

SteepleTalk



The Magazine
Of
Bourock Parish Church

Easter 2002

Who's Who In Bourock

Minister	Maureen Leitch	881 1462
Session Clerk	Elizabeth McKenzie	880 5077
Clerk To The Board	Bruce Brown	571 6403
Treasurer	Ross Mitchell	881 4688
Roll Keeper	Billy Irvine	881 1638
Deeds Of Covenant	Jim Auchincloss	881 6143
WFO Envelopes	John McGarrie	571 6728
Junior Church	Linda Dye	876 1201
Guild	Margaret McKechnie	580 1322
Boys' Brigade (Company)	Graham Manson	580 0871
Boys' Brigade (Junior)	Lawrence Webb	571 4330
Boys' Brigade (Anchor)	Mary Murray	881 1564
Guides (2nd)	Jennifer Stewart	881 7320
Guides (3rd)	Barbara Jones	881 0391
Brownies (2nd)	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Brownies (3rd)	Karen Auchincloss	881 6143
Tweenies	Elizabeth McKenzie	880 5077
Young Woman's Group	Susan Morrison	580 5292
Mother & Toddler	Debbie Mitchell	571 5536
Variety Club	Linda Dye	876 1201
Coffee Club	Jenny McLeod	881 3585
Craft Club	Dorothy Ramsay	571 5260
SteepleTalk	Ken Dye	876 1201
Life And Work	Angus Leitch	881 1462
Christian Aid	Marjory Brown	571 6403
Organist	Carolyn Suttie	881 7346

Kirk Session Committees

Care And Concern	Morag Brown	880 6466
Communication	Ken Dye	876 1201
Education	Linda Dye	876 1201
Mission	Ann McMillan	
Worship	Doug Swanney	

Dear Friends,

Written on the back of a book of Lent readings is this "just as a bulb cannot be ready for spring unless it has lived through the winter, so Christians cannot be ready for Easter unless they have observed Lent: God's Springtime"

We are in the period of Lent -looking forward to Easter. There can be no doubt that it is Springtime - the weather is unpredictable, the bulbs are showing through and the days are lengthening. Spring is the time during which we are most aware of new growth and re-birth in nature. It is also the time for us to tune in to fresh ways of experiencing God's love. We take that wonderful gift so much for granted that sometimes we fail to acknowledge the source of it--God. Lent is the ideal time to ponder anew the wonder of the amazing grace of God. If you have become lax in your attendance at worship, if you have let your prayer life slip, if you have not been reading the Scriptures, NOW is the time to do something about it.

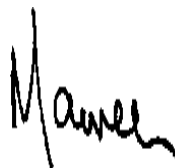
Complacency is a big problem in church life. We carry on as usual without giving much thought to what we are doing. However, even a quick reading of the Gospels will inform you that Jesus abhorred complacency and was always challenging people to look beyond themselves to the needs of others. How do we meet the needs of our community?

We in Bourock are always trying to look at how we can improve our mission to the community and we welcome suggestions. We are a worshipping community and all that we do is founded on our worship of God, so we need to worship together to strengthen ourselves for the mission of taking the Good News of Christ out to others. To this end we want to know what you think of our present style of worship and look for any suggestions you might have. So we have included a questionnaire with this magazine. Please take it seriously and return it. We can't promise to include every change that might be suggested but we will take on board what you say.

It is now over a year since we started our roof repairs and I want to thank everyone who contributed to the fund raising effort. I was pleased that we managed to do so well and keep up our regular contributions. This Christian giving is an important part of our commitment and it enables us to do more and more work in terms of mission. So please keep up the good work and give what you can. As you will see from our accounts the increased uptake of Gift Aid has helped our finances - at no cost to you. If you are a taxpayer, please sign a form to allow to collect this "gift" from the taxman.

Finally, it was good to see so many of you in church over the Christmas period - I hope these attendances continue and that our worship goes from strength to strength in a lively and friendly fellowship.

Every blessing for a joyful Easter



3rd Barrhead Guides

At the Youth Service on Sunday, January 13, Jillian Webb, a Guide in the 3rd Company, was presented with her Baden-Powell Award and on the Monday evening a celebratory tea with BP cake was held for Jillian, the Guide Company, parents and friends.

On January 15 the Nightingale Patrol took part in the District Cooking Competition which was held in the South and Levern Church. The

Guides had to prepare and cook 3-savoury and

2-puddings for a buffet party. Two days later saw us visiting the Police Stables in Glasgow. This was really very enjoyable.

