

# NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

APRIL, 1958.

## THE REGISTER.

### Marriage.

*"Whom God hath joined together."*

Sheena Bruce Niven to Douglas Vere Gordon Barr.

### Deaths.

*"Christ the first fruits of them that are asleep."*

Mr Andrew Edmond, 8 Langtree Avenue, Giffnock.

Mrs Andrew Edmond, 8 Langtree Avenue, Giffnock.

Mr James D. Fairlie, 3 Ashview Terrace.

Mrs Shiels, 40 Hazelwood Avenue.

Mr Alexander Moreland, Gowmore, Ayr Road.

## NEW MEMBERS—FEBRUARY, 1958.

### By Certificates from other Congregations.

Mrs Borthwick, 4 Ford Road.

Mr John A. Ferguson, 49 Netherplace Crescent.

Miss Jean Ferguson, 49 Netherplace Crescent.

Mrs George Kelly, 7 Townhead Road.

Dr. William Napier, 3 Glebe Road.

Mrs William Napier, 3 Glebe Road.

Mr Ramsay Napier, 3 Glebe Road.

Miss Dorothy Napier, 3 Glebe Road.

Mr Harry McK. Stuart, Faside.

Mrs Suttie, 9 Dunolly Drive.

## Mr ANDREW EDMOND.

Mr Andrew Edmond, 8 Langtree Avenue, Giffnock, died very suddenly on Tuesday, 11th February, at his work. He had been in his usual health the previous day but collapsed and died at his desk in the offices of the Bolt, Rivet and Nut works where he had been secretary and director, and Scottish managing director. It was an onerous post, and during the years of war the work that passed through his hands was of national significance. No one, however, who met him in the casual acquaintances of life would have known the important place that he occupied in the life of the city. He was one of the humblest of men, and no task was too lowly that he was not ready to take part. He came to this neighbourhood from Broomhill about the beginning of the Second World War, and early identified himself with this congregation where he served on the Congregational Board as a Manager. He had previously taken a large share in Gilmorehill Church where he was Clerk to the Board. Although afflicted latterly with lameness he was regular in his attendance in the sanctuary and was greatly esteemed by many in the congregation. The death of his son at the age of 30 was a severe loss to him, but he bore it bravely and there was always a smile on his face, and laughter on his lips. He was a man of deep religious faith, and to his daughter and grandchildren we extend our deepest sympathy in a loss that we also share.

The death of Mrs Edmond so soon after that of her husband seems a very sad event, but as she had been a cripple with arthritis for many years, and needed to be attended to constantly, it was in the mercy of God that it should be so. It was sad nevertheless to visit again so soon the cemetery at Hillfoot in which she was interred.

## Mr ALEXANDER MORELAND.

Mr Alexander Moreland, Gowmore, Ayr Road, died on Monday, 17th March, at a city hospital. It is not so long since that he was in his accustomed place in the Church, and it is hard to realise that he is no longer with us. He came to this district in 1928 from the Cathcart area where he had taken an active part in Battlefield East Church, especially in

the choir. He was elected an Elder in this congregation, being inducted in 1934. For many years he was a member of the choir, and he not only had a beautiful, rich baritone voice but he sang with interpretation. It was always a delight to listen to him. Many will also remember listening to his recitations of the poems of Burns. He had a marvellous memory and he made these verses live. For many years also he taught in the Sabbath School, and in earlier days was the leader of the Band of Hope. His life was bound up with that of the Church, and he rendered most faithful service to it. In many ways his life was a lonely one. His wife died in 1932, and since it was not long afterwards that the children married, he lived very much by himself. In those circumstances the affection that certain members of the Church showed to him meant even more than it normally would. When he was unable to look after himself the fact that two of the Guides went in each week to give him a hand, was greatly appreciated by him. To his sons and daughter we extend our deepest sympathy in the passing of one so justly loved.

## Mr JAMES D. FAIRLIE.

Mr James D. Fairlie, 3 Ashview Terrace, died at his home on Friday, 14th February. He was for many years an Inspector of the Clyde Trust, and came to Newton Mearns during the last war. It was not, however, an unknown district to him as he came previously on holiday. They were, as a family, unfortunate for many years in obtaining a house of their own, and only latterly were they able to purchase the flat in Ashview Terrace. Emily, his daughter, has rendered most faithful service to the Life Boys. To her, her brother and sister, we extend our deep sympathy in the passing of a loving and devoted father.

