

NEWTON MEARNS CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

MAY, 1960.

REGISTER.

Baptisms.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

Alexander Dinsmor, 34 Netherplace Road.
Alaistair McLaren Clark, 59 Netherplace Road.

Marriages.

"Whom God hath joined together."

Eileen J. H. Little to Robin W. A. Blue.
Jean McCormick to Thomas F. Waller.
Margaret A. S. Russell to James K. A. Hodgins.
Barbara R. K. Summers to Robert F. Williams.
Margaret S. Gilchrist to James C. Watt.
Janette A. Dippié to Graham P. Dixon.

Deaths.

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

Allan Rodger, 12 Castle Road.
Mrs Strang, c/o Tait, 33 Glencroft Road, S.4.
John McBean, Wynward, Hazelwood Avenue.
James Meiklejohn, Raploch, Larchfield Avenue.
Miss Jessie Harvie, Little Greenlaw.
Mrs Fulton, Glentane.

New Members — May, 1960.

By Profession of Faith.

Miss Kathleen Murray Dykes Fairlie, 3 Ashview Terrace.
Miss Ann Hill, 79 Hazelwood Avenue.
Miss Elizabeth Craig Taylor, 4 Ashview Terrace.
Mrs Louise Taylor, 1 Ashview Terrace.
Miss Margaret Angus Melville, 29 Castle Road.
Mrs Barbara R. Williams, 91 Kilburn St. Neilston.
Mr Robert Wilson Anderson Blue, 28 Moorhill Road.
James Brodie Geddes, 24 Ayr Road.
James Crawford Gillies, 18 Highfield Dr., Clarkson.
John Thomson Low, 115 Barrhead Road.
George Crossan McMurrans, 25 Barrhead Road.
Frank James Metcalfe Reid, 16 Broompark Drive.
Robert Fyfe Williams, 91 Kilburn Street, Neilston.

By Certificate.

Mr and Mrs George Harkness, 138 Main Street.
Mr and Mrs James A. Littlejohn, 33 Newfield Square, S.4.

MINISTERS LOG.

We would like to offer a warm welcome to Mr James Littlejohn our new organist. It was with great regret that we accepted reluctantly the resignation of Mr Cuthill but we feel that we have found a worthy successor to him. Already he has commended himself to us in the manner in which he has officiated at the organ, and also in his friendly personality. Perhaps the best way we can show our appreciation would be in coming into the choir and assisting in the praise of the Church. The Session has suggested that you might do so even if you have not the opportunity of attending the practices.

At the present time the Congregational Board is experimenting with the diffusion of sound of the electronic organ. We ask you to exercise patience as we try one method then another.

The Gala Day organised by the Youth Fellowship brought to a close our efforts as a congregation to take our part in World Refugee Year which ends in June. I understand that the sum raised by the Gala Day was £138 which brought the total sum raised by the Church to £480. We do not feel any pride in what has been done, but rather a feeling of gratitude to God that we have been able to take a share in a work that needed to be done. To our Youth Fellowship, however, we would like to say thank you for the part that it played in the ingathering of the sum. They certainly did not spare themselves.

OBITUARY.

John McBean, Wynward, Hazelwood Avenue, died on Saturday, 9th April. He and his wife came from the outskirts of the city to live in this district about the middle thirties. They at once identified themselves with our congregation and in 1942 he was ordained as an elder of the Church. He proved himself to be one of the best elders we have known showing an example in regular attendance in the sanctuary, taking a keen interest in the welfare of the church, visiting the youth organisations committed to his charge with faithfulness, and in his life and conversation "being an ensample to the flock." His love of his home and his care of his wife in her illness will remain a gracious memory to those who were privileged to visit it. An engineer to trade he was employed by the Corporation of Glasgow as an inspector of works and institutions. He put his knowledge at the disposal of the congregation

when the Church was built in 1939. "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint but willingly"; such was the counsel of St. Peter, and John McBean sought to follow it. To his widow who has been a wise counsellor and faithful helpmeet to him, and to all his kith and kin we extend to-day our deepest sympathy.

