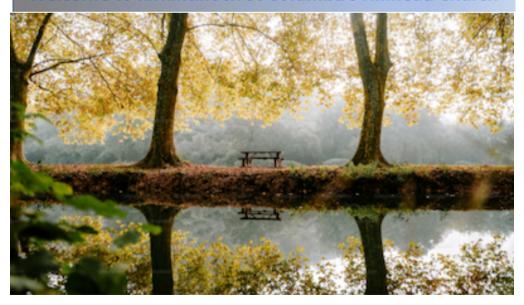
St. Columba's Hillhead Church Magazine



Welcome to Kirkintilloch St Columba's Hillhead Church



Autumn 2025

St Columba's Hillhead Parish Church is situated on two sites - the St Columba's site and the Hillhead site. The addresses of these are below: -

St Columba's Old Aisle Road Kirkintilloch G66 3HQ

Hillhead Halls 2 Rosebank Avenue Kirkintilloch G66 2PR

Minister: Rev. Philip Wright

Telephone: 07427 623393

E-mail: PWright@churchofscotland.org.uk

Charity No. SC008735

From the Manse

On Sunday mornings recently, we've been looking at the topic of 'Mission'. We've already seen how our Mission as a church and as individual Christians needs to flow from God's bigger Mission – his 'Amazing Plan' as one of the songs we sometimes sing puts it. One of the reasons we're looking at 'Mission' together is the project the church has received funding for from the Church of Scotland's *Seeds for Growth* programme. That project is called 'New Creations'. We're looking forward to sharing more about it at the church lunch on Sunday 7 September. I hope you can come!

'New Creations' is a project that centres on our reaching out as a church through our Toddler Groups ministry. However, it is my hope and prayer — and the intention of the project — that 'New Creations' will impact much more widely on our church. This is an opportunity for us to look afresh at the many services, groups and activities we have and to ask the question: how can these things be stepping stones to faith in Jesus Christ? — both for growing in faith and for coming to faith in the first place.

We have been entrusted with a precious gift in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is the best news in the world. It is the message our community most needs to hear. The Paul wrote of his efforts to share this Gospel, 'Christ's love compels us' (2 Corinthians 5:14). It would be easy to imagine that Paul had an otherwise easy life to maintain such a drive to share the Good News about Jesus. However, even a cursory look at the New Testament shows us that is not the case at all.

I am all too aware that many of us are contending with trials and difficulties of various kinds in these days. We pray for and seek to support one another in all these things. But let us also look often to the cross, and gaze upon the love of Christ, and may that compel us too to share this Good News with those we know who have not yet met Jesus for themselves.

Your minister and friend, Philip

The Church Family



Deaths

It is with great sadness that we record the deaths of Tom Nelson, Helen French, Aileen Bathie, Monty de Bourne and Norman Millington. We give thanks to God for them. We extend our sympathy, love and prayers to all those who are bereaved.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His faithful servants. Psalm 116:15.

Thank You

A very big thank you for all the good wishes, cards, flowers and visits etc I received both during and after my recent stay in the Golden Jubilee Hospital. Thanks to the expertise of the surgical team and all the prayers of many people, I am making a good recovery. Thanks be to God for a sense of calmness - the night before my operation I was finding comfort in singing the words of a song: "' He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast, for my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast"

Every blessing,

Jean

The family of Aileen Bathie would like to thank Philip and the many members of the Church congregation for their expressions of sympathy and support during this difficult time.

Thank You to Everyone.

NEIL BATHIE

Thank You (cont'd)

A heartfelt thank you to the Rev. P. Wright for caring, spiritual blessings, and a beautiful service conducted for Robert. Thank you also to all our church family for cards, floral tribute, home baking and friendship. As a family we are overwhelmed by all the kindness shown.

Margaret, Douglas and Graeme Edgar.

I would like to thank the Pastoral Team, the ladies of the Craft Group and members of the Church for their prayers, cards and flowers, which I received during my time in hospital and afterwards at home.

Thank you all for your kind thoughts.

Ailsa McKelvie

Membership

If you are considering membership at St Columba's Hillhead, please speak with the Minister.

The Upper Room

The Upper Room is read and used by over 3 million Christians living in numerous countries all over the world. The September/ December issue is now available and this time we have ordered a record 40 copies for our members and friends. Anyone who feels they might like to perhaps try out this special little booklet of daily meditations for the first time is welcome to speak to lan or Marilyn. There is no charge for The Upper Room.

