

# Prospect

## Magazine of Stepps Parish Church



### Welcome to the October

### 2025 Edition of

### Prospect

*In this edition, along with our usual features, there is news & updates from our congregation and community.*

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### **Photographs of our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary service celebrations.**

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*If you have any ideas for additional features or any changes we can make to Prospect it would be great to hear from you.*

**October**

**2025**

Issue 444

Scottish Charity No.  
SC014212

### **Contact Us:**

**Minister:** Currently Vacant

**Session Clerk:** Alastair Sim

**Church Organist / Musician:**

Alastair Sim 07821 667272

### **Website**

[www.steppsparishchurch.org](http://www.steppsparishchurch.org)

### **Follow us on Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/steppsparishchurch>

### **Prospect**

**To submit an item for the November Prospect please email the Prospect Editor Anne by Monday 20th October.**

[anne.bunyan87@googlemail.com](mailto:anne.bunyan87@googlemail.com)

***At the heart of our community  
celebrating faith and life to the  
full.***





**Stepps Parish Church linked with**  
**Garthamlock, Ruchazie & Craigend**

**Minister:** Currently vacant

**Locum Minister:** Rev Elaine Mckinnon

**Email:** [EMckinnon@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:EMckinnon@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**Phone:** 07780590575

**Interim Moderator:** Rev Monica Michelin - Salomon

**Email:** [MMichelinSalomon@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:MMichelinSalomon@churchofscotland.org.uk)

**Session Clerk:** Alastair Sim

**Email:** [alastairsim1972@gmail.com](mailto:alastairsim1972@gmail.com)

**Address:**

Stepps Parish Church,  
17 Whitehill Ave, Stepps, Glasgow G33 6BL

[www.steppsparishchurch.org](http://www.steppsparishchurch.org)

**Communion Services**

(1st Sunday – March, June, September,  
December)  
10.00am

**Contacts:**

**Hall Lets:** Mrs. June Thomson

07909 - 042366

**Safeguarding Coordinator:**

Mrs. Ailsa Macdonald

07952 - 095380

**Sunday Services**

**Morning Worship 10am**

Please continue to follow the website for information about our Services. We look forward to welcoming you with us but for those who are unable to return we will continue to stream our weekly Sunday services on our Stepps Parish Church YouTube channel

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI7mTSz5OI-vW\\_qMKKjcXAw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI7mTSz5OI-vW_qMKKjcXAw)

## **Message from our Session Clerk**

Hello there and welcome to this month's edition of Prospect

As you are probably aware, our locum minister Elaine had a bad fall when she was on holiday in Liverpool. She broke her femur bone which I have learnt is the biggest bone in the human body and is weight-bearing. Elaine is making good progress and all of us at Stepps Parish Church wish her all the best in her recovery. I will keep the congregation up to date with Elaine's recovery and cover arrangements over the next few months.



Please be assured, that the Nominating Committee has been working diligently and proactively behind the scenes in our search for a full-time permanent minister to the charge of Stepps and Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend Parish Churches. The Session will keep you regularly updated on our progress.

I would like to say a special thank you to our fellow worshippers and retired ministers Edith and Stewart who have stepped in and helped us out at short notice to lead worship in September and October. As Session Clerk, I am very lucky to have a great team of Elders and volunteers who help to run the church.

September and October are going to be very busy for our church community with special services and celebrations.

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Service was held at 10 a.m. followed by refreshments in the hall. We were delighted to be joined by previous colleagues and friends on this special day. It was a great success and I had a lot of positive feedback on the event.

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October is Harvest Sunday and we would appreciate donations which will be given to the Lodging House Mission. On that note, I am pleased to announce that Mr. Francis McGovern has offered to be our LHM church representative.

On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October, the Boys Brigade will be having their Founder's Day and Dedication Service which will be followed by hot food and drinks in the hall.

In conclusion, I wish you and yours happiness, health and wellbeing during our Autumn season.

*Alastair Sim*

## Our 125<sup>th</sup> Commemorative Service

It was great to see some familiar faces from past and present at our service and to share memories and photographs of our church community over the years.

Some photographs of the celebration are below.









Our former minister Ken Baird and his wife Olive were unfortunately not able to join in our celebrations but Ken sent a card with a message which was read out at the service and a copy has been attached below.

To the Church Family at Stepps.

Dear Friends,

As parish minister of Stepps from early 1998 until mid 2003 I could not allow the 125th Anniversary of the opening of the very fine Church building on Whitehill Avenue to pass without sending my greetings and good wishes to the present congregation on such a special occasion. My dear wife Olive who shared in the work of the parish joins with me in wishing you many years of fruitful ministry and faithful service as you reach out to the Stepps community of today with the message of hope and salvation in Jesus Christ.

