeting!). There are also to be fewer Presbyteries (from 47 to 12) with a greater concentration of professional expertise to assist with the many legislative complexities of leading the contemporary church (Property, Finance, Safeguarding, etc.). There are even plans to help churches reduce the size of their Sessions and to offer limited terms for new elders, all to enable the “real” work of the Church and to dissolve committees that hinder ministry and mission rather than enabling it, all of which sound pretty good on paper.

I have heard it said that rearranging bureaucratic structure is a sign of institutional decline, and perhaps that is true. There is certainly no argument that the Church of Scotland is in a real pickle, but is God worried? Does God worry about the problems of the Church? Does God worry about anything, your problems or mine? God certainly has much to say to nations and to people who have gone astray, the prophets are replete with warnings of impending judgement for apostasy and flagrant injustice and the sad history of the Old Testament reveals that God’s word is mostly ignored. Are we any different? I don’t think that God is worried about the Church, saddened perhaps, but not worried. We are going through a process of sifting and “radical” change that may, in time, make all things new. The Radical Action Plan stresses that we are in deep waters and that hard decisions must be made. However, it also states that this is an exciting time to be in the Church and that through it all, we might actually find ourselves revived and re-energised for our life and work together. I think the plan is right on both fronts.

Watch this space to see what’s coming and pray for the Church of Scotland.

John

From the Archives

Supplied by Harry Webster



With translation of the Revd. D.W. Bruce from Cadzow to a smaller parish in Broughty Ferry, a Vacancy Committee was formed under the Revd. George Blair of Quarter Parish Church as Interim Moderator. A Revd. William Cross residing 43 Quarry Street, was appointed to do the work of the parish.

The July 1919 Magazine describes the annual Sunday School outing, which would be the first after the end of World War 1. Although there were Sunday Schools at Cadzow, Ferniegair Low Waters and Eddlewood, this report only refers to Cadzow's and there are separate reports on the outings of the other schools. It is understandable when the combined membership of Cadzow Parish Sunday Schools numbered in the hundreds. In 1924 there were 657 children and 15 male and 59 female teachers.

"Church Sabbath School Outing. The event of the season, as far as the children of the Congregation are concerned, took place on Saturday 21st. June when the excursion of the Sabbath School took place to Strathaven. The walk from the station along the beautiful country road on to the field was a walk of real pleasure. The weather was ideal, and the perfume of the sweet smelling flowers was wafted by the gentle breeze, while from the trees the birds trilled their songs of joy and thanksgiving to Him Who is Lord of all. A liberal supply of buns, milk, and tea was given to each one present, and afterwards the programme of sports was commenced – races, flat-racing, jumping, skipping-ropes, rounders, and football were enjoyed by the children and swings for those inclined to take it easy. The prizes this year took a new form, sums of money being given to the successful competitors instead of gifts. This innovation was much enjoyed by all the participants. At 7pm all met at the station and boarded the train bound for Hamilton Central."

The following are the office bearers between 1915 and 1919, the ministry of the Revd. D. W. Bruce :-

Missionaries	<u>Ferniegair</u>	<u>Low Waters</u>
	Revd. Andrew Veitch	Angus F. Stewart
	Henry O. Wallace	
	Revd. John Jackson	
	James A. Carswell	
	Alexander P. Smith	
	Revd. John Jackson	

Kirk Session

Session Clerk	James Mackie
Elders	24 nos.

Committee of Management

Clerk and Treasurer	James R. Campbell
Elected members	14 nos. (excl. those who became elders)

(Continued on p4)

From the archives (continued)