Also, in January, the Guides took part in a Fitness 'Go-for-It'. Aerobics, line dancing, skipping, power walking were some of the items that were undertaken and the following week we had yoga and a pampering evening. Face masks (complete with cucumber slices for the eyes) and nails painted. Very relaxing -- must do it again!! The Thinking Day Service this year (Thursday, February 21), took place in Bourock with all Brownies and Guides taking part.

On the Monday, February 25, the Guides prepared their Thinking Day tables. Each patrol selects a country and brings items and food connected with it. it's amazing what is brought in.

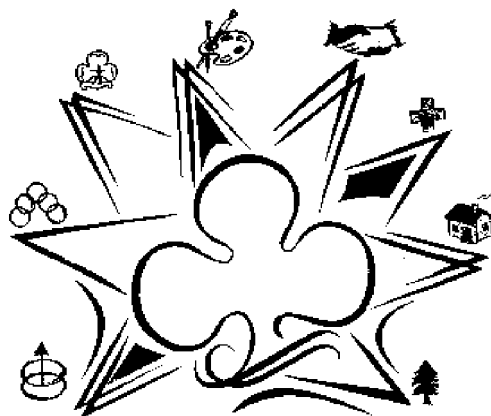
March 1/2, Jean Mackay and Susan Bradley are taking part in a Baden-Powell Challenge - this is the final part of this award. We send our best wishes to both girls.

Chit Chat Café on Saturday, March 9, is the next BIG item in our calendar of events.

This will be held from 10am-2pm with a variety of hot/cold snacks prepared and served by the Guides. Everyone will be made most welcome. Why not come along for a chat and some lunch?

Empty ink cartridges are collected for Guide Dogs for the Blind and Stamps (with at least 1/2in border) are collected for Ardgowan Hospice, Greenock. If you have any of these items, please leave at doors to church or halls. Thank you to all who regularly contribute.

Barbara
3rd Guide Company



The Guild

The 2001/2002 session of the Guild is almost over. We have had many interesting speakers and as always we were fortunate to have someone from our Congregation to speak to us.

Our meetings since January

January 8	Strength through God's Presence	Rev. Maureen Leitch
January 22	Members Night	
February 12	Year of the Child	Douglas Swanney
February 26	Angels with Beards	Douglas Allan
March 12	Visit to YWG	



Still to come

March 19 The Glasgow Tenement
April 9 Annual Business Meeting

We also have our fund raising on April 16th When the Graham Laurie School of Music will entertain us. Tickets available from Guild members.
The Guild visit to Paris is in April and the Guild trip to Dundee takes place in May.
The 2002/2003 syllabus is in the early planning stages.

Margaret McKechnie



*Maundy Thursday was always
a source of hilarity for Horace*



The Variety Club has had yet another successful show. “The Sleeping Beauty” was well supported being sold out almost every night. This has resulted in the club being in a good financial position and at our recent AGM it was decided to upgrade our sound and lighting equipment and also to pay for the new curtains in the chapel. As it is the year of the child, the club also decided to make a donation to CHAS - the new children’s hospice. Other donations will also be made to the general upkeep of the church, the worship fund and a contribution to Lorna’s trip to the Youth Assembly in Canada.

We were delighted to lead the carol singing prior to the Watchnight Service. It was great to hear so many happy voices joining together in celebration.

We are currently “out on the road” with our concert parties, visiting sheltered housing and homes in the area.

Linda Dye

Picture

Dates For Your Diary

Saturday 20 April (provisional)	-	Tartan Tea
Tuesday 3 December	-	7:30pm Show
Wednesday 4 December	-	7:30pm Show
Thursday 5 December	-	7:30pm Show
Friday 6 December	-	7:30pm Show
Saturday 7 December	-	2:00pm Show
Saturday 7 December	-	7:30pm Show



Costumes For Hire

The Variety Club has an extensive wardrobe now for hire.

Minimum donation
£2 per item
£5 per costume

Contact - Morag Brown
(880 6466)






Junior Church



We are now well into the new session with the Christmas season almost a forgotten memory. The one thing we will not forget is the generosity of the children and congregation alike who filled 162 shoe boxes for last year's appeal. This was a tremendous effort and many thanks must go to everyone who donated gifts, boxes or money towards this venture. It gladdens everyone involved to know that so many children would have some Christmas gifts which had been packed with love.