## Mrs A. SHIELS.

Mrs A. Shiels, 40 Hazelwood Avenue, died on Sunday, 16th March, in a Renfrewshire hospital. She was one who never enjoyed good health from earliest days, and perhaps the notable fact is that she faced life so bravely and was able to accomplish so much. It is not always in life what we attain, but how we have struggled that counts in the sight of God, and in this respect she must rank highly. When one visited her she was always bright when it could not have been easy for her to be so. To her husband and daughter we give our sincere sympathy in the loss of one they so dearly loved.

## VARIA.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed on May 4th. The visiting minister will be the Rev. Prof. W. D. Niven, D.D., of Glasgow University and Trinity College. The Preparatory Service on the preceding Friday will be conducted by the Rev. Arthur MacEwan of Oatlands-St. Bernard Church. A class for first communicants is in session in the Manse on Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

The Anniversary Services of the founding of the Congregation in 1739 will be conducted on May 11th by the Very Rev. George Johnston Jeffrey, D.D., minister emeritus of Sherbrooke Church, and ex-Moderator of the General Assembly.

The Editor of the Supplement will be in Newcastle until the end of April, and this issue has been completed in his absence.

Arrangements have been made for this and future Supplements to be delivered to each household in the Congregation.



## THE SALE OF WORK.

The Woman's Guild is holding a Sale of Work on the last Saturday in October in aid of the Hall Memorial Fund. Fuller details will be given later but the following is the list of the stall conveners:—  
Grocery and Provision—Mrs Cuthill & Mrs Menzies.  
Candy—Miss Wallace and Miss Gow.  
Cake—Miss Gow and Miss Logan.  
Fancy Goods—Mrs Sinclair and Mrs Carlaw.  
Apron and Handkerchief—Mothers' Group.  
Flower Arrangement—Mrs Robert Anderson and Mrs Ferns.  
Vegetable—Mrs McCance and Mrs Rodger.  
Teas—Mrs Thom and Miss Osborne.

Will members of the Congregation who would like to work for any of the stalls get in touch with the Conveners. We want to make this a real contribution to the Fund.

## ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation was held in the Church Hall on 12th March, and was attended by 73 members.

The Rev. W. Murray Mackay occupied the Chair and opened the meeting with prayer.

Excerpts from Minutes of Board Meetings 1957-58 were read by Mr W. T. Davidson, Clerk.

Mr Walter Rodger, the Congregational Treasurer, presented the accounts for 1957 and compared the figures with those of the previous year. Mr J. W. Jarvie, C.A., followed with his report and complimented all the treasurers on their accounts. Thereafter the Congregational Accounts were approved.

Mr J. W. Jarvie, C.A., and Mr D. J. MacPhail, were re-elected Auditors for 1958 and thanked for their services during the past year.

Reports were submitted from the following organisations:—Sabbath School; Woman's Guild; Mothers' Group; Youth Fellowship; Recreational Group; Girl Guides; Brownies; Boys' Brigade and Life Boys. Abbreviated reports appear in this Supplement.

On the motion of the Chairman, the thanks of the meeting were conveyed to Mr Walter Rodger, Congregational Treasurer; Mr A. S. McCance, Systematic Giving Treasurer; Mr P. R. Wood, Registrar, and the Assistant Treasurers; Mrs C. J. Thom, Convener, Mission Envelopes; Mr S. Telfer, Convener, Seat Letting; also Mr C. J. Thom, Session Clerk; Mr W. T. Davidson, Clerk to the Congregational Board; Mr W. A. Menzies, Sabbath School Superintendent; Mr A. M. R. Russell, Convener of the Year Book; Mr G. H. Hammond and Mr Murray Hanna, Supplement Editors; Members of the Session, Congregational Board and the Office-Bearers in all the Organisations. The thanks of the congregation were conveyed to Mrs W. Rodger and Mr J. Russell, Mr J. McCallum and the other Flower Providers; the Organist, Members of the Choir, the Bell Ringers and the Church Officer.

Election of members to the Congregational Board:—The following were re-elected for three years—Misses F. M. Hunter, M. E. Osborne, Messrs D. M. Fiddes, J. M. Goudie, J. B. McCormick and John Macphail. New members elected—Mr D. Buchanan, Mr G. A. Roser and Mr J. D. Tindal.

Mr Allan B. McClure moved a vote of thanks to the Minister for his chairmanship of the meeting and for all his work during 1957.

After the business part of the meeting was completed, tea was served followed by songs rendered by Miss Cuthill, accompanied by her brother, Mr Cuthill, Organist.