Cadzow

Organists

D.B. Goodwin

A.S. McNaughton

D.B. Goodwin

Miss Somerville

A.S. McNaughton

Church Officer

J. Prentice

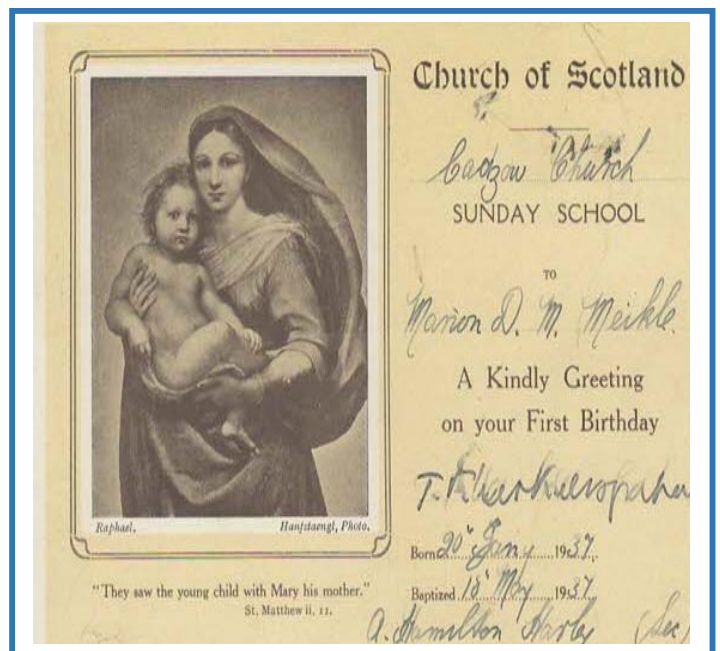
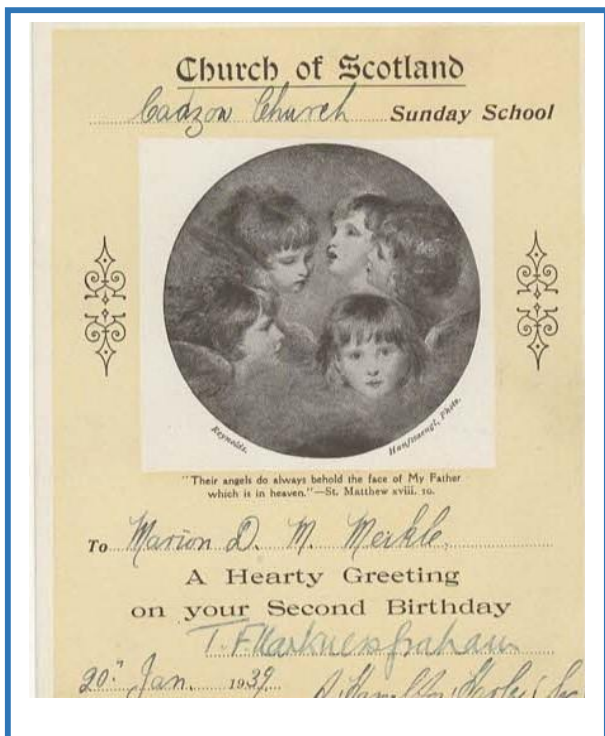
An examination of the list shows the affects the World War had on filling some of these posts. The number of missionaries and the organists was due to men being called up to serve in the forces. Revd. Jackson returned to Ferniegair when he was demobbed at the end of the war in 1918 but he left to become minister at St. Machans, Larkhall a short time later. In the early 1920s Mr Wallace had returned but he was licensed in 1922 and left to take up a new charge.

An interesting comparison between then and now is the number of elders. In the period above the membership of Cadzow and its mission churches was 1100(1915) to 2500(1919) served by a Kirk Session of 24 elders. Over the last similar period the membership was 442(2014) to 385(2018) served by a Kirk Session that varied from 61 to 56 elders. There are several reasons why we need more elders to serve a smaller membership.

Perhaps our present minister has been here before?

Birthday cards from the 1930s

*Many thanks to Marion and Tom Hill for sending in these cards. **Editor***



The Shoebox Appeal

Carolyn Nicolson



We can't believe it's June already. Over half the year gone so time to crank up operations once more. What are we talking about? *The Shoebox Appeal!*

In approximately 19 weeks we will have our first packing sessions for the 2019 appeal. We have the boxes, a goodly number are already covered but of course we need the gifts to pack in them. Can YOU help? All you knitters out there - we have the perfect excuse for sitting in the sun. We are always short of scarves. They do not need to be long or especially thick as they then take up too much room in the box, and they can be any mix of glorious colours. Happy knitting!

Gents - are you going to be browsing the tool aisles for a spot of DIY? Could you perhaps add an extra screwdriver, hammer, bag of nails to your haul to give to the appeal? Mens hats, socks, underwear etc are always in short supply as well.

Leaflets will be distributed as usual late summer listing the toiletries, toys etc we need but feel free to start collecting and bring items in anytime. The drawers will be available in the hall / coffee lounge area to receive your donations.

Ian Rae

Eleanor, Sandy and Martin would like to thank John for visiting Ian in hospital and for caring for us as a family during the past few difficult weeks.