As always, all are invited to join Junior Church on any Sunday. It would be great to welcome any visitors who would like to come along and join the children in fun and fellowship.

Pictures

Pictures



CONCENTRATE ON THE FOUR DOTS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PICTURE FOR ABOUT 30 SECONDS.

THEN CLOSE YOUR EYES AND TILT YOUR HEAD BACK.

KEEP THEM CLOSED ... YOU WILL SEE A CIRCLE OF LIGHT.

CONTINUE LOOKING AT THE CIRCLE.

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

Flower Rota

APRIL

7 Mrs. A. McCulloch
14 Mrs. A. Brown
21 Mrs. I. Renfrew.
28 Mrs. E. McKenzie

MAY

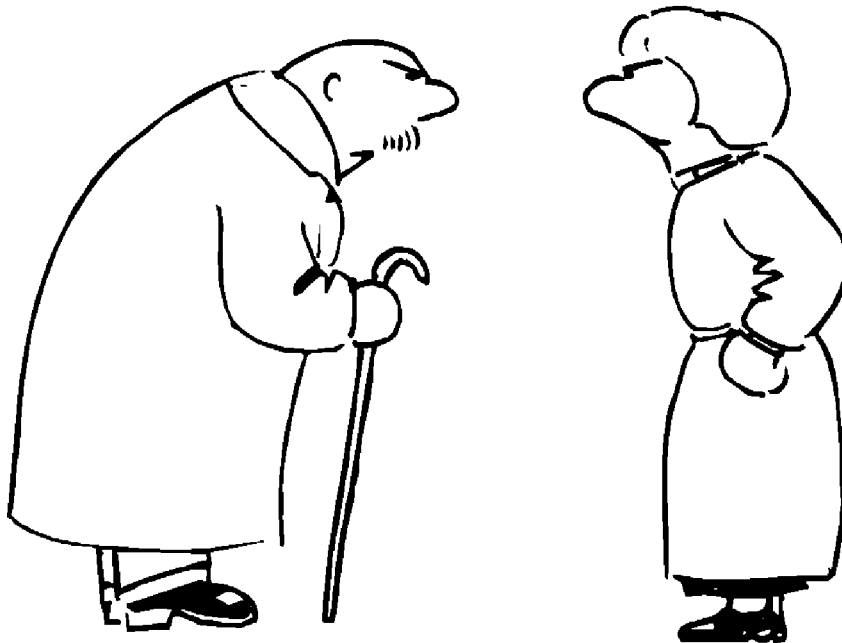
5 Mrs. A. McMillan
12 Mrs. E. Thomson
19 Mrs. I. Alexander
26 Mrs. J. Simpson

JUNE

2 Miss F. Rankin
9 Mrs N. Downie
16 Mrs. M. Buchanan
23 Mrs. B. Hamilton
30 Mrs. J. Watson

JULY

7 Mrs. M. Stewart
14 Mrs. N. Nutini
21 Mrs. J. McGarrie
28 Mrs. L. Simpson



*Old Bill and his new Vicar
frequently saw eye to eye*

2nd Barrhead Guides

We have enjoyed a great start to the session when on 27th October we had our Pancake morning where we raised funds which helped take us to Paisley GX Superbowl in November and the Variety Club Panto in December. This also pays for various materials and badges throughout the session.

At Christmas we again had a joint Party with the 3rd Barrhead Guides which proved that fashion is the key, but we still enjoyed loads of party games & plenty of food!!