We continue to remember the ministry of the Church in Stepps and you will be in our thoughts and prayers for 'the Anniversary' and for all that God has in store for you in the days ahead.

Unfortunately we shall not be with you on 21st September due to a commitment which would be very difficult to rearrange, but we trust that the day will be a time of blessing and encouragement for you all.

Olive joins me in sending our love and warmest greetings.

Ken and Olive .. (Baird) ..

## SPC Harvest Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October Donation Requests 2025 for LHM

We are so grateful to you for supporting LHM year after year, it means a lot to us. We've put together a short list of the things we need most. If you're able, please pick from these - we've thought it through so it reflects what we actually use. We've also included a few everyday essentials we usually have to buy; donating these would save us money that we can redirect to other areas of our work. Your help allows us cook hot, nutritious lunches and put together food parcels for clients who are struggling. If a cash donation is easier, we'll use it to buy fresh fruit, veg and other perishables we need, keeping meals healthy and cutting waste. Thank you from The LHM Team

Cereal	Tinned Fruit	Tinned Meat / Fish
Corn Flakes/Crunchy Nut	*Peaches	Tuna/Salmon
Weetabix	*Pears	Corned beef
Rice Crispies	*Pineapples	Ham
Sugar Puffs	*Mandarins	Tinned mince, stew etc
Frosties	*Fruit Cocktail	<b>Other Tinned Food</b>
Coco Pops	*Rice Pudding	*Baked Beans
Cheerios	*Custard	Spaghetti in sauce
Muesli		*Tinned Soups – tomato, vegetable, chicken, lentil, scotch broth, minestrone, pea & ham, chicken noodle
Jars/Pastes	Other	
Pasta bake sauces	Full Fat UHT milk	
Curry Sauce/paste	Coconut Milk	
Tomato paste	Small juice cartons	
	Diluting/fresh juice	<b>Other</b>
Dried Goods	*Coffee	Brown Sauce
Mixed herbs	*Biscuits	Tomato Sauce
Garlic powder	Crisps	Vinegar
Ground turmeric	Tea Bags	Porridge oats
Chilli powder	Kettle Foods	Dried peas
Crushed chillies	Pot Noodles	Lentils / Broth mix
Ground coriander	Cuppa Soups	Olive oil
Black pepper	Tinned Potatoes	*Vegetable oil
Salt	Sachets dried mash potato	*Bisto
Pasta	Ring Pull Ham tins	*Veg Stock cubes/ bullion
Long grain rice	Breakfast bars	*Jelly
	Cereal Bars	*Sugar
<b>Toiletries (all types)</b>	Individual packets sweets	Jam
Washing up liquid, Toilet Rolls, Washing Powder		
<b>*OUT OF STOCK – URGENTLY NEEDED</b>		

### Not Required List

Salad Cream/Mayonnaise	Shredded Wheat Cereal	Red Kidney Beans
Pearl Barley	Prunes	Chickpeas
Marmalade	Alpen	Grapefruit
Clothing	Bedding/duvet	towels

## **SPC – 2025 AND BEYOND**

### **AN UPDATE**

In the September edition of Prospect, a list of planned activities was outlined. The first activity, our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Church Service was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September. A most enjoyable event and an opportunity to meet old and new friends.

Second activity referred to work being carried out to determine the feasibility of proposed developments to premises and grounds. The SPC -2025 AND BEYOND committee feel this is necessary to update church facilities, make premises more attractive and maximise utilisation.

There is a UK wide acceptance of a staged approach to development laid down in the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Plan of Work. An early stage is a Feasibility Study, which is carried out by qualified persons and establishes the practicalities, implications, costs, local impact and potential benefits.

David Thorn, Director of Morris Spottiswood and a colleague have visited and are in the process of compiling a proposal and a quotation for a Feasibility Study. It is estimated this will cost around £2.5K and if approved by Trustees will be completed by the turn of the year. Assuming approval by Trustees the next Stage will be fundraising, mainly via grant funding applications to the Church of Scotland and other funding agencies.

This will be a protracted activity and will require progress through RIBA stages, probably extending to at least two years before work can be completed.

Another activity being considered is Fundraising, via increased hall lets and increased giving from members and non-members.

Church Premises have been listed on HALLSHIRE, a free internet site which is regularly accessed by community groups wishing to hire space. A “Friends of SPC” scheme aimed at non-members in our growing community who might have an attachment to the CoS and who might wish to make a regular contribution to their local Church is also being assessed.

The greatly expanded population of Stepps has prompted SPC-AND BEYOND committee members to consider how best our Church, its services and facilities can be publicised to the community. Social Media posting is generally accepted as the most effective means. In this regard we need help. Can anyone offer advice on the best way to post weekly updates on Church activities to members and non-members. Should it be via What’s App, Twitter, Instagram or any other method?

Please help.

