

Netherlee and Stamperland Church Newsletter January 2023



BB Mini Bus Volunteer Drivers

The BB Mini Bus for Sunday Service is driven by a small but dedicated team of experienced volunteer drivers. 2 of these volunteers have "retired" and we are therefore seeking to recruit at least one but hopefully two replacement drivers at the earliest opportunity.

If you would like to volunteer as a driver, please contact me (details below) in the first instance. Full training will be given. Drivers only drive the bus every 5th week on a rota basis. Opportunities will also be given to travel in the bus as an observer to experience first-hand what is involved. Currently, volunteer drivers have to hold a D1 Driving licence.

Alan Fairlie

Cranhill Development Trust

The nearly new shop at [Cranhill Development Trust](#) will reopen on Monday, 16th January 2023. Donations of nearly new clothes and bric-a-brac should be bagged and clearly labelled for Cranhill and left in the cupboard in the Welcome Hall.

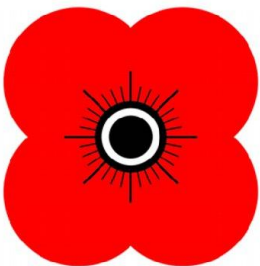
A new year, but the need is still there.

Thanks for all your continued support. If any further information or clarification is required please contact Gordon Lang



Poppyscotland News.

With a New Year comes a new round of fund raising.



The first event is the ever popular **Beetle Drive**. This is fun for all the family. There are no necessary skills, just the wish to have a bit of fun. This will be held in the large hall on Saturday 18th February 2023 at 7pm. The cost is £3 for adults and £2 for children. There is no need to have a ticket, just come along on the night. Entry includes light refreshment. Donations for the raffle will be gratefully received. The Poppy Box will be in the Welcome Hall to receive them.

A date for your diary is the Spring Coffee Afternoon. It will be on Saturday 3rd June 2023, 2pm - 4pm.

Thanking you all for your enduring support. Anne Mann

Finance update for January 2023

RAISE THE ROOF APPEAL

First the good news. When I add in the generous donation received in April, the total of the Appeal, including tax recovered stands at £54,928 which is, as I have said previously, a great result and very much appreciated by the Kirk Session and the Finance Committee.



RESULTS FOR 2022

Provisional figures for the 2022 year end in the General Fund shows a deficit of £15,500, better than first expected but still not good enough as going forward into 2023 our budgeted figure shows the deficit rising to £21,500 in round figures.

We cannot go on like this – we need to balance the books. There is a simple solution, we need to find a way of increasing our giving if we are to continue what we are currently doing. The other part of the solution is to cut our costs. At the risk of upsetting you even further here is what we could do:-

1. It costs us £16,00 a year for our Organist, Assistant Organist and Office Secretary. Should we continue as before?
2. We also pay some £6,000 a year for the above salary administration, the independent examination of our accounts, and our treasurer. If within our membership these services could be provided FOC there are savings to be made .
3. Cleaning and Laundry Services have been outsourced and cost us £15,500 a year. Need I say any more?

I am sure you are appalled at what I have suggested but we need to face facts. Our congregational numbers show a steady decline as each year goes by and with it our income. The arithmetic is simple but the resolution is not so simple unless in our Mission for the future we can reverse the membership trend.

You have been forewarned. I will have more to say at the Stated Annual Meeting in March; so, between now and then, please give a lot of thought as to what we need to do to resolve this problem. This is not just a problem for the Kirk Session and Finance Committee but for all of us who love our Church and want to see it with a sustainable and healthy future.

We have responded magnificently to the Roof Appeal but our deficit outlined above is not of a Capital nature, it reflects the day-to-day revenue running costs of our church. May I encourage you to review your givings in the light of your personal circumstances and let's see what we can do in 2023.

John Montgomery

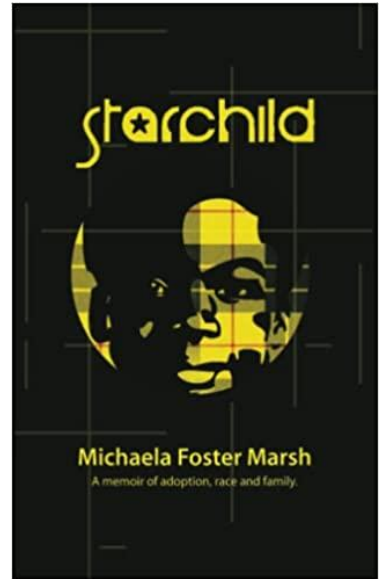
Finance Convener

A special day of filming at Netherlee and Stamperland church

Sunday, February 26th

As some of you may know, Michaela's book [Starchild](#) is being made into a documentary. We are delighted to say that BAFTA award-winning director Alex McCall has chosen to feature Netherlee and Stamperland church at the end of this film.

Michaela will sing the song she wrote for the family when Frankie died. It is the anniversary of Frankie's death that day, and she will be recording the song with Frankie's brother Paul Mutebi who is coming from the United States. Paul is a gospel singer, and a gospel group will join them in the sanctuary of our church.



Michaela would be thrilled if as *many* of the congregation as possible could be there for the filming and to meet Paul. Some of you will still remember Frankie running around the church and of course Rev Bill Marsh and his wife, Morag. This will indeed be a special day.

The filming will take place directly after the 10.30 am service at approx. 1130am. The filming will be finished by noon, followed by lunch and drinks in the large hall. This will give people a chance to meet and greet Paul and Michaela before they head to Uganda the next day to continue filming.

