

NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

APRIL, 1959.

REGISTER.

Baptisms.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

Anne Gillian Bowie, 9 Newtonlea Avenue.
Gordon Nicol Livingstone, 42 Paidmyre Crescent.

Deaths.

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

R. R. Allan, 31 Windsor Avenue.
Mrs Cromar, Lindores, Netherplace.

New Members — February, 1959.

By Certificate.

Mr and Mrs James C. Bryce, 30 Paidmyre Crescent.
Mr and Mrs Irving Crichton, 57 Beech Avenue.
Mrs Catherine Fleming, 25 Laudervale Drive.
Miss Jean Fleming, 25 Laudervale Drive.
Miss Barbara Gould, Townhead Road.
Mr and Mrs Ian H. Hawthorn, Limetree Crescent.
Mr and Mrs T. Stirling Hunter, 65 Beech Avenue.
Mr and Mrs James Kerr, Ramoyl, Arthurlie Drive.
Mr Jack Livingstone, 42 Paidmyre Crescent.
Mr and Mrs A. C. Macfarlane, 7 Paidmyre Crescent.
Mr and Mrs James F. McNeill, 14 Paidmyre Cresc.
Mr and Mrs William Moore, 9 Arthurlie Drive.
Mr and Mrs George W. Orr, 12 The Loaning.
Miss Janet G. Somerville, 12 The Loaning.
Mr and Mrs Ian Stevenson, Torpheen, Ayr Road.

Removals from the Roll.

The following members have received Dis-junction Certificates since 1st January, 1959, and their names have been removed from the Roll of the Congregation.

Mrs Laidlaw—Mr J. A. Anderson's District.
Mrs Inshaw—Mr J. A. Anderson's District.
Mr and Mrs Horsfall—Mr Macnaughton's District.
Mrs D. Blue—Mr John Russell's District.
Miss Louie Colville—Mr Walker's District.
Mr and Mrs William Wardrop—Mr R. Anderson's District.

OBITUARY.

Mr R. R. Allan, 31 Windsor Avenue, Newton Mearns died suddenly at his residence on Wednesday, 4th February. He had been in hospital a few weeks earlier, and had undergone a major operation, but he had come through it successfully and no one looked for his sudden passing. His sister, indeed, was in the United States at the time of illness, and the news was ultimately so good that she was persuaded by him on no account to hurry home. He was born in Dysart, near Kirkcaldy in Fife, and his father became Provost of the town. As a young man he came to Glasgow, and entered his uncle's business of fruit brokers, of which he became the owner. He was married in 1940 at which time he came to live in this district. He was a man of a very alert brain, possessed of a pawky humour, and kindly in his dealings with his fellow men. He was a regular attender of the Church, and interested in the affairs of it. To his widow and his sister we extend our loving sympathy in the loss of one so dearly loved.

Mrs Cromar, Netherplace, died at the residence of her son and daughter-in-law, on Tuesday, 10th February, in her 95th year. That is a wonderful

age to reach, and until quite recently she was in possession of all her faculties. The one infirmity she had was an increasing deafness. Nor was it due to the fact that she had lived a sheltered life, that she had lived so long. The opposite was the case. She had been a hard worker all her days. She was born in Aberdeen in the registration district of Old Machar, and if my memory serves me right came to Glasgow when she was quite young with her widowed mother. When she married, she and her husband joined the Barony, and she could tell stories about Dr. John White when he came to visit them. She had a strong personality and a voice equally powerful, and she would brook no deviation from what she understood to be the straight and narrow way. She was watched over very graciously in her latter years by her son and daughter-in-law. In a generation when older folk are too often neglected they refused to do anything but what they felt to be their duty and tended her lovingly in their own home. To them and their family we extend our deepest sympathy.

