

Blackbraes and Shieldhill
Parish Church
linked with
Muiravonside Parish Church
Easter 2022



www.bsandm-church.org.uk

Interim Moderator: Rev Scott Burton

Locum Minister: Rev Sandra Mathers OLM

Registered Charity

Blackbraes and Shieldhill SC 002512

Muiravonside SC 007571



Message from our Interim Moderator

Rev Scott Burton

Dear friends,

Spring is in the air and so it feels like change is afoot! And not just in my own household. Of course, the arrival of little Innes on Christmas Eve, weighing 8lb 11oz, was a change we were anticipating and looking forward to immensely – and at the time of writing (in the picture below), he's now above 15lb and slowly we're (re)learning the things that work for him.

No, change is afoot for us all, really. Whether it be coronavirus, wherein we hope masks can be removed for singing in church, or in other areas of life, change is coming.

One of the biggest areas of change in the year to come will be news of the Presbytery's Mission Plan and what that will mean for our two congregations as well as the wider Braes churches. A separate letter is being included with this magazine about that, so please do take the time to read it.

In the midst of all this change, what are we to do? Where do we ground ourselves? What gives us confidence? How do we hold on in hope amidst such confusing times? Well, the letter to the Colossians has much to encourage and challenge us. After all, Paul and the Colossians were facing their own pressures, their own uncertainties, and yet they stayed steady through prayer (Col. 1:3-14)), through faith in Jesus as God in human form (Col. 1:15-23), and in the salvation and security secured for us through His death (Col. 2:6-15).

Maybe friends, when surrounded by such change, and waiting for things to improve or settle down, maybe the best thing we can do is pursue Jesus, 'continue in Him' (Col. 2:6) as Paul says

Because, Jesus doesn't change – He is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb. 13:8).

What would that look like for you, this Spring? Do you need to try coming back to church? Or spending some more time in prayer? Does it mean getting into your Bible afresh through daily reading notes? How might you pursue Jesus, and amidst the change, find that anchor for your soul?

Brothers and sisters, change is afoot, but it doesn't need to distract us from our commission (Col. 1:24-2:5) or steal our peace, because these things we receive from Jesus – and He isn't changing. May you know a closer walk with our Lord in these days and in the year ahead.

With love to one and all,

Scott

March 2022



Message from our Locum Minister

Rev Sandra Mathers OLM

Dear Friends, How quickly this time of Lent appears to have come and how quickly we're going through it. How quickly our world is changing- from the darkness and dreichness of winter, we're surrounded by the signs of spring - the snowdrops have been and gone, now the crocuses are just about over and the daffodils are coming into full bloom, and this week we've seen it all in glorious technicolour as there have been blue skies and the sun shining in all its glory. How quickly too a Europe at peace has seen the war clouds rolling in and our brothers and sisters in Ukraine are fighting for their very existence.

Change is all around us at any time of our lives as individuals and as God's people - some of it is welcome and refreshing, but other change is threatening and causes us concern and upset. Try as we might we can't avoid change in our lives whether its welcome like the advent of a new grandchild or perhaps very unwelcome if we develop a health problem. The same goes for our spiritual life as individuals and as a congregation of God's people: do we regard the prospect of change as a challenge causing us to think outside the box and even at this stage of our witness to develop new ways, vibrant ways of reaching others in Christ's name, or conversely do we give up and say que sera whatever will be will be.

No-one ever dreamt that Ukraine would be able to hold the might of the Russian army at bay, that Kiev would still be standing -a beacon to the rest of the country. Their secret is not just the arms they've been receiving from around the world; its not just the tenacity and grit of the soldiers and the and the civilians who are fighting the enemy.

Theirs is an open secret - the Church in Ukraine is strong because its a Church who know their weakness but also God's strength, a strength made perfect in their weakness as they fight their enemy, trusting in God's power. They are a people of prayer, a people who love their Lord and who take Him at His word when He said "I'll never leave you, never forsake you."

They are also relying on the prayers of God's people around the world and we are called to pray in faith believing that our God is able to do so much more than we can ask or think.

