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Web Site

<http://episcopalglasgow.co.uk/bearsden-milngavie/>

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All Saints is a registered charity in Scotland SC005552

St. Andrew's is a registered charity in Scotland SC008683

Front cover - The Garden of Eden display from the All Saints Flower Festival.

Dear Friends,

One of the tastes and sights of summer is a bowl of fruit and we, in fact, take it a bit for granted that with the warmer weather we will be able to taste fresh strawberry, raspberries or maybe cherries again, the ones with real flavour, not the forced ones that we can buy all year around.



When John McCarthy was released he told the tale of one day after many years of isolation and poor diet he was in a cell with other hostages. Suddenly a guard entered with, to their surprise, a bowl of cherries. For the rest of the day they just looked at them, enjoying their beauty and appreciating the seemingly simple dish in a new light. Finally that evening they eventually ate them.

A question springs to mind on hearing that story. How would we have reacted? Or maybe the question should be how do we react when we are faced with the beauty of God's world and Word?

We are very fortunate, mostly we can enjoy life and things of beauty and wonder surround us, but does that mean we fail to appreciate them, are we more inclined to eat the bowl of cherries without engaging the beauty of site and smell they give, without giving thanks to God for the bounty and beauty in front of us.

The picture on the front of the magazine this month is the Garden of Eden display from All Saints recent flower festival. One of the Bible stories of creation tells us that when God looked at what was created – it was good. Is that what we see when we look around, when we look at God's provision to us, do we look and say thank you Lord, it is good? Or do we look and find the fault?

When the apple was eaten and banishment from the Garden of Eden resulted, did that stop goodness? No, it became an example of how we don't appreciate what we have until after it has gone. Goodness and beauty still surrounds us despite the toil of the land we now endure let us remember every day to thank God for it.

Kirstin

Thank you

There are just too many of you to name and thank individually and each of you played your role to the utmost making All Saints in Bloom and the Summer Fair a wonderful success. Susan will announce the final figure once all monies have been collected. To all those who made and baked, those who organised and set-up, those who arranged flowers and games, those who looked after stalls and sold tickets, those who donated prizes and entered raffles, those who washed cups and poured tea, those who dressed up and painted faces, those who erected gazebos and sorted out publicity, those who banged drums and those that tumbled one, those who nurtured plants and seedlings and invited friends and family along, to those who welcomed people into the hall or the church and the myriad of other people who helped too, thank you, thank you, thank you one and all.

Elsewhere in the magazine you will see some pictures from the day and, sometime during June, more pictures will be displayed in the church or hall.

Kirstin

Eucharistic Assistants

A celebration service for all Eucharistic Assistants will be held at Holy Trinity, Ayr on Saturday, 5th June beginning at 1.15 p.m. All Eucharistic Assistants at St. Andrew's and All Saints will also be commissioned at the end of the main service on Sunday, 6th June.

General Synod and Stipendiary Conference

The General Synod this year takes place between 9th and 12th June in Edinburgh. Kirstin will be attending therefore if you need to get hold of her between those dates you will have to use the mobile number. Also Kirstin will be away at the Diocesan Stipendiary Conference from Tuesday, 15th till

Thursday, 17th June. Again if you need to contact her during this period please use her mobile. Thank you.

Regional Council

The North West Regional Council meeting will be taking place at All Saints on Thursday, 24th June. This is an open meeting and anyone who wishes to attend can do so.

Congratulations

To Stuart and Heather Caughey on the Baptism of their son Callum Stuart on 9th May.

Also to Doris who will be celebrating her 90th birthday this month.

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, etc.

Can I please remind everyone that all requests or questions about what are referred to as, the occasional offices, that is services that don't happen on a regular weekly pattern, in All Saints or St Andrew's, should be passed on to Kirstin to be dealt with. Please do not think you know the answer and respond as it can cause confusion at a later date.