The death of Mr Thomas Knox, Dunselma, Strone took place on Saturday, 21st February. Although Mr and Mrs Knox, and Mrs Norman left the district in May, 1957, they had for so long been associated with the congregation that it came as a great sorrow to us all. We had known Mrs Norman and Mr Knox as the daughters of Mr and Mrs Mackintosh of the firm Ewing and Mackintosh, piano dealers. When Mr and Mrs Knox were married his presence enriched our association with the family. He was always bubbling over with good humour, and one could not long be gloomy in his company. He was most kindly towards everyone, and proved himself to be a most useful elder in the Congregation. To his widow and sister-in-law his many friends in the Church would like to offer their sincere sympathy.

VARIA.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed on the first Sabbath in May, at 11.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. The minister will be assisted by the Rev. Prof. W. D. Niven, D.D., of the University and of Trinity College, Glasgow. The Preparatory Service will be held on Friday, May 1st, at 8 p.m., and will be taken by Rev. W. Neilson Peterkin, M.A., of the Broom. A class for first communicants will meet on each Wednesday, beginning March 25th, in the Manse at 8 p.m.

The Congregation will learn with regret that Mr Thom, our Session Clerk, has had to go into hospital for an eye operation.

Mr John Orr has indicated that for various reasons he cannot continue his work in the Boys' Brigade. The Session has applied to B.B. Headquarters informing it of the situation. Unless we can find officers through it or within the congregation, the situation is a grave one. Can you help?

The Session will present to Captain Archibald Scott at the B.B. Display in May, a Bible in commemoration of his services for 4½ years to the Company. We are indeed grateful to him for all he has done to resuscitate the 79th Company.

FLOWER LIST.

April 5—Mrs Pirret.
 „ 12—Mrs S. Rodger.
 „ 19—Misses M. and E. Gow.
 „ 26—Mr J. McCallum.

CHOIR.

Members of the Congregation with the welfare of the Church at heart will share the anxiety being experienced by our Organist at the present time regarding the Choir.

Without the continued help of one or two senior members, the position would have been serious. The leading of the praise is an important constituent in our public worship and the purpose of this paragraph is to enlist the support of the Congregation in an effort to strengthen the Choir membership in all sections.

Members of the Congregation and their young people with musical ability are cordially invited to join the Choir and thereby restore the praise to something more in keeping with what a Congregation of our membership and resource deserve.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation was held in the Church Hall, on Wednesday, 11th March, 1959. It was, I think, a good meeting. The accounts were put forward by the Treasurer, Mr Walter Rodger, and were approved, and he himself was warmly thanked for the splendid work he does in this and other ways for the Congregation. The only change in the committee was the appointment of Mr George Robertson in place of Mr James S. Carlaw, retired. We would like to thank Mr Carlaw for the valuable service he has rendered to the Board especially in connection with the Memorial Hall Fund. He has indicated that he will be willing to serve again at some future date should the congregation so desire.

After tea we had some delightful Choral pieces from some of the younger members under the guidance of Mr Cuthill. The meeting was quite a lively one in that some of the younger members in particular objected to the nomination and election of 7 members of the Board "en bloc." It was agreed to re-consider this policy at future meetings.

Another subject was raised by Miss Ann Loudon as to what our congregation intended to do about the Refugee problem in the world to-day. It was pointed out that there were 40 millions in the world at the present time, and of these over half a million in Europe. The World Council of Churches had set the year beginning July, 1959 as World Refugee Year. It was unanimously agreed to recommend to the Board that at least £50 be sent to the Fund this year from the Congregation. It was a stimulating meeting and Mr Walter Davidson the Clerk was to be congratulated for all his work in connection with the Board.

The following reports were submitted to the Annual General Meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

There are 23 teachers and 196 scholars on the roll of the Sunday School at present.

The most important news from the Sunday School is the change that took place last December when, on the authority of the Kirk Session the Junior and Senior Departments moved from the

large hall into the Church, and the Primary Department moved from the small Hall into the large Hall. The reason for this change was the overcrowded condition of the Primary in the small hall.

The hour of meeting, previously 10.15 is now 10 a.m. Attendances have been good during the winter months and the new arrangements are working fairly well.

The joint meeting of Junior (8 - 11 years of age) and Senior (11 - 14 years of age) is not ideal; but when the new Hall accommodation is available this will be rectified.

