

NEWTON MEARN'S PARISH CHURCH SUPPLEMENT

SEPTEMBER 1976

REGISTER

Baptisms

Elizabeth May Breckon, 54 Rodger Avenue.
Alastair Stewart Robertson, 16 Wickham Avenue.
Eric William Joiner, 35 Cedarwood Avenue.

Marriages

Josephine E. McFarlane and Robert Johnston.

Deaths

Miss Mary Osborne, 14 Townhead Road.
Mrs. Louisa Taylor, 27 Netherplace Crescent.
Mr. John R. Frederick, Fassfean, Newtonlea Avenue.
Mrs. William Stewart, 272 Ayr Road.
Mrs. Mary Anderson, 4 Rysland Avenue.

Attendance at Church Door

1976

Sept.	19	M. A. Fitzgerald, G. W. Sellars, K. Harvey.
"	26	J. S. Robertson, A. C. McIntyre, A. R. Y. Smith.
Oct.	3	R. Thomson, I. M. Mackay, W. M. Walker.
"	10	W. T. R. Simmons, J. Knight, J. Knox.
"	17	G. B. Jarvie, R. J. Pounce, H. Ross.
"	24	M. Gillies, D. J. McPhail, J. B. Maxton.
"	31	E. H. Clements, W. T. Mackinnon, H. M. Peden.
Novr.	7	R. A. MacDonald, R. L. Todd, A. B. McClure.
"	14	A. L. McKendrick, J. A. McKelvie, B. J. Baird.

MINISTER'S LOG

Although the summer days have come and gone (?), and what a glorious spell of weather it has been, although we do not forget that some have suffered in the lack of rain that has fallen, we would like to recall and record in this issue of the Supplement the great joy that many of us felt at the completion and dedication of the New Halls.

First of all the Service that surrounded the official opening of them. To some of us it was amongst the finest Church meetings that we had been privileged to attend. The Church on a midsummer evening was packed almost to capacity. As the Moderator of the Presbytery—Rev. David Johnston, of Belhaven-Westbourne—reported back afterwards to the Presbytery, "We hear a great deal of moaning and groaning about the Church these days—but to have been present, as I was, in the midst of that vast throng, and to feel the friendliness of it, would have done your heart good." He offered the congratulations of the Presbytery to the Kirk Session and the congregation.

The chief speaker of the evening was the Rev. John Gray of Dunblane Cathedral. He had been invited not only because of his distinguished ministry in the Church in Parish and General Assembly, but because also of his close personal relationships in the Parish. His great grandfather owned Fingleton Mill, his grandmother and uncle Fred Rodger, Pilmuir Mill; uncle Fred Rodger married Chrissie Rodger of Hillhead Farm, just beyond the Malletsheugh; her cousins were the Misses Osborne of Broomlea. His cousin is Mrs. Morrison of Crosslees Farm. He therefore knew the Parish from his earliest days. He sketched in his racy and attractive style the changes that had taken place in the last 50 years. He was absolutely correct in his chronology. It has all happened in that time. From an isolated village Newton Mearns had become a residential suburb. He paid tribute to the magnificent Shopping Centre, the Library, the parking facilities, and yet he said the Church was still there at the front and the very centre of it. Of no other institution could it be said that it had survived the passage of time. All had been built under the shadow of the Altar. His address could hardly have been surpassed.

It would be ungracious of me not to pay tribute to the third speaker the Rev. Donald G. M. Mackay of Greenbank Church, Edinburgh, one of the leading congregations of the Capital City. It was difficult for him to come into the gathering as it were, from the outside. In a sense it was nice for me personally to have my brother associated with me on such a great occasion. Quite a few of our present members were originally members of our father's congregation—Sherbrooke in Pollokshields. They were very glad to meet him again. He has taken an important part in the wider work of the Church of Scotland as Convenor of the Overseas Council, representing the Church of Scotland in India, Africa and Jamaica. I liked his reference to Mrs. Jenny Martin. She is a member of his Church in Edinburgh, and lived in the manse here with her brother at one time when he, the Rev. Godfrey McFadyen was minister. He was my predecessor and died when he had only been 8 years in the ministry, a much beloved man.