Mid Week Eucharist's

At All Saints, Helen Ball has kindly agreed to lead Morning Prayer on Wednesday mornings at All Saints when I am not available. This means that there should be a service every Wednesday although it might not always be a Eucharist. Thank you Helen. While at St Andrew's Fraser will continue to take the service from the reserved sacrament when he is available and

Kirstin isn't, please check the pew sheet the proceeding Sunday to check if the service will be taking place.

Advanced Notice

There will be a BBQ at the Rectory on Saturday, 7th August, from 6 p.m. everyone welcome. Please put your name on the sheets at the back of both churches if you intend coming so that there is enough food to go around.

Magazine

The next magazine will be a joint July and August one, the question is would those who read the magazine prefer all magazines to be bi-monthly, please let Kirstin or Jennifer know.

Please get any articles for inclusion in the next magazine to Jennifer Taylor, 37 Kilmardinny Crescent, Bearsden, (Jennifer.taylor461@ntlworld.com) by **Sunday, 20th June** at the latest, thank you.



At the May meeting, a speaker from Children's Hospital Association Scotland (CHAS) came to talk to us. There are now two hospices in Scotland for children with life-threatening illnesses – Rachel House in Kinross and Robin House in Balloch. Previously these children and their parents had to travel to Martin House in Yorkshire. In the Inverness region respite care is provided in the family home. It costs five million pounds each year to run the hospices and they are dependent on donations to cover the running costs.

Next month is our night out at the Winnock Hotel in Drymen – we have been there several times before and it has always been an enjoyable evening.

Corporate Communion will be on the second Wednesday of the month (as usual) and intercessions will be on Wednesday, 30th June at 10.45 am.

All Saints – Report from the Treasurer

As agreed at the A.G.M. in November I submit the following as a brief interim report of the financial position of All Saints Church.

Firstly, however, on behalf of the Vestry, I wish to thank the members of the congregation. I requested that, if possible, we increase our giving by 3% - this target has been exceeded so far. There have been several new contributions and the majority of giving is gift aided. The situation is therefore quite healthy. The overall financial situation is reasonably sound, though caution is still required.

It has been possible to repay £20,000 to the legacy fund, from which £40,000 was taken to pay for the new rectory. This was achieved through savings on stipend costs during the interregnum. It remains the case that a commitment was made by the vestry, resulting from a congregational meeting; to repay the sum in total in order to be able to spend the legacy fund on those projects previously agreed (e.g. Church entrance). There is no schedule for this aspiration but we need to see the fund 'moving in the right direction'.

Using a comparator with the first 6 months of 2008-2009 with the same period of the current financial year the following was brought to the Vestry's attention:

- The income from the halls is slightly reduced – mainly due to the economic climate and also e.g. users curtailing the number of hours they use the halls.
- The printing of the magazine that attracted favourable comments for quality and layout – sees a reduction in the overall printing costs.
- The maintenance and repairs for the new rectory reflects a continuing reduction – this is encouraging.

The Vestry is actively working with Business Stream/Water Board to affect a reduction in our water charges and, at the time of writing, an assessment has taken place – we await the results.

I ask that any member of the congregation who does not give regularly either by F.W.O. envelope or banker's order or who does not use Gift Aid to seriously consider either or both of these options – the amount refunded from the Inland Revenue in the last year is approx. £10,000. Please consider this request – if you wish further information please speak with Ken Findell or myself.

Once again – Many Thanks for support, interest and the commitment to ensuring our finances are stable.

*Susan Gray
Treasurer*

MISSION SUPPORT

The following responses have been received to recent donations from All Saints Church:

Baljaffray Parish Church for The Den

Thank you very much for the generous donation to the work we are doing on a Tuesday lunch-time with the Bearsden Academy pupils. In its first year of running, The Den has been a great success. At its peak in February we had almost fifty pupils, mainly boys, coming into the church on a Tuesday lunch time. It has been really good to see these young people enjoying being in a church building and slowly but surely getting to know them better. It has also been very much a case of a team effort with volunteer helpers coming together from all the Bearsden churches. The Den has stopped now in the 'summer months' and will be resuming again on 19th October. The gift you have given to us is very welcome. It is also very encouraging to receive it. The money may well be used to purchase an X-box as that is something we have occasionally been able to borrow and which has proved very popular. Please pass on the thanks of everyone involved in the Den to All Saints congregation for their thoughtfulness and generosity.