James Meiklejohn, Raploch, Larchfield Avenue, died on Sunday, 17th April at his residence. By those who knew him he will always be associated with Bellahouston Academy in the Ibrox district of Glasgow, where he served as principal teacher of Mathematics for many years. He taught other subjects also but the former was his chief task. In his latter years he became headmaster in two other schools but it was in Bellahouston that his greatest work was done. It used to amaze one how many people one met who had had him as their teacher, and the reason was that he began teaching there as a very young man. He was endowed with brilliant intellectual gifts and as he applied himself conscientiously to everything he did, it is not surprising that he reached the high standard that he did. I, personally had the privilege of knowing him for practically the whole of my life. He joined Sherbrooke Church in which I was brought up in 1907 and was an elder in that congregation. He always said that if he could "stand" the father he could "stand" the son (which did not follow!) and when he came out to Newton Mearns in 1935 he joined our congregation here. He was inducted as an elder in 1937. He retired from teaching in 1938 and it was given to him to have a long retirement which he greatly enjoyed. He was a keen golfer and bowler, and it was a great joy to him to be elected last winter as Honorary President of the Whitecraigs Bowling Club. He did not live to take his place but he had the satisfaction of receiving the honour. He rendered valuable service to the Church in many ways as a presbytery elder, and in the work of the Seat-Letting Committee. He was a most kindly man and possessed of a pawky humour, and all his days his life was spent within the Church. To his daughters and grandson, and sisters we extend to-day our deepest sympathy.

Miss Jessie Harvie, Little Greenlaw died on Saturday, 16th April, 1960. She was born and spent her early years in it before removing to Waterside Farm where she passed the major part of her life. Little Greenlaw was ultimately sold but bought back by her towards the end of her life. After her father died she and her brother Robert carried on the farm at Waterside. She was a woman

of a bright and spirited personality, passionately fond of animals, and a great lover of the countryside. As a conversationalist she was most interesting and attractive, with a wide knowledge of life and full of humour. She was a faithful member of the Church and regular in her attendance at the sanctuary, generous in its support. We remember many happy Sabbath School trips to her farm, and all the kindness we there received. To her sister, Mrs Renfrew, the last of her race, and all her nephews and nieces we extend our deepest sympathy in the passing of one they had known for so many years.

Allan Rodger, 12 Castle Road, died suddenly on Thursday, 18th February. He was born in and lived all his days in the parish of Mearns. He was possessed of a very kindly nature, and I doubt if he ever made an enemy in life. His great interest, outside of that of his family, was the Mearns Amateur Football Club, and he devoted all his spare time to its welfare. To his widow and son we offer our deep sympathy in the loss of one so justly dear.

Mrs Strang formerly of Pollok House, Newton Mearns died on 20th February, at the home of her daughter and son-in-law in King's Park, Glasgow. Her husband carried on a tailoring business in the district for many years, and was known to be an expert in his work. Her family was brought up in the Church as were their forebears and took a great interest in the praise of the Church. She herself was a most kindly woman. To her kith and kin we extend our deepest sympathy.

Mrs Fulton, Glentane, died on Sunday, 17th April, 1960. She lived to be an honoured age. I think she was in her 90th year, but she was the kind of person who never grows old. She was interested in everything and in everyone to the very last. I had a personal link with the family for she and her husband were married by my grandfather who was minister in Young Street, Glasgow, and whose full name I bear. She was a woman of a most loveable personality, and her home was the centre of her life. She had a very understanding nature and always tried to see the point of view of the other man. To her son and daughters we offer our deepest sympathy in the passing of one whose life was always bound up with theirs.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation was held in the Church Hall, on Tuesday, 22nd March, and was attended by about eighty members. The Minister, Rev. W. Murray Mackay, occupied the Chair.

The Clerk read a Statement regarding business dealt with at the 1959-60 Board Meetings.

