

St. Columba's Hillhead Church Magazine



Welcome to Kirkintilloch St Columba's Hillhead Church



Summer 2026

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

At the Wednesday midweek service these days, we've been studying the book of Nehemiah together. It's an inspiring account of how God used Nehemiah to lead the rebuilding of the city walls of Jerusalem back in the fifth century BC. It was all accomplished in the record time of 52 days!

We live in a different time, place and culture to Nehemiah. And yet, as we've looked at the challenge that faced Nehemiah, the parallel with our own need of a church roof has not escaped us. In Nehemiah's day, many people contributed towards the overall cost of the project. In our own situation, there has been an amazingly generous response to our appeal for funds. We are extremely grateful. Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed.

There are two lessons from Nehemiah's life that have really made an impression on me over these Wednesday mornings.

The first is how much Nehemiah depended on God. Nehemiah was a capable man. He was cupbearer to the Emperor of Persia. That was a top civil service appointment. But the key to Nehemiah's success lay in the fact that, as he put it, *'the gracious hand of my God was on me'* (Nehemiah 2:8). We are fortunate in our church to have people with all sorts of different skills. Some of these skills have been put to good use as we've fundraised for the new roof! But our confidence in this project, and in all that we do, must above all rest in God. We too need God's gracious hand upon us.

The second lesson from Nehemiah's life that has remained with me is that people matter more than buildings. It is striking that the city walls are rebuilt by the end of Nehemiah chapter 6. That is not even halfway through the book. The biggest building project in Nehemiah's day wasn't the rebuilding of the city walls. It was the rebuilding of the lives of its inhabitants. At one level, there were homes and livelihoods that needed to be rebuilt. But beyond that, God was at work in his people's lives making them more like the people he longed for them to be. Just so for each one of us today who owns Jesus as our Saviour and Lord, God is at work in our lives: *"...he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 1:6).

From the Manse (Cont'd)

We should rightly be encouraged by the great progress on fundraising for the new church roof. But let's remember in this new roof project, as in all things, what matters most of all is that God is at work amongst us. Let's remember that a new roof for the church building, important as that is, is a means to an end. The end is to worship God together. The end is to grow in our love and knowledge of Him. The end is to invite, to bring along and to welcome others to do likewise.

Your minister and friend,

Philip

The Church Family



Deaths

It is with great sadness that we record the death of Tom Davies and Sandra Docherty. We extend our sympathy, love and prayers to their families, and 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

As many of you will know, we have been homeless for three months of this year, since the disastrous flooding of our house in early January.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all who have shown us such kindness during this time.

For the offer of accommodation, for the many flowers, cards, letters, messages and phone calls we have received, we are both extremely grateful.

May we say a very special thank you to Philip, for his constant support, attention and prayers during these past months.

Thank you all, **Rena and Willie.**

Membership

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

Prayer at St Columba's Hillhead

The Leprosy Mission

Since the last newsletter we have sent a further cheque for the sum of £250.00 to The Leprosy Mission. So far this year we have been able to send a total of £600.00 to the Leprosy Mission to continue their good work.

Thank you once again to everyone who continues to collect loose change for this worthwhile cause and there are always small blue tubs in the vestibule of the church if you would want to assist with this collection.

Margaret

Back to Church Sunday

On Sunday 27 September, our Sunday morning service will be a 'Back to Church' service. The name says it all. This is an opportunity to invite folks who have been church members, or attenders, or have had some other association with the church in times past, to a special service. Other churches in the UK and beyond will also be holding 'Back to Church' services on that day.

Quite often, when folks get out of the way of going to church, they can find it difficult to come back. Sometimes, people worry about what other people will say to them. Although anyone is welcome to any church service on any Sunday, the experience of some other churches has been that having a 'Back to Church' service can make it easier for folks to come back to church and to reconnect with their faith.

Please do think and pray about who you might be able to invite to church on 'Back to Church' Sunday.

On the subject of inviting folks to church, there was a really encouraging response to the 'Invitation Sunday' service in May. We hope to repeat that event in due course – watch this space!

Easter Holiday Club at Hillhead Halls

During the Easter holidays we were delighted to have the opportunity to run a three-day holiday club 'Backpackers', in partnership with Kirkintilloch Baptist Church, sharing the Easter message over three days with a group of children. The afternoon began with lunch where the parents and carers came with the children. This was a great time of relationship building around eating together.

The club continued from 2-4 pm each day and we enjoyed exploring the Bible together with lots of fun activities including games, worship and crafts. A big thank you to everyone who made the event a special time for all involved.