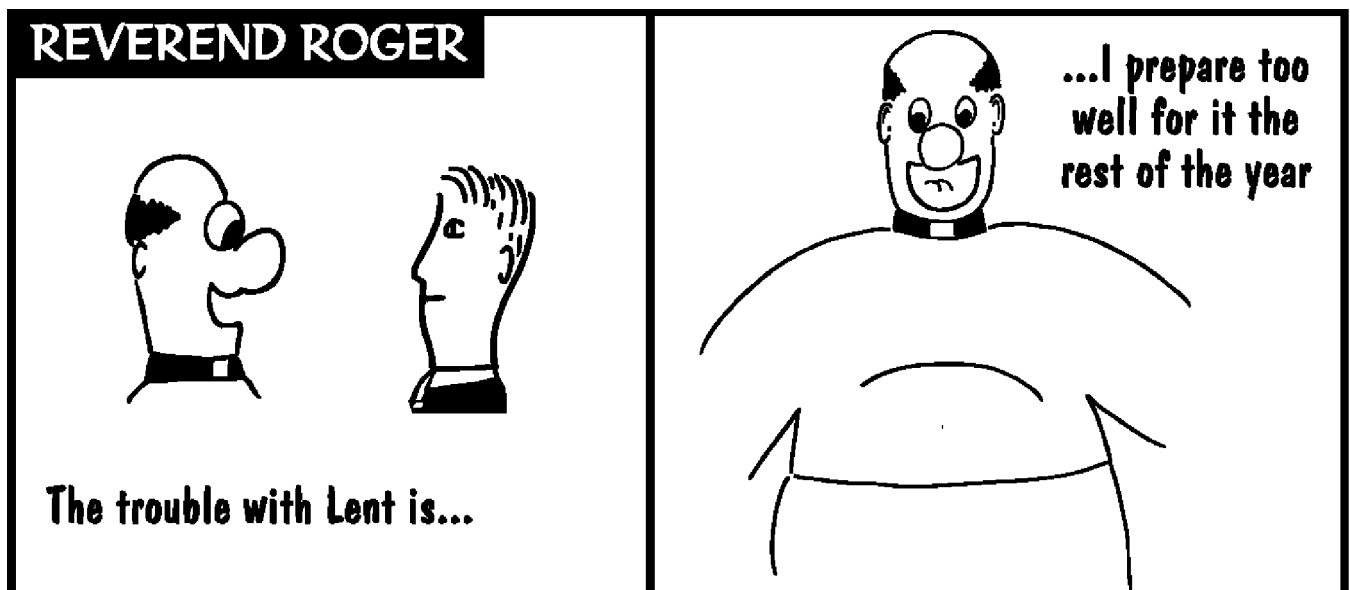
In January we had a girlie pampering night when the girls made their own face packs with strawberries, oatmeal & natural yogurt. Hair was carefully put up, curled, pleated etc by Deborah or you could have a manicure. It was a great night and the guides came to the conclusion the we should have a night like this once a month!!!

We have also seen the Panda patrol hold their Fashion clashin party! This even included a fashion parade & disco. The Penguin patrol have recently had their Pop Idol themed Party which went down a real hit with the rest of the company - so well done girls for all you hard work.

The District Thinking Day was held on Thursday 21th Feb in Bourrock this year. It was really great to see so many girls there having loads of fun - singing as well as laughing at Lachlan who was hit on the face with a shaving foam made custard pie!! What a good sport!

We are planning in May to take the girls, as a county, a trip on the Waverly - so we'll keep you posted on how that goes.

Jennifer Stewart
2nd Barrhead Guides



Only One Man Needed

He was working alone. The other members were in pairs or groups, making a noise, but generally working with the task at hand. He, though, ignored everyone and worked away.

I felt I needed to talk to him. After all, this was my first time at the Sunday school and I didn't like to see people on their own.

Once I had gained enough courage, I approached him. He was drawing a picture of a boat. It was a large boat and it had one man steering it.

When I asked, the boy told me his name was John. He was polite, but he didn't look up from his work. It didn't seem important who I was.

I liked his boat. It was large and colourful. I asked him some questions about it. John told me his boat had three levels. This

was to keep all the animals safe.

I liked that idea.

He showed me where the food was to be kept for the animals and which animals would be housed where. I remembered the story of Noah's ark.

John continued to colour his picture.

Before I left him, I just had to point out one thing to him. I said: "It's such a big boat, but you've only got one man sailing it!"

John looked at me for the first time. He sighed and said that the boat only needed one man.

I persisted. It was such a big boat, after all.