Prayer at St Columba's Hillhead

Prayer is the heartbeat of our church life. The monthly church prayer diary continues to be available every month at the Sunday and Midweek Services. It is encouraging to see so many copies taken away to be used each month. The church prayer diary is an excellent way of joining in daily prayer for the life and witness of the local church, for our mission partners, and for other matters nationally and worldwide. If you don't already make use of the church prayer diary, please do give serious consideration to joining in this ministry.

On Thursday evenings at the manse, all are welcome to join in a time of prayer at 7pm. We start with tea and coffee before moving to prayer. We are usually done by around 8:15pm. Do join us then if you are able. You will be made very welcome. There is no pressure at all to pray out loud if you don't feel comfortable doing so. All our prayers, spoken and unspoken, as well as our 'amens' to the prayers of others, are heard alike by our Heavenly Father.

We are also hoping to have a 'Saturday Prayer Breakfast' before long – details will be announced in church!

Small Group Bible Study

We are really looking forward to starting a Small Group Bible Study series on 'The Fruits of the Spirit'. This will be at 10am on Thursday mornings at St Columba's.

Please get in touch with the Minister if you would like to take part rather than just 'turning up'. This is to make sure we have a group or groups that are neither too small nor too large for discussion. At the time of writing, quite a few folks have already signed up, which is great. We are planning to start on Thursday 11 September. Please note this is one week later than previously announced in church. If you've missed the date of the first session by the time you read this, please don't worry. Each of the studies is 'standalone' and it will be possible to join even after the first one.

And if you've never been in a Bible Study group before — it is a great way to learn together from God's Word and to encourage one another in our faith in Jesus.

Sunday Services

All are very welcome to our weekly morning service held at St Columba's on Sundays at 10:30am. We are really grateful to those who give their time and expertise to livestream the service via YouTube. Many who are housebound, unwell, or otherwise unable to be out have found that to be a most valuable resource. Our livestreamed services are also a 'window' on worship at St Columba's Hillhead for folks who want to know more about the church or who may consider joining us.

Please do remember that each service is an opportunity to invite someone new. Perhaps you could encourage a friend or family member to come with you. Please note the following dates for special services on Sunday mornings:

Sunday 7 September Communion (with church lunch after)

Sunday 5 October Harvest Service

Sunday 12 October Dedication Service

(For dedication of church organisations/

groups/activities)

Sunday 9 November Remembrance Service

Many of us have appreciated being able to gather on a Sunday evening from time to time for a 'Songs of Praise' Service. Arrangements for Songs of Praise service(s) this Autumn are not yet confirmed, but will be announced in due course.

Midweek Service

We were glad to restart the Midweek Service after the summer break on Wed 20 August. We meet each week at 10am on Wednesdays. The service lasts about 40 minutes and takes place in the Small Hall at St Columba's. We sing, pray and learn from the Bible together – and those who can stay afterwards enjoy sharing fellowship over tea and coffee. If you've never been before to the Midweek Service, please be assured you will be welcomed warmly. We are always pleased to see new faces. Many folks who would have difficulty coming to a Sunday morning service have found this Service to be a much-valued opportunity for worship and fellowship.

The Midweek Service won't be running during the school October Week (Wed 15 Oct). The last Midweek Service before Christmas will be Wednesday 17 December.

Sunday Club

Sunday Club restarted after the summer break on Sunday 20 August. We have enjoyed having the children with us in the main service over the summer (when they've not been on holiday!) as age-appropriate activities have been set out for them in the Sanctuary. We enjoyed having two 'All Age' Services in the summer: 'Prize-Giving' on Sunday 22 June and 'Back to School with God' on Sunday 13 August.

We're very grateful to Vicky and Cassie and others who will lead and help at Sunday Club in this new term. And we're excited to be starting a new p1-3 group from October - 'Little Lights' - as our Noah's Ark children are growing up fast and some have now started school!

Harvest Service 2025

Our Harvest Service this year will be held at 10:30am on Sunday 5 October. This is an opportunity to give thanks to God for his goodness to us in providing the food we eat. This leads us to remember those less fortunate than ourselves and to respond to their need as we are able.

One very practical way of sharing God's goodness with others is through the Lodging House Mission in Glasgow. Please do consider donating a gift of non-perishable food items, or a financial gift, to LHM this Harvest time. LHM has provided a helpful sheet of the items they would be grateful to receive, and this is included in the magazine. Please note the items with asterisks would be especially welcome. Gifts of food may be left in the Lounge (the room behind the vestry) at St Columba's from Sunday 28 September but will also be gratefully received at the Harvest Service itself.