After tea the Chairman introduced the subject of the Hall Extension Fund and he explained the position regarding the acquisition of the ground and stated that in his opinion it was vital for us now to seize the opportunity to acquire the necessary ground and to proceed with the raising of the funds necessary to provide the extra accommodation required especially for Sabbath School purposes.

He asked Mr Rodger, Convener of the Hall Extension Committee to give the Meeting some information on the financial aspect.

Mr Rodger stated that the response to the circulated appeal had not been encouraging in that only 14% of the forms issued had been returned.

He thanked those members who had returned forms for their generous financial support. At a meeting of the Congregational Board it had been reported that some members were hesitant about committing themselves for 5 years—not wishing to make a promise to the Church which they might not be able to fulfill. Mr Rodger emphasised that members were free to alter the terms of the form to suit their own requirements and that the Committee would still be pleased to have forms returned and to make the necessary subsequent arrangements.

He stated that a few members had availed themselves of the Bond of Annuity method and he illustrated the effect of this method by the following illustrations viz:—

If 50 members or 50 families contributed £50 by Bond of Annuity the yield would be:—

Amount received from 50 contributions	
in 7 years, approx.,	£10000
Income Tax recoverable, approx.,	7500

Total sum received by the Church, approx., £17500

This would mean a weekly outlay per member or per family of 11/6 per week.

If 100 contributors gave a Bond of Annuity for £25 the same amounts would obtain and the outlay per member or per family would be 5/9 per week.

Mr Rodger said he realised that some members had not quite made up their minds regarding the sum they might promise to contribute but before building commitments were entered upon he would like to feel assured that the Hall Extension Committee would have the support financially of the majority of the Congregation in the fulfilment of the task which had been delegated to them by the Congregational Board.

## SABBATH SCHOOL.

There are 152 children on the roll of the Sabbath School which is carried on in three departments—The Beginners, The Primary and The Juniors.

**The Beginners Department**, under the enthusiastic leadership of Miss Judith Bain ably assisted by Miss Isobel Grant, has made striking progress in the past year. Much imagination is shown in the way this class is conducted and parents attending Morning Service in Church need have no hesitation in handing over their little ones to the care of these ladies. There are at present 18 children on the roll.

**The Primary Department**, supervised by Miss Annie Wilson, who has given devoted service to it for many years, is in a flourishing condition. Miss Wilson has a faithful assistant in Miss Barrie Pirret and there are three other young lady assistants. In accordance with the majority wishes of the parents the Primary meets at 10.15 a.m. There are 44 on the Roll.

A visitor to these two departments cannot but be impressed by the happy way in which the young



children are being shown the first steps in the Christian life.

The Junior Department has 90 children on the Roll. These are in 14 classes under 9 lady and 5 gentlemen teachers. The scholars are promoted from the Primary at 8 years of age and stay with us until they are 12 or 13 years of age. We have at present no Senior Department. Instead when the children reach the age stated they go to the Bible Class held on Sunday Mornings by Mr Mackay. Attendance at Sabbath School is very good. For instance on a stormy winter's morning in February 70 children came as usual at 10.15 a.m.

#### WOMAN'S GUILD.

The Woman's Guild has had a successful and interesting session. Our syllabus has been varied, including talks, illustrated and otherwise, on many different subjects, and on different countries too. Again, we sent two hampers of garments to Dr. Leuner's Camp for Displaced Persons in Western Germany, and we thank the members of the congregation who aided us in this effort. The Bible Study Group has met at intervals, ably led by Miss Watt.

A Joint Service was held in this Church under our auspices, on the Women's World Day of Prayer.

A successful Coffee Morning was held in October, and we thank the congregation for its help and support on that occasion.

Mrs McCance and I would like to thank Mr and Mrs MacKay, and also our Committee, for their unflinching help and interest.

#### MOTHERS' GROUP.

The Mothers' Group has had a very enjoyable and successful session. Though the members are only 20 in number, what they lack in numbers they make up for in enthusiasm.

The syllabus was varied and all the meetings were well attended.

While we had several new members this session we feel there are many more mothers in the congregation which would enjoy the meetings and who would be given a warm welcome at the fortnightly meetings held on Tuesdays in the Manse.

The group would like to thank Mrs MacKay for allowing us to meet in the Manse.

#### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP.

Youth Fellowship meets in the Upper Hall on Sundays from October to April at 5.15 p.m.