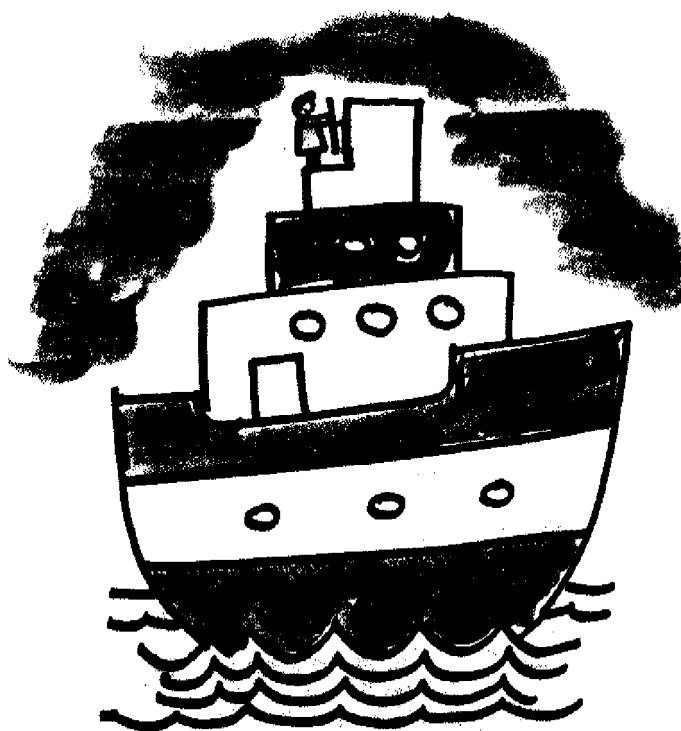
John looked at me for the second time. He took a deep breath. "The boat only needs one man," he continued patiently, "because he's God."

John returned to his drawing, our conversation having apparently run its course, I turned away from him and looked around me. I wondered if anyone else had learned a lesson that morning.

This was my first time as a leader of the Sunday school. I began to recognise as I made my way home that there was more to young people and their understanding than meets the eye

John had demonstrated a faith and belief in God that made me question my own conviction.

Does John's story have the same effect on you?



Margaret Duncan (Life & Work October 1998)

Easter Joy

EASTER IS MUCH MORE THAN CHOCOLATE EGGS, LOVELY DAFFODILS AND FLUFFY CHICKENS. EASTER IS THE LYNCH-PIN OF OUR FAITH. WHEREVER YOU ARE ON EASTER DAY, YOU SHOULD BE CELEBRATING. IT IS BEST DONE IN THE COMMUNITY OF OTHER BELIEVERS. ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY BLOOM SAID THIS:-

"THE JOY OF THE RESURRECTION IS SOMETHING WE MUST LEARN TO EXPERIENCE. BUT WE CAN EXPERIENCE IT ONLY IF WE FIRST LEARN THE TRAGEDY OF THE CROSS. TO RISE AGAIN WE MUST DIE. DIE TO OUR HAMPERING SELFISHNESS, DIE TO OUR FEARS, DIE TO EVERYTHING WHICH MAKES THE WORLD SO NARROW, SO COLD, SO POOR, SO CRUEL. DIE SO OUR SOULS MAY LIVE, MAY REJOICE, MAY DISCOVER THE SPRING OF LIFE. IF WE DO THIS THEN THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST WILL HAVE COME DOWN TO US ALSO. THE RESURRECTION WHICH IS JOY, THE JOY OF LIFE RECOVERED, THE JOY OF THE LIFE THAT NO-ONE SHOULD TAKE AWAY ANY MORE! THE JOY OF LIFE WHICH IS SUPERABUNDANT, WHICH, LIKE A STREAM THAT RUNS DOWN THE HILLS, CARRYING WITH IT HEAVEN ITSELF REFLECTED IN ITS SPARKLING WATERS. IT IS NOT ONLY WITH OUR HEARTS BUT THE TOTALITY OF OUR EXPERIENCE THAT WE KNOW THE RISEN CHRIST. WE CAN KNOW HIM DAY AFTER DAY AS THE APOSTLES KNEW HIM. NOT THE CHRIST OF THE FLESH, BUT THE EVERLIVING CHRIST. CHRIST, ONCE RISEN, IS EVER ALIVE, AND EACH ONE OF US CAN KNOW HIM PERSONALLY. UNLESS WE KNOW HIM PERSONALLY WE HAVE NOT LEARNT YET WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHRISTIAN"

THINK ABOUT THIS AS YOU APPROACH THE JOYOUS DAY OF RESURRECTION THAT IS EASTER.

MAUREEN

The Rock

Lord, limpet-like
I cling to you,
my rock.
In the shifting sands
of life's uncertainties,
You alone
remain constant,
unmoved
unmovable.