Frankie's brother, Paul Mutebi

We sincerely hope as many of the congregation, friends and neighbours as possible will attend this unprecedented event in our church. The film will show the beauty of our sanctuary and the power of God that has moved through the story of Starchild, and the walls of Netherlee and Stamperland church.

Please note that if you cannot attend the service, you are still very welcome to join us at 11.30am for the filming and lunch.

www.starchildcharity.com

www.michaelaonline.com

The Forum

The Forum met on 16 January and was addressed by the retired track and field athlete Lee McConnell. Lee lives locally and she kindly agreed to speak to the Forum about her career as an elite sportswoman. She was inspired to become an athlete after the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona. The sprinter Derek Redmond tore his hamstring in the 400 metres semi-final and, famously, his father Jim climbed onto the track to help his injured son across the finish line. This anecdote illustrated much of what Lee came to say in her talk about personal resilience and familial solidarity.



Lee was born in October 1978 in the southside of Glasgow. She attended Loughborough University where she read physical education and management. She was originally a high jumper (Scottish champion between 1998 and 2000) before turning her attention to the 400 metres and then the 400 metres hurdles. Self-knowledge played an important part in her transition from jumping to sprinting. She said that, while watching the Sydney Olympic Games on television in 2000, she started to doubt whether she could reach the heights necessary to be a serious competitor in high jumping. She had, however, been a successful sprinter earlier in her life and she believed that she could compete with world-class athletes on the track. Her first coach for the 400 metres was Roger Harkins and, after a gruelling first training session, she began a swift upwards trajectory towards the 2002 European Athletics Championship in Munich and the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, bringing home a bronze medal from the former and a silver from the latter. Her self-knowledge and self-belief yielded impressive results.

Lee underlined the importance of target-setting, personal reliance, and the support of friends and family throughout her talk. Her coaches would often ask her about her personal objectives during a day's training, and she and her team would always agree upon a minimum finishing position before a race. Personal resilience was just as important as target-setting in her career. She finished in 23rd place in the 400 metres at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens and, despite being bitterly disappointed by her performance, she recovered and finished fourth in the 400 metres relay a few days later. The following year, she finished third in the 400 metres relay at the European indoor championships in Madrid. She recovered from the initial disappointment of Athens and continued to compete at an elite level until her retirement in 2012, a testament to her fortitude. Lee pointed out that her family played an essential part in her success, following her from event to event and supporting her during periods of success and failure alike. She said that while coaches, physios, and sponsors provided the practical support that enabled her, her family provided the invaluable emotional support that most, if not all, successful athletes need just as much.

As if often the case, the questions after the talk were thoughtful and elicited insightful answers. There were a dozen questions on everything from Lee's post-retirement career, to sports sponsorship, and how best to interest teenagers in competitive sport. The dialogue between the speaker and the audience was an enjoyable part of the evening. We are grateful to Lee for making the time to talk to us and, indeed, to inspire us. She is, in all likelihood, the most decorated person to address the Forum in its 20-year history.

The Forum will next meet on **20 February 2023 in the Lesser Sanctuary** to hear Christine Kyle talk about the Harlequin Youth Theatre and its role in the community. As ever, all are welcome to attend.

Fraser McGowan

Offering Envelopes

For those of you who have not yet collected your new offering envelopes, these are available from the Church Office after morning's service.



The Guild

2022 ended with a Christmas Party when we enjoyed singing carols, playing games and had mince pies, cake and lots of laughter.

We started the new session with a visit from Deacon Claire Herbert, Chaplain to the Lodging House Mission. She reminded us of our long support for the Mission and elaborated on the many aspects of assistance given to those who come to them. Not just a warm place out of the rain etc where they serve breakfast and lunch, but also medical podiatry, dental treatment and monetary advice. This is all done by her and the volunteers through their own conviction to show those who are in need that they are loved by God and that they are of worth.



The following week we heard about the work of [REACH](#). This is the leading charity for children who have upper limb deficiency. Mrs Clarke explained how she became involved through her daughter and over the years has been actively volunteering with the charity.

She showed us some early examples of prosthesis and spoke about the improvements over the years. There is a strong Scottish branch. They arrange branch meetings and family weekends for parents to meet together for support as well as arranging fund raising events. There is also a quarterly magazine providing a forum for information and discussion. REACH will continue its vital work supporting parents and the work being done to support the lives these children.

Despite January's inclement weather many members have braved the elements and come out to meetings for which I am very glad.

Margaret Fear

SE Foodbank



After the rush and excitement of Christmas the Glasgow South East foodbank are returning to providing their usual service.

As always, they are very appreciative of all the donations in terms of goods and financial support. They always need UHT milk, tinned soups and meat, tinned beans and peas, and toiletries. All donations are put to good use.

Although, in general, donations are down, the size of the client base is going up.

Marjorie Lang

Christian Aid Art Show



The Art show is back this year; bigger and better than ever!

It is on Saturday 18th March in the CLARKSTON HALLS from 10.00 - 3.00 pm.

If you would like to help at this event, either with the setting up on Friday or on the Saturday itself, there are lots of opportunities. You can help in the tea room, sell raffle tickets, set up display boards and tables on the Friday, or dismantle same on Saturday after the show. The opportunities are endless! You can also come, browse, and perhaps buy a painting and meet old friends. We look forward to seeing everyone on the day. Please speak to Marjorie or Vicky if you can help in any way.

Christian Aid Committee