

# The Informer



The Newsletter of Clinicarhill Parish Church of Scotland

Issue 111: September 2025

## Letter from the Manse

Church Website Address [www.clinicarhill.org.uk](http://www.clinicarhill.org.uk)

<sup>1</sup>How long, Lord? Will you forget me for ever? How long will you hide your face from me?

<sup>2</sup>How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart?

How long will my enemy triumph over me?

<sup>3</sup>Look on me and answer, Lord my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,

<sup>4</sup>and my enemy will say, 'I have overcome him,' and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

<sup>5</sup>But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation.

<sup>6</sup>I will sing the Lord's praise, for he has been good to me.

(Psalm 13 NIVUK)

As we begin a new season, there may be some of us feeling, "here we go again...!". The slower rhythms of summer are behind us; the "nights are fair drawing in"; work and life patterns return to something of the more hectic norm; and we look ahead to the next holiday, whether a weekend in September, or sometime in October. And the less said about the end of the year looming, the better...!

Already, some of us may be resonating with the beginning of this Psalm. "How long, O Lord, must I grind through my daily routine?". "How long, O Lord, until I can have a proper break and rest?". Even at this early stage in the return to "normal", I am aware of a fatigue and weariness which might prompt us to raise this prayer of "How long?" to God.

Yet, as we consider the beginning of this Psalm, we might notice that the concern is less the daily grind, and more something significantly darker. The Psalmist (in this case, David) feels in such a desperate place, that God feels absent. He is in such a place of despair that he finds he is wrestling with his own thoughts, and carries a sorrow in his heart. He entreats God to answer His prayers; for he fears that no response from God will leave him wishing for the sleep of death. This is a significantly dark place indeed.

I wonder if this resonates with you? Certainly, in recent days, as the challenges and stresses imposed upon us by Presbytery Planning continue to rumble on, I have found myself praying, "How long, Lord?". I have wrestled with God's continual call to trust Him, and live in the light of that trust; all the while experiencing circumstances which would undermine that very trust. I wonder what God is up to, and wonder when He will step in and enact the solution He seems to promise.

Again, I wonder if this resonates with you? It is a difficult thing to admit, being in a place of such darkness. Yet, if years of pastoral ministry have taught me anything, it is that most have, at one time or another, been in such a dark place; even if we might struggle or would not care to admit it.

Here is one reason why the Psalms are so helpful. I know in my times of darkness, words and prayers are a struggle. But here is a Psalm which puts into words those deep feelings I might struggle to express.

But here is another reason why the Psalms are so helpful. David does not remain in the place of darkness; by reminding himself of the truth that God is good, His love is unfailing, His salvation will come, he is able to move from a place of darkness to a place of rejoicing. There is no evidence his circumstances have changed; but in coming to God, his perspective on and experience of those circumstances has. And that, it seems, makes all the difference.

So when we face challenging times, the invitation of Psalm such as this is to, first, honestly express our feelings before God; but then allow the presence and truth of God to gently move us to a place where we are no longer overcome by circumstances, but have our perspectives transformed, as we are held by the God of unfailing love, Who cares for us deeply.

As we begin a new season, my prayer is that you find some encouragement from Psalms such as this.

With every blessing,

Stuart

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

Tel.: 07916 176 873



Join us in person  
at Clinicarhill Church  
1220 Cathcart Road, Glasgow



Services are broadcast live  
and can also be watched on demand  
Search for Clinicarhill Church

## Youth Team

At the end of June we had our summer trip to Briarlands Farm. This was our second visit to the farm due to the success of last year's trip. Around 40 adults and children from across Crèche, Kids' Church and Gems attended with some of the children inviting friends along too. As always there was so much to do from a group tractor ride, animal petting barn, archery, golf football, go-karts and loads more! There was something for everyone (even us oldies!). Towards the end of the day we finished with some parachute games and a potato and spoon race before heading for the bus home. You can always tell when children have enjoyed their day when on the way home you can hear the wee voices singing along to the radio or they can hardly keep their eyes open!

## GEMS

After the last few years of leading the Gems on a Wednesday night, Laura Fleming has decided to step down due to other commitments. The decision was made with a 'heavy heart' and on behalf of the Youth Team I would like to express our sincere thanks to Laura and her team of volunteers for all the work they have done and commitment they have shown with the girls over the years. We wish them well.

Lorraine Kennedy  
Youth Team



## THE GUILD

**Sunday 14 September** sees the start of Guild Week. The Guild will provide the coffee and home baking after the church service on that day. Donations will be gratefully received and go to the Guild projects "Bibles for Bairns" and "Playful beginnings".

**Monday 15 September** will be the second of our coffee and chat evenings and will be held at 7pm in the Small hall in the church.

**Monday 6 October** is the start of the new session of the Guild. As usual we will be delighted to welcome new members to our meetings. October 6 will be our opening social and our minister Stuart Love will be present to present some thoughts on our theme for this year "Living Stones". So give it a go! All are welcome.