Remember the message of Easter. Jesus came to this world as a helpless baby. He grew up in an ordinary family home, then when God's time was right, He set out tramping the roads of Palestine preaching the Kingdom of God and performing stupendous acts that could only be done through the power of God in Him - the sun seemed to shine on Him then - He was acclaimed by the crowds - but the storm clouds rolled in for Him as well- and ultimately He was arrested, tortured and crucified - and His enemies heaved a sigh of relief - BUT three days later Jesus rose from the dead - seeming defeat had been overcome by mind blowing victory.

That victory changed the course of history for ever. Where there was no hope we now have a sure and certain hope, that for all who trust Christ as Saviour in life, we will spend eternity with Him. And we have at our fingertips two weapons that are guaranteed to defeat the enemy responsible for the suffering in Ukraine today and all suffering throughout history - Satan - and these are God's Word - the sword of the Spirit - and prayer. When God's people pray, really pray in faith and expectancy, Satan and his minions tremble.

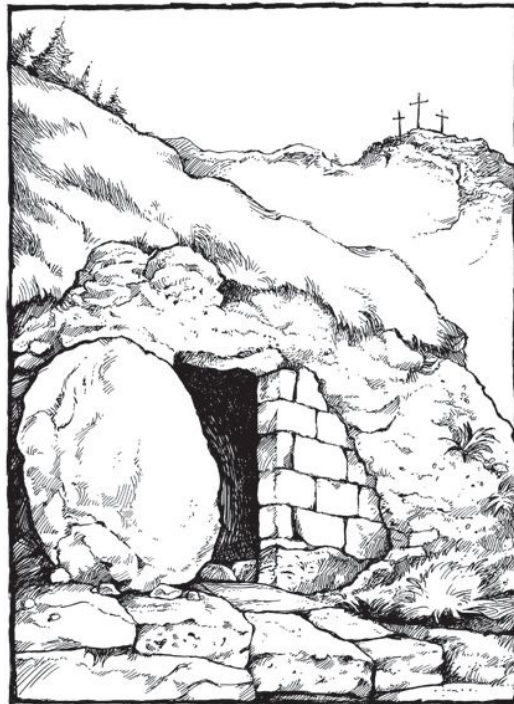
Let us join together in thanksgiving that we serve a risen Saviour

- that by His Holy Spirit He is with us both now and always, that His love never fails, that in Him we have the victory over death and over sin itself, and let us join together in prayer for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine that they and all the world may be able to rejoice as we see God working in overcoming power and victory.

I wish you all a very happy and blessed Easter.

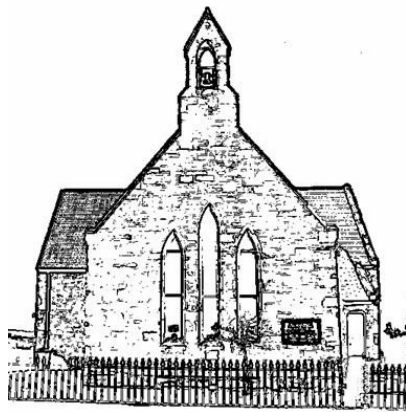
Sandra Mathers

Locum Minister



Website - Our magazines are now available on our website www.bsandm-church.org.uk. If anyone would prefer to access them this way, instead of paper format, please let your Church Elder know.

As well as saving paper, and trees, you would receive the magazine in colour. It could also be enlarged if you need to see it in large print.



Funerals

‘The Lord will protect you as you come and go, both now and forevermore’.



Blackbraes and Shieldhill Parish

Lorna Coulter
Mary McPhee
John Reid
Charles Munro
Dora Craig
Douglas McArthur

At Camelon Parish Church

Anne McGuire

(Anne McGuire was a member of Blackbraes
and Shieldhill Parish Church

Funerals

‘The Lord will protect you as you come and go, both now and forevermore’.



Muiravonside Parish

Janet Wardlaw

Andrew Waugh

Marion Fraser

Louise Parks

Irene Orr

Changing Landscapes

Some lovely sunny days always cheer us up, however the gloom that is around us unfolds.