Gift aid collection envelopes for LHM will also be available from Sunday 28 September. These may be put in the offering plate on Harvest Sunday (5 October) or the Sunday after (12 October). These collection envelopes will also be available at the Midweek Service and may be returned there too.

LHM would like to extend an invitation to all to the Annual Homelessness Service. This will be held at 7pm on Thursday 9 October at 35 East Campbell Street, Gallowgate, G1 5DT. The service will be conducted by the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, Rt Rev Rosie Frew.

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 Com Flakes/Crunchy Nut *Peaches Tuna/Salmon *Pears Corned beef Weetahix *Pineapples Rice Crispies Ham *Mandarins Sugar Puffs Tinned mince, stew etc. *Fruit Cocktail Other Tinned Food Frosties *Baked Beans Coco Pops *Rice Pudding Cheerios *Custard Spaghetti in sauce Muesli *Tinned Soups – tomato. vegetable, chicken, lentil, Jars/Pastes Other scotch broth, minestrone. pea & ham, chicken noodle Pasta bake sauces Full Fat UHT milk Curry Sauce/paste Coconut Milk Small juice cartons Tomato paste Diluting/fresh juice Other Dried Goods *Coffee Brown Sauce *Biscuits Tomato Sauce Mixed herbs Garlic powder Crisps Vinegar Ground turmeric Tea Bags Porridge oats Kettle Foods Dried peas Chilli powder 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

*OUT OF STOCK – URGENTLY NEEDED		
Washing up liquid, Toilet Rolls, Washing Powder		
Toiletries (all types)	Individual packets sweets	Jam
	Cereal Bars	*Sugar
Long grain rice	Breakfast bars	*Jelly

Not Required List

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

Lodging House Mission - Harvest Donation Requests 2025 (cont'd)

The Leprosy Mission

In the Spring the Sunday Club and Noah's Ark Group decided to raise money for the leprosy mission. They planted seeds then sold the plants to the congregation. The sum of £118.44 was raised, so very well done to the green fingered members of the Sunday Club and Noah's Ark Group.

I have also been able to send a cheque for £135 in respect of change which is collected by members of the congregation on a regular basis.

With grateful thanks for these funds which have been raised over the past few months, the monies are gratefully accepted and well used.

Margaret

The Men's Group

Members are already looking forward to the resumption of our Monday night activities which will begin, as usual, in the first week of October. Encouragingly, too, it seems that this time we are going to be joined by some new members. The committee, however, would be delighted to welcome even more men who might be interested in coming along for a chat and to join in our games programme. Members are invited from within our own church congregation, from any other local church of whatever denomination, or, indeed, from men with no church connection whatsoever.

All will be made most welcome. Please contact the secretary for any further information.

Ian Gibb (Sec.)

The Guild

The Guild does so much for the Church, community and all over Scotland. Indeed the world as the Church of Scotland Guild. I hope that as the new Convenor and with the help of the Guild ladies at St Columba's Hillhead, we will have a successful session. We meet every second Tuesday at 2.00pm. We are a friendly group and as well as serious talks we also have fun and laughter and have interesting speakers. If you would like to join us, please come along, you will be made very welcome. The wee poem below, when I read it I thought straight away, that's the Guild.

Friendship

Reach out a hand of friendship.`
Wise words, we all should heed them.
Hold out the hand of friendship.
Be a friend to those who need one.
To our children and our loved ones.
Even though they rarely heed us.
To our friends and to our neighbours.
Some too proud to say they need us.
Even strangers could be friends that,
we simply haven't met.
Try a smile, a wave, a cheery word,
and ask about their health..
But there's one important person all to easy to forget.
Please, hold out that hand of friendship to yourself.

Thank you and God Bless,

Carol Johnston

The Guild (Cont'd)

Please see below a list of 'Present Projects', which our Guild have the pleasure of being involved with:-

Bear Necessities

(Build my Church - Bulgaria)	£19,825.47
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Release International

(Operation Hope - Egypt)	£20,647.55
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Scottish Bible Society

(Bibles for Bairns - Scotland	£26,843.74
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Crossreach

(Playful Beginnings - Scotland)	£31,959.21
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The monies listed above have been donated.

From 1st January 2025 **To** 31st July 2025.