As you will observe from the Report in your hands the Sunday School collections for 1958 amounted to £93 7s 6d. We are gratified with this continuing increase in the children's givings.

We were greatly indebted to Mr and Mrs Carsewell of Mid Borland, for their generous hospitality on 21st June last year when we spent a very happy day's outing on their farm.

The Christmas Party went with its usual swing and the singing of carols at intervals was a fine innovation which we hope to continue in future.

To all who gave of their services or by money contributions to assist in these pleasant social fellowships we tender our grateful thanks.

WOMAN'S GUILD.

The Woman's Guild has had a very interesting session with attendance keeping to average.

Our syllabus has been varied, including talks illustrated and otherwise also some musical evenings. A further feature has been the Bible Study under the leadership of Miss Watt and Mrs Menzies. In October we organised a Sale of Work in aid of the Memorial Halls. With the aid of members outside the Guild this sale realised the sum of £497.

In December our President and Committee with the aid of the Mothers' Group held a Cake and Candy Sale in the Manse and realised £63 for own funds.

The work party sent their usual Christmas box of discarded clothing and knitted garments to Dr. Leuner's Camp for Displaced Persons in Germany.

The illustrated talks by Mr Macnaughton on Madeira and Mrs Menzies on Kenya were a treat to listen to Mr Cuthill on the life of Henry Smart organist and composer, was most interesting.

Our session ended with a fine performance by the East Kilbride Choral Society.

Miss Osborne and I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Mackay, also the Office-bearers and committee for their unflinching help and support.

Mrs A. S. McCance, Joint Secy.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP.

The object 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. Meetings are held each Sunday at 5 p.m. when talks are given by visiting speakers or members of the Fellowship on subjects of general interest and are followed by discussion. This session we have had talks designed to increase our knowledge of our faith, and to give us some understanding of current affairs, for instance, a political forum and a talk and films on Nyasaland. Among our visiting speakers we have had all the local ministers and some members of the congregation. Apart from these more serious talks, we have had film, debates and a musical evening.

In October the Youth Fellowships of the 1st District arranged a conference-cum-holiday weekend at Wiston Lodge. Several of our members attended it, and as it was a great success it is intended to make it an annual event. A committee has been formed consisting of 1 representative from each Fellowship to arrange this conference, and also to serve the useful function of linking all the Fellowships in the district. In February, 3 delegates and 1 observer attended the Scottish Christian Youth Assembly in Edinburgh. The subject this year was "Youth's Mission to Youth."

Last Easter the Youth Fellowship helped the Woman's Guild in the U.N. Appeal for Refugees by making a house-to-house collection. At Christmas we again went carol-singing, and also conducted a Carol Service in the Church. A tape recording was made of this and it was played to some of the older members of the congregation who are unable to attend Church regularly. The Fellowship is very grateful to Mr Murray Hanna for making this recording.

On the social side 2 dances were held which were very enjoyable. The proceeds of the 1st were given to the War Memorial Hall Fund. In June the annual outing took place, to Seamill.

This session the membership has increased considerably and there are now over 30 members. The syllabus is planned to interest all young people in the Church, and all aged 16 and over are welcome.

2nd MEARNS GIRL GUIDES.

The Company at the beginning of last year had on its roll 35 Guides and the Captain was Miss Isobel Morris.

Each Guide is encouraged to take a graded series of tests, each test covering a wide field of activities, to develop character and health, to give practice in handwork and to foster a spirit of service for others. The Patrol System is the means by which training is given, each patrol working as a unit with its own Leader.

In February we joined with the 1st Mearns Guide Company in a "Thinking Day" ceremony, and at the end of February we organised a Film Show towards the Memorial Hall Fund. In April we had a night out at the Scout Gang Show. In order to earn money for our funds we held a Coffee Morning in May.

Our new Session started at the beginning of September and we were very sorry to say goodbye to Miss Isobel Morris who is now in Australia. I had much pleasure in accepting the position of Captain and the Company Lieutenant was Miss Alison Hamilton.

In December the Company sent a Christmas Parcel to some old and sick members of the congregation, and we closed the year with a Christmas Party for the Guides and their friends.

