

Friday 5th June

Weekly Bulletin

Appeal Updates

We begin with a word of thanks this week. We've taken the opportunity to respond to various projects over the last ten weeks in various ways.

Our **Malawi** appeal raised £700 and has ended for the moment. The **foodbank** appeal is ongoing and many individuals from the congregation have been able to help with some funds and supplies. Please do keep this going as it is more necessary now than ever. Details are on the website. Thanks to Jackie Connell for keeping this up to date.

We've also highlighted **Mental Health Awareness Week**, and raised some funds for the Mental Health Foundation. Kindness poems, which offer a new pattern of kindness for us all, are displayed across the windows of the New Halls. Thanks to Trish Robertson and Jane Gordon for organising all of that, which became the most viewed week on Facebook.

*How the Church is
unlocked during
lockdown*

Making **button bands** have now reached their target and, along with providing material and making **scrub bags**, we've found a number of ways to respond, so a huge thank-you for all of that, and to Jane Gordon and Ruth Gettinby for organising. We are keen to continue to partner with others, so, as appeals happen, please let us know at the church email address.



The Hello Project

*Bonjour
Hola
Guten Tag
Haloj
Namaste*

Wasn't the Lord's Prayer fabulous on the YouTube service last week?! If you haven't seen it, you can still have a look on the YouTube channel of the church. Of course, one idea leads to many others and, along with the JFv2 (who were fabulous leading Saturday Night In last week), we're hoping to organise a great big 'Hello', using as many people as would like from the congregation. It would mean each creating a small video clip saying "hello", in whatever language you can, offering a welcome. This would appear on the front page of our website.

We want to show the diversity of our congregation, age, generation, background, and strength of welcome that says 'we want to share the journey with you'. So, if you are interested, there will be more details next week. It's, going to be fabulous.

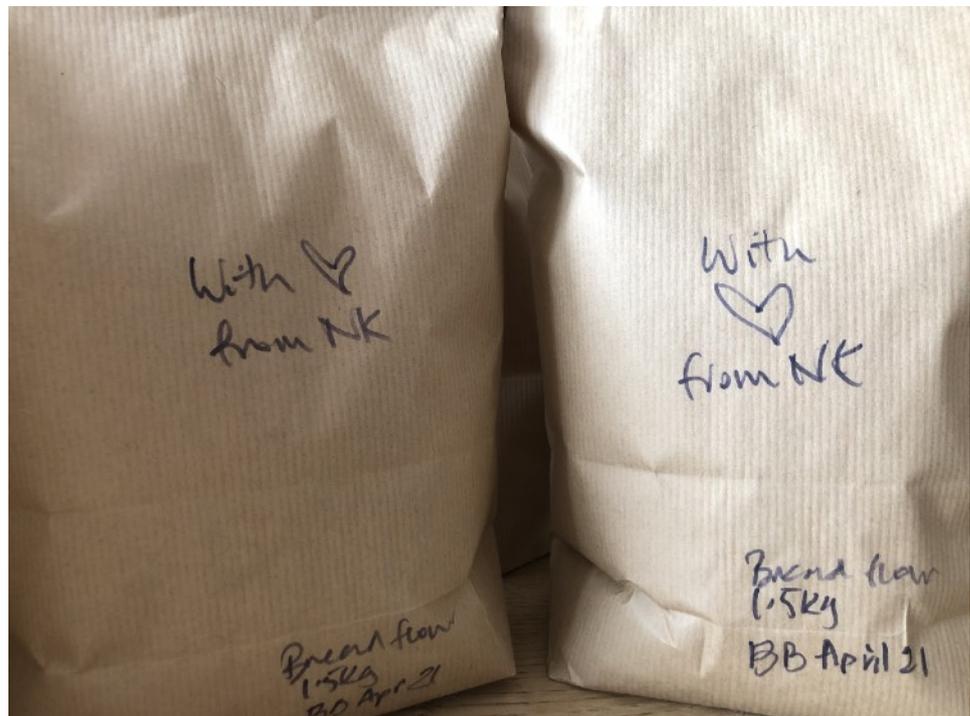
Flour Arranging

Breadmakers

Thanks to a thoughtful gesture from local artist Kristina Dickson, we were able to offer another batch of bread flour this week, which was quickly snapped up by our isolating bakers! Donations from this, and our other flour and bread activities, as well as a month of sponsored walks, have raised over £1,300 for the Mental Health Foundation.

We missed the Bearsden Festival this year but this support, together with the children's Kindness poetry and art in our windows, continues our promotion of the key message of mental health awareness week - kindness matters. Thanks very much to all who got involved.

Trish Robertson



Ode to Covid-19

*Sung to the tune:
"Where have all the
flowers gone"*

Where have all the cafes
gone?
Long time chatting.
Where have all the restaurants
gone?
Long time eating.
Where have all the hotels
gone?
Served by waiters everyone.
When will we ever learn?
When will we ever learn?

High streets/shopping,
Shoe shops/ walking,
Clothes shops,
Gone online every one.

Preachers /praying,
Weddings /loving,
Funerals,
Gone to YouTube every one.

Offices/working,
Schools / learning,
Colleges,
Gone viral every one.

Barbecues/burning,
Parties/laughing,
Friends,
Gone to WhatsApp every one.

Trains/waiting,
Planes/ flying,
Buses,
Gone to cycling every one.

Salons/ dyeing,
Barbers/ cutting,
Dentists,
Gone to self-help every one.

LAST VERSE

Where will all the nurses go?
Long time caring.
Where will all the doctors go?
Long time curing.
Where have all the patients
gone?
Gone to distancing everyone.
When will it ever end?
When will it ever end?