*Jim Hope*





## **190<sup>th</sup> GLASGOW COMPANY, THE BOYS' BRIGADE**

We're a few weeks into the new Session now, with some new faces joining us in the Anchor Boys and Junior Section. Our Seniors are taking on leadership roles with the younger Boys as part of their King's Badge work. Now that everyone is settling into the regular weekly programme, we're starting to think of special events, and currently we're planning a range of trips and activities. More news to follow as things are organised.

We will again be facilitating the Sunday morning service for Founder's Day and Dedication on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October and hope you can all join us. We will as usual be offering a roll and sausage and a tea or coffee afterwards.

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

Due to our growing numbers, we are in great need of adult help on a Monday night. We expect to expand our numbers even further next year, and will really need help at that point. If anyone would be interested in helping out, either weekly or just occasionally, it would be greatly appreciated. Please get in touch with me if you would like to know more.

Anchor Boys for boys in P1-P3, and Junior Section for boys in P4-P6 meet on Mondays from 6.00pm to 7.30pm. Company Section meets on Mondays from 7.00pm to 9.00pm for boys in Primary 7 and above. New members are always welcome.

Colin Goodall

Captain

[colingoodall91@hotmail.com](mailto:colingoodall91@hotmail.com)

Tel. 07827032807

### **Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend Ceilidh**

Our friends over in Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Carntyne are holding a Ceilidh on Saturday the 29th of November.

This event is suitable for all ages.

The Real Fling @Garthamlock

7:30pm doors open

8pm-9pm Ceilidh

9pm buffet

9:30-11pm Disco

11:00-11:30 mixture of ceilidh and disco to finish the night.

BYOB (Bring your own bottle)

Free event but ticket required

There will be buckets out for a small donation and a charity to donate to will be decided.

For tickets call/message 07393550455.

*Brian Stewart*

### **Sunday Club**

The Sunday Club will be in church for the Harvest Service on the Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> of October and our young people can bring along items from the list to support the Lodging House Mission.

We will be on holiday on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of October, during the school October break, and resume on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

Any young people from age 3 to 16 are welcome to join us on a Sunday morning for fun, games and Bible stories.

*Anne, Esther and Linda*

## **Chestnut Café Line Dancers**

During the summer break in August for the Chestnut Cafe, Gary and some of the line dancers decided to visit some local Care Homes to bring some joy, fun and entertainment to the residents. They visited Stobhill Care Home in Springburn, Whitfield Lodge in Lennoxtown and Birdstone in Lennoxtown where one of our members Sheila Edwards now resides. Sheila loved coming to the Chestnut Cafe and always enjoyed watching the line-dancers in the Church Hall as she tapped her feet in time to the music, so she was thrilled to see Gary and said "I know you" when he arrived with the ladies wearing their cowboy hats. In every home the residents and staff loved watching the dancing and were singing along and tapping their feet to the music of the war years and the 40s in general, bring back lots of memories.



The staff at each home thanked them and asked if they would please come back another time as it was an extra special activity which brought so much to the residents and they could see how much they had inter-acted.

Everyone who took part felt it was such a privilege to share their love of dancing and realised how much joy they had brought to the residents. They all felt truly uplifted and thankful they had given their time and talents to brighten their lives if only for a short while.

A very big thank you to Gary and all the ladies who took part and know the Care Homes will welcome you all back with open arms.





Driving Digital Locally  
Intergenerational Project

Chestnut Café, Stepps Parish Church Hall

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (every Thursday)**

**11am to 12 noon**

Join us for a fun and informal session to learn new digital skills!

We're excited to welcome the digital leaders from  
**St Joseph's Primary School** as part of our intergenerational  
project.

We invite senior adults to come and join us in this exciting  
learning experience.



If you are interested in taking part, please come and join us at the  
Café .

The school will bring along IPADs so please do not worry if you do  
not have one, come along and join in.

## Door Welcome Rota



	Welcome at Door	Beadle
5 <sup>th</sup> October	J Thomson	S Baker
12 <sup>th</sup> October	E Watson	J Burns
19 <sup>th</sup> October	H Baker	J Thomson
26 <sup>th</sup> October	J Bennie	L Ashmole
2 <sup>nd</sup> November	C Skinner	S Baker

## Tea Rota



5 <sup>th</sup> October	J Bennie	H Baker
12 <sup>th</sup> October	L Robertson	E Henderson
19 <sup>th</sup> October	F Maxwell	E Cameron
26 <sup>th</sup> October	BB	BB
2 <sup>nd</sup> November	E Watson	C Logan

**First person named on tea rota please bring milk.**

*June Thomson*

### Cynthia Jolly

It is with great sadness that we intimate the death of one of our church members, Cynthia Jolly, who passed away on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September. Cynthia's funeral was held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> of September.

**"My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?"**

(John 14:2)

NIV