Mr Walter Rodger, the Congregational Treasurer presented the Accounts for 1959 and gave an interesting comparison of the figures with those of the previous year. Mr A. S. McCance, Systematic Giving Treasurer, followed with a statement regarding the total figures promised on the new cards issued to the members who contribute by this method.

Mr J. W. Jarvie, C.A., and Mr D. J. MacPhail were re-elected Auditors for 1960.

The Chairman conveyed the thanks of the meeting to all who had, in any way, contributed to the work of the Church.

The following were elected to the Congregational Board: Miss E. Linklater, Miss Anne Loudon, Messrs G. Prime, B. Baird, Jr., J. P. Loudon, D. Robinson, Mrs C. J. Thom, Mrs J. I. Ferns, Miss M. Hay and Mr J. H. Asher.

After the business part of the meeting, tea was served, followed by songs rendered by Miss Nancy Blue, accompanied by Mrs A. Keir.

Mr A. S. McCance gave an explanatory talk on the Co-ordination Appeal, and stated that the new system will operate as from 1st January, 1961. The financial position of the National Church Extension Fund was explained to the meeting by Mr T. F. Marchant. He urged the need for increased contributions in order that the debt outstanding in this Fund be cleared by 31st December, 1960.

Mr John S. Anderson moved a vote of thanks to the minister for his chairmanship of the meeting and for all his work during 1959.

The following reports were submitted to the meeting:

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

There is a slight decrease in the total number of children attending Sunday School this year. The present number is 191. Last year it was 196. There are 22 teachers.

The Beginners and Primary Department continue to add to their numbers.

The afternoon class for senior boys and girls which began last October has 25 on its roll. The children's interest has been maintained by the imaginative way in which the class leader, Mr Murray Hanna and his assistants have taught the Scripture lessons. The instruction given in the meaning and practise of prayer will without doubt bear real spiritual fruit.

Unfortunately there has been some falling off in attendances in the morning meeting of the Sunday School amongst children of the 11+ to 14 group. It is again made clear to parents and children that there are classes at 10 a.m. for all who cannot come in the afternoon.

The Superintendent and Teachers would like to express their thanks to the many good friends in the Congregation who help so generously to make the picnic and Christmas parties successful.

Members of the Congregation are cordially invited to visit any meeting of our Sunday School.

MARY G. HAY, Secy.

WOMAN'S GUILD.

The Woman's Guild opened their session on 12th October, 1959; it was an open night in which members of the Mothers' Group and members of the Congregation joined us to hear the Rev. W. Neilson Peterkin of Broom Church give us an amusing and interesting talk on "A Visit to America." The talk was illustrated by very fine coloured slides.

On 24th October we held our sale and coffee morning; the Guild members worked hard and with the co-operation of Church members we successfully raised the sum of £112. Of this we gave £10, to the Church Hall Building Fund.

We had two interesting talks illustrated by coloured slides one by Mr T. McKee of the Temperance Association, the other by two of our own Elders, Mr McCallum and Mr John Russell on "Bulb Growing."

Our "Carols and Candlelight" night was a great success, 70 ladies of the Guild, Mothers Group, and friends attending. All enjoyed the carols sung to us by a group from the Church Choir and also enjoyed the community singing of the other carols. Mr Mackay read the account of Tiny Tim's Christmas from Dicken's "A Christmas Carol." The good tea provided and the decoration of the Hall with lighted candles made it a memorable night.

On 11th January a Deaconess, Miss Ross was to have spoken to us on "Work among the Fishermen," unfortunately she was ill but we were able to get a script about this work and some film which Mr Menzies kindly showed for us.

Mr Cuthill our late Organist gave us a programme of recorded music on 25th January. Some records proved to be favourite pieces of some of the Guild members which added to the pleasure of the evening.

The last talk of the session was given by Mr Muirhead Moffat who gave us a humorous and interesting talk on the "Experiences of an Antique Dealer." He brought several articles of antique value to show us. This was also our Guest Night and we were joined by some members of our Mothers Group and by Guild members from Giffnock South and Broom Churches.

We had two work parties in the Manse when Mrs Mackay kindly provided tea.