Babylon Files

Future-proofing

We've had an open group for folk who wish to reflect on what lockdown and our changing world means for the church. We've found our way to Zoom on a Wednesday evening and blethered and thought and discussed. We're taking a wee break till the middle of July (it's just like a Radio Four series!), but here are some of the highlight thoughts, not all by any means, of where discussion went.

- Being online is more immediate, more willing to try new things. You can't say, 'we've always done it this way'.
- Easier to be ecumenical online. No rituals to fall out over.
- Church can move fast when it needs to!
- Digital has made the barrier to church much lower. Much easier to drop in digitally.

- Digital has enabled folk to re-engage, having not been able to go to church for years.
- Digital offers spirituality on the go; meeting in church offers incarnational spirituality, i.e. gathering.
- Nothing worse than returning to normality. Pandemics are gateways between one world and the next. We can choose to walk through it heavy, with our traditions, or walk through lightly, ready to imagine another world.
- Can we reinvent some of the 'Christian' festivals?
- Zoom is for insiders: it is everything we try to get away from.
- YouTube is very much one way. To offer hospitality, you need interaction.
- The aim is to recognise that things will change - not sure what will change but we're not going to go back to things the way they were.
- What can we learn, do better?

Hidden Gardens

*No longer
hidden gardens*

We haven't been able to organise our annual Hidden Gardens Day which should have been round about now. However, we know gardens have possibly never looked so good, given the time some have had to spend on them over the last ten weeks.



So, why waste an opportunity to show-off some spectacular landscapes, creative use of colour, and hard work?

Given we can't visit physically, or at least not easily, Eileen & Stuart Young, and Ian & Fiona McMillan have created a photo display of what the gardens look like now. You can find that [running on the website](#) so please do visit if you can (the website and not the gardens themselves - yet!)

*A wee thought sent in
for the Bulletin*

The Positives of Lockdown

TRAFFIC has gone.
FUEL is affordable.
BILLS extended.
KIDS are at home with their FAMILIES.
PARENTS are home taking care of their CHILDREN.
FAST FOOD replaced by HOME COOKED MEALS.
Hectic SCHEDULES replaced by NAPS, REST, and RELAXATION.
the AIR seems CLEANER.
the WORLD quieter.
PEOPLE are conscious about HYGIENE and HEALTH.
MONEY doesn't make the WORLD GO ROUND anymore.
DESIGNER clothing is pointless as nobody ever really needs it.
DOCTORS and NURSES are being praised and recognised
instead of celebrities.
and WE now have TIME, finally,
to STOP and SMELL the ROSES.
And don't forget to LOOK UP AT THE STARS.
Our world is pretty amazing.

Highlights

Saturday Night In

Alfred Dallman decides who wants to be a millionaire on Saturday 6th at 7pm on Zoom in our own version of Chris Tarrant. We'll be listening out for coughing, so there is no cheating.

Sofa Surfers

Chilling out in Bearsden during the Ice Age. The very cool David Mudge cools us all down next week at 7pm on Thursday on Zoom.

Congregational News

Thinking of you...

Sadly, we have to let you know of the deaths of Iain Garvie, Lind Davidson, Henry Johnston, and Irene Tod, who have all passed away. We are thinking of their families, and ask that your own thoughts and prayers are with them at this time.

There will come a time when we can more fully celebrate the lives of all those friends we have lost during lockdown. Their stories are worth telling, and we will do so when we can.

Face Masks

We had a great night at Sofa Surfers this week on face masks. We started with a little bit about background and Covid-19, and a bit about how to make them ourselves. Then a bit about where to buy them if you can't make yourself. So here's a short demo of making a mask along with places you can buy where proceeds go to NHS or other charities.



Cut a 12 inch square (30 x 30 cm) from a sheet of newspaper, using the corner of the sheet to get a right angle



Using your newspaper pattern cut a 12 inch square in one piece of fabric or 2 rectangles 6 x 12 inch from two different fabrics

Cotton is the best fabric to use as it washes at a higher temperature

You can use: pillow cases, sheets, shirts, skirts, dresses, etc.



Pin the two pieces together, wrong sides facing



Stitch by hand or machine around the edge, leaving a 3 inch gap at one end.

Clip the corners



Fold over each end and stitch to create tubes for the elastic



Cut two pieces of narrow elastic and thread through the ends of the mask using a safety pin

<https://greatscotland.com/products/face-mask-fabric-non-medical>

<https://www.prettylittlething.com/single-black-fashion-mask.html>

This week's diary

- Saturday 6th** *Saturday Night In* at 7pm.
Who wants to be a Millionaire? led by Alfred Dallman from our [Zoom page](#).
- Sunday 7th** *Podcast & Video services*: available from the [church website home page](#), worship banner. If you wish hymns with the video, click the 'with hymns' button and then 'PLAY ALL'.
Phone Service: dial 0141 465 5774 (after a bit of a pause)
All of these services are posted for a week so you can log on at any time convenient to yourself.
Zoomday School: 10am: Beginners; 10.30: Sunday Clan; 11.15 JFV2.
- Tuesday 9th** *SingSong!* at 2pm from our [Zoom page](#).
Quiz Night at 7pm from our [Zoom page](#).
- Thursday 11th** *Sofa Surfers* at 7pm: Chilling Out in Bearsden during the Ice Age with David Mudge. Go to the [Zoom page](#).
- Friday 12th** *Weekly Bulletin* published
Coffee Pot at 10.30am, where we are all randomly sent off to different rooms, just like different tables, and have a blether. Begin in the lounge of our [Zoom page](#).
- Saturday 13th** *Saturday Night In* will be a surprise night (at the moment anyway). Come along and unwrap [Zoom](#) to see what's behind the screen.
- Plus, the website for daily prayers, new psalms, appeals, photos and poems, news, and everything else.**