On behalf of the Guides, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the congregation for their support during the session, and to thank Mr Mackay, Mr Gray and Mr Pirret for their very kind visits to the Company.

B. Pirret, Captain.

2nd MEARNS BROWNIES.

It is encouraging to report that the "Pack spirit" and the enthusiasm shown by the Brownies during the past year continues unabated. Included in the present membership of 38 are 16 new entrants. Our usual ceremony of flying up to the Guides has resulted in the promotion of 6 Brownies and a further 5 have graduated on account of having

reached the age limit of eleven years.

We participated in three Church Parades during 1958, the last being on Armistice Sunday. A Youth Festival took place in Eastwood School at which our Brownies were very happy to be given an active part. Brownie work, drill and games are all combined with the object of instilling a sense of discipline along with enjoyment to the children. In the Spring, advantage was taken of the good weather to go for a local ramble.

With the large influx of new residents to this district a cordial invitation is extended to all children between the ages of 7 and 11 to join our Pack. Under the care and attention of Tawny Owls Miss Lesley Williams and Miss Judith Bain and Pack Leaders Miss Joan Duncan and Miss Vivian Davidson they are sure to be well looked after.

In conclusion, we welcome this opportunity to thank most sincerely Mr Mackay, Mr Wood and Mr McClure for their constant interest in the welfare of our Pack.

Joan M. McPhail, Brown Owl.

MOTHERS' GROUP.

Another enjoyable session has been had by the Mothers' Group, though we have still too few members for such a large congregation.

Towards the end of the session we welcomed several new members and hope to increase our numbers next year.

Meetings were continued during the Summer to make the aprons for our stall at the Sale of Work in aid of the Hall Fund. We were well rewarded by the sum of £80 being raised by our effort.

Most Meetings were well attended though when the severe weather came, illness to members and their children had its effect.

The programme was varied and most instructive including talks on The Tell Scotland Movement, A visit to a Kenya Mission, nursing experiences, and Safety in the Home, while we had demonstrations on Glove Making and Beauty Culture.

We were the guests of the Woman's Guild for our opening meeting and greatly enjoyed the films on Madeira and Scotland.

To those members of the congregation who gave us talks we are much indebted.

We had two visits to Mearns Kirk Mothers' Group and the afternoons were enjoyed by those able to attend.

The Session closed by a visit to the King's Theatre by members and friends.

At the A.G.M. Office-bearers elected were: President, Mrs T. Rea; Vice-President, Mrs W. Blue; Secretary, Mrs Watson; Treasurer, Mrs Tweedie. Meetings are held fortnightly on a Thursday in the Manse and new members will be warmly welcomed.

H. Kathleen Macphail, Secy.

RECREATIONAL GROUP.

Badminton Section.

This year has proved difficult in view of the fact that very few new members have come forward.

Those of our new members, who have joined, have been exceedingly keen, to the extent that full use is now being made of the facilities to practice on Saturday afternoon. Some of the younger members have improved and are now playing in the teams; this has relieved the pressure on the older members who have been the mainstay in our teams playing in the Churches league and the Langside League.

In spite of this, the overall picture is not very happy and in the Churches League we have to report that for the first time in eleven years, due to our inability to meet three fixtures, we have been relegated from the 2nd Division to the 3rd Division.

In the Langside League we are at present fourth in the 3rd Division with the prospect of becoming top in this league.

The general picture, in regard to the Badminton Section, is rather one of apathy than optimism and new and keen members are required urgently from the youth of the Church if the Badminton Section is to remain as a principal feature in the Recreational Group.

Social Activities.

With regard to the social activities, the response last year to the Country Dance in February was not very strong. This dance only paid its way, without the usual profit for the Funds. In view of this it was decided at the Annual General Meeting not to hold this dance this year.

Drama Section.

The Drama section is still looking for a leader who is prepared to produce plays and entertainment. We are looking for a Group who will be keen enough to again start up the Drama field. So far there is no indication of support in this direction.

It will be apparent from the above that the Recreational Group is urgently in need of new recruits.