The choice of the Session of Miss Isa Russell to perform the opening ceremony was a popular one. Her family has been associated with the congregation for several generations, in the Eldership, the Sunday School, and in the floral decoration of it. She spoke of the differences that had taken place since she was a girl, and of the fact that she had been both a pupil and a teacher in Mearns Parish School.

Margaret Baird, aged 12, of the Windhill Farm, Eaglesham, presented a New Hymnary to her to mark the occasion. She represented another family that was linked with the past—her father an Elder, her grandfather also an Elder, and her great grandfather the late

William Craig of the Floors, our senior Elder for many years. She herself is a teacher in the Sunday School and a pianist in it.

May I close with an edited excerpt of a letter that reached me through the post the following day, "What a completely wonderful night! You must have gone to bed a very happy man, knowing the happiness and delight everyone felt throughout the whole joyful occasion. The choice of speakers was so interesting and so humorous, the music superb. Mind you I thought the congregation sang pretty well too! I am sure we will all feel the inspiration of the whole atmosphere all our days".

The Summer Fair that followed a fortnight later was a great success. It was a wise decision to take it out of the Crookfur Field and have it in the New Halls. As you know the sum raised was £1,750. I think that that was magnificent, especially when you realise how the congregation has been giving so constantly for the last few years. Bill Tennant opened it and proved to be a great success. He is such a kindly personality that he endeared himself to all—both young and old, stayed about an hour going round the stalls, and said as he was driven to his next "port of call" that they were a very friendly people. Can you say more about a congregation. It was a long day 10 till 4. I found the tea-room in the old hall a veritable haven! How nice to feel that your main hall for years was now your lesser one. The Session House has been greatly improved, the Kitchen has been enlarged and a new window thrown out at the far end. It is equipped with all the latest gadgets etc., and the Woman's Guild is to be congratulated most warmly on taking this under its control and paying for it. The entrance to the New Hall, once you pass through the outer doors, is a very beautiful one and the way the Architect has used the outside wall of the Church to make this passage through quite an architectural feature. To Alan Paterson, the convenor of the Fund Raising Committee, and all his many and willing helpers we offer our warmest congratulations. Mrs. Kate Young's Tapestry, over which she laboured for many years, raised a lot of money. Where so many people have helped it is almost invidious to mention names. We would thank, however, Mr. Allan McClure whom the Board asked to watch over the actual building and who gave his time unsparingly to it, and also Mr. William Stewart who never let a day pass without being in attendance.

THE WOMAN'S GUILD

The opening Social of the Woman's Guild and Young Woman's Group will be held on Monday October 4th at 7.30 p.m.

There will be a concert by the Albany Singers.

Members of the congregation will be made very welcome.

The Guild are also running an Exhibition and Sale of paintings by Helen F. Simpson D.A. This will take place on:

Thursday 30th September from 2.30—4.30 p.m. and 7—9.30 p.m.

Friday 1st October from 2.30—4.30 p.m. and 7—9.30 p.m.

Saturday 2nd October from 10 a.m.—5 p.m.

Tea will be served.

The proceeds will go to the Hall Fund.

SYLLABUS 1976-77

1976

- Oct. 4—Albany Singers
Opening Social with Young Woman's Group
- 11—"Henry VIII and His Wives"
Dr. Jamieson
- 18—Delegates' Reports
- 25—Guest Night—"Down Memory Lane"
Miss Edith White
- Nov. 1—"Unknown Beauties of the Clyde"
Dr. Logan
- 8—"Wool"—Mr. J. Ritchie
- 15—Bible Study—Miss S. Calder
- 22—Beetle Drive
- 29—"Impressions of Westminster"
Mrs. Teddy Taylor
- Dec. 6—Business Meeting
- 13—Christmas Party

YOUNG WOMAN'S GROUP

The first meeting of the new session will be a joint meeting with the Woman's Guild on Monday 4th October at 7.30 p.m. when the Albany Singers will provide the entertainment.