Thank you also to all the kind and thoughtful people of Cadzow for their prayers and messages of sympathy and support sent to us at this time. It is a great comfort to know we were in the thoughts of so many friends.

Eleanor





The Passion

A report from Carolyn Nicolson



Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Many of you participated and, along with the members of DramaKirk, experienced the joy, pain, horror, sorrow but ultimate triumph of the last week of Christ's life. Even for those of us in the cast for the third time, the message still stops us in our tracks. Thank you for all your positive feedback and we look forward to the Town Square on Friday 10th April 2020.

But DramaKirk is not just The Passion. We are venturing into pastures new with Word in Action evenings, the first of which is a look at the story of Ruth on May 28th followed by Moses on June 11th. Both will be in the Old Parish Church. Look out for further details.

Then on Saturday 10th August we will Walk with the Word at Chatelherault Park, telling the Exodus story during a short, gentle interactive walk in the park. There will be three performances, each no more than an hour long.

A REQUEST: Do you have any "gold" jewellery you could spare? An odd earring whose pair is long gone, a broken necklace, a piece of costume jewellery that will never be in fashion again? It could become part of our production. (See Exodus Ch 32) Please give to Carolyn, Robin, Alan or Jim.

Once again, thank you for all your support and you can keep up to date with our activities on our Facebook page - search DramaKirk,

Boys' Brigade Junior Section

Carolyn Nicolson



Junior Section 2018-19. Over for another season! Our numbers have been small but with some great personalities among the boys, it has not been a quiet season. Since we explored the history of the town centre the boys have excelled in construction challenges, learned to play football sitting on their bottoms, yelled their hearts out supporting Glasgow Warriors and enjoyed a visit from Conservatoire students with their noisy brass instruments. And a few less interesting activities!

The season ended with the Quarterdeck service at Bothwell Parish Church where we were delighted to receive the senior bible prize in addition to the senior cross country trophy won last October. Also presented at the service was the Masterteam trophy won by the Company Section. Well done boys! The Company Display was held on May 10th where the boys of all sections demonstrated some of the skills learnt throughout the year and received their awards in front of an audience of supportive parents and friends.

We would like to thank all parents who faithfully bring their sons along on Friday evenings and give us the extra support we require at times. Have a great summer.



5th Hamilton Boy's Brigade Company

The 5th Hamilton marked the end of their year at the annual Display evening on May 10th. It was a great success with the three sections showing off some of their achievements from throughout the session.

The following are the main prizewinners.

Anchor Best Boy: (joint award)	Christopher Murray and Murray Scott
Junior Section: McInnes Bible Prize (joint award)	Euan Morrison and Alexander Murray
Best Boy.	Alexander Murray
Company Section: Diane Macrae Bible Prize	Scott Thom
Best Junior	Cole Symington
Best Intermediate	Daniel Strang
Best Drilled Boy.	Stewart McLean
Best Boy	Stewart McLean

We look forward to welcoming boys old and new when activities resume in September.

Update on our Fund Raising

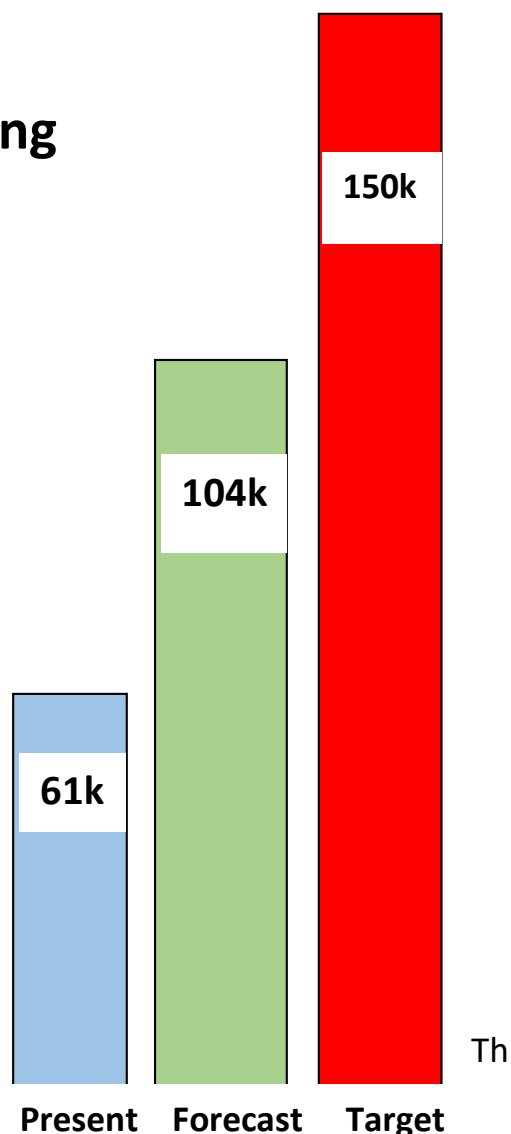
Friends, to keep you up to date with our Raise the Roof fund raiser. There are two figures to keep in mind. The first is the amount that has actually come into the church and this is presently at **£61,000**