Revd. Ian McEwan

Starter Packs Glasgow

On Behalf of Starter Packs Glasgow I would like to thank you wholeheartedly for your very generous donation of £350 to the project. Your support is very much appreciated and will help us to continue to support individuals and families who are moving into permanent tenancies from homelessness.

Sarah Findlay

Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme

Would you kindly pass on to everyone our thanks for your kind donation of £550 received today. You are indeed an answer to prayer – we have been struggling to get the full funds together to send disadvantaged children to Teen Ranch near Perth this summer. This donation brings us a step closer to completing our plans for 42 young folk aged 10-16 to have a week at Teen Ranch, a Christian run organisation.....On behalf of the children, many thanks for thinking of us, it really is much appreciated.

Ann Pert

The Maxie Richards Foundation

Once again thank you very much indeed for your cheque to the value of £800 which All Saints Church has donated towards the work of this Foundation.....There is still a steady stream of young people trapped in addiction seeking help to become drug free. Scotland has an increasing problem with addiction and it is not hard to feel fearful for the future health and prosperity of our Nation. On a positive note it is a great joy and privilege to be part of the process that helps young people get their lives back and become contributing members of society. Your donation enables this work to continue and you can be sure that there will be many a parent whose tears will stop.

Maxie Richards

Abbeyfield Coffee Morning Saturday, 12th June 10 a.m. – 12 noon



Abbeyfield House, situated at 16 Grange Road, Bearsden, offers very sheltered housing with a resident housekeeper providing meals.

Anyone interested in viewing the house whilst enjoying some refreshment will be made very welcome on 12th June.

Gill Hamblen

Sweeney Todd's

Headway

Macdonalds

Summer Fair and Flower Festival – 22nd May 2010

A brief but very warm Thank You to everyone who made the above event such a success. The amount raised now is £2,700. The weather was wonderful, the Boys' Brigade Band set a bright and lively tone for us and many people came. The final total will be notified to you in due course. Thank You.

Susan Gray

Summer Fair and Flower Festival - 22nd May, 2010

The sun shone beyond our wildest hopes and prayers! The Church and gardens looked gloriously festive with gazebos around, bunting in the trees and wonderful flower posters all around the railings. Inside the Church were colourful and imaginative flower arrangements on the theme "Bible Stories and Sayings". At 10 a.m. the Boys Brigade Band struck up and we were off to a grand start.

Mary Darke and Mairi Ross had yet again done marvels with publicity, so that many people came – and more children than ever before – who never before had seen inside All Saints. Mary braved sports days and primary school gates to spread the word. The posters designed by Mairi were a work of art in themselves. Ticket sellers too deserve great credit for inviting many from outside our congregation. The flower group, led and inspired by Ann Caie, produced some great works of art – so many came to do the Quiz that Ann had to dash over the road to Purple Edge for more copies! Jean Stirling and her wonderful team kept the coffee and cakes coming at an amazing rate throughout the morning, while the many stall holders and raffle-ticket sellers did brisk trade. The bacon rolls were not only enjoyed by late comers but also greatly appreciated by helpers – a much needed boost for the final hours and, thanks to cooks, Gillian and Sheena for that hot task. All Saints again came up trumps with home-baking headed by May McLellan and support team and many other goods for sale – including a magnificent bottle tombola, hamper raffle, bric-a-brac, toys in abundance, teddy tombola, chocolate fountain in the boiling sun (never again says Celia), enough books to start a book shop (new career for Mairi and Niall?) and more. Several people did marvels in raising superb raffle prizes from local shops, restaurants and sports centres, all of which added to the fun of the fair and gave a feeling of great support from our local community. All stall holders are to be congratulated – special thanks too to Susan Gray who not only is treasurer but also general factotum – she can rustle up materials and decorations to enliven any corner, let alone produce the BB Band.