One Saturday afternoon, we decided to visit South Queensferry, a place my wife Fay and I often went to until the Covid outbreak over two years ago.

Approaching the new road layout after the small village of Newton, a series of roundabouts and some luck in direction, we headed downhill into South Queensferry, turning right, finding our route was now a one way street to the Forth railway bridge.

Unable to find a parking space, we drove uphill then headed through Dalmeny. What an assortment of new housing onwards to Kirkliston and Winchburgh, every landscape altered by accommodating more intake of people, mainly from Edinburgh.

Even locally at Muiravonside, more and more housing being built near the Parish Church may alter the surrounding landscape, but due to the forthcoming discussions by the Church of Scotland it may determine that due to falling numbers, the Church location will be an excuse for future closure.

Change is all around us as we pass through our church life.

John Robertson



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 15 – 21 May

It's getting near that time of year when we think of Christian Aid Week. Our Church has always been very supportive of Christian Aid's work but, due to the restrictions over the last two years as a result of the pandemic, charities such as Christian Aid were severely affected and although some of us were able to donate online, this wasn't possible for everyone.

This year there will be Christian Aid envelopes available at Shieldhill Church on Sunday, 15 May for anyone wishing to make a donation. Envelopes can then be handed in either on that day or on the following Sunday, 22 May.

We are also planning to have a snack lunch in the church hall on Sunday, 15 May after the morning service. Everyone is welcome and donations will be appreciated.

Marion Zacks

FOOD BANK

A box will be available in the vestibule at Shieldhill Church for anyone who would like to make a donation to Falkirk Food Bank. Donations will be delivered to the Food Bank at the end of every month.

23rd Psalm—Shepherds' Version

Submitted by - Rita Braes - Muiravonside

Wha is my shepherd, weel I ken,
The Lord Himself is he.
He leads me whaur the girse is green,
And burnies quate that be.

Aft times I fain astray wad gang,
An wanner far awa,
He fin's me oot,
He pits me richt,
An brings me hame an a.

Tho I pass through the gruesome cleuch,
Fine I ken He is near,
His muckle crook will be defen,
Sae I hae nocht tae fear.

Ilk comfort whi ilka sheep could need,
His thochtfu' care provides,
Tho wolves and dogs may prowle aboot,
In safety me He hides

His guidness and His mercy baith,
Nae doot will bide wi me,
While faulded on the fields o time,
O'r a' eternity.



**This beautiful photo of Muiravonside Church was submitted
by Rita Braes**



The Ballad of the Judas Tree
by Ruth Etchells

In Hell there grew a Judas Tree
Where Judas hanged and died
Because he could not bear to see
His master crucified

Our Lord descended into Hell
And found his Judas there
For ever hanging on the tree
Grown from his own despair

So Jesus cut his Judas down
And took him in his arms
'It was for this I came' he said
'And not to do you harm

My Father gave me twelve good men
And all of them I kept
Though one betrayed and one denied
Some fled and others slept

In three days' time I must return
To make the others glad
But first I had to come to Hell
And share the death you had

My tree will grow in place of yours
Its roots lie here as well
There is no final victory
Without this soul from Hell '

So when we all condemn him
As of every traitor worst
Remember that of all his men
Our Lord forgave him first.

From the Church of Scotland website for Easter Day

Ruth Etchells 1931-2012 was one of the most influential women in the Church of England, a university lecturer, poet and "the best female bishop we never had". She had a rare compassion, intensity and visionary quality balanced by a self deprecating wit. And a depth of intuition which made her a good spiritual director and chaplain.

From the obituary in "The Guardian" dated 27 Aug 2012.

Submitted by Norma Jack

Hedgehogs

Hello, I'm a volunteer at 2 local rescues and a Hedgehog Champion with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society/ Peoples' Trust for Endangered Species.

How long is it since you last saw a hedgehog? The UK has lost a third of its population since 2000, and their numbers are declining as fast as tigers in the wild. They are now officially classed as vulnerable to extinction in the IUCN's Red List for British Mammals. There are many reasons and it's sad to think that, for future generations, such a fate would make this lovely, prickly God's creature only a character in storybooks. Here are some simple tips to help them.