The second is the amount we forecast at the completion of the campaign in two years' time and that is **£104, 000** which is well short of the **£150,000** we are seeking to raise.

If you have made a pledge and are up to date with your giving then, **thank you very much!** If on the other hand you are a bit behind on your pledge the Session would be grateful if you could make those gifts in the near future. If you have not made a pledge and have been meaning to do so please speak to your District Elder who can help you.

Dorothy Craig

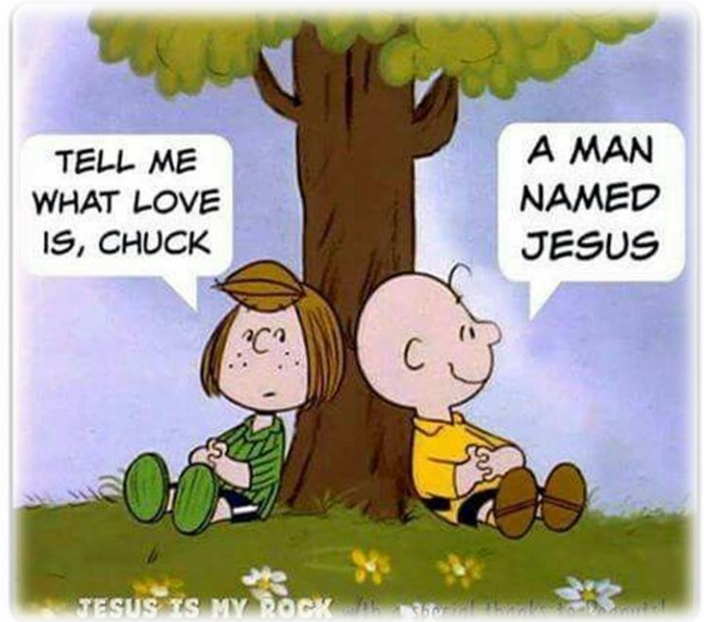
Finance Team Convenor



Editor's Snippets

This Section is reserved for items sent by members of our congregation. I am very grateful for their input. On this page are two cartoons. The simple truth of the Shutlz cartoon really appeals to me and I am assured that the dog in the other cartoon was supplied with tranquilisers! Below are some words of wisdom supplied by Beth Thomson, Thanks Beth I am sure that Ian also had a hand in this.

Editor



The Optimist's Creed

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all of your friends feel there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticise others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to permit the presence of trouble



Poets' Corner



In this edition's Poet's Corner I have included two contrasting poems. The first "A Prayer for Patience" which was sent in by Evelyn Henwood reminds her of her mother who was very kind, patient and had a strong faith. The second poem is a humorous verse sent in by Greta Gilbert. I am familiar with the sentiments expressed and can confirm that I (and my wife) find that nowadays things certainly do vanish! Many thanks to Greta and Evelyn for their input.

A Prayer for Patience

God teach me to be patient. Teach me to go slow
Teach me how to wait on you, when my way I do not know
Teach me sweet forbearance when things do not go right
So I remain unruffled when others grow uptight.
Teach me how to quiet my racing rising heart
So I may hear the answer you are trying to impart
Teach me to let go dear God and pray undisturbed until,
My heart is filled with inner peace and I learn to know your will!



Things that Vanish!

How can things vanish when you live on your own?
There's no one to take them if you are all alone.
Inanimate objects, how can they fly?
Where do they go to? Where do they lie?
Why isn't my book just where I left it?
Where is that letter I've only just read it?
There must be a reason why objects take walks.
They really can't vanish or soar like the hawks.
There is no one to blame when it's only just me
I think I'll give up and just make some tea!