BOYS' BRIGADE.

It falls to me once again and probably for the last time to give the annual report on the 79th Glasgow Company of the Boys' Brigade.

The Company consists of two Officers, Mr Stubbs and myself, six N.C.O.'s. and nine boys, an increase of five from last session. The boys are very enthusiastic and loyal with almost perfect attendances at drill parades and Bible Class.

Members of the Company have been examined in various subjects by the Glasgow Battalion such as Bible knowledge, First Aid and swimming with considerable success. C.Sgt. Donald McDougall passed his N.C.O.'s. proficiency certificate and badge, a very creditable performance.

I regret to report that Captain Archibald Scott, who has been in charge of the Company for four years, found it necessary for health and other reasons to resign in January of this year. I take this opportunity to thank him most sincerely for his leadership, guidance and encouragement at a time when the Company was in danger of becoming defunct. At the same time I also sincerely thank Mr A. F. Stubbs for his assistance, loyalty and enthusiasm not only to the Boys' Brigade but as Leader-in-Charge of our Life Boy Team. Mr Andrew Thomson also gave valuable help in the earlier part of the session.

The future of the Company is rather gloomy owing to the lack of competent, enthusiastic leaders which is a great factor with an organisation for boys which has as its main object "The Advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys."

J. A. Orr.

79th GLASGOW LIFE BOY TEAM.

The 1957/58 Session closed with the Annual Prize Giving ceremony in April. At this meeting we were pleased to welcome Mrs Robertson who

presented the awards to the Life Boys and Boys' Brigade.

After the Summer months the Life Boys resumed their activities on the first Friday of September. Four new groups under newly appointed Boy Leaders were formed and inter group work and normal work and games commenced.

This year the Team has experienced no lack of Leaders. Miss Fairlie, Miss McGregor, Miss Ferns still carry on their duties in the Team. C/Sgt. Donald McDougall has been assisting in the organisation and proves to be a most competent pianist, which is invaluable in Life Boy work where music plays so important a part.

Seal work has progressed extremely well by the end of the present term a record number of seals will have been awarded.

It would be untrue to say that the attendance has been up to the normal standard. This year quite a number of boys have left the Team to join the Cub Movement. As is experienced by all Life Boy Teams a few boys have just fallen by the wayside. The Leaders feel that parents in the majority of cases are not particularly concerned whether a boy is a member of a Youth Organisation or not and in this day and age perhaps insufficient influence is used by parents in guiding young boys in this respect. There can be no doubt that Youth Organisations play as important a part in the community as when they were founded.

It has been becoming evident that a section of our Congregation would rather have a boys organisation which had a greater appeal in their sight. One cannot overlook however the sound object of the Life Boys and Boys' Brigade which are constantly in the minds of the Leaders of both organisations. "The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys" is an object which cannot separate Life Boys and Boys' Brigade from the Church and is one which must surely benefit Boys and Church alike.

The object of the Life Boys is the advancement of Christ's Kingdom among young boys, and the training of a body of suitable recruits for the Boys' Brigade.

A. F. Stubbs, Leader-in-charge.

AUTOMOBILE TREASURE HUNT.

Arrangements are now well in hand for an Automobile Treasure Hunt to be run on Friday, 29th May. Once again the organisers hope to have the support of as many motorists as possible, and they confidently forecast that an enjoyable evening will be had by all.

An interesting route has been planned and the event will be fairly simple, some very interesting and unusual details will be encountered.

In the organisation of the last two treasure hunts, it was found that several people would have been glad to take part if they had been assured of a place in a car. The organisers therefore request that you come along on the 29th of May. Many people will welcome an additional member to the crew.

To keep the expenses to the minimum and to ensure that the Memorial Hall Fund benefits to the fullest extent, any offers of prizes, large or small will be very welcome, and these could be made to Mr A. F. Stubbs, 14 Dunheath Avenue, Newton Mearns, Telephone No. NEWton Mearns 3270. Perhaps some of the members of the Motor Trade in our Congregation would be prepared to offer one of the latest models as the first award!