1. Link your garden with a Hedgehog Highway. Hedgehogs travel between 1-2 km a night searching for food and a mate. Leaving a small gap in your fence the size of a CD case will let hedgehogs through but be too small for pets. BHPT/PTES sell snazzy little recyclable Hedgehog Highway signs, for a few pounds. Ask your neighbours to do the same!

2 Create a wild corner in your garden so they can snuffle around for insects.

3. Tidy up netting and litter which can trap hedgehogs due to their spines. Even rubber bands dropped by the postie can become embedded in their skin, causing a slow, painful death.

4. Put out food and water. You can supplement their diet with wet dog or cat food (preferably not fish based). No bread, milk or mealworms, which are all extremely bad for them. For those who are into simple DIY you can make a feeding station to stop other animals having a free supper - details on the BHPS website/YouTube

5. Stop using chemicals especially slug pellets. Hedgehogs are a gardener's best friend as they eat slugs as well as many other beasts which would otherwise be devouring your prize flowers and vegetables

6. Check before mowing or strimming. Hedgehogs often sleep in long grass or hedges during daytime and won't run away if they hear a mower, resulting in horrific injuries or death. Use gloves to move a single hog to safety. If there's a family, call the BHPS for advice on 01584 890801, the SSPCA on 0300 999 999 or Google to find your local Hedgehog Rescue.

7. Be careful with bonfires or simply burning leaves. Piles of debris are irresistible to a hedgehog looking for somewhere to hibernate or nest – build it on the day of burning to avoid a tragic end, or if you have to build it before then check carefully with a pole or broom, not a spade or fork. They are usually in the centre.

8. Make a home for hedgehogs. A log pile is one of the best features for encouraging all kinds of wildlife, and easy to make. It will encourage insects and provide nesting opportunities all year around. Alternatively, you can make your own hedgehog house – download instructions from the BHPS website.

9. Keep an eye out for hedgehogs when driving at night, & let it get over the road safely if you see one. If you see it too late try to steer so it will pass under the middle of the car where it is least likely to be harmed.

10. Make your pond safe. Hedgehogs are adept swimmers but if they can't climb out of steep-sided ponds or pools they will drown. Use a pile of large stones or piece of wood to create a simple ramp.

11. Record hedgehog sightings, including dead ones, on The Big Hedgehog Map website. This is important in building up a picture of where they are most active & how we can encourage local populations. A hedgehog seen during the day is usually in need of help & you should contact one of the organisations above. If you'd like to do more, you can become a Hedgehog Champion by registering on the Hedgehog Street website, where you can find lots of resources to make your gardens, neighbourhood and Parish, hedgehog-friendly zones.

Moira Grant
Falkirk



St Margaret of Scotland

St Margaret of Scotland was a Saxon/Hungarian princess. Margaret is one of the better known saints, she was Malcom Canmore's wife, her portrait was painted and she lived at the transition from Celtic individualism and the uniformity of Christendom in the High Middle Ages. If you visit Edinburgh Castle, you can see her chapel. It is a tiny building high on the castle rock and inside the main castle area. On a hot day, it is cool inside, and when the east wind, that is common to Edinburgh, is gusting, this little building is warm.

Margaret was the daughter of Edgar the Atheling-Circa 1051-1126; and was born in Hungary. Edgard the Atheling was the last surviving heir of Wessex. He was the eldest son of Edmund 2nd, who was known as "Ironside". He was king of England for a few months in 1016. When Canute, a Danish king, became king, Edmund took his family to Norway to stay in the castle of Olaf the king of Norway who was Canute's half-brother. They left Norway and eventually ended up in the care of The King of Hungary.

When things were more favourable, they returned to England but had to flee from The Normans. They were caught in a North Sea storm and were blown into Northumberland. They probably met Malcolm there as he was engaged pillaging a Saxon Church in Wearmouth. Malcolm was a Celtic ruffian and was a very strange husband for Margaret. Malcolm was married at this time, but his wife and family appear to have conveniently disappeared.