Toddler Holiday Club - 'Little Hands, Big World'

Join us for a three-day toddler holiday club this summer! We will explore plants and animals and experience the world God made. This will run between 28-30 July from 10 am to 12 pm. Please note that little ones must be accompanied by a parent/carer for the duration of the holiday club.

Please use the QR code below to book a place or speak to Cassie for more information.

Please note that places are limited.



Connect

For the last few years, it has been great to partner with Kirkintilloch Baptist Church to offer a weekly warm space and children's after school club at Hillhead Halls. We are now calling the weekly warm space, 'Connect Café' and the children's club and related activities, 'Connect Families'.

Connect Cafe

Every Wednesday afternoon from 1pm-2.45pm a core group of a dozen or so gather to have lunch. Each week there is a 'Food for Thought' slot where a short input around a topical aspect of faith is shared, followed by an opportunity for discussion. There is also space for individuals to have one to one discussion, discipleship and prayer. There are plans to develop and publicise the space in the next few months to encourage others to come along by including crafts and games.

Connect Families

On Wednesday after school from 3-4pm each week Connect Families meets. It is a fun filled hour of crafts, games, snacks and Bible stories. There has been a core group of about a dozen children attending each week from Primary age to early Secondary. It has been a particular delight to see these children growing and developing in their faith.

Interim Moderator Duties

Our minister, Rev Philip Wright, has been Interim Moderator at Lenzie Union Church since 1 June 2025. He will remain so until the anticipated union of Lenzie Old and Lenzie churches on 25 June 2026 in accordance with the Glasgow Presbytery mission plan.

Midweek Service

Each week during school term time, we continue to meet for the Midweek Service 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. Many folks who would have difficulty coming to a Sunday morning service have found this Service to be a much-valued opportunity for worship. Please do consider coming to the Midweek Service, or inviting someone you know who may be blessed by being there.

The Midweek Service won't be running during the school summer holidays. The last Midweek Service of the current session will be Wednesday 24th June.

The Midweek Service will restart on Wednesday 19th August.

Christian Aid Report Summer 2026

Today is the 17th May 2026 and we have just finished Christian Aid Week. The envelope collection at St. Columba's Hillhead has raised a total of £415.20. Many thanks to all of you who have kindly donated to this annual fund raising appeal. Your donations really do make a difference to the projects that are set up in many poor countries to help improve the lives of the people. This year funds will go to Kenya to set up gardens in urban areas to help people supplement their meagre diets.

The annual service was held in Hillhead Halls on the 19th April 2026.

The proposed fund raising concert in June in Lenzie Union Church has been postponed until the Autumn as the Anderson Singers are taking part in concerts in Milton of Campsie and St. Columba's Hillhead this month.

More information on the work of Christian Aid can be found on their website.

Geraldine Fox.

The Guild

It will be the summer before we know it, and time for holidays. I'm going to Ireland for a few days and I'm really looking forward to it. It made me think that we all need a break to recharge our batteries and when we come back, we will be able to work for St Columba's Hillhead Church and the community. The Guild will start back in September, There will be interesting speakers and a couple of evenings, St Andrews Night and Burns Supper. There's an invite to you all if you would like to come along.

Here's a wee poem,

A Smile

*A smile can work wonders
Try it and see
Just how infectious
It really can be. People respond to
A kind smiling face,
One spreading joy
And love round the place*

*Just one little smile
We don't realise,
Enhances the looks
And brightens the eyes.
You'll find other people
Are soon smiling too,
When you give a smile It comes back to you*

Carol Johnston

Men's Group

We are now into the Summer months and hopefully you are all enjoying the many outdoor pursuits that the season brings.

For me personally, in addition to family having long 'flown the nest', but still in daily contact, Grandchildren tend to be more of the focus of attention these days.

In the Summer, I am fortunate to be able to look out into my cherished garden and admire seeing nature hard at work, with plants flourishing all around and splashes of colour brightening up the view.

For many years now, I have enjoyed getting out into the fresh air, playing bowls both at my local Club and further afield whilst raising monies for a well known Children's charity.

More recently I have been reliving many family caravan adventures of the past, visiting old haunts and equally discovering pastures new, which dovetails with my hobby of photography.

However when the days draw in and morph into Winter, the picture changes dramatically with set routines in place each week, as one copes with what sometimes feels like endless dark wet days and nights.

Now you may well be asking 'What has all of this got to do with St Columba's Hillhead Church Men's Club? '

Well for me the Winter past, I in addition to attending Church more regularly on Sundays, had a 'lightbulb moment', when I was seeking to break from previous Winters' routine mould, suddenly thought, even after nearly fifty years as a member of our church, why not get out and go along and try the Men's Club on a Monday night!