A bus trip to Westlands Home for Children where we were shown over the Home by the Matron let us see for ourselves some of the good work that is being done for children by the Social Service of the Church. We packed and sent three large hampers for Dr. Leuner's refugees in Germany. During the summer we had an outing to Ballantrae. The day was fine and enjoyed by all.

In January a party of 20 members of the Guild went to an evening's entertainment at the Kings Theatre, Glasgow.

An average of 16 members have attended Mr Mackay's Bible Study during the Winter.

We are a friendly Guild and are always pleased to welcome new members.

Mrs D. CUTHILL, Secy.

THE MOTHERS' GROUP.

The Mothers' Group commenced meeting on 12th October, and once again were honoured by having Mrs Mackay as our very worthy Hon. President.

It can honestly be said that in the short life of our group this past year has been its most successful. Our membership increased to 30 all of whom gave their constant support throughout the year.

We had a varied programme covering talks by Miss Williams, Mr Mackay, Mrs Houston, Miss Stewart, Mr Anderson and Mr Tweedie and to those members of our congregation we extend our sincere thanks.

Throughout our meetings it was apparent that all our members enjoyed and were most interested in the subjects covered.

We were represented at a meeting in the Usher Hall, Edinburgh and were delighted to hear of the good work carried out by the Women's organisations connected to our Churches throughout Scotland.

Two of our members also represented our group at the Retreat of the Glasgow City Group Youth Committee.

We extend a warm welcome to other young mothers who would like to join our group.

2nd MEARNS GIRL GUIDES.

We started the year 1959 with 36 guides on the roll, and the Company Lieutenant was Miss Ann Gray.

In January of last year the company had their annual Dance and in March the Guides paid a visit to the "Scout Gang Show."

In order to earn money for our funds the Company held a Coffee Morning at the beginning of May, with a stall displaying the work of the Guides.

Our session finished at the end of June with the awarding of the Company Medal to the most outstanding Guide of the year, and the Patrol Shield to the smartest and keenest Patrol.

Our new session started at the beginning of September and we welcomed as our new Lieutenant Miss Maureen Caldwell. Miss Jane Clements who is working for her Queens Guide award was made a Company Leader and has been of great assistance.

Apart from the activities I have just mentioned, test work continues during the session, and the Proficiency Badges gained by the Guides cover a wide range of subjects.

In August the Company sent two Patrol Leaders to Netherurd House, Peebleshire, which is the Scottish Guide Officer's training school. This school for Patrol Leaders is held twice a year and places are limited to two per Company, but it is a wonderful opportunity for Guides to meet Patrol Leaders from other Company's in all parts of Scotland. Our Leaders came back with one aim in mind, and that was to go back again next year if possible.

On behalf of the Guides I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Congregation for their support during the session and to thank Mr Mackay for his visits to the Company.

B. PIRRET, Captain.

2nd MEARNS BROWNIES.

The total membership of the Pack has increased from 35 to 38.

During the year a "flying up" ceremony was held when 9 Brownies graduated to the Guides.

Apart from drill and games, the children are taught to fulfil the Brownie Promise which is:—"I promise to do my best, to do my duty to God and the Queen, and to help other people every day, especially at home."

Along with the other youth organisations of the Church we attended two parades at our own Church and one at Giffnock South Church. Also, we were happy to take our share in entertaining Parents at a Social Evening held in the Church Hall, on 25th November last. We had our annual outing to the Pantomime in January and as some of the children invited friends our party numbered 40.

Every opportunity is taken during the summer months to enjoy our exercises out of doors and in this connection the highlight was a Joint Brownies Revels held at Weir's Estate, on 9th May.

Our average attendance steadily increases and it was a pleasure to welcome the assistance of two new Pack Leaders—Miss Diana Watson and Miss Anne Mackay—both active members of the Guides.

As Brown Owl, I am particularly sorry to lose the valued services of Tawny Owl, Miss Leslie Williams and I take this opportunity to thank her for her most conscientious and able assistance during the past four years. My thanks are due also to Tawny Owls—Misses Judith Bain, Joan Duncan and Vivian Davidson, all of whom display real enthusiasm and interest in the Pack.