Meetings thereafter will be held fortnightly in the Upper Hall at 7.30 p.m. We have a varied syllabus planned and we look forward to being joined by new members.

COMING EVENTS

The Harvest Festival will be celebrated on the first Sunday in October at 9.30 and 11.30 a.m. The children will meet in the halls at 11.15 a.m. and will process up the centre aisle and lay their gifts of flowers and fruit etc. on the chancel steps. These will be given to Mearns Kirk Hospital, Crosslees Childrens Home, Thornliebank and other places. Donations of fruit and flowers may be left in the Church halls on Saturday morning.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be dispensed on the third Sunday of October at 9.30 a.m., 11.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. The visiting minister will be the Rev. Colin Campbell, M.A., B.D. of Williamwood Church.

A class for first communicants will be opened in the Manse, 204 Ayr Road on Tuesday 14th September at 8.00 p.m., and will meet on succeeding Tuesdays until the Communion.

Remembrance Day Services will be held on the second Sunday of November at 9.30 a.m. and 10.55 a.m. The Youth Organisations will be on parade.

THE GIRL GUIDES

It has been decided by the Girl Guide Movement of the District in consultation with the Church Authorities that as from the beginning of September both companies of the Guides and all three packs of the Brownies will meet within the premises of the Church. It was because we could not accommodate them that they had to meet in Eastwood High School and latterly in Crookfur School as well as in Mearns School. The decision is one that is made by the Guide Authorities but the Church concurs with it. We know that it may be a little more inconvenient for some parents but we feel that the benefits of gathering under the roof of the Church will outweigh the disadvantages. You will find the days of the week and the times of meeting in the list of organisations at the end of the Supplement.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Congregational Board, in whose province lies the allocation of the Church Halls, agreed to a request from the Superintendent of the Sunday School that all departments should meet at 11.30 a.m. concurrent with the second forenoon Service. The only exception is the Senior Sunday School Group, 12 years and over, which will gather at 10.00 a.m. We had always looked forward to being able to do this as it laid a heavy burden on parents providing a "shuttle" service at different times. The thought in mind is that some of the younger children may not now be brought into the 11.30 a.m. Service and their places taken by a slightly older group. The latter would go out after the children's address. It is good that children should learn the habit of Church attendance and it is the intention that this training should continue. It will mean that certain teachers will require to accompany them when they leave, but if they so desire there is always the short half hour 9.30 a.m. act of Worship.

VARIA

We said farewell to Mr. William Warnock one of our Elders at a gathering of Elders after a forenoon Service. He has proved himself to be an excellent office-bearer of the Church, most regular in his attendance, and a member of the choir. He visited his district most thoroughly and his was a widely scattered one. To his wife and himself and his family we offer our thanks. They go to live in Inverness. A New Church Hymnary was presented to him in the name of the congregation.

The resignation of Mrs. J. A. Carlaw as Flower Convenor is one that we have accepted with great regret. She has held the Office for 14 years and has honoured it by fulfilling it. No Church can ever have been more fortunate than ours in this respect. Her knowledge of the Floral Art reached the point of perfection and she never allowed her standard to be lowered. There is a Gallic Proverb that says it is not sufficient to build Rome, one must maintain it. This was certainly true of her work. Many people who donated the flowers would ask her if she would buy them and arrange them. This she did willingly.

After that there was the delivery of them and her visits were enjoyed greatly. In addition there was the decoration of the Church at Harvest and at Christmas. Certainly she had many helpers but she had the organisation of it. To her and to her husband who was her willing helper we would like to offer our most sincere thanks for all she has done to beautify the Sanctuary. She has had as her Co-flower Convenor Miss Isa Russell. We are very glad to intimate that she is willing to remain as Flower Convenor and that she will be assisted by Mrs. Andrew Russell, her sister-in-law, Mrs. Ian Mackay, 9 Maple Avenue, and Mrs. Allardyce (Adele Ferns) of 44 Broomfield Avenue.