Well that's exactly what I did and I received a truly warm welcome and the rest is now history, in that I enjoyed it so much, that I just had to join.

With a variety of activities such as carpet bowls, pool, table tennis, snooker, dominoes, darts on offer and the chance to make new friends and enjoy banter over tea and coffee, whilst having great fun, made it an instant YES!

Men's Group (cont'd)

I along with other 'Newbies' this last year, drawn from both within the Church and the wider local community, have had a great time with recent Monday Nights in the Winter being memorable. Good humoured rivalry also abounds amongst members taking part in the annual 'games' competitions, held over a period of a few weeks in the New Year.

Finally the Men's Club Annual Dinner and presentation of prizes was held at Hayston Golf Course on Monday 30th March 2026 and saw the Club's effervescent Chairman Jim Kennedy stand down. For all who have come to know Jim, taking over that role will be a hard act to follow, but I am now really looking forward to that challenge and the forthcoming Winter 2026/2027 Sessions.



Men's Group (cont'd)

I hope that the foregoing will perhaps ignite a 'spark' amongst others currently seeking a 'change of scenery' on a Monday night in the Winter, like it was for myself and that we can once more attract new members from both within St Columba's Hillhead and wider surrounding communities.

Interested? Come and give the Club a try and also invite any friends along to join in the Monday night action!

Men's Club nights resume again on Monday 5th October 2026 at 7.30 p.m.

Robert Mackenzie
Chairman

Prayer at St Columba's Hillhead

It is good to see widespread use of the monthly church prayer diary. This continues to be available every month at the Sunday and Midweek Services. It can also be downloaded from the church website, www.kirkintillochstcolumbas.org.uk

Please be aware that, similar to last year, we will issue a 'summer prayer diary' that will cover the months of July and August.

Prayer is vital to all we do at St Columba's Hillhead. As well as praying regularly for our church and community, we also have a responsibility to uphold in prayer the work of our mission partners and of the wider church around the world.

The prayer diary is a great tool for helping us do that. Please do take a copy of the prayer diary each month to pray through at home during the month.

On Thursday evenings (term time) 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.

1st Kirkintilloch Company

Our gazebo, which is currently being used in the church as an umbrella to protect the electrical equipment, will be temporarily relocated to Woodhead Park on Saturday 13th June for Kirkintilloch Gala Day. The Company will be offering the public an opportunity to try a couple of games whilst showing that the BB is still active in the area. If you are out and about on Gala Day please visit our stall to say hello and maybe even try your luck, you could be a winner!

Anchor Section

By the time you read this our session will be over for 2025-26 and everyone will be enjoying the summer break.

Since our last newsletter the boys have been extremely busy finishing off their badge work and I am pleased to announce that everyone has managed to gain their relevant badges. Since the last newsletter we celebrated Easter by learning about the significance of the empty tomb and the risen Lord, Tombstone biscuits were created and quickly eaten by the boys.



Anchor Section (cont'd)

On 24th April all sections were treated to an educational trip on the canal thanks to the Forth & Clyde Canal Society. The boys enjoyed the experience, plus for some this was their first trip on a boat. The weather was great and the canal sides were resplendent in early summer growth.



We continued the outdoor theme in May with a visit to Peel Park for games, which included using the Roman play park, again it stayed dry for us although not as warm and sunny.

Our final night until September is on the 15th May, although the fun will continue on the 16th May with the boys attending the Battalion trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park, so again fingers crossed for good weather.

Every year we elect our best boy for each age group. It is always hard to pinpoint the winners as the competition is very close. However, this year's winners of The Guild Shields are,

1st Year: Zachary Brownlow

2nd Year: Matthew McCracken

3rd Year: Brodie Semple

Congratulations to all three for their hard work and dedication to the section.

Anchor Section (cont'd)

Our next session will resume in September and although we are losing eight boys to juniors this year, we do have some new starts wishing to join. So hopefully we will be able to continue with our current strength.

Have a great summer everyone,

Lorna, Margaret & Fraser

Junior Section: A Season of Growth and Excitement

The Junior Section at 1st Kirkintilloch Boys' Brigade has enjoyed another successful and busy session. We are delighted that all the boys who started with us back in September have remained with the company throughout the year, showing great enthusiasm and commitment each week.

A particular highlight has been seeing eight boys successfully gain their Bronze Badge after working hard across a variety of activities and challenges. The boys should be very proud of their achievement.

Throughout the session, the boys have continued learning more about Jesus through Bible stories, discussions, and crafts, helping them grow in faith and understanding while having fun together. Alongside this, there have been plenty of energetic games and practical activities, including making pancakes, which was a firm favourite!