As always, we are grateful to the Minister, Mr Mackay, for his unfailing support and also to Mr Wood and to Mr McClure for the periodic visits and encouragement.

JOAN M. MacPHAIL, Brown Owl.

79th BOYS BRIGADE.

I am pleased as Captain of the 79th Glasgow Company of the Boys' Brigade to give the Annual Report on our activities during the past year.

In the month of May the annual inspection was held in association with the Life Boy Team, the inspecting Officer being our esteemed past Captain, Archibald Scott. At the inspection Mr Scott was presented with a gift of a Bible from the Kirk Session and a small gift from the boys in appreciation of his services to the company over the past five years. Mrs Scott kindly presented the prizes.

At the June meeting of the Kirk Session, I was formerly appointed Captain of the Company although I had already intimated by resignation. I accepted office somewhat reluctantly as I was acting against medical advice but I felt that I was letting the boys down as it virtually meant that no officers were left apart from Mr Stubbs who was also leading the Life Boy Team.

However, my decision has been amply rewarded as the Company strength has greatly increased thanks to a number of recruits from the Life Boy team. The present strength is 25 inclusive of officers, which is an increase of eight from last year. Thanks to the interest and practical help of one of our elders, Mr Sidney Brunton, his nephew Mr W. B. Allardyce became a gazetted officer. Mr Allardyce, who travels to every meeting from the Battlefield district of Glasgow, has proved himself to be a most efficient and popular officer. I would like to thank him and Mr Brunton for their kind help. At the same time I would also record my thanks to the Convener and Secretary of the Eastwood Battalion for directing two young men, Mr Alex. Watt and Mr J. Henderson to us from the 60th Company to act as Staff Sergeants. These two men along with Staff Sergeant Donald McDougall have been of great assistance in running the company especially Donald who has helped the Life Boy Team as well as the Brigade. Unfortunately Mr Henderson has to leave us to take up a business appointment in England. He has my best wishes and thanks.

While thanking the above named gentlemen I must not forget our long serving officer, Mr A. F. Stubbs who not only performs noble work as our drill officer in the company, but is leader in charge of the Life Boy Team. He has my grateful thanks for his continued interest and support.

The activities of the company followed the usual lines with the exception of the Enrolment Service which was held in the Church on Sunday, 22nd November, for the first time. This Service impresses on the boys the object and aims of the Boys' Brigade. In the first aid examination, which was a stiff one, 6 boys were successful out of 7 entries, 2 boys passed the campers badge test and 9 entered the Bible knowledge test, the result of which are not yet known. It is proposed this summer to take some of the boys out in a day boat to give them practical experience in sailing with a view to obtaining their seamanship badge at a later date.

Finally may I thank the Company Chaplain for his interest and help, the Kirk Session and the following gentlemen for their moral and financial support, Mr J. Carlaw, Mr W. Walker and Mr A. Gray.

79th GLASGOW LIFEBOY TEAM.

The 1958/59 session was completed with the Annual Display and Inspection in May; this was held jointly with the Boys' Brigade.

Of the 29 boys who enrolled in the Team in September, 1958, seven left during the session. Several left due to lack of interest on their part, but the majority of our losses went to the Cubs.

This drift away from the Church became evident again when three of the nine boys due to be transferred to the Boys' Brigade, again preferred to join the Scout Movement.

The start of the 1959/60 session saw all previous members re-enrolled, and several recruits. The total number of recruits this year being nine, and happily this year, there are no losses. The total number of boys now on the roll is 21.

The normal Lifeboy work has been progressing satisfactorily, and work is now in progress for the Display and Prize Giving, to be held on the 13th May.

During the Christmas Holiday period, the Lifeboys and several members of the Boys' Brigade visited Kelvin Hall Circus and Carnival, and this proved to be a most enjoyable outing.

Attendance has been rather erratic over the Winter months, but five boys are at present showing perfect attendance.