I feel that it would be a grave omission not to mention the work that our Church Officer—Mr. William Dinsmor—has had during this year of the building of the New Halls. It could not have been easy to carry on the duties of Church Officer in the midst of tradesmen around him. He had to improvise all the time as kitchen premises were knocked down and water was turned off, and coffee had still to be made for the minister between the Services! Yet never a grumble did we hear from him or his wife. We have been greatly blessed in the Church

by both of them. The Youth organisations turn to him and he tries to meet all their needs. Thank you for a very excellent year's work.

CHRISTIAN AID

Newton Mearns Christian Aid Committee's House-to-House Collection last month brought in £1033.85, which was £55 up on last year's £978.

Many thanks to everyone who gave this money and to the two hundred organisers and collectors who called on nearly five thousand houses to collect it.

Thanks also to the generous sponsors and the hard-working cyclists who have raised about £450 through the Sponsored Cycling, nearly double last year's £260.

A lot of our youngsters at Williamwood joined in the Walk in Pollock Park: we have not yet got the result of this year's Walk but the Committee were credited with £118 for their share in last year's. More hard work and cheerful giving—thanks again.

All this means that Newton Mearns has paid over to Christian Aid's Scottish Office £1684.60 in the past 12 months, an increase of 36% on 1974/5.

OBITUARIES

Miss Mary Osborne, 14 Townhead Road died on Wednesday 12th May 1976. She was born and lived all her days in the village. The family consisted of a brother and three sisters (Rachel, Jeanie and herself). Rachel and she had a confectioner's shop in the Main Street for many years. She herself would travel into Glasgow on a Monday to replenish the stock and purchase customer's ironmongery requirements. She removed finally to Townhead Road and was able to employ a housekeeper to look after her. Perhaps this was the happiest time of her life, and she seemed to grow in stature as the years passed. She was a regular attender of the Church and of the Woman's Guild. She was generous in her financial support of the New Halls. She was happy in the friends that visited her regularly. We shall miss her much and to those who watched over her so tenderly in her declining years we would express the gratitude of the congregation.

Mrs. Louisa Taylor, 27 Netherplace Crescent died on Wednesday 26th May 1976. One remembers her as a child, as a member of the Goldie family. Their father had the responsibility of lighting the gas lamps in the village. The children were all educated in the Sunday School. She married into the Taylor family who were a large and highly respected one in the district. She had not enjoyed good health the last few years being subject to a nervous affliction. She was a fine bright girl and had a very happy married life. To her husband and her relatives we extend the deep sympathy of the Church.

Mr. John R. Frederick, Fassfearn, Newtonlea Avenue died on 23rd July 1976. He was in the Civil Service of Glasgow Corporation, from which he had retired a few years ago. One remembers that Karine, one of their children lost the sight of her eyes when she was nine, and that must have been a great sorrow to her father and mother. She has, however, risen triumphant over her handicap and is now happily married and lives in her own house in Clarkston. Perhaps this determination she got in part at least from her father and theirs has been a very happy home. Mrs. Frederick must be given

great praise for the way she has faced difficulties in life. Sandra, their other daughter, is married and lives in Glenrothes and she has been a great support to the home. We would extend to her and to Mrs. Frederick and all their kith and kin the deep sympathy of the congregation.

Mrs. William Stewart, 272 Ayr Road died on 22nd July 1976. She had been undergoing treatment in the Western Infirmary for some time, but had come home only to fall in the house and break her hip. A pin was inserted in it, but it broke, and she had to have the operation done all over again. She had got home once again but alas the strain was too much for her. She was born and brought up in Berwick-on-Tweed. Their first home was in Ashview Terrace, until they moved in with her mother-in-law when she was no longer able to live alone. She and her husband have had four daughters—Margaret, Dorothy, Jean and Betty and theirs has been a very happy home, the last three are now married. She was a very fine woman—talented, bright, gracious and a good conversationalist. She drew people to her by the kindness of her heart. She loved the Church and brought her family up in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Her husband is an Elder of the Church and has done much to help to build the New Halls. We feel that behind all that he has become her presence has been supporting him. To him and the family we extend the deep sympathy of the congregation.