Margaret may have met Malcolm earlier in her life as he was exiled and living in the English Court around the same time as Margaret's family were in exile there.

Margaret's party followed the King of the Scots to his royal tower of Dun-ferm-line, the fort by the twisty burn. Here Margaret met

the fiery Celt, almost 11 years her senior and the person she was destined to marry. On his part, this was a good political match, a link to the Royal Saxon line, but as time went on, this was also a love match. They parented eight children.

Malcolm and Margaret made an unlikely couple, he a rather wild Celt and she a demure, very religious young lady. Malcolm often accompanied Margaret when she was attending her devotions. Margaret attended to her private devotions and prayers, reading from her Evangelistarium. Scotland allowed this book to slip out of the country's hands, but it is preserved in the Oxford Bodleian.

Malcolm and Margaret both spoke English. Malcolm also spoke Gaelic and Margaret could very possibly have had a speaking knowledge of Gaelic. Gaelic would have been the language of the Scottish court and, as she lived there for 25 years, it is reasonable to think that she had at least an oral command of the language.

We know much about Margaret's reign from the writings of Prior Turgot of Durham, her chaplain, and he tells us that she visited religious hermits. These men lived in cells, in isolation, and they probably spoke their native tongue, Gaelic. Margaret liked them to pray for her. There is a particular visit that Margaret made to a hermit who was based in Laurencekirk. This meeting was noted, and the writing has survived. The meeting was recorded in Latin; however, it is reasonable to think that the conversation would have been conducted in Gaelic.

Margaret worked hard to bring her church of Dunfermline into Norman ways and aided by Prior Turbot and Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, she made changes. She rebuilt her home church of Dunfermline, and it continued to be extended

into the next century. She brought Benedictine Monks to Dunfermline, making the church an outpost of Canterbury. Margaret's church is not standing today but there is a grayling that should you look through it, you can see the outline of the foundations.

There remain today many places that have Margaret's name. Her first landing was made at St Margaret's Hope, and across the Forth, there is Port Edgar, in memory of The Atherling. She put a ferry in place in Queensferry, to make it easier for pilgrims to travel to St Andrews. There are schools and churches, both Protestant and Roman Catholic, sprinkled throughout the country that bare her name.

A vision of Margaret is supposed to have appeared, to the Scottish army at the Battle of Largs, and in that town, there is a St Margaret's Law.

Margaret lived c1046-1093.
St Margaret's day is the 16th of November.

References:

Saints of Scotland by Edwin Sprout Towell

The Saints of Scotland by Alan MacQuarrie

Rena



For all puzzle and crossword lovers. Test your skills.

**The clues below were found in a previous edition of
“My Weekly” magazine**

The clues are all anagrams

they see (3,4)
here come dots (3,5,4)
I'm a dot in place (1,7,5)
loonies far up the Thames (3,6,2,10)
lies let's recount (8,7)
alas no more zs (6,6)
no city dust here (3,11)
twelve plus one (6,4,3)
cash lost in me (4,8)
moon starer (10)

Submitted by Norma Jack



To see how you fared, please turn over to next page
(p.24)

**For all puzzle and crossword lovers. How did you fare?
I'm sure you all did very well.**

they see = the eyes
here come dots = the Morse code
I'm a dot in place = a decimal point
loonies far up the Thames = the Houses of Parliament
lies let's recount = election results
alas no more zs = snooze alarms
no city dust here = the countryside
twelve plus one = eleven plus two
cash lost in me = slot machines
moon starrer = astronomer



[illegible]

I also sent £50 to Romain as there was some money left

The fee has gone up to £28 and has been for a while but we seem to have enough to cover it.

Carolyn Marshall



Drew's
view

A Breath of Fresh Air

Up until everything changed in our lives with the pandemic, I would never have known about this but there is something incredibly pleasant about a breath of fresh air!

I am of course, referring to these last couple of years when we have been wearing masks anytime we are in a building or perhaps travelling on a bus or train. I made the discovery actually just a few months ago when we were back in church after the lockdowns. I park every Sunday just along the Main Street from the church and although my walk to the church on the way in is quite leisurely, once the service is finished and we have had our tea or coffee, I dash back to the car quite quickly although I don't need to, with my mask still on, then I'm on my way.