Gilbert French - Project Convenor

Warm Wecome

We have now been running 'Warm Welcome' on Wednesday afternoons at the Hillhead Halls for three years. In that time, countless cups of tea and coffee have been served, multiple food parcels have been given out by the Kitchen Cupboard (operated by foodbank staff and volunteers), and more recently Christians Against Poverty has had a regular presence. All this is done in Christ's name, and we are glad to be working in partnership with Kirkintilloch Baptist Church to support the local community in this way.

Please continue to pray for 'Warm Welcome' week by week. At the time of writing, we are looking to develop and grow the ministry of 'Warm Welcome' and expect to update on that in the next issue of the magazine. Watch this space!

Christian Aid Report Summer 2025

The final total raised by St. Columba's Hillhead envelope collection for Christian Aid Week was £630.00. Many thanks to all who supported this annual fund raising event.

The door to door collection for Christian Aid Week raised less funds that in previous years so it was decided to hold a charity concert this September the proceeds of which will be split between Christian Aid and the Scottish Bible Society. The concert will be held in Lenzie Old Parish Church on Monday, 15th September 2025 at 7.00pm with The Stepps Songsters. Tickets are £10.00 and this will include tea/coffee and baking. The tickets are available from either Mary or myself.

The Christian Aid Advent Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday, 22nd November 2025 in St. Mary's Church Hall from 10.00am to 12.30pm Donations of baking and books would be most welcome.

Please put a note of the above dates in your diaries and support these events if you are able to do so.

A service of Thanksgiving and Reflection on the 80th Anniversary of Christian Aid was held in Westminster Abbey on the 12th June 2025. Those attending said it was a very moving and memorable occasion.

More information on the work of Christian Aid is available on their website.

Geraldine Fox.



1st Kirkintilloch Company

After a refreshing summer break the Company's 2025-26 Session gets underway on Friday 5th September with all Sections meeting in the church halls.

We look forward to having all previous members return and would welcome anyone who wishes to join any of our Sections. If you are not quite ready to commit, you can come along any Friday evening to see what we do and take part in our range of activities. However, if we are inundated with recruits to any Section we may have to introduce a waiting list.

Our four Sections each have broad programmes suitable for the different age groups:-

Anchors for boys in P1 - P3 meets 18.15 - 19.15

Juniors for boys in P4 - P6 meets 18.45 - 20.15

Company for boys in P7 - S2 and

Seniors for boys in S3 - S6 meet 19.30 - 22.00.

For more details see our website, 1kirkintilloch.boys-brigade.org.uk and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/1stkirkintillochbb.

As ever, we would like to recruit additional leaders and would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to join us.

No previous experience is necessary as training will be provided. For more information, please speak to any officer.

Allan Geekie and all the Team.

5th Kirkintilloch Brownies



It is autumn already; can you believe it! And the girls and leaders at 5th Kirkintilloch Brownies are eager to start the new session on Tuesday 2nd September in Hillhead Halls.

We will be saying goodbye to the girls who are moving onto Guides and hello to the girls who are coming to Brownies from Rainbows.

During the summer Girlguiding announced the launch of new badges so we will be having a look at the new badge opportunities, choosing which ones we will be working on as a unit or individually.

During the summer break we took part in two large events organised by Girlguiding Dunbartonshire, Catterburn Carnival and the first County Brownie Camp.

We worked on several badges at camp all to do with the outdoors and the environment. Lots of singing, a good mixture of sunshine and rain made camp lots of fun.

Also during the summer, we had stalls at the Campsie Show, Kirkintilloch Gala and Lenzie Community Festival. Thank you to everyone who came to say hello and support us.

We are always happy to welcome new members.

For new brownies please go to www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents

If you are interested in joining us as a volunteer go to www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved We'd love to meet you and find a place for you in Girlguiding Kirkintilloch.

Best wishes from The Brownies

Lynne Semple

Following Jesus Group and Friendship Club

Our new session starts in September. As always, the Following Jesus Group meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month and the Friendship Club on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. We should be delighted to welcome new members in both groups.

The Following Jesus Group being for adults and the Friendship Club for children.

Once again we had a lively trip with the Seagull Trust in June. The crews have come to know us over the years and interact so well with our members. They serve us tea, coffee and biscuits, draw our attention to the swans and anything of interest, and even join in our "singing". All of this shows our members the love and care for each other which Jesus teaches us in the bible.

We are very grateful to our church family for their support and please continue to pray for us.

Pat Muir

Church Toddler Groups



Little Fishes .