Following the Right Direction

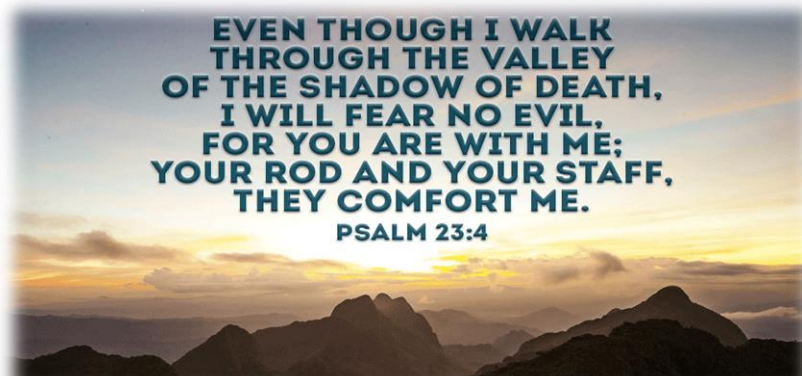
A Bible Study lesson contributed by Kenny Topping

The paragraph below was passed to me by Kenny Topping, who had been working with it in his Bible Study group. He was deeply impressed by the passage and said he would like to include it in our Church Magazine. I was, of course, delighted to oblige. I find it a very motivating and sustaining text and I am very grateful to Kenny for bringing it to my attention.

Editor



The Bible gives us a clear choice between two life directions. Because life often forks off in two directions, you must take the higher road, even though it looks more difficult and treacherous. That road gets steep in places. The climb takes toll on your energy. It gets lonely. Not many are on it, but more than you imagined, and some because of your example. It gets slippery: Satan blows ice on the narrow passages. Despite its dangers, the higher road is bound for the peak, and you'll make it – God has a lifeline around you. When you are tempted to falter in your faith or to turn back from following Christ, keep focussed on what he has done for you and what he offers in the future (see Romans 8 : 12 – 25: Galatians 3: 10 -13). **Then keep climbing.**



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Church Diary

Cadzow Parish Church
3 Woodside Walk
Hamilton ML3 7HY



<u>Minister</u>	Rev Dr John Carswell	jcarswell@churchofscotland.org.uk
The Manse of Cadzow, 3 Carlisle Road		Tel: 426682
<u>Session Clerk</u> Alistair Macrae 95 The Paddock	Tel: 304946	<u>WFO</u> Mrs Dorothy Craig 6 Chestnut Crescent Tel: 281553
<u>Deputy Session Clerk</u> Stewart Tweedlie 49 John Muir Way, Motherwell	Tel: 249032	<u>Organist</u> John Pitcathley Garrion Linn. Horslev Head. Overton Tel: 376654
<u>Roll Clerk</u> Mrs Patricia Steel 6 Maple Bank	Tel: 427253	<u>Property Convenor</u> Malcolm Young 105 Aitken Road Tel: 284036
<u>Treasurer</u> Heather Stewart 6 Cypress Court	07736857762	<u>Hall Letting Convenors</u> Archie and Aileen Love Tel: 320161

Church Services

The times of the summer services will be by pulpit intimation

Church Flowers

There are several dates free for Church Flowers. If you would like to donate flowers please contact Dorothy
01698425634

Baptisms

14 April—Iona Hannah Towers and Jude Kenneth Boyle

Funerals

2 November—Margaret Wilson
21 Austine Drive
26 February—Peter Dillon
12 Cedar Crescent
5 March—Derek Mays
Hamilton
13 March—Mary Strachan
41 Low Waters Road
26 March—David Henderson
Hamilton
27 March—Findlay Hill
Blantyre
29 March—Robert Burns
4 Hawksland Walk
8 April—Ian Rae
10 Cypress Court
26 April—Margaret McGregor
6 Millar Park
1 May—Margaret McAdam
6 Sycamore Drive

Church Flowers



We are grateful to the following people for their gift of flowers to beautify the sanctuary

July

7 – Miss W Gunn
14 – Mrs S Frame
21 – Mrs M Smith
28 – Mrs M Murray

May

4 – Mrs C Brown
11 –
18 – Miss Woodburn
25 – Mrs J Harley

June

1 – Mrs J Irvine
8 – Mrs A Gray
15 –
22 – Mrs M Topping
29 – Women's Group

Cadzow Parish Church of Scotland, Hamilton (SC006611)