Glenda Meikle

Parish Register

BAPTISMS

JANUARY 2002

AILIDH HAMILTON

11 JOHN SMITH GATE, BARRHEAD

FUNERALS

OCTOBER 2001

*MRS M. McINTOSH

52A AURS CRESCENT, BARRHEAD

DECEMBER 2001

*MRS J. JOHNSTON

'ROWANPARK', BOYLESTONE ROAD, BARRHEAD

JANUARY 2002

MRS. C. DUTHIE

21 BELLFIELD CRESCENT, BARRHEAD

*MRS. J BEATTIE

HILLSIDE VIEW, PAISLEY

FEBRUARY 2002

*MRS. J SCANLAN

NORWOOD HOUSE, BARRHEAD

*MISS N. BLAIR

THE FIRS, BARRHEAD

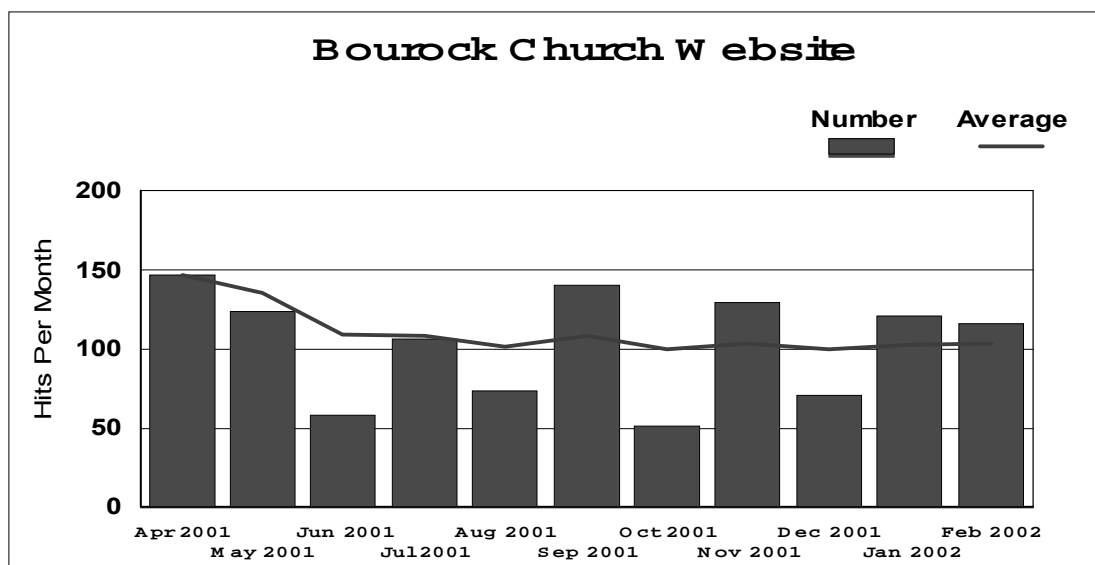
(*denotes a member)

More On The Website

As you will see from the diagram below, the web site is going from strength to strength. This, in the main, is initially due to a distinctive design combined with popular information. However, if we want the site to remain popular then information will have to be updated on a regular and frequent basis.

If you have ANYTHING you want to be considered for use on the internet, have a word with me.

Ken



Bourock Parish Church Summary Statement Of Accounts

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Offerings	£66,854	£58,530
Other General Income	£ 2,413	£ 5,544
Total	<u>£69,267</u>	<u>£64,074</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Local Ministry	£34,112	£33,770
Mission and Wider Work	£14,702	£14,272
Local Congregational Purposes	<u>£19,080</u>	<u>£16,364</u>
Total	<u>£67,894</u>	<u>£64,406</u>
(Deficit)/Surplus	<u>£ 1,373</u>	<u>(£ 332)</u>

FUNDS AS OF 31 DECEMBER

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Fabric Fund	£ 2,707	£ 2,785
Roof Fund	£20,598	£43,654
Flower Fund	£ 252	£ 252
Reserve Fund	£53,881	£53,842
Kitchen Refurbishment Fund	£ 1,000	£ 1,000
Youth Fund	£ 465	£ 357
Chapel Fund	-	-

BUDGET FOR 2002

EXPENDITURE

Local Ministry	£35,526
Mission & Wider Work	£15,097
Local Congregational Purposes	<u>£21,119</u>
Total	<u>£71,742</u>

INCOME

Donations/Tax Recovery	£13,300
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NET EXPENDITURE

£58,442

REQUIRED FROM OFFERINGS

£ 1,124 per week

These accounts are a summary of the full Congregational Accounts which have received an unqualified audit report. Both the full accounts and the summary accounts have been approved by the Congregational Board.