The aim of the Youth Fellowship is to enable the young people of our congregation to discover the meaning of Christian Fellowship through praise, prayer, study and service together.

The general theme for study this session was the Church, e.g. Inter-Church Relations Report and the place of youth in the Church to-day. For these meetings we had visiting speakers from both within and outwith the congregation. The other meetings are conducted by members themselves. Joint meetings have been held with Greenbank and Broom Youth Fellowships. At Christmas we went carol-singing and a parcel was sent to a family in S. Germany. Two members attended the Scottish Christian Youth Assembly last month.

On the whole this has been a fairly successful year. Attendances have been between 15 and 20. But we feel that many of the young people in the Church are not taking advantage of their organisation and we hope to welcome them at our dance on 28th March and in the Fellowship itself next session.

#### RECREATIONAL GROUP REPORT.

This has been with one exception an uneventful year. The Executive Committee feel some concern about the future of this organisation. There is a noticeable lack of enthusiasm among members of the group. Although the first team has retained its place in the Second Division of the Glasgow and District Churches Badminton League and the Reserve Team seems likely (for the third year in succession) to gain promotion to a higher Division in the Langside Churches League, we are still short of younger players. Our younger members do not display the keenness and willingness to practise which are essentials if a competitive standard is to be reached.

One heartening event this year was the success of two of our ladies, Joyce Waterson and Jill Fulton. Joyce won the Ladies' Singles and also with Jill as partner the Ladies' Doubles in the Glasgow Churches' Championships. These are achievements of great merit as competition is very keen in these Championships. It is the first occasion in over 25 years of competition that representatives of Newton Mearns Church have won an individual championship.

#### 2nd MEARNS GIRL GUIDES.

Annual Report for year 1957—The year 1957 was a memorable one for Guides and Scouts all over the world as it was the Centenary of the birth of our Founder, the late Lord Baden-Powell, and the Jubilee of Scouting for Boys, from which came the idea of Guiding for Girls. We celebrated these two events in the East Renfrewshire Division with a special "Thinking Day" Ceremony in Eastwood School on the 22nd February, the birthday of both our Founder and his wife, Lady-Baden Powell, and Guides from every Company took part in a Historical Pageant of the Guide Movement. A Scout and Guide Thanksgiving Service was held on Sunday, 24th February, in Giffnock South Parish Church, at which two of our 1st Class Guides, Joan Duncan and Helen McGregor were chosen to be in the Colour Party representing the Division.

Other outstanding activities on our programme were a combined concert in March with the Boys' Brigade, Lifeboys and Brownies; a Division Tournament in May in Eastwood Park where our new County Commissioner, Mrs Semple, judged a competition for Patrol Campfire Cookery. Also in May, we ran a Coffee Morning, and in June we spent a week-end under canvas at our Division Camp Site at Ardoch Farm, near Eaglesham. In October, a Basket Whist Drive was held for parents and friends, and in December a Christmas Party for the Guides and their friends.

The total number of Guides on the Roll in January, 1957, was 33 and in December, 1957, the total was 37. Of 12 recruits to the Company, 9 came from the Brownie Pack. The Company Lieutenants were Miss Marion Cowan, Miss Barrie Pirret and Miss Mary Anderson whom we welcomed as a new Lieutenant at the beginning of the year.

#### 2nd MEARNS BROWNIES.

On enrolment, a Brownie promises to do her best, to do her duty to God and the Queen, and to help other people every day, especially those at home.

In an endeavour to implement the promise our activities include Brownie work, drill and games—all of which are intended to instill a sense of discipline and to give happiness to the children comprising the Pack. Attendances have been well maintained throughout the past year, the average being around 40. The Roll now shows 41 names: 9



Brownies reached the maximum age of 11 years and having passed the necessary test 'flew up' or graduated to the Guides.

The success of any organisations depends upon the diligence and enthusiasm of its leaders and in this respect full credit must be given to the Tawny Owls, Miss Leslie Williams and Miss Judith Bain, and to the Pack Leaders, Miss Joan Duncan and Miss Vivian Davidson.

This Report would not be complete without thanking Mr MacKay, Mr Wood and Mr McClure for visiting us during the session and for the interest shown by them in our work.

#### 79th GLASGOW COMPANY, THE BOYS' BRIGADE.

The Company strength remains at 10 Boys, the same as last session.

We lost one of last year's members because of studies, and gained one recruit from our Life Boy Team.

Actually 3 Boys were transferred from the Team to the Company at last year's joint prize-giving, but only one has attended our parades, the other two having sought other fields.