Summer Fair - All Saints in Bloom

With many thanks to our sponsors

Las Ramblas

Ashoka

Rose and Grants

Partner's Bistro

Purple Edge

Matchbox

Vanity Fair

Tesco

3MG

Robertson Jeen

Allander Leisure

LA Fitness

M & S

Welsh Rarebits



There were so many ideas raised for children's entertainment that I wondered how we would cope. No need to worry – with the Craig family's lead, especially young Lois, everything was in hand. It was great to see so many of the Discussion Group participating - they are so talented and a great asset. From punch balloons, floating ducks to fantastic small knitted animals, from face painting to crossbow and much, much more, it was a great effort and so lovely to be outside in the grounds, with gazebos to give shelter from the SUN – thanks Paul for instructing us on how to erect them! I still think the 'Dalmatian' aka Thomas, should have been called Spot – I might have won – and Miranda was an inspired choice - well done Megan! I think the entry in the accounts reading "Bathtub and Peas" that made £81.70, must win the prize for originality. And that brings me to give a huge thank-you to Andrew, Mike and Susan who sat counting piles of money well into the afternoon.

On delivering some of the prizes to people later that day, it was lovely to hear of the 'wonderful morning' they had enjoyed and how much they appreciated seeing inside 'our lovely church'. The total raised so far is about £2,700, with some money still coming in – far beyond our expectations. Well done to *everyone* involved and huge thanks to all those who came, the enormous number who helped and those who sold so many tickets!

Janet Stack

Milngavie Churches Flower Festival

St. Andrew's will be holding their annual Milngavie Churches Flower Festival on Friday, 4th and Saturday, 5th June from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. It's always a lovely occasion and I would encourage everyone to visit and appreciate the arrangements. Friendship House also opens specially on the Saturday for refreshment. Anyone who feels that they could help 'man' the church for an hour or two on either day, please contact Clare McVey on 942-0499. It would be most appreciated. Thank you.

*Primus and other church leaders support an open letter
from the Scottish Inter Faith Council*

The following open letter was sent by the Scottish Inter Faith Council on 26 April to various newspapers:

"While the media seems to suggest that the country is in the grip of election fever, there is in fact a danger that apathy and ambivalence towards politics, the political process and politicians in general are widespread. Many people are wondering if there is any point in voting at all and whether their vote can in fact make any difference. We would like to take the opportunity through this letters page to reassure people that it matters very much. We would like to remind people of all faiths and of none of the important privilege and duty laid on all of us to participate in the democratic process, and to cast a vote on polling day.

"There are few areas of our lives that are not in some way affected by politics. This is our opportunity to determine those politics and elect those politicians whose decisions in the coming five years will be so important in determining the ethos and quality of our lives.

"As citizens, we have many opportunities to contribute to the well being of our country and voting is one way of allowing us to participate in its future growth. By casting our vote we let our voices be heard, we demonstrate the importance of our values and our belief in the common good.

"The undersigned signatories recently discussed these issues at a meeting of religious leaders, facilitated by the Scottish Inter Faith Council in the offices of the Archdiocese of Glasgow and, as members of different faith communities, wished to give sign of their unity in encouraging members of the electorate to take seriously their democratic duties.

Lay Readers Provincial Conference

Over fifty Lay Readers from across Scotland gathered for their first national conference at the National Police College, Tulliallan. Together with Diocesan Wardens of Readers, Readers in training, the Primus, Bishop Bob and a couple of visitors from across the border, the conference explored what it means to be a Lay Reader in the SEC in the 21st century.

Under the leadership of Brian Woodburn (a Reader from Galloway), the conference was organised by a steering committee drawn from across the Province. The committee's vision for the conference was for Lay Readers to have an opportunity to meet, worship and learn together and to consider what contribution Lay Readers could make to the ministry and mission of the church.

The conference was well served by a series of excellent speakers and workshop leaders. Dr Christina Baxter, herself a Reader and Principal of St John's College, Nottingham led the conference in bible study and preached at the closing Eucharist on the theme of the Emmaus road experience – the passage on which the worship group had based the various acts of worship throughout the weekend. The Primus provided the [keynote address](#) and led an animated discussion on the place of Reader ministry within the church and Scottish society.