Finance Report

The following is a report on the Church's Accounts presented at the Stated Annual Meeting on Sunday 10 March 2002 and should be read in conjunction with these Accounts. In line with the General Assembly's guidelines, a summary statement of accounts is included in this issue of 'SteepleTalk'.

Finance in 2001 started off with a small deficit of £332 and our budgeted weekly income figure of £1080 was not consistently attained, our average weekly income being £1038. However, as the accounts show, our excess of income over expenditure was £1373, due mainly to the amount of tax recovered from Gift Aid & Deeds of Covenant. There was no transfer of interest required to achieve this figure and we will be able to transfer this amount to reserves, for the first time in a number of years.

Looking at the figures in detail, it can be seen that, with the Gift Aid scheme coming fully into operation, our WFO income not covered by this scheme was down to £7339 but the givings covered by the scheme rose from £10,663 to £41,056, resulting in an increase of tax recovered from £3,050 to £11,580. Overall our income increased from £64,074 to £69,267 and our expenditure from £64,406 to £67,894

All invoices for the roof repairs have now been received and the total cost of repairs was £91,600, well under budget. The amount raised by the congregation towards these repairs currently stands at £66,334, representing contributions from individual members of the congregation, organisation contributions and the proceeds of fund-raising events. This is a considerable achievement of which we should all be proud. In addition to this amount raised by the congregation, we have secured grant assistance for the project to the sum of £38,500.

Looking at our total income for last year, the congregation should be congratulated for raising the above total for the Roof Fund and still maintaining the normal weekly income. If this commitment is maintained Bourock can only go from strength to strength.

As can be seen from the accounts the Gift Aid scheme has been very successful. We currently have 129 Declarations on file and from these we have recovered £13,507 in tax from the Inland Revenue. This shows how efficient this means of increasing your contributions is but I feel that this total can be increased to a considerable extent. If you are a taxpayer and have not yet completed a Gift Aid Declaration or if you are not sure if you have completed one or if you require further information, please contact myself or any member of the Finance Committee.

There has also been an increase in the use of Bank Standing Orders over the last year and if any member wishes to change over to this easy and efficient method of giving, please contact myself.

Finally I would like to thank all members of the Finance Committee for their work over the last year.

Robert McKenzie
Finance Convenor

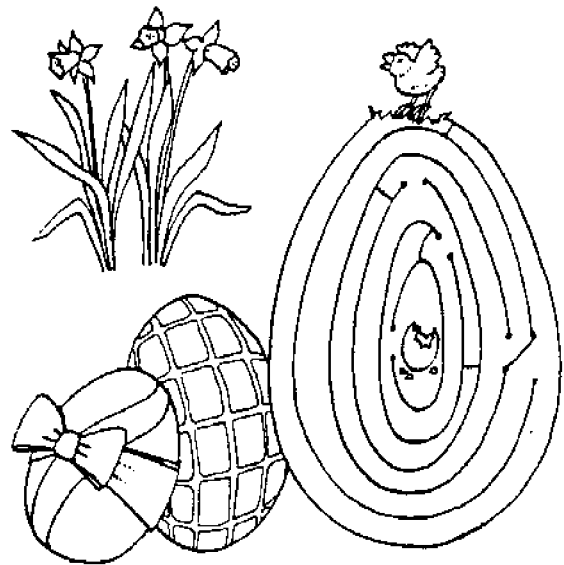
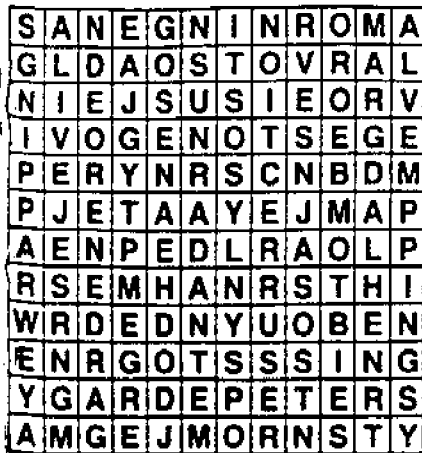
Read the story in Matthew 28



He has risen from
the dead (Matthew 28:7)

Word search

ALIVE	JOHN	STONE
ANGELS	MAGDALENE	SUNDAY
EASTER	MARY	TOMB
EMPTY	MORNING	WRAPPINGS
GARDENER	PETER	
JESUS	RESURRECTION	



CAN YOU HELP THE CHICKEN FIND THE EGG?

COLOUR IT IN!