It has been great to re-start our **Little Fishes** toddler group on Fridays at 10-1130 after the summer holidays and welcome back our families. Thank you to church members who have invited friends and neighbours - it has been lovely to have new babies and toddlers too. It has been so nice to have a good chat with a cup of tea or coffee while the toddlers are playing.



Busy Bees on Wednesdays 10-1130 has been really well attended and everyone has been enjoying our singing time and crafts. We regularly have 30 children at both groups. The teams at Little Fishes and Busy Bees are very grateful for the support and interest of the church in all we do. We do ask for your prayers for a welcoming and kind environment for the families who come, safety especially at coffee time and for the team each week. Little Fishes at St Columba's is just drop-in during school term but there is now a waiting list for Busy Bees at Hillhead on Wednesdays. If you know anyone who would like to come then please do contact Cassie on 07546 774453 for either group, Liz for Little Fishes (Fridays) or June on 07854 599330 for Busy Bees (Wednesdays).



Noah's Ark Sunday Toddler Group

Noah's Ark is a smaller group on Sunday mornings during the church service 1030 -1130 but we are always glad to see families who come a bit earlier too! We enjoy Bible stories, craft, singing and prayers alongside lots of toys and a cup of tea. It is great to see our toddlers growing up into big boys and girls now and welcoming new wee ones too.

More details of the church's toddler ministry can also be found on the facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/littlefishestoddlergroup/

Gill Wright

The Churches Walk and Talk Group

The Walk and Talk group has combined friendly conversation with gentle walks around Kirkintilloch, Lenzie and Waterside since 2022. The pace is suitable for all ages, most fitness levels and all are welcome. There is no membership involved in Walk and Talk and all are welcome for occasional or regular walks. If you would like to join us for a walk then please turn up at any of these locations on these dates and we will be delighted to see you. Unless stated otherwise the walks start at 1:30 on Thursday afternoons, last approximately one hour and the start points and routes vary, as shown below.

The walks on 11 September, 16 October and 20 November will be outside of the local areas. On these dates the meeting point shall be at St Columba's at 1:15pm, please note the earlier time, and a car sharing operation will take place. Please be aware that normally at least ¾ of our walkers arrive by car and are happy to provide transport for non-car users where required.

Upcoming Walks

4 Sept	Merkland	Nature Park
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11 Sept St Columba's (1:15 for transport to Lennoxtown)

18 Sept Kilsyth Road

25 Sept Donaldson Street (including coffee stop at the

Stables)

2 Oct Hillhead Basin

9 Oct Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre.

16 Oct St Columba's (1:15 for transport to Broadwood Loch)

23 Oct Lenzie Coop

30 Oct Donaldson Street

6 Nov Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre

13 Nov Ellisland Drive

20 Nov St Columba's Hillhead Church (1:15 for transport to

Milton of Campsie)

27 Nov Waterside4 Dec St Columba's

Trevor Patterson (St Mary's Church), who will be pleased to hear from you (trevor_patterson@outlook.com).

KESWICK CONVENTION

Some people have been asking us about our visit to Keswick this summer for this year's big interdenominational Christian Convention and there has even been a suggestion that a small church group could arrange B and B to enable them to attend for a few days next year. Marilyn and I would certainly recommend the experience and would be happy to answer any queries people might have.

When the Convention was first held in 1875 a large tent was erected in the vicarage garden and a few hundred people attended over a few days. 150 years later all age group activities, meetings, bible studies and worship celebrations and concerts are now held on the site of the recently renovated Keswick Pencil Factory, and the Convention has grown to 3 weeks long, with the evening celebrations taking place in a colossal marquee seating something like 4000 people.

We were told on the final evening that over 14,000 people had attended this year's Convention, including 3,500 children and young adults, and that well over 71,000 books had been bought at the onsite Christian bookshop!

The Convention itself is, and has always been, free to attend but, as it cost over £2 million to run this year, prayerful donations are certainly appreciated.

We can certainly commend the Keswick Convention, along with the beautiful Lake District scenery, to anyone who might be interested.

lan & Marilyn Gibb

Children and Family Worker

Hi Church! So much has been happening in the children's ministry for the past few months! Here's a quick recap:

The spring term very quickly came to an end and June was full of end-of-year parties and an overflowing amount of home baking! The children across Busy Bees, Little Fishes, Noah's Ark, Sunday Club, and at Warm Welcome and the Scripture Union groups were full of excitement for summer to be finally here!