The conference was also able to compare its experience in selection, training and deployment with our sister churches with presentations from the Church of England, the Church of Scotland and the Methodist Church in a session called 'A View over the Fence'. The Revd Darren McFarland (Convener of the Liturgy Committee) explored the development of the planned Ministry of the Word worship material while a series of workshops were offered to provide practical skills and advice in subjects ranging over Bereavement and Funeral Ministry; Preaching in Visual Age; Godly Play; Faith in Older People; and PowerPoint and Internet Resources.

The excellent facilities at Tulliallan allowed the participants to relax and meet each other and links were formed which will last into the coming years. As they left to travel back to their home churches and dioceses, the overwhelming response seemed to be 'When are we doing this again?'

Visions for the Future

International Theological Summer School - Scottish Churches House Seminar Days Saturday July 3 & Thursday July 8

As you all know, Scotland celebrates several significant anniversaries in 2010. This includes the Jubilee of Scottish Churches House, founded in 1960 by the Scottish churches as "a place that the churches hold in common".

To celebrate and build on that inspiration, Scottish Churches House is holding its second International Theological Summer School on the theme Visions for the Future. This is not a lecture-based Summer School. Rather students from around the globe will meet those who wrestle with the challenges facing Scottish Christians today. Kevin Franz will address the theme on the first day. Politics, culture & the arts will be explored in meeting Richard Holloway, Robin Marsack & Donald Smith; poverty and global warming with Alastair McIntosh, Kathy Galloway and others involved in urban priority work. Through visits to St Andrews and Iona, Summer School students will explore how the Reformation may inform mission and ecumenism today.

But we are also keen that the learning and stimulation is not one-sided, for we have much to learn from the global mix of students – those attending come from Pakistan, India, Russia, Belarus, USA, Cuba, Brazil, Cameroon, Greece, Czech Republic. So, to enable the learning and thinking to be embedded within the life of Scottish churches, we are planning two open Seminar Days, to which we are inviting members of Scottish churches.

The first Seminar Day, Saturday 3 July, will focus on a paper written by Elizabeth Templeton, exploring how theological reflection informs engagement with the world, and what is gained by the interaction between specific Scottish issues and international ecumenical concerns. This paper will be sent to everyone (full-time Summer School students as well as Seminar Day participants) two – three weeks beforehand.

The second Seminar Day, Thursday 8 July, will be a time for us all - international participants and those from Scottish congregations - to wrestle with how our own visions for the future might be made real in our particular contexts. Given the many challenges with which we are all faced, how do we identify creative, innovative ways ahead? This will be a day rich in resource, fertile thinking for our pilgrim journeys!

This is an invitation to come and join us either on one, or both of these days at Scottish Churches House in Dunblane. Each day will begin at 9.30/10.00am, and will include morning coffee, lunch and dinner. The cost is £25.00 – but some bursaries may be available.

Booking & further information: elaine.ging@gmail.com or 01821 650482

Elaine Cameron
Theological Summer School Planning Group

Get ready for Back to Church Sunday

By Helen Ball, Mission Core Group

BACK To Church Sunday falls on 26 September this year, and it's time to start thinking and planning for the event.

All congregations are invited to join in. Last year, churches across our diocese welcomed new and old faces on Back To Church Sunday, and across the UK 82,000 people came back to church on the day.

As well as Episcopalians, Church of England, Church of Scotland, Baptist, Methodist, URC, Pentecostal and Salvation Army churches took part, alongside Anglican churches in Australia, Canada, Argentina and New Zealand. A great strength of the day is that everyone is doing it together, and we receive confidence from each other.

Churches focus on offering an extra special, warm welcome on the day, supported by Back To Church Sunday resources such as posters, invitation cards and tee shirts. And every member of the congregation asks their friend or neighbour, 'Will you come to church with me?'

The deadline for registering and ordering resources is 15 June. More information is available at backtochurch.co.uk. If you would like any kind of help or advice, contact Darren McFarland, secretary of the diocesan Mission Core Group: rector@paisley2.freeseve.co.uk.