The boys also had the opportunity to enjoy some fresh air and local history during a trip along the canal with the Forth and Clyde Canal Society, which was greatly enjoyed by everyone involved.

To round off the session, the boys are looking forward to a trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park, organised by Strathkelvin Battalion, which promises to be a fantastic end to another great year in the Junior Section.

Junior Section (cont'd)

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page - www.facebook.com/1stkirintillochbb

Our new session will begin again on the first Friday of September, and we would like to thank everyone who has supported the Junior Section throughout the year. The continued encouragement from parents, church members, and friends of the Company is greatly appreciated.

As always, anyone interested in helping out in a volunteering capacity would be very welcome to speak to any of the staff for more information.

David, Ross and Matthew

Company Section

Since the last edition of the newsletter we set the boys a survival challenge (if you are interested, the most important item out of all those available was a shaving mirror). Our participation in Red Nose Day consisted of guitar music, jokes, dancing and singing, good fun had by all and most importantly £100 being donated.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the canal boat trip with some really good photographs being taken. Recently we had the boys running about the church car park and surrounding areas to show them the practical application of the What3Words app.

Over the early May Bank Holiday weekend when numbers were low we took three of the younger boys for a circular walk through Kirkintilloch's past starting at the Memorial Gates we went through Peel Park, band stand and fountain, visited the toll house to see the price list, the Auld Kirk and Town House, the Luggie Memorial, the canal basin and aqueduct, the Lion Foundry site, red telephone boxes, another fountain and the roman wall markers and pointed out where Kirkintilloch's motto is displayed.

Company Section (cont'd)

Looking forward, we are getting close to the end of the session, most of the boys have completed their badge work but a couple still have gaps which we will do our best to fill before the end of June.

Just about all of the Company Section boys have expressed an interest in taking part in the church cycle run to Clachan of Campsie in June, although the ensuing barbeque may be the real attraction.

Two of our boys and one officer will be attending the Strathkelvin Battalion weekend camp at Lockerbie Manor in August and we hope they have a great time and that the weather is kind to them. Have a great summer.

Allan Geekie and Team

Sunday Club

It is great to have Sunday Club (including the new p1-3 Little Lights class) with us for the early part of the regular Sunday morning service. We're very grateful to Vicky and Cassie and others who lead and help at Sunday Club week by week. In recent weeks, Sunday Club has been learning about some of the miracles of Jesus.

We look forward to an All Age Service on Sunday 21st June when we will also have Sunday Club and Noah's Ark Prizegiving. Over the summer holidays, from Sunday 28th June to Sunday 9 August, we will have age-appropriate activities for primary aged children within the sanctuary each week. (Noah's Ark will continue to run through the summer holidays.)

On Sunday 16th August, there will be an All Age 'Getting Ready for School' service. Then, on 23rd August, Sunday Club will restart, ready for a new session!

Following Jesus Group and Friendship Club

Both Groups have had a busy 2025-26. We are now preparing numbers and fish supper orders for our annual end of term canal trip. In the last term we had several members helping at the Easter Cafe and we celebrated the resurrection with a new chorus ;

Jesus is alive today

Jesus is alive today

Jesus is alive today

Lets all shout hip hip hooray

Is He in the manger {No Way - spoken}

Is He on the cross {No Way}

Is He in the tomb (No Way)

He died and rose again.

Always a very enthusiastic NO WAY

Our most recent meetings have taken the form of sponsored walks for the church roof. Unfortunately last Wednesday was wet so we walked/skipped/danced around the hall many times instead.

Finally we would like to thank our church family for their support in so many ways - setting out chairs and tables, financially and especially in prayer.

Pat Muir

New Church Roof

In February this year, we launched an appeal for a new church roof! In common with many of the houses near the church, we find it is now time to replace our roof.

The cost for this work was estimated in December 2025 to be £115,000. The kirk session agreed to an ambitious target date of June 2026 to raise the necessary funds.

As set out in the last edition of the magazine, we are in the fortunate position that we can use £40,000 from existing funds to put towards this project.

We had set ourselves a target sum of at least £35,000 to be raised locally through a combination of fundraising and dedicated giving. The response to this has been amazing! It is so encouraging to be able to say that (after expected gift aid is taken into account) we exceeded that target of £35,000 in less than 3 months.

We also aimed to attract up to £40,000 in grant funding. We have now submitted seven grant applications for financial assistance with the project, including most recently an application to the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland. So far, we have received a £5000 grant from the Baird Trust (payable on completion of the work), whilst two grant applications have been unsuccessful. We hope to hear back from the remaining four grant awarding bodies in the coming weeks.

