

# LINK

St Ninian's  
Parish Church  
Stonehouse



Autumn 2008

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## Editors Note

## Minister's Letter

Session Clerk

Dear Readers

Today we are going to start with a maths lesson. Last year saw us start using the new Receipts and Accounts returns to comply with the new charities regulations. The Finance committee was able to put this document together with a bit of burning the midnight oil and a few sleepless nights. The return itself is very much like a business return but unfortunately bore little resemblance to what we have been used to. However before I ramble on *again*, the crux of what I want to show you is how all funds are collated together.

e.g.

Link Magazine makes £1000            (Link Magazine fund - income)

Link gives the church £500            (General Fund - income)

Church Receipts and Accounts return go up by £1500 because all income from all funds are added together. Unfortunately this distorts our income and makes us look as if we are receiving a lot more than we are.

I have asked all organisations therefore if they wish to give the church a cash donation to make it an item or service that the church requires. For example if the 'Link Magazine' donated a summer seat for the front gardens it would cost £500, they would still have exactly the same amount of money in their books but it wouldn't show as double income on our accounts. (The £500 would show as an expense the same as a donation)

I hope this isn't too hard to get your head round. Any organisation wishing to make a donation **MUST** see a member of the Finance committee before putting **any** cash in the Bank, for guidance on what we could use it for. No sums of money should be deposited in either November or December this year; remember we have a £100,000 ceiling which we must try and control where possible. Exceeding this figure will move us on to yet another higher more expensive level of red tape!! Please ask if in any doubt whatsoever for guidance and we will be only too happy to help.

We have had a steadfast passage through the 2008 financial year so far with a few minor blips for general maintenance. I am sure by the time you read this newsletter you will have reaped the rewards of the Gift Days which were set up to prepare a new Car Park and repair the wall, and some finance is now ear-marked to enhance/refurbish the large hall. Thanks go to everyone who contributed and had the patience you have shown to allow us to pick an optimum moment to start the work. P.S. Bob might be looking for volunteers, You Have been Warned!!!

Finally I always end on something that has happened to me that has made me think. My daughter has recently started learning to drive, to cut a long story short we had a bit of an incident on the Strathaven to Muirkirk road. Flat tyre, buckled wheel, much nashing of teeth. My daughter always carries her mobile phone its like *attached* - no mobile phone!! My phone is a bit of an antique - not quite a brick but not far off. Has anyone ever been on the Muirkirk moor just before dusk with **NO SIGNAL**. By walking back along the road it burst briefly, very briefly into life. I fired off a quick message to my wife who panicked and sent her uncle instead of Mr Green Flag. He however took my daughter home to safety and gave my exact position to Mr Green Flag - RESULT!!!

As he drove away his last words were 'just sit tight I will sort it' which he did. I sat back and put on the CD, just have to wait won't be too long. All went fine till the electrics started to die, and it got progressively darker, a misty drizzle engulfed the car. I didn't know so may midges and other flying objects could land on either myself or the car. How quiet is it out here? (CD had faded to obscurity at this point) Can I just point out of the only ***four*** cars that passed by not one stopped or asked if I was OK. Was I pleased to see the Orange spinning lights of Mr Green Flag. Who mentioned Good Samaritan and in this day and age of total mistrust can you blame any of those four cars? - You tell me.....

Thanks for your continued support and Patience it is appreciated

**George M Burns (Treasurer)**

## Sunday School Report

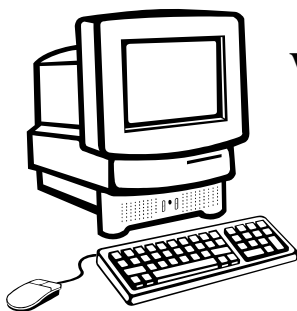
We ended last session with a Party, which was enjoyed by all who attended. There were games, party bags, juice, cake and fun for all. We hope to start this session in similar fashion on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August and look forward to seeing all the children back again.

The Team would like to thank all who looked after the 'Summer Sunday School' thus allowing us all to take part in Sunday Worship and re-charge our batteries, ready for the new session.

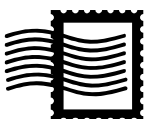
Instead of the Sunday school making a donation to the Church funds this year, we have provided a new television for use in the church halls. We often have material on DVD or video for the children and the old TV was 'past it's best'.

We hope you've all had an enjoyable summer break, whether at home or away and we are looking forward to seeing the children's smiling faces and of course you, who bring them along.