The Lady Leaders, Miss Fairlie, Miss McGregor Miss Ferns, and Mr D. McDougall have served the Team faithfully, and their efforts are very much appreciated.

A. F. STUBBS, Leader.

BADMINTON GROUP.

Last year at this time it was reported that the position in the Recreational Group was not very happy and that it was proving exceedingly difficult to provide a Team to compete in both the Church's League and in the Langside District League.

At the last Annual General Meeting in September it was decided that the Badminton Section would withdraw from the Church's League and concentrate on the Local Langside District League.

Within this limited scope the Badminton Team have been holding their own and have won three games out of five played.

Unfortunately on two occasions due to lack of support, the Team was unable to play off two games and this falling off of support in the Badminton Club has been prevalent throughout this Season.

The Playing Membership has dropped and the general feeling is one of disappointment and it is felt that the question of continuing with the Badminton Group as an operational Club may have to be given serious consideration.

From the Financial aspect the position is satisfactory.

IAN G. HANNA, Secy.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP.

We are pleased to report that this has been a happy and successful year for the Youth Fellowship. There was a fairly large increase in our number at the beginning of October and this has been maintained throughout the session and average attendances at our Sunday evening meeting has been fairly consistent.

We have had a varied syllabus with talks ranging from "Medicine at Home and Abroad" to Scientific Crime Detection." We have also visited the fellowship meetings of Giffnock South, Broom and Busby West and enjoyed the opportunity which these afforded of meeting members of the other fellowships.

Over a year ago, the First District of Renfrewshire Youth Fellowships was set up. This is composed of representatives of all the fellowships in the area and its aim is to provide opportunities for the fellowships to meet and get to know each other better. Eleven of our members were present at the conference which it organised at Wiston Lodge, Biggar, in October. One of our members was elected treasurer of the group for this year and it is hoped that this fellowship will continue to support wholeheartedly the work which it is doing.

Also in October, we held a very successful dance at which the other fellowships were well represented and the evening was enjoyed by all present.

At Christmas, we again were pleased to have the opportunity of conducting a Carol Service, on 20th December. This service was carefully planned and we were encouraged by its success. Over the holiday period, a tape recording of the service was taken to members of the congregation who were unable to attend.

In January we were hosts to nine other youth fellowships at an Inter-fellowship service for the first district which was held in the Church. The Rev. John L. Kent kindly consented to preach the sermon and, as the first venture of its kind, we are pleased at its success, and hope that it will become an annual event in the syllabus of youth fellowships in this district.

The Christian Youth Assembly was again held in Edinburgh in February. We sent three delegates and six observers to this and are pleased at the interest which is being taken in its affairs.

This being World Refugee Year, the raising of money for these people has taken an important part in our activities. In February, we were asked

by the Congregational Board to distribute leaflets and envelopes for this purpose and were delighted with the large sum of money which the appeal brought. At the same time we collected a large amount of used clothing to be sent abroad.

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The Youth Fellowship would like to express its very sincere thanks to all the members of the congregation who supported its "Gala Day" in aid of World Refugee Year. This was a venture which depended completely for its success on the co-operation of the congregation and we are most grateful to all those who contributed so generously.

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VARIA:

The Anniversary Services will be held on Sunday, 29th May when the officiating Minister will be the Rev. James Currie, B.D., of St. James' Church, Pollok. Mr Currie comes to us on this occasion to speak on National Church Extension.

Our Church is to be well represented at the General Assembly this year when Mr Thom and Mr A. S. McCance, who have both been elected by the Presbytery, will attend.

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FLOWER LIST.

The Committee desires to thank all those who so kindly added their names to the Flower List for year ending April, 1961.

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| May | 1—Communion. |
| | , , 8—Mrs Carlaw. |
| | , , 15—Mrs Orr. |
| | , , 22—Miss Jardine. |
| | , , 29—Mrs Ferns. |
| June | 5—Mrs Mitchell. |
| | , , 12—Mrs Gray. |
| | , , 19—Mrs J. W. Jarvie. |
| | , , 26—Mrs Cameron. |