

**Prospect**  
Magazine of Stepps Parish Church



**May**  
**2026**  
Issue 450  
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**Welcome to the May**

**2026 Edition of**

**Prospect**

**Sunday Services**  
**Morning Worship 10am**

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

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*Thanks from the Lodging House Mission for their Easter Appeal*

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*Another Instalment from 2025 and Beyond Stepps History Project*

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*Information on our May Services and Themes*



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



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

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

**Follow us on Facebook:**

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

**Prospect**

To submit an item for the June Prospect please email the Prospect Editor Anne by **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May.**

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G33 6BL

**Our Email Address**

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

**Communion Services**

These are held on the 1st Sunday of  
March, June, September and  
December at our usual time of  
10.00am

**Church Contacts:**

**Hall Lets:** Mrs. June Thomson

07909 - 042366

**Safeguarding Coordinator:**

Mrs. Ailsa Macdonald

07952 - 095380

**Please continue to follow our website for further information about our Services. We look forward to welcoming you with us on a Sunday morning but for those who are unable to join us in person, we 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)

Dear friends

It is hard to believe that I have now been your minister for just over four weeks. What has made these last few weeks special have been the times of worship, friendship and fellowship together with a special focus on time together during Holy Week.



Getting to know both congregations and each one of you is going to take time so, please be patient with me especially when I ask you for your name or use the wrong name! A new minister arriving is a time of great change both for the minister and for a congregation - getting to understand everything from history, customs and traditions through to the gifts and talents of the people of God and how they might be used, developed and adapted in a changing church and changing world.

I've been encouraged by the many active gifts that have supported both congregations, especially during the vacancy, as worship, work, and witness continued. I have seen an openness to change – to where the Spirit is leading us forward in faith in these challenging times. The situation we find ourselves in as a church locally, regionally and nationally is not an easy one. You like me have seen how the church has declined in numbers as well as in its influence across the board but even with this there is still a firm foundation in the commitment of the people of God (members, office-bearers and friends alike) and this is replicated here.

But let's not forget that the firm foundation we build on is not what we can offer but on what and who God has offered to is in Christ Jesus the king and head of the church. "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ." (1Corinthians 3:11).

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand,*

In the changing scenes of life, he is the one who we can depend upon to always be there for us and with us. Amid the storm, he is the anchor who keeps us firm and sure. In the darkness, he is the light. At the crossroads, he is there to guide us.

As, over the next few weeks, we get to know Jesus a bit more in the “I am sayings” in John’s Gospel, we will discover what he is to us, what he can do for us and how he can work through us that as we learn from him lean on him others can come to learn from us and lean on us in the changing scenes of their lives.

As I give thanks to God for “your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now” I pray that we will continue to be open to God, to each other and to wherever we are led and set down to serve.

Your friend and minister

*Robbie*

### **Future Services and Themes**

Sunday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	10 a.m. Stepps	<i>Knowing through Jesus:</i>
	11.30 a.m. GRAC	<i>The Good Shepherd</i>
Sunday, 10 <sup>th</sup> May	10 a.m. Stepps	<i>Knowing through Jesus:</i>
	11.30 a.m. GRAC	<i>The Way, the Truth, the Life</i>
Sunday, 17 <sup>th</sup> May	10 a.m. Stepps	<i>Knowing through Jesus:</i>
	11.30 a.m. GRAC	<i>The True Vine</i>
Sunday, 24 <sup>th</sup> May	10 a.m. Stepps	<i>Pentecost Sunday:</i>
	11.30 a.m. GRAC	<i>Life in the Spirit</i>

(GRAC -Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend)

## **Message from our Session Clerk**

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

Holy Week is a very busy time of the year in the life of the church. On Maundy Thursday we enjoyed food and hospitality with our friends at Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend Parish Church. On Good Friday, we welcomed them to our church and again on Easter Sunday where we had a joint service.