Sheila Morrow



**THE BOYS' BRIGADE**  
> the adventure begins here

**83rd Glasgow Company**



The BB has started back for the new session, our Company at Clincarthill is the 83rd Glasgow, we're open to boys all through the school age range. Anchors for P1 - P3 on Tuesdays 6.30pm - 7.45pm, Juniors for P4 - P6 is on Fridays 7pm - 9pm and Company for P7 & S1 - S6 is on Fridays 7.30pm - 9.30pm. We meet weekly from the start of September until mid-May except for school holidays.

We have a progressive programme across the age groups based on six activity areas - Get Active, Get Adventurous, Get Creative, Get into the Bible, Get Involved and Get Learning, with those in Juniors and Company gaining badges through the activities that they do.

Come along and join, or for more information search for 83rdglasgowbb on Facebook or email [83glasgow@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:83glasgow@boys-brigade.org.uk)



**Telephone Prayer Circle**

**0141 632 4206**



**Next Issue deadline Sunday 28 September**

From next month email any items for inclusion in the Newsletter to [office@clincarthill.org.uk](mailto:office@clincarthill.org.uk) as Julie is taking on the Informer editor role

## Session Clerk Update.

This has been an exceptional busy time for the Elders and the Minister, and we hope as this year progresses that this will ease off. The main point of all our work has been the Presbytery Plan and all its intricacies. As some of you will be aware our first attempt at getting our Linkage with Maxwell Mearns Church approved was not approved by Presbytery. To say the least the Kirk Session were very disappointed at that result as we thought we had a good plan in place. We have now submitted a second document, and we hope this will be approved. We will keep everyone up to date over the next few weeks.

Over the summer months I have been working on a new Pastoral District system. This is now finished, and all Elders have had up to 6 members of the congregation attached to them in what we call a district. This means that all members of the congregation have an Elder that they can be in contact with at any time to arrange a Pastoral visit from them or the Minister during times of need or to pass on new information. All members should have a note of who their Elder is over the next 2 weeks.

I am always available for a chat on a Sunday morning for those who manage to get to Church, or by email ([sessionclerk@clincarthill.co.uk](mailto:sessionclerk@clincarthill.co.uk)) for those who can't make it for whatever reason.

I hope the month of September is a good month for you all.

Graham

## On Your Marks Holiday Club 2025

Thank you to everyone who contributed to supporting the holiday club, with prayer support, donations of juice, biscuits and craft materials, volunteer leaders, helpers and children, you all made this year's holiday club a success.

We had lots of fun, hearing stories about Jesus from the Gospel of Mark, learning new songs, making crafts, competing in potted sports and games - quite a busy time for 2 hours each morning over the week. I must also include a special thanks to Roger Gann for providing the barbeque for the Family lunch in the Thursday and Ian Ritchie who tidied the garden each morning for us all to enjoy.

If you would like to join the team next year, can you let us know as soon as possible as the PVG disclosure checks can take a while to process and we appreciate all the work Sheila Morrow and Rhona Gann do to ensure our safeguarding procedures are followed.

Thanks again

Mary MacCallum

Holiday Club co-ordinator.



## LANGSIDE COMMUNITY HERITAGE

Langside Community heritage are hosting an evening on Thursday, 18 September 2025 at 7.30pm. It will be held at Finns Place, Langside Church on Ledard Road. The speaker will be Dr Jade Scott, from Glasgow University. Title of the talk will be "What if Mary hadn't Been Defeated at Langside?" If you wondered what would have happened if history had played out differently, now's your chance to find out. A poster with further information is on the notice board outside the small hall. The event is free although details are given on the poster on how to obtain tickets through Eventbrite.

Refreshments are available on the night.

## REND COLLECTIVE

Most of you will know the song 'My Lighthouse' which we sing in Church. The band Rend Collective are in concert at the O2 Academy, Glasgow on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September and there are still tickets left on the website. If you have never seen them before you should take the opportunity to go along. You will not be disappointed. I've seen them 3 times before and would strongly recommend it. A great night to be revived and uplifted in your faith. You will be on your feet all night!

Lorraine Kennedy—Youth Team



## Lodging House Mission – Harvest Donation Requests 2025

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	Other Tinned Food
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	Other
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
Toiletries (all types)	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

## Dates for your Diary

# AN EVENING WITH

# PHILIPPA

# HANNA

**Friday 3 October**  
**and**  
**Saturday 4 October**

Doors open 7.00pm  
show from 7.30pm – 9.00pm

Tickets onsale now  
Eventbrite and at Orchardhill Church Office  
£15.00 adult and £7.50 for under 18's

12 Church Road, Giffnock, G46 6JR  
www.orchardhill.org.uk Scottish Charity No: SC09774

Presbytery of Glasgow Conference

## MISSION POSSIBLE 3

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10am-3pm  
9.30am for coffee and registration

A day of worship, teaching, prayer and stories to encourage and equip!

Keynote from Kay Cathcart  
(Ministries and Mission)

Free entry including lunch

Partick Victoria Park Church  
259 Dumbarton Road, G11 6AB

Book at [events@presbyteryofglasgow.org.uk](mailto:events@presbyteryofglasgow.org.uk)  
with any dietary or access requirements

Registered Scottish Charity SC010138