One Sunday when I was leaving church, it was a really nice day with a slight breeze that was blowing along Main Street which usually witnesses much stronger winds as we all know. I thought to myself, "Drew – will you slow down! For once in your life, take it easy and enjoy this lovely morning and the nice walk back to the car!"

Amazingly too, I actually did listen to this voice which always nags away in my head, but this time, it was saying something that was actually sensible. Instead of waiting until I was right beside the car, I took my mask off before I even had walked through the church gates. Immediately, that soft whispering breeze which was unusually mild was all around me. You are all probably just like me and very glad to take these masks off after wearing them for a while. It is even worse if you happen to wear spectacles like I do because no matter what we seem to do, they steam up almost right away.

Sometimes, if the permutations are just right, it is possible to position the mask so that the spectacles don't steam up. It actually worked one time, but the mask just seemed to be in the same position that it always is and I have only been able to achieve this state of clear vision about three times during the whole pandemic!

Often when I am showing the slides in church, I am seeing them through a complete fog, but glad to say I only need to press one button to change them. I almost pressed the wrong button once and although curious to see what would have happened, I haven't tried so far to recreate this at home! It's maybe better if I don't know!

As I walked along Main Street up towards the car, I breathed in this gentle breeze which was as soft as an angel's breath and reflected how nice it was after being confined behind a mask. It made me reflect as well, that I would not even have noticed this before the pandemic and I marvelled at how a simple thing like a gentle breeze that blows away softly in the background until now, unnoticed, can be such a pleasant experience.

The light breeze which surrounded me with its gentleness as I walked along, brought a lovely image to my mind of God's Spirit. His Holy Spirit is just like that gentle wind. It is all around us enveloping us in his love. It is just that sometimes we don't notice it because it is working gently in the background, often not felt until we stop a moment, don't rush and get a chance to experience its beauty just like that gentle breeze which was blowing along Main Street.

To make a nice morning even better that lovely hymn that we sing to the tune of the "Skye Boat Song" started playing in my head -

“Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,
Gentle as is the dove,
Teach us the truth and help us believe,
Show us the Saviour’s love.”

(CH4 600)

Words by Margaret V Old (1932-2001)

Music- Scottish Folk Melody Arranged by Compilers of Common
Ground, 1998.

Looking back, I did feel the Saviour “showed me His love” that morning and His Spirit through this gentle breeze tried to show me that despite this pandemic, which has brought such sadness to all of us that no person should ever have to bear, that His gentle Spirit is with us - no matter where we are or what we are doing. It was such a nice experience and I marvelled at the fact that before the pandemic and the compulsory wearing of masks, I would have never noticed this breath of truly fresh air and just taken it all for granted.

The pandemic has of course changed the way we live and it is amazing how quickly as humans we have adapted to new ways of shopping and going about our daily lives. One thing that sort of brings an ironic smile to my face, despite it being a serious situation always comes into my mind and it is this. Just imagine - in 2019 if we were to enter the local bank all wearing masks, the poor staff would think we were trying to rob it and immediately all the shutters would go down and we would almost certainly be arrested. Whereas - if we entered the local bank during the pandemic and were not wearing masks, the shutters would probably go down and we would almost certainly be arrested again!

Another pandemic phenomenon that always makes me smile is what I call “The Delicate Distance Dance.” Everybody has actually learnt to do this very quickly and although things are maybe a bit better now, if we are in a supermarket or other store we have become very adept at manoeuvring around not too close to people and somehow sidestepping them as we go round the supermarket aisles. But at the same time we still manage to buy our provisions!

For the last couple of years, every Monday evening, I have been going down to the supermarket around seven pm as I feel at that time it is not quite so busy. During the period when the pandemic was much worse, there was lots of space to engage in “The Delicate Distance Dance” quite successfully! As things got a bit better, people seemed to become much less nervous. However, a year ago in January when things were at their peak again, it was quite interesting because as the few people who were there walked around the store and passed someone, they would regard each other very warily and quizzically, as if they were considering that the other person might have the plague! Believe it or not, one evening as I was exiting the doors of the supermarket, a woman who was approaching the entrance actually turned round and ran away although she was nowhere near me and I was nowhere near her! Maybe I just have that effect on people!