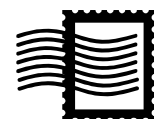
The Sunday School Team



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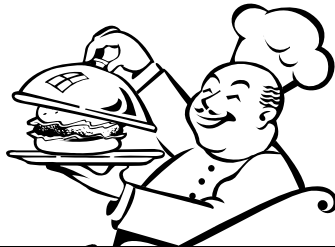
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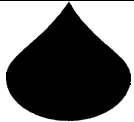
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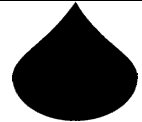
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## **THOUGHTS ON PRAYER**

I love roses – the flowers I mean – though I'm rather partial to the chocolates as well! The roses in our garden are chosen mainly for their perfume. Last year we bought a new rose and looked forward to enjoying the blooms it would produce – but it didn't! It looked dead. The 'head gardener' said to me that we should dig it up and throw it away. Can you imagine my disappointment? 'Let's give it another year' was my plea – we can feed it, sometimes things take a year to settle in. The rose stayed put, looking very sad and producing no growth. Imagine my excitement then when in the spring I saw a little shoot. I watched it grow and was overjoyed when it produced a beautiful, perfectly formed fragrant rose. As I smelled it's perfume and admired it's beauty, another episode came to my mind – the story in the bible of the crops that didn't flourish and the owner wanted them uprooted, but the gardener begged for more time to look after them and feed them and they too produced a crop.

It's wonderful to know that we have a loving God, who will feed and nourish us through His word, read and preached and through prayer. As you sit in your garden and look at your plants and flowers, it's a good time to remember the God who created them and us and offer Him our grateful thanks.

Ann Woods

**Prayer Secretary**

*Jesus said, "Come to me..." Matthew 28:11*

*Prayer Requests*

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**My Favourite Hymns:**

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**These are special because:**

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**Name/telephone number**

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Thanks to everyone who commented on my article about growing old in the last issue of Link. I'm glad it raised a few smiles, my son Jim also hopes to raise smiles by raising £3000 for Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust he plans to walk the **Inca** Trail in Peru this month. His fund is still open and if you would like to add any contributions please contact Jim or myself.

Thanks in anticipation

Anne Law

Church diaries priced at £1.50 are available as soon as you feel you want to think about another year approaching – where does time go!!!!

Webb Ivory catalogues are also doing the rounds so browse one and maybe add a few pounds to the church funds by buying some of your cards and wrapping.

Thanks

Anne Law

Coffee Morning

During the summer we have had a lovely **meet** while enjoying tea, coffee and goodies each Tuesday morning at Paterson Church.

However, after our holiday break we are now looking forward to extending warm welcome to everyone to our Coffee Morning each Tuesday from 10am-11.30am in the large hall in St. Ninian's Church when we will catch up with all the latest news.

We hope to continue until the beginning of December.

Coffee Ladies

With Very Grateful Thanks

Alastair and Agnes would like to thank everyone for the good wishes and very generous gifts received on the occasion of their marriage on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2008

St. Ninian's Art Group

I do hope all our Art Group members are enjoying their summer break and coping with the mixed weather!

It will soon be time to start our meetings again and I hope we will be increasing our members this session. People of all ages, both male and female will be made welcome.

Various arts and crafts are practiced the meetings commence on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October from 1.30pm till 3.30pm

J. Sandilands

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, flowers and lovely cards after my hip replacement operation, I am delighted to say my operation was a great success so thanks to everyone

May Anderson



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September	Mary Hamilton	791089	Margaret Patrick	792248

September	07	Agnes Cook	In Memoriam
		Joan Sonninston	In Memoriam
	14	Summers Family	In Memoriam
	21	Maureen Douglas	In Memoriam
	28	Margaret Cranston Sandra Law	In Memoriam

October	05	Mrs Hare	In Memoriam
		Mrs M Pollock & Mrs J Allan	In Memoriam
		Margaret Twaddle	In Memoriam
	12	Dr Anne Thompson	In Memoriam
		Janet Rodger	In Memoriam
	19	Mrs M Gemmell	In Memoriam
	26	Catherine McPherson Carol Kinniburgh	In Memoriam

November	02	Judy Kirkland	In Memoriam
		Catherine Campbell	In Memoriam
	09	Lynn McLeod	In Memoriam
	16	May Burns	In Memoriam
	23	Nettie Stewart	In Memoriam
	30	Fiona Letham	In Memoriam

December	07	Rosemary Middleton	In Memoriam
	14	Violet Dempster	In Memoriam
		June Smith	In Memoriam
	21	Sheena McLean	In Memoriam
		Agnes Cook Joan Sonninston	In Memoriam

The following also donated flowers but names were unavailable at time of going to print:

January	06	Mrs N. Golder	In Memoriam
March	30	Jimmy Anderson	Wedding Anniversary
April	06	S Lindsay	In Memoriam
	13	Alice Meikle	In Memoriam
May	04	Mr & Mrs Limerick	In Memoriam
	18	B Summers	In Memoriam

25            The Smith Family  
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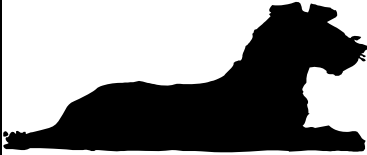
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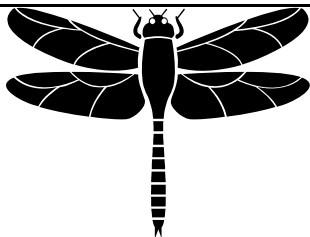
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