Swedish visit

A GROUP from St. Ninian's Troon is just back from another weekend trip to Sweden.

This time their new rector, Revd Canon Tom Montgomery, accompanied them on the visit to Dalstorp Parish in the Diocese of Gothenburg.

There were ten in the party from Scotland and they joined in Friday evening celebrations for the arrival of spring on at the lake in Ljungsarp. In Sweden, the custom is to light a big bonfire, have speeches and sing songs to welcome the new season.

On Saturday they visited craft shops and the daffodil gardens at Fageras. Sunday morning worship was at Ljungsarp Church where Canon Tom shared the communion service with parish priest Philip Widdell.

The weekend finished with a wonderful lunch at Dalstorp Church and an evening concert by Canbrah (the choir that visited St Ninian's last September) in Nittorp Church.

Immigrant mums work on parenting skills with MU

THE SECRET to talking boys into eating vegetables was just one of the mysteries unveiled when Mothers' Union parenting facilitator Ann Cook was invited to work with a group of overseas mums who are new to Scotland.

The call came from Glasgow International Christian Church, part of Heart for the City, a charity with a vision of restoring and transforming cities for the glory of God. Most members are fairly recent immigrants from Africa and India, and there are many families as well as Mothers' Union members.

Hearing that MU offers parenting groups, the members asked if a facilitator could come and help them explore their parenting and discuss their problems.

Ann, whose husband David is rector at St Michael & All Saints Helensburgh, is mother to six children, a career that must help in her role as one of four accredited parenting facilitators in Glasgow & Galloway.

Helped for some sessions by MU's Enid Scobie and Hilary Moran, she counts herself lucky to have been chosen for this mission. She found herself among a group of enthusiastic mums who approached the weekly meetings eager to

explore ideas and techniques, and ready to share their experiences and advice.

She said: “We discussed when to allow children to go to the park on their own, how to ensure that the rules your family sets are adhered to and how to persuade boys to eat vegetables (answer: develop great acting skills, lick your fingers and shriek with delight as you prepare a salad!).

“We met for seven Tuesday mornings, the presence of several small children—without exception gorgeous—only adding to the positive atmosphere.

“There was a final session with the dads (always more nerve-wracking than all the previous sessions put together!) where Hilary and I were met with great courtesy and rapt attention, and some very perspicacious questions.

“Since most parenting groups are attended by only one parent per family, a session for partners, briefly covering the main topics discussed, is invaluable, as one of the recurrent themes of all parenting advice is consistency.

“Overall, it was a very positive experience for me, and I received not only sincere thanks, but also the promise of another group to meet with.”

Glasgow & Galloway MU’s trained parenting facilitators would be pleased to run a similar course in the Glasgow/Helensburgh area. If interested, contact Hilary Moran (01475 686213) hilary.moran@btinternet.com.

Heart for the City is based at 535 Maryhill Road, Glasgow (0141 945 0454). Visit heartforthecity.co.uk to learn more.

Swedish international meeting welcomes MU delegates

By Peter Andersson, Gothenburg

A NATIONAL meeting in Gothenberg’s neighbouring diocese of Växjö saw around 3,000 people gather to celebrate the Church of Sweden’s international work.

The theme was ‘Another world is possible’.

The women’s organisation of the Diocese of Gothenburg invited two representatives from the MU in Glasgow & Galloway. From the partnership Church of Berlin, a journalist shared how the church addresses migration issues in that city.

q GOTHENBURG Diocese will hold a two-day seminar with the church’s youth organisation on standing up for one’s faith.

q EIGHT new priests will be ordained by Bishop Carl Axel in Gothenburg Cathedral on 13 June to serve in the diocese.

ISLAND BREAKS

COLLEGE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT CATHEDRAL OF THE ISLES
MILLPORT

8-12 July - Classical Guitar Retreat. Non-residential places may still be available. To register interest in participation without accommodation (£345) or to go on a waiting list in case of a residential cancellation (£495) contact Matthew McAllister (info@cgtreat.com).

