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THE LINK

**The Magazine of Haggs Parish Church
Summer 2010**

**The Manse
July 2010**

Hi Folks,

Since my last letter we have lost two faithful servants to Haggs Parish Church with the deaths of our organist, Mrs Lesley Meek and our Beadle Mr Tommy Mortimer. They will be greatly missed but leave us with many memories of their contribution to our worship and the friendship they gave to those around them.

I had the privilege of attending the General Assembly in May when we celebrated the 450th Anniversary of the Reformation at a special service on the Sunday afternoon.

As part of the service someone acted the character of John Knox and read out his account of the trial and martyrdom of George Wishart at St Andrews. I was reminded of my time at St Andrews University where students avoided the spot where the burning took place. But more importantly I was reminded of the fact that people died to bring about the reformation of the Church.

With the Reformation we also saw the translation of the Bible in English and the beginning of our education system as the reformers wanted ordinary people to be able to read the scriptures.

The reformers wanted the gospel to be preached and the sacraments to be dispersed in all parts of Scotland and the parish system remains with us today.

The baton has now been passed to us to continue their mission to spread the gospel of God's love to our neighbours in our parish and beyond. I wish you all a pleasant summer. Why not visit a local congregation when you are on holiday and take greetings from Haggs.

God bless you all,
Helen F Christie

EDITORIAL

As you can see from the Minister's letter we have had some changes recently with the sad loss of our friends. We also have some organisational changes on the magazine team as Jack Dunn has relinquished the position of Editor. Let us thank Jack for his time as editor and his thought provoking editorials.

I, Jean McCheyne, have agreed to take on the responsibility of Editor of the magazine for now but if there is anyone in the congregation who would like to take on this role please let me know. I will very pleased to hand over the reins.

As we all enjoy the Summer suns, going holidays or resting at home let us remember our commitment to our Church and think what can we do to sustain and encourage others to come and join with us in Sunday worship. We all have a part to play in the quality of our Sunday praise and promise to spread the word of God.

“O Lord, You are our Father. We are the clay, You are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.”

Isaiah 64 : 8, NIV

Jean McCheyne

Christian Aid

An astonishing £1658.69 was raised Door to Door £646.00 by the Bridge Walk and £128.40 by the Lunch.

Thank you to all who participated, gave and collected.

Mrs. J. McCheyne, CA Trasurer.

The Sunday Club

We have grown over this year and now have 6 seniors and 8 juniors. The juniors have enjoyed lots of arts and crafts and learning to play together. They also have been reading stories and enjoying the books that are read. A lot of these stories come from a book called "My First Bible Stories.

The seniors have been very busy, learning texts from the Bible and discussing lots of different topics.

We have finished off the year with a great Sunday School trip to Almond Valley Heritage Centre. The weather was sunny and warm! We all enjoyed it lots and had a good time.

Mrs S Laird.

Thank You

Louise and Edward were blessed with a wonderful wedding day on 14th May. The sun shone from early morning till the end of the evening, matched only by the bride's happy smile! Brian and Carol would like to say "A Very Big Thank You" to everyone involved in the day and especially to Rev. Helen Christie for conducting the beautiful Marriage Ceremony in the Church.

Mrs C. Richmond

Praise Band

The Praise Band with Winnie at the helm is an interesting experience since she keeps us all on our toes. We enjoy our singing and the cups of coffee to keep us going!

The Hagg's Talent concert took quite a lot of practice but we all enjoyed doing it and had some fun along the way. At Pentecost the band led the praise with rousing renditions of well known hymns that everyone could join in with. We are still small in number so if you enjoy singing come along and join us and you will be made very welcome. Thanks to Winnie and Arthur who put us through our paces.

Mrs E. Findlay

Summer Fund Raising Event - SATURDAY 31ST JULY

4 Tables have been booked at the Summer Fun Day taking place at the Archibald Russell Centre, Head of Muir on the above date.

Table 1: Cake and Candy

Table 2: Small bric-brac, books and DVDs (no videos please)

Table 3: Tombola and Lucky Ticket Draw (groceries, bottles, toiletries, gifts)

Table 4: Games Table

To help make the event a success VOLUNTEERS to organise, set up or man the tables are required. DONATIONS for the tables would also be greatly appreciated. These can be handed in at church on Sunday mornings or collection can be arranged.

Please add your name and/or ideas to the poster in church/church hall.

(Look for the Strawberry!) or call
Carol Richmond on 01324 840761

Mrs C. Richmond.

Carpet Bowling

The carpet bowling is still an event on Wednesday afternoons enjoyed by those who attend.

We went to Helensburgh for the outing this year and spent an afternoon browsing round the shops with the odd cuppa thrown in.

We then went on to Balmaha to the Oak Tree Inn - a lovely hotel in a lovely setting where we had a nice meal.

Bea gave a reading from a Pam Ayres book at Hagg's Talent Concert which was very amusing.

Thanks to Bea for organising the carpet bowling and setting up the hall on a Wednesday.

We would welcome any new members when we start again so come along for some fun and refreshments.

Mrs. E. Findlay.

The Guild

We have had a successful year and at our Annual General Meeting donated a total of £650 to various charities - £200 each to two of our projects, £200 to the Church and £50 to Driving Force. Thanks to all who have supported us.

At the Haggs has Talent concert Nan Ure gave a reading in her usual style, enjoyed by all.

Instead of a day trip this year we decided on a meal at the Cladhan Hotel in Falkirk. The meal was lovely and the company good and it was nice that Jean Cowan was able to join us.

In late August three Guild members are going to Dundee to the Guild Annual Meeting.

Mrs. E. Findlay.

Zumba

Monday 6 - 7 p.m. in the Church Hall - all levels of fitness welcome. Join our Zumba Party £3.00 p.p. It's fun, easy and a good workout.

Pilates Class

Monday 7.15 - 8.15 p.m. in Church Hall - spaces available. If you are fit or unfit - it does not matter - this could be the class for you. Body alignment, Posture, Balance, Inner Core Strength, £6.00 p.p. Block bookings of 4 weeks.

Stability Ball Class

Tuesday 8 - 9 p.m. in the Church hall - £2 p.p. which goes to various Charities and our Church - so come along and give it a try.

Contact Liz on 07813 847486 for more information.

Baptism

'Suffer little children to come unto me'

April 14 Jay Thomson Aitchison

Marriage

'Whom God has joined together'

**March 14 Karen Devine to Scott Brockett
20 Fiona Cook to Darren Woodruff**

April 16 Nicola Anderson to Antony Welsh

**May 7 Heather Leers to Daniel Rae
8 Lesley Allison to Andrew Foster
9 Elizabeth Holland to Alan Cox
14 Louise Richmond to Edward Lyttle**

June 5 Selina Benton to Alan Benton

Death

'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord'

Feb. Mrs Margaret Clarke Banknock

**March Mrs Sadie Thomson Haggs
Miss Elizabeth Nicoll Banknock**

**April Mrs Jane Mclean Bonnybridge
Adam McEwan Bonnybridge**

**May Mrs Lesley Meek Banknock
Thomas Mortimer Dennyloanhead
Mrs Ena Devaney Banknock**