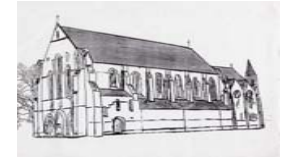


Govan Old Parish Church

THE CRUISE

Summer 2006



CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Baptisms

April 9 Carly Jane Grace Kym Barnett, 8 Howat Street
Rose Grace Shanks, 297 Beckenham Road, Beckenham

May 21 Cameron Christopher Craig, 4Lochy Place, Renfrew
Alexander James Westwater, 35 Knightscliffe Avenue, Glasgow

Deaths

April

1 Agnes McPherson, 14 Largo Place
12 Mary Morrison, 122 Nimmo Drive
24 William Grant, 17 Shieldhall Road

May

2 Mary Paterson, 42 Uist Street
10 Ella Lauchlan 4a Barnwell Terrace
22 Ruby Brown, 125 Shieldhall Road
26 Andrew Wilson, Lora Drive

CONTACT NUMBERS WITHIN THE CONGREGATION

Minister	Rev Dr Norman Shanks.....	339 4421
Session Clerk	Elsie Donald.....	883 0995
Finance Convener	Bill Grieve.....	956 4771
Senior Elder/Fabric ...	Robert Melvin.....	638 7676
Girls' Brigade	Margaret Grieve.....	956 4771
Guild President	Elspeth Millen.....	445 6479
Ladies Group	Betty Grieve.....	882 6667
Flower co-ordinator ...	Annie Price.....	445 2761
Visitor co-ordinator ...	Netta Carruthers.....	440 5489
Pearce Institute	Norie Mackie.....	445 6007
Church vestry		440 2466
Church e-mail	govanold.pc@virgin.net (www.govanold.org.uk)	

From the minister

Dear Friends

As I write we are nearing the end of June, we have just had our annual service to mark the end of the Sunday School year and around twenty of us are preparing to leave for a week at Iona Abbey, where we are looking forward to sharing in community with other guests and staff from all over the world, worshipping, relaxing, doing our daily chores, and reflecting too, through song, craft-work and discussion on our journey of faith and some of the challenges the church faces in today's world.

The 250th anniversary of the revived Govan Fair provided a great opportunity for celebration, the sun shone, and many people were involved not only in watching and taking part in the Friday evening procession but also in the events over the following week. The opening of the church once again on three afternoons each week over the summer months gives the wider community the chance to share in this significant part of the local cultural heritage. But we have to keep looking forward too! By now most members of the congregation will know about the results of the meetings after the morning services on Sunday 4 June when the congregations of Govan Old, Linthouse St Kenneth's, and New Govan voted on the draft basis of Union towards which we have been working over the past three years and more.

It was a great disappointment to hear that, despite the previous agreement of all three Kirk Sessions to the principle of union and the proposed staffing of four people for the combined parish, both New Govan and Linthouse St Kenneth's voted against the union proposals (by 73 to 2 and 47 to 3 respectively). Apparently the reservations of both congregations relate largely to the difficult issue of buildings, and the timing of the arbitration procedure proposed by the Presbytery. It was thoroughly commendable, however, and encouraging to me personally, that Govan Old

supported the proposals. It is now for Presbytery to consider what happens next, because the existing vacancies at Linthouse St Kenneth's and New Govan have to be dealt with, and it is clear from all the discussions up to now that the status quo is not an option. So over the weeks ahead it is likely that there will be further discussions between the Presbytery's representatives and the three Kirk Sessions. Meanwhile the life of Govan Old continues in all its aspects, and we will be reflecting on our own priorities of witness, mission and service. We shall keep the congregation fully informed about what is happening.

I would like to thank you all for your continuing support, which Ruth and I much appreciate. We shall be on holiday from 8-15 July (on Iona with some of the family) and from 3-19 August (in the same part of France, near Toulouse, we visited the last two years). We wish you all well over the summer months.

Norman

Summer Worship arrangements

Sunday 25 June - 11 am at Govan Old: Rev John Harvey (Norman Shanks will be with the group at Iona Abbey)

Sunday 2 July - 11 am at Govan Old: Norman Shanks

Sunday 9 July - 11 am at Govan Old: Rev Ainslie Walton (Norman Shanks on holiday)

Sunday 16 July - 11 am at Govan Old: Norman Shanks (joint service with New Govan)

Sunday 23 July - 11 am at Govan Old: Norman Shanks (joint service with New Govan)

Sunday 30 July - 11 am at Govan Old: Norman Shanks (joint service with New Govan and Linthouse St Kenneth's)

Sunday 6 August - 11 am at New Govan: joint service with New Govan) **Govan Old closed** (Norman Shanks on holiday)

Sunday 13 August - 11 am at New Govan: joint service with New Govan) **Govan Old closed** (Norman Shanks on holiday)

Sunday 20 August - 11 am at Govan Old: Norman Shanks (back to 'normal'!)

CONGREGATIONAL etc ORGANISATIONS

The **Guild** will be holding the usual outings over the summer, including, it is hoped, an outing to visit **Cameron Parish Church**, near St Andrews, with whom Govan Old is 'twinned'. The programme will resume in September.

The **Girls' Brigade** had a very successful and well-attended display in the Pearce Institute on 19 May. The new session starts on the first Wednesday in September. Our very grateful thanks to all the officers for their commitment and dedicated work.

The **Ladies Group** closed their session with a very enjoyable meeting at which our missionary partner, Dr Andy Gaston, accompanied by two of his colleagues from Malawi, spoke about his work there, combating HIV and AIDS. An outing is planned, possibly for September, when the normal programme also resumes.

Friends of Govan Old – The summer opening of the church (Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday afternoons from June to mid-September) has started with a 'bang', in special events on Saturday 10 June as part of both the Govan Fair and the West End Festival. We are most grateful to all who help welcome our visitors – by providing refreshments, serving as guides etc. Further offers of help appreciated! This year's city-wide **Doors Open Day** will be on Saturday 16 September.

The **Sunday School** session finished on Sunday 18 June and will start again on Sunday 27 August. Our very grateful thanks to all those who help regularly on the rota.

Sarah Brown's work, as the Govan churches youth and community worker, is taking her in different directions over the summer! She, along with her volunteer assistants Pam and Simon, are taking one group of young people to Corrymeela, in Northern Ireland in June, as part of an anti-sectarian project, and another group to the MacLeod Centre on Iona in July to share in a young people's week there. Her much valued work around Govan and Linthouse continues – regular activities each week at Govan High School, transitional work (along with Govan Initiative staff) in the primary schools, weekly meetings with groups in the LUV Gallery and Linthouse St Kenneth's church, and support work with young people and their families.