Mrs. Mary Anderson, 4 Rysland Avenue died on Sunday 22nd August 1976. Her husband was Ancell Anderson, a brother of the late James A. Anderson, of Balmae, Whitecraigs, our senior Elder for many years. She and her husband married late in life yet she enjoyed about 25 years of very happy life together. She was 84 when she died. They were married in Brodick because they had met there. She asked me 2 days before she died if I had seen the seat that she had put in Lochranza near the castle, as a memorial to him. They had enjoyed the view so much she wanted others to share it. Although born in Cheshire, her grandparents had owned a farm near the Grampians; then her father had moved, he was a banker, to the Borders and thence to England. She was a very sweet and gracious personality and interested in all that was going on in the Church. To her sister-in-law Mrs. Maisie Anderson and her nieces we extend the sympathy of the Church.

OFFICIALS OF THE CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

The Woman's Guild

<i>President:</i>	Mrs. W. Dinsmor	639 2777
<i>Secretary:</i>	Mrs. H. Simpson, 10 Arisdale Crescent	639 2432
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Mrs. A. B. McClure, 29 Broomvale Drive	639 2695

The Guild meets on Monday evenings at 7.30.

Young Woman's Group

<i>President:</i>	Mrs. W. M. Dallas, 21 Arisdale Crescent	639 1097
<i>Secretary:</i>	Mrs. J. Smith, 28 Arisdale Crescent	639 6703
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Mrs. A. N. Duncan, 63 Rodger Avenue	639 5347

The Group meets in the Upper Hall on alternate Monday evenings from 7.45.

The Sunday School

<i>Superintendent:</i>	Mr. J. McKerral, 46 Newtonlea Avenue	639 3655
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Mr. G. H. Burt, 184 Capelrig Road.	639 5711
<i>Secretary:</i>	Mr. Alan Paterson, 46 Rodger Avenue	639 4972

The Boys' Brigade—79th Glasgow Company

<i>Captain:</i>	Mr. Hugh Ross, 31 Kinloch Road.	639 5598
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The Company meets in the Hall on Friday evenings at 7.30.

The Junior Section, The Boys' Brigade—79th Glasgow Company

<i>Leader:</i>	Mr. Martin Ogilvie, 1 Glebe Lane	639 2493
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The Company meets in the Hall on Friday evenings at 6.30.

The Girl Guides—2nd Mearns Company

<i>Captain:</i>	Mrs. Elizabeth Harris, 16 Shawwood Crescent	639 4835
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The Company meets in the Church Hall on Thursday evenings at 7.30—9.30.

3rd Mearns Company

<i>Captain:</i>	Mrs. Posnor, 18 Abercorn Road	639 5742
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The Company meets on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30 in the Church Hall.

2nd Brownie Pack

<i>Brown Owl:</i>	Mrs. R. Booth, 17 Gordon Crescent	639 4230
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This Pack meets in the Church Hall on Thursday evenings at 6.00—7.30.

7th Brownie Pack

<i>Brown Owl:</i>	Miss Simmie, 30 Windsor Avenue	639 3177
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This Pack meets on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 7.30 in the Church Hall.

3rd Brownie Pack

<i>Brown Owl:</i>	Mrs. Stevenson, 1 Rysland Avenue	639 2347
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This Pack meets on Monday evenings from 6 to 7.30 in the Church Hall.

The Badminton Club

<i>President:</i>	Miss Elspeth Simpson, 10 Arisdale Crescent	639 2432
<i>Secretary:</i>	Colin Aikinson, 106 Beech Avenue	639 2970

Club meets on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at 7.30.: Junior, Saturday 1.30-3.30 p.m.

Sparks—Boys 5-7 Years

<i>Leader:</i>	Miss Shirley Howie, 51 Beech Avenue	639 2661
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The Sparks meet on Wednesday evenings between 6.30—7.30.

The next Supplement will be available for distribution on Sunday 14th November, 1976. Material should be handed in 14 days in advance.