As you know, Easter is the most important festival in the Christianity faith as it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ three days after his crucifixion by the Romans. Observed with joy, it symbolizes victory over death, the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life.

Our new minister, Robbie, has been settling in to his new appointment with vigour and enthusiasm. He has already visited several members of the congregation which is greatly appreciated. If anybody would like a visit to be arranged, particularly our house bound members, please either speak to me or Robbie directly.

As always, I wish you and yours happiness, health and wellbeing.

*Alastair Sim*

## **Lodging House Mission Easter Appeal**

I would like to extend my appreciation and thanks, along with that of the LHM staff, to all those who generously dedicated their time and effort towards purchasing eggs for the LHM Easter Egg appeal and also convey our best wishes to everyone involved. I can assure everyone the eggs were greatly received by them.



*Frank Mc Govern*

## **Chestnut Cafe**

The Chestnut Cafe would like to say a big "Thank you" to Liz Ashmole for providing such creative Easter cards and gift bags at our 'Arts & Crafts' session at the beginning of April. Liz always puts in so much time and effort in preparing the resources, enabling us to make our beautiful little works of art. We are always very proud students!!!



Line Dancing with Gary will continue through May. Last month it was a real pleasure to welcome our minister Robbie to the dancefloor. He joined in for a few dances and did really well. Just another of his many talents!

Everyone at the Chestnut Cafe sends their love and best wishes for a speedy recovery to our dear Esther who is at home recovering from her recent knee operation. I know Ian will struggle to slow her down as she will be anxious to get back to her role as our favourite "Director of Operations". Don't worry Esther we will do our best in your absence. Take care and be a good patient!!!

## ***Staff at Chestnut Cafe***

## **Sunday Club**

The Sunday Club will be on holiday for the two bank holiday weekends in May, Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> of May.

We look forward to welcoming any children and young people on Sunday mornings for our usual fun activities, crafts, games and Bible stories.

*Anne, Esther and Linda*



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

Unfortunately our Bunny Hope fundraiser had to be cancelled due to the wind. And rain. And hail. And snow. Did I forget any of the types of weather we had that day? Better luck next time.

We did however run a successful fundraiser, our first beetle drive, run by two of our Senior Boys, Adam Bowie and Lewis McCallum, as part of their King's Badge work, to raise funds for the mental health charity CRUSE. The event raised £265.00.

As an Easter trip, we enjoyed an evening aboard a canal boat with the Forth and Clyde Canal Society, learning about the history of the canal and the wildlife to be found along it.

We're coming up to our annual Display, with presentation of annual awards, on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May**, all welcome to come along and support the Boys.

### **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.

### **RECRUITS WELCOME!**

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. **WE ARE PARTICULARLY KEEN TO SEE MORE BOYS IN THE ANCHOR BOYS!** Please spread the word!

Colin Goodall

Captain

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

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## Door Duty

	Welcome at Door	Beadle
May 3rd	F McGovern	J Burns
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	F Shields	C Skinner
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	E Watson	J Thomson
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	H Baker	L Ashmole
May 31st	J Bennie	S Baker
June 7th	S Gowans	J Burns



## Tea Duty Rota



May 3rd	C Logan	E Watson
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	J Bennie	H Baker
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	E Henderson	F Maxwell
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	L Robertson	S Gowans
May 31st	E Watson	C Logan
June 7th	E Henderson	F Maxwell

First person on tea duty please bring milk.

Anyone able to help with tea duty once a month please contact June Thomson.

*June Thomson*

## **STEPS PARISH CHURCH**

### **2025 -AND BEYOND - STEPPS HISTORY PROJECT**

The local area was a small village in the early 1900's consisting of Stepps and Millerston. It expanded over decades to form Stepps and District, including Cardowan, Craigenmuir, Steppshill and more recently, Crowwood Grange and Earls Rise. What once was a small village now has a population of over 8,500 and is classed as a small town.

