

Prospect

Magazine of Stepps Parish Church



November

2026

Issue 455

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Welcome to the November

2026 Edition of

Prospect

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

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BB fundraiser including Robbie's climb over Sydney Harbour Bridge

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Dates for your diary for Christmas activities

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Information on our November Services and Themes

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Sunday Services
Morning Worship 10am



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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Follow us on Facebook:

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

Our Address:

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

Our Email Address

www.steppsparishchurch.org

Communion Services

These are now held on the **2nd 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

Prospect

To submit an item for the December issue of Prospect please email the Prospect Editor Anne by **Monday 23rd November**.

anne.bunyan87@googlemail.com

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

Dear Friends

People often ask of a minister how he or she manages to deal with the more difficult areas of the job, the more difficult services where grief is raw. Although I count it a privilege to be involved in the lives of people at all sorts of times in their lives, there are moments when it is difficult to try and keep things together – I am human after all! In such circumstances it can be music, be it a piece played by Alastair or a Hymn or Song sung by the congregation. Music and heartfelt singing seem to really heighten the emotions bringing a lump to the throat and making the hairs on the back of your neck stand on end.



At this time of year when we approach Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day there is no doubt that hearing the Last Post and Reveille heightens emotions and brings a particular poignancy to any Act of Remembrance within a service or at a War Memorial. I find that especially the case at the Menin Gate when I've had the privilege of being part of the Last Post Ceremony. I still can remember the vividly how I felt when I not only heard the sound of the bugles playing the Last Post and Reveille but also the sound of the pipes playing a lament during the wreath laying.

What made it more poignant for me this year when visiting Belgium is that the Piper was one of the students of Airdrie Academy. I had asked if he could take part and the MC readily agreed. What an experience it was. It certainly moved everyone that night but particularly all of us from the Airdrie Academy group because we were so proud of his contribution which was not an easy one to make. And just as the personal connection with the piper that night made it all the more special, making personal connections with the war dead in Flanders is what makes Remembrance all that more poignant, special if you like, for the young folk of the Academy who go and pay tribute year in, year out.

It is easy to focus just on the numbers, trying to get our head round the volume of casualties and deaths, the magnitude of the devastation of war, particularly the First World War which is on our minds in this year of commemoration of its outbreak. But seeing the headstones with countless names, many with no names, seeing the same names as our own, seeing young men the same age as our young people brings it home that it was ordinary people who bore the brunt as ordinary people continue to bear the brunt of conflict. For some of the young men they realise that, if they had been born at a different time, it could have been them which really takes them by surprise.

When the Last Post on Remembrance Sunday calls us to fall silent we will remember the outbreak of war, the call to arms and to battle. We will remember the numbers which are hard

to even start to take in. Let us also remember the people who we have never met but have made the ultimate sacrifice who now pass the baton onto us.

When Reveille breaks the silence what will our response be? I hope and trust that in our own personal ways we might seek peace in our lives, in our relationships, in our community and beyond that the peace of God which is beyond our understanding will reign in our lives and in the life of the world.

Your friend and minister

Robbie H

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Details of Services

Sunday, 8 th November	Remembrance Sunday		
	10.00 a.m.	Stepps	Morning Worship
	10.50 a.m.	Stepps War Memorial	
	11.30 a.m.	GRaC	Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sunday, 15 th November	Ready to receive		
	10.00 a.m.	Stepps	Morning Worship
	11.30 a.m.	GRAC	Morning Worship
Sunday, 22 nd November	Christian Aid Focus		
	10.00 a.m.	Stepps	Morning Worship
	11.30 a.m.	GRaC	Morning Worship
	This Sunday the services will focus on the work of Christian Aid with a fundraising lunch after both services.		
Saturday, 28 th November	Memorial Service		
	4.00 p.m.	Service at GraC	
	(for those who have been bereaved and for anyone who has experienced loss of any kind)		
Refreshments are available from 3.00 p.m.			

Sunday, 29th November

Named by God: Named and Promised

10.00 a.m. Stepps Morning Worship

11.30 a.m. GRaC Morning Worship

Thursday, 3rd December

Community Carol Service at GraC

7.00 p.m. A service involving music from local Primary Schools

Sunday, 6th December

Named by God: Named and Protected

10.00 a.m. Stepps Morning Worship

11.30 a.m. GRaC Sacrament of Holy Communion

GRaC – Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend

Midweek Worship – Thought-filled Thursdays

Our midweek services resume again for the Season of Advent and will alternate between Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend Parish Church and Stepps Parish Church.

Thursday, 3rd December 12 noon Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend

Thursday, 10th December 12 noon Stepps

Thursday, 17th December 12 noon Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend

Thursday, 24th December 12 noon Stepps

If you have any prayer requests please be in touch with the minister or write them into the book in church which is available on a Sunday morning

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Funerals

12th October

Joe Macaulay

Message from our Session Clerk



I hope you are having a good Autumn season. This time of year is like a transition period between Summer and Winter where the temperature drops and the night comes in earlier and the daytime becomes shorter. We look forward to the services coming up in November including the Remembrance Day where we will be paying our respects to those who lost their lives to allow us to live in freedom.

As temperatures drop please keep an eye on any vulnerable and lonely people who you know would love to have a visit; I hope to see you all in church soon.

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

Alastair Sim

Chestnut Café

The Chestnut Café is open every Thursday from 10 am until 1 pm. Come along and enjoy coffee, tea, scones, pancakes and cakes.