My summer was packed with preparation for this upcoming autumn term which, by the time this is being read, is already in full swing! Please join me and our group leaders in prayer for this year. We pray that the children being reached will feel loved and supported by us at St. Columba's Hillhead!

In other news, Noah's Ark ran over the summer, and we were absolutely delighted to see so many families each week! It is also very exciting that we will be starting a new P1-P3 group which we will be calling 'Little Lights'. It is my hope and anticipation that this group will be one where our younger primary school aged children will learn more about God and begin to develop a personal faith. The name 'Little Lights' comes from Matthew 5:14-16 (International Children's Bible) which says,

"You are the light that gives light to the world. A city that is built on a hill cannot be hidden. And people don't hide a light under a bowl. They put the light on a lampstand. Then the light shines for all the people in the house. In the same way, you should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do. Live so that they will praise your Father in heaven."

I encourage you all to use this verse as a prayer for our children not only in Little Lights, but throughout St. Columba's Hillhead Church!

Children and Family Worker

We have been so excited to be awarded funding by the Church of Scotland 'Seeds for Growth' programme. This will enable us to go forward with a project that we are calling 'New Creations'. We look forward to sharing more about 'New Creations' at the church lunch on Sunday 7 September. Please do pray for the project as it starts in September!

Much of this letter is asking for prayer, which is essential for the ministry that is being poured into by all our volunteers (of whom I am so grateful for!). Please do join me in praying for every volunteer across every group being run by volunteers at St. Columba's Hillhead Church

I am looking forward to an incredible autumn term! Thank you all for your continued support not only of me but of the work that is being done through St. Columba's Hillhead Church!

Cassie

Hope Explored

All over the world millions of people find hope and help in knowing Jesus Christ. Hope Explored is a three-session series about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus that examines his extraordinary claims. Through teaching from Rico Tice and studies from Luke's Gospel, Hope Explored shows how Jesus offers us a hope worth having, a hope that won't disappoint us.

We are looking forward to running Hope Explored at Hillhead Halls on three consecutive Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm - Wed 22 Oct, Wed 29 Oct and Wed 5 Nov. This is a great opportunity to explore what Christians believe about the hope there is in Jesus. Please speak with the Minister if you would be interested in attending.

MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship)



On 3 June 2025, 'P2-AFD' – MAF's latest addition to the fleet – made its inaugural operational flight to Tekin in northern PNG. The greatly anticipated aircraft immediately went to work, but what does it take for a small plane to serve the world's most isolated communities?

P2-AFD – piloted by MAF's Markus Bischoff – landed in Tekin on 3 June. Over the next two days, the shiny new Cessna 208 Caravan transported over 90 people and more than 4.5kg of essential supplies to 22 remote airstrips around PNG's Telefomin region. As it returned to base in Mount Hagen on 5 June, P2-AFD clocked up more than 11 hours on its first tour, saving local communities from lugging heavy loads, and hiking for days just to access basic services.

In three days, Markus flew patients and health workers to hospital, teachers and supplies to school and vegetables to market.

MAF (cont'd)

"These flights are the community's economic lifeline – they help people earn an income, pay school fees, access healthcare, and afford flights.

You actually see the impact. Around Telefomin, it's about the basics – rice, education and medical care. What we do isn't just convenient, it's life changing!"

Graham Inglis

Flower Rota 2025

Donation	Delivery
September 2025	
7 Boys Brigade14 Mrs I Perry21 Mrs D Morgan28 Mrs A McKelvie	Moira French Julie Reid Glenys Swann June Larwood
October	
5 Mrs G Fox12 Mr & Mrs D Oliphant19 Alison Alston26 Carol Johnston	Gilbert French Mr & Mrs I Muir Joan Beattie Moira French
November	
 2 The Guild 9 Remembrance Sunday 16 Mr & Mrs J Thomson 23 Mrs Janet Muir 30 June Larwood 	Julie Reid Glenys Swann June Larwood Gilbert French Mr & Mrs I Muir
December	
7 The Swann Family142128	Joan Beattie Moira French Glenys Swann June Larwood

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Service 10.30am

Now livestreamed on (www.kirkintillochstcolumbas.org.uk) OR

A recording is available on YouTube (St Columba's Church Kirkintilloch) from 3pm.

Midweek Service

Wednesdays at 10am in the Small Hall

Tea and Coffee are served after the Sunday Morning Service and the Midweek Service at St Columba's.

Kirkintilloch: St Columba's Hillhead Parish Church
"To know Him and make Him known"