Stepps and District Community recently celebrated two notable milestones - the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Joseph's RC Church and the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Stepps Parish Church. As part of SPC celebrations it seems appropriate to provide information for

residents to help develop a community spirit and a pride of place for 2025 -AND BEYOND.

The plan is to compile a people's history of the area with anecdotes, memories (first or second hand), theories, opinions and experiences and we invite as many people as possible to contribute. Findings will initially be published on- line whilst funding is sourced to print a hard copy version. Please send any comments to jamhp9@outlook.com

### **Stepps Primary School**

The School was opened in 1877 and was situated in School Road just off Cardowan Drive, with the headmaster's detached house in the Drive. In 1904 the school relocated to its present position in 1904 Road where it also incorporates a library and a community facility.

*Two features of the old school that provided interest to the pupils were a small adjoining field entered from Cardowan Road that held a donkey and small swamp with trees on the area leading to the pedestrian bridge where we could collect "baggy minins" and tadpoles.*

### **St. Joseph's School**

**To be added**

### **Stepps Cricket Team**

A cricket team was in existence from 1877 until 1904 and played on ground now occupied by the high flats at Steppshill.

### **Stepps Curling Club**

The Curling Club met on low ground southeast of the railway bridge. It is said the first Bowling Clubhouse in Lenzie Road was formerly that of the Curling Club.

### **Stepps Bowling Club**

The Club, founded in 1904 is probably the oldest community organisation in Stepps. It has had a long and successful history and houses male and female clubs. In 1904 the Club erected a new pavilion

### **Stepps Masonic Lodge**

Stepps Masonic Lodge was founded in 1877 and held its meetings in the Stepps Public Hall until it relocated to Riddrie in the 1970's(?). It is still in existence.

### **Scout Troop**

Stepps Scout Troop was founded in 1914 and has been sited at the junction of Cardowan Drive and Cardowan Road ever since. The present hall was an extension to the original hall which had to be demolished in the 1980's.

## **Stepps Hockey Club**

The Club was sited in what is still referred to as the Hockey Field which is located between Cumbernauld Road, Hornhill Drive and Mount Harriet Drive. The Club was a magnet for generations of Stepps youths and it continues to attract local players although it now plays on the astro turf surface at the University of Strathclyde's playing fields at Millerston. The Club operated out of a timber clubhouse on the Hockey Field which was destroyed by fire one New Years day in the 1960's. A new pavilion, accessed from Mount Harriet Drive is now owned and maintained by North Lanarkshire Council and leased out to Garnkirk Football Team. Probably The Hockey Club's most famous player was goalkeeper George Black. Capped by Scotland and Great Britain on numerous occasions, he just missed out on an Olympic place and he was the winner of the Usher Vase in ??? the year between winners John Greig of Rangers and Billy McNeil of Celtic.

*"I remember my dad taking me to see a Scotland versus Wales hockey international on the Hockey Field".*

## **Boys Brigade**

Founded in 1907 and still in existence, it is the oldest youth organisation in Stepps. The BB has been a fixture in what was firstly Whitehill Parish Church and is now Stepps Parish Church in Whitehill Avenue. Since Covid, the BB is experiencing an upturn in membership.

## **Stepps Tennis Club**

The Tennis Club has been on Lenzie Road since its founding in 19// and is a key attraction in the community. At its opening a silver inscribed trophy in the shape of a tennis ball was presented. It was lost somehow and 100 years later a tennis enthusiast in England came across it in an antiques shop. Recognising its significance, he purchased the ball and sent it to Stepps Tennis Club as a gift.

## **Stepps Guides**

For many years Stepps Guides met in the Guide Hut in open ground at the bottom of Alexandra Avenue. A timber construction requiring increasing costs the Hut was abandoned in ??? and the Guides and Brownies now meet in ??? and ???. The building is now home to Auchengeich Amateur Boxing Club.

## **Girls Brigade**

The 40<sup>th</sup> Glasgow Girls Brigade was founded in Stepps Parish Church in ??? from The Girls Guildry and continued until ???

*Jim Hope*