Line dancing with Gary is from 11 am until 12 noon during November and stay for lunch of soup, sandwiches and toasties.

During December, there will be no line dancing. Our activity will be Christmas related!

Chestnut Cafe Staff



Sunday Club

The Sunday Club continues to meet on a Sunday morning from 10am. Any children and young people are welcome to come along and join in the fun. We listen to and discuss bible stories as well as playing games and making crafts.

On Sunday the 8th of November we will stay in church for the service and then join the Armistice Service at the Stepps War Memorial.

Forthcoming Christmas Donation Services :

Sunday 29th November

Christmas Gift Service. Please bring along donations of toys, soft toys and games. All donations will be given to an organisation in the East End of Glasgow called F A R E.

Sunday 6th December

Christmas Food Gift Service. Donations of food associated to Christmas. All food donated will be given to Ruchazie Pantry.

Thank you from the Sunday Club



190th GLASGOW COMPANY, THE BOYS' BRIGADE

Anchor Boys have been learning the story of Noah's Ark, with arts and crafts and games, including building their own 'Arks' with old cardboard boxes and rescuing pairs of animals to put in them. We're now moving onto Moses. The Boys have also been learning about the emergency services and are now looking forward to their Halloween party.

The Junior Section meanwhile have been learning about the Prodigal Son, and are looking forward to lots of Glasgow Battalion competitions over the next few months.

Company Section has lots of new recruits, who're getting used to new things like drill and the BB uniform, but are already doing very well.

All Sections attended the Dedication Service and helped with the now-traditional rolls and sausage afterwards, and we'll be parading for Remembrance Sunday as always.

Two of our Seniors, Adam Bowie and Lewis McCallum, are managing a fundraiser effort to support Robbie's climb up Sydney Harbour Bridge as part of their King's Badge course, which is providing them with great experience on running a fundraiser. They also continue to provide us with invaluable help in the Anchor Boys and Junior Sections, where they display their growing leadership abilities.

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 this 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 around local primary schools (Stepps, Avenue End and Sunnyside).

Please note these times are to be confirmed, please contact me to enquire.

Colin Goodall

Captain

colingoodall91@hotmail.com

Tel. 07827032807

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Stepps Parish Church

Saturday 5th December
2.00pm – 4.30pm

Variety of Stalls
Including:



Christmas Gifts



Bottle Stall



Home Baking



Tombola



Toys

Raffle

Entry: 50p

All
Are
Welcome

Community

Friendship

Festive Fun

Santa's
Grotto

Meet Santa and enjoy
the festive atmosphere!

Tearoom

Adults £3

Children £1



A Warm Welcome Awaits the Whole Family

Join us for an afternoon of festive fun, Christmas shopping,
delicious home baking and seasonal refreshments.

Christmas Fayre

2.00pm, Saturday 5th December

Christmas is fast approaching, and we are delighted to be holding our annual Christmas Fayre in the church halls once again.

We would be very grateful for donations for our stalls:

Christmas Stall – Cards, wrapping paper, decorations, Christmas crafts

Bottle Stall – Wine, spirits, soft drinks, shampoo, sauces

Beauty & Toiletries – Perfumes, soaps, gift sets

Groceries – Biscuits, tins, jams

Tombola – Sweets, chocolates, toys

Toys & Gifts – New toys, board games, children's books, jigsaws

Home Baking – Please include a list of ingredients

Santa's Grotto – Cash donations to help purchase selection boxes

All donations, large or small, will be gratefully received.

Thank you for your kindness and support. We look forward to celebrating the festive season with you.  

Christmas Post Box

The delivery by church volunteers of Christmas cards within the community (Stepps, Cardowan, Millerston) will take place again this year.

All Cards should include name, address and house number.

Postal boxes will be in both the church and entrance to halls. They will be available on these dates:

Church: 29th November until 6th December.

Hall: 29th November until Thursday 10th December.

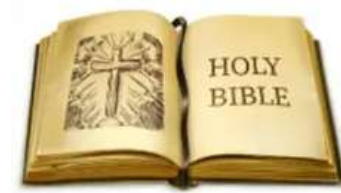
Suggested donation 50p per card or 6 for £2.50.

Cards will be available for pickup on Sunday 13th December. Volunteers please let us know if you can help.



Bible Readers Rota

1 November	Alastair Sim
8 November	Scott Baker
15 November	Irene Ashby
22 November	Ellie Henderson
29 November	June Thomson
6 December	Liz Ashmole



Door Duty

	Beadle	Door Welcome	Door Welcome
1 November	June Thomson	Helen Baker	Scott Baker
8 November	Liz Ashmole	Jim Burns	June Bennie
15 November	Scott Baker	Susan Gowans	Jim Hope
22 November	Jim Burns	May Inglis	June Thomson
29 November	Christine Skinner	Rebecca McGovern	Flora Shields
6 December	June Thomson	Frank McGovern	Emily Watson



Tea Duty

1 November	June Bennie	Susan Gowans
8 November	Helen Baker	Emily Watson
15 November	Lorraine Robertson	Ellie Henderson
22 November	Carol Logan	Christine Skinner
29 November	Florence Maxwell	June Bennie
6 December	Lorraine Robertson	Helen Baker



First person on tea rota please bring milk.

Prospect

This will be our last monthly Prospect Magazine. From December, Prospect will be available every three months - March, June, September and December which will coincide with our communion services.