I’m glad to say though that it is much better now and everyone seems much more relaxed when shopping. (They don’t seem to run away from me nowadays anyway.) Although sadly, Covid figures still seem to be very high in Scotland just now.

Another little mystery I have with the pandemic is that although we are wearing masks all the time in shopping centres, the

moment we are in the café, we can take our masks off and sit close by each other. We have to do this of course to eat. There isn't much of a way we can get around it, but surely it undoes all the good work of wearing a mask while we have been doing our shopping?

However, who am I to argue if it brings people together which it has and I'm sure experts will have worked out all the risks or they wouldn't have allowed this to take place.

So there we go. We have discovered so many new ways of living so that we can adapt as all folks do. I'm just the same. During the last two years I have experienced moments of unspeakable sadness, but I have also encountered moments of joy and such hope that made me just stop and marvel. Amazing things like when the vaccines were developed. Also simple things that have meant so much but before the pandemic I would have taken for granted without noticing them, like my stroll along Shieldhill Main Street.

For a moment or two, enveloped in that soft breeze, I felt that God walked with me, His Spirit "unseen like the wind" that was gently blowing all around me. Such a refreshing and everlasting "Breath of Fresh Air"

I will forever cherish that.

Drew Robertson

Editor's Note: A member of the congregation received a birthday card with its lovely verse from a niece and thought it would be a nice thing to include in the magazine for all the aunties and uncles who are not included in the special days like mother and father's days. I totally agree and below is the lovely verse that the congregation member received.

Aunties and Uncles

Aunties/uncles are **always** such **wonderful** people to have around because aunties/uncles have a **lovely** comfortable way about them and are really **good** at making you feel important.

Aunties/uncles like to chat and tell funny stories with a **twinkle** in their eyes.

But best of all, they will always look out for you - they're sort of like a **friend** and a second mum/dad all in one and they play a big part in all your fondest **memories** of **growing up** and so many good times over the years.

That's why **aunties/uncles** mean so much and they deserve to know it - not just on their **birthdays** but every single day.

You see, they're very **special** people.

from

A member of the congregation



Pictures of Yesteryear

Hi, It's Drew again. Last year, Lorna Coulter gave me a folder full of old photos of various Guild activities and church outings from Blackbraes and Shieldhill and told me if I wanted to put any in the magazine just to go ahead. I suggested to her about having a new column called "Pictures of Yesteryear" where I would put some photos in each edition of the magazine.

Lorna was absolutely delighted about this and I know she would still want me to go ahead with this.

Jim Currie also approached me recently and very kindly gave me a memory stick to copy over lots of photographs he has of past church events, so it is an absolute pleasure to show some of Lorna's photos as well as Jim's.

I'm very sorry but some photos don't have dates on them, but where they do, I will pop in a little caption below them. I must apologize too that a lot of the photos were before my time at Blackbraes and Shieldhill and I don't know the people's names, but no doubt many of you will.

So let's go back in time and enjoy some

Pictures of Yesteryear



Our first photo had a date written on the back and was a trip to Rothesay in 1983.



The photo above simply has 1985 written on the back. Location not known but maybe someone will recognise it.



This photo is from 2009 when Rev Louise McClements was our Minister.



This photo has 2012 written on the back and it was the Annual Guild Meeting at Caird Hall, Dundee.

It was so nice of Lorna as well as Jim giving me access to such a rich database of photos and memories.

More pictures will follow in the next edition as we continue with

Pictures of Yesteryear

**BRAES CHURCHES
JOINT HOLY WEEK
SERVICES 2022**



All services at 7pm

Monday April 11th

Blackbraes and Shieldhill

Tuesday April 12th

Slamannan

Wednesday April 13th

Wallacestone

Thursday April 14th

Polmont Old

Friday April 15th

Redding and Westquarter