12-15 July - Art for Absolute Beginners. Led by Anthea Clarke, this is a practical course teaching some simple techniques in a relaxed, uncritical and fun environment – all materials provided. £165 (£50 non-residential). Contact: cathedral_cumbrae@btconnect.com

July – September - Music for a Summer Afternoon. Concerts every Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. in the Cathedral of the Isles. Details to be announced.

Visit www.island-retreats.org.

A Happy Celebration

By Ann Glenesk

MEMBERS and friends of the Mothers’ Union held their annual Festival Service last month to celebrate the work of the Mothers’ Union in Glasgow and Galloway and their link dioceses, both in the UK and overseas.

Hosted at Holy Trinity Ayr, the celebrations were enriched by the commissioning of new officers and by offering thanks to members who have served God through the objects of the MU for over 40 years. Canon Jeanette Jenkins welcomed everyone and Bishop Gregor, the Patron of the Mothers' Union, officiated. The officers commissioned were Ann Glenesk (Diocesan President), Carolynne Sorrell, Wendy Petrie, William Walker, Caryl Haglington, Enid Scobie, Margaret Horrell, Elsie Murray, Jill Cameron and Joan McKechnie.

Revd. Peter Douglas, the Mothers' Union new chaplain, unfortunately missed the celebrations due to an accident in which his wife, Margaret, hurt her face. All present held them both in their prayers. Peter will be commissioned by the Bishop in Kilmarnock at the dedication service later in the year.

Visitors included Provincial president Hilary Moran; former chaplain Revd. Scott Robertson; Barbara Elliott; former DP representatives from the United Reformed, Baptist, the Guild and Olu Akitoye, link Secretary of Lagos Mainland MU. These people, along with all the members, their families and friends were uplifted by the warmth of welcome extended by the members of the Ayr branch and their helpers, the service, sermon, music, fellowship and hospitality.

The Mothers' Union in Glasgow and Galloway has much to thank God for and all members agreed to move forward in faith.

Photographs of the event will soon be available on muscotland.org.uk/glasgow. Have a look to see many happy faces, the fantastic food, and the new DP wearing her gift from Olu!

YOUTH QUIZ

THE Diocesan Youth Network is organising a quiz afternoon for all our young people aged 11-17.

Venue: St Bride's Hyndland
Date: Sunday 4 July
Time: 1.30-5pm

Light food will be provided.

Contact: Youth Chaplain, Revd Christian Okeke (0774 859 0407) bishopc7@yahoo.com.

Help for finding your 'SHAPE' for ministry

A new online tool to encourage people to explore their vocation has been launched by CPAS, the Anglican evangelical mission agency.

'Your S.H.A.P.E. for ministry' only takes a couple of minutes to complete and provides advice and a series of next steps for people who are interested in pursuing what they feel God may be calling them to, including ordination.

The online exercise at www.cpas.org.uk/shape poses five short questions to gauge how confidently users understand themselves in the areas of Spiritual gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality and Experience (SHAPE).

The resultant five-sided shape is then displayed to illustrate how users perceive themselves, with a series of recommended resources and links as useful ways of further exploring each topic. Users can also get their complete SHAPE report emailed to them.

This has been created as part of CPAS' vision to encourage more under-30s to offer themselves for ordination, including pioneer ministry, although people of all ages are able to use the new web tool.

Mark Norris, CPAS leadership development adviser for vocations, said: 'One of the primary aims of the SHAPE exercise is to encourage people to initiate conversations with other trusted leaders. It helps people ask how well they understand themselves in five key areas, with suggestions, resources and links of how they can develop a clearer sense of vocation.'

'Helping more young people to explore their vocation assists them in their discipleship and helps them realise, whatever their vocation, that they have something to offer in the service of Christ. It is also vitally important because younger leaders are more likely to relate to contemporary culture and enable effective mission among young people.'

CPAS also provides other resources for those considering their vocation, as well as You and Ministry weekend conferences (www.cpas.org.uk/vocations). There is also advice for leaders who are helping others along their vocational journeys.