Although our numbers are small the Boys are very keen and attendances are excellent.

I would like here to pay tribute to Lieutenants Orr, Stubbs and Thomson for the good work they are doing in the Company, and must also thank Mr Stubbs and his assistants for the time and talent given on behalf of our young brothers, The Life Boys.

We have always a very full attendance at our Bible Class and were again well represented at the Glasgow Battalion Bible Knowledge Examination, results of which are not yet to hand.

We have the backbone of a good company, but the officers feel sure our members could be increased if members of our Church took a **more active interest**.... One way of doing this is for parents to send their boys to the 79th Company, which is truly a **Church Organisation** for boys between 12 and 18 years of age, or alternatively by letting the officers know of any boy in that age group.

Remember the 79th IS YOUR COMPANY and from it will come the future members and leaders in Newton Mearns Church.

#### LIFE BOYS.

The 1957-58 session started early in September when 26 boys were enrolled. One boy has left the district but three recruits were recently added to the Roll. One of these boys is Hungarian.

It is interesting to learn from the boys that apparently countless numbers of their friends are potential recruits. Young boys do not seem to be very successful in persuading friends to join the Team and in view of this perhaps the co-operation of parents in the congregation and of other office-bearers in the Church could be enlisted.

The Lady Leaders have been faithful attenders and thanks are due to all of them particularly Miss Fairlie who has recently been working under extreme domestic difficulties. Miss Helen McGregor, Miss Adele Ferns and Miss Maybeth Paterson have been "Jacks of all Trades" taking varied work from singing to P.T.

The boys have formed an "Animal Defenders Corps" and a talk and film show is to be given by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals on 11th April.

As some of our Lady Leaders will be unable to offer their services after this summer, offers of help from interested ladies or gentlemen would be wel-

come, and enable us to continue to fulfil our objects—The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among young boys, and the training of a body of suitable recruits for the Boys' Brigade.

#### THE CHOIR.

The Choir have been permitted by the Session to obtain the "New Anthem Book" published last August at the instigation of the Church Committee on Aids to Public Worship and Devotion.

The anthem book hitherto in use in our Church was published at the turn of the century and has been out of print for a number of years and is now unobtainable. While the Organist is loath to depart from its use, staff copies are now short and the opportunity has been taken to obtain the new book and so enlarge the repertoire.

The older book will still be used and members of the Congregation who own a copy and who feel disposed to donate it for the use of the Choir, are encouraged to do so.

The Congregational Board have been on the look out for a music cabinet to replace the inadequate choir music cupboard in use at present. The article envisaged would have to be of a sizeable bookcase type with the upper part suitable for individual sets of books for choir-members in "pigeon" holes, and the lower part either shelved or in drawers for sheet music.

Should any member of the Congregation be anxious to be rid from the house of such an article a message to either Mr Arthur Macnaughton or Mr Cuthill would ensure that arrangements would be made to see if the article would be suitable for the purpose of the Choir.

#### HALL EXTENSION COMMITTEE.

Acknowledgements have now been sent to those who returned appeal forms and the various systematic methods of contributing are now in operation.

Some members have indicated their desire to contribute anonymously and at times convenient to themselves.

Arrangements to provide for this are to be discussed with the Congregational Board but meantime subscriptions in an envelope marked "Hall Fund" could be placed in the Offertory Stand in the vestibule of the Church.

The Committee has not been inactive. Although we have a long way to go before reaching our target the Committee has been to East Kilbride where they were shown over a new Hall Church and they are to visit a new Hall in Bellshill.

This is to get some idea of how requirements might be met and of the cost.

An Automobile Treasure Hunt is being organised by Mr Arthur Stubbs and Mr Alan Carlaw—Date Friday, 16th May, starting at Mearns Cross at 6.30 p.m.—Route about 40 miles. Competitors will return to Church Hall where refreshments will be served and prizes distributed to the successful competitors. Mr Stubbs says the more brains in the vehicle the better is the chance of success and so the tickets are per person—5/- each. They can be had from Mr Stubbs, Mr Carlaw or from the Hall Extension Committee, viz: Messrs W. Rodger, J. S. Carlaw, J. W. Jarvie, C. J. Thom, W. T. Davidson, T. F. Marchant, M. Hanna.

The Committee expresses thanks to the Girl Guides for the excellent film show arranged by them, to the Youth Fellowship, and to the Recreational Group for the functions held for the Hall Fund.