We are so grateful to God for his provision thus far for the new roof project. Please do pray that the remaining four grant applications would be received favourably by those who are considering them.

We look to arrange a date for the work to be done just as soon as the necessary funding is in place. Please pray that, above and beyond our plans, God would continue to oversee this project and provide all that is needed. Please pray that the gracious hand of our God would be upon us. ***Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain. Psalm 127:1.***

If you would like to give specifically to the new church roof, and have any questions about that, please do speak with Neil Bathie,

Church Cycle Ride and BBQ

There will be a church cycle ride, walk and BBQ on the afternoon of Sunday 7 June.

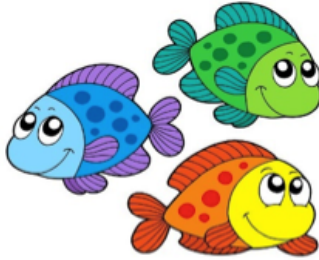
We hope to cycle along the cycle track to Clachan of Campsie. Alternatively, if you prefer walking, there is the option of walking to Milton of Campsie instead. Both destinations happen to be well-served by cafes!

If you'd like to cycle or walk, bring a packed lunch with you to church on the morning of Sunday 7 June to have after the service and we'll aim to set off at 12:30pm or fairly shortly after.

Later in the day, from around 4pm, there will be a BBQ in the church grounds for the returning cyclists and walkers and for as many of us who are able to be there to welcome them back! Please be aware that you do not need to have walked or cycled earlier in the afternoon in order to come to the BBQ!

The summer cycle ride, walk and BBQ have been great opportunities for fun and fellowship in previous years. We very much hope this will be the case again this year!

Church Toddler Groups



Little Fishes has had a lovely year. We have welcomed back well kent faces and it has been great to have new families 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 is going great! We regularly have 25-30 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.

Church Toddler Groups (cont'd)



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 has been great to see our toddlers growing up and now part of Sunday groups too. If you know anyone would like to join us but would like to know more please speak to Cassie on 07645774453.

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

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

Gill Wright

Praise in the Park

Praise in the Park, organised by Lenzie & Kirkintilloch ACTS will be held at 7pm by the bandstand at Peel Park on Sunday 14th June. We are glad that this event will once again be accompanied by Kirkintilloch Kelvin Brass. All are very welcome.

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.

Walk and Talk use a WhatsApp group to link many of our walkers both past and current. If you would like to know what the group are doing, then please use Trevor's contact details below to introduce yourself. The walks are prompted each week on Thursday mornings, and a summary of the walk is usually produced on Thursday evenings. If you don't like using WhatsApp then please get in touch with Trevor and he'll keep you informed by other means.

Trevor Patterson (St Mary's Church, Kirkintilloch)

07939 677523

trevor_patterson@outlook.com

Children and Families Work – Summer 2026

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

Easter time was full of activities for the children! Little Fishes and Busy Bees toddler groups enjoyed their Easter parties (alongside Easter books and many sweets)! I was also able to be at both Oxgang Primary and Hillhead Primary Easter assemblies to see the children and hear their lovely Easter songs.

Children and Families Work – Summer 2026 (cont'd)

Speaking of Oxbang Primary, we were able to run a 2-hour long Easter workshop with them called 'Easter Code' for the second year in a row. This workshop brought the children through a series of stations that explained the story and significance of Easter all the way from the birth of Jesus to his resurrection on Easter Sunday. The pupils were incredibly interactive, and I do believe everyone (teachers included) had a great time.

I was also happy to organize our Easter Cafe children's programme. The children (and parents!) enjoyed the Easter egg hunt, prizes, Easter story trail, games - and also the Lego building! It is a joy to be involved in Little Fishes, Busy Bees and Noah's Ark each week. I do so look forward to seeing the children each time and getting to know them and their families. Please continue to pray for these groups, their volunteers and their families.

Please keep all the volunteers in your prayers this term as we teach and support the children and families that attend Sunday Club, Little Lights, and Noah's Ark. It has been incredible to be a part of the groups, and I am sure this term will be an encouragement to all.

During the summer we will be launching a toddler holiday club. This will be from July 28-30, between 10-12 pm. There will be activities for children under 5. We will be exploring the theme of 'Little Hands, Big World' where we will talk about plants, animals, and the world God made. I have already received a lot of interest from local families. Please keep this in your prayers as we prepare for it!

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

MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship)

MAF responds to Cyclone Maila in Papua New Guinea

Cyclone Maila started hurtling through Papua New Guinea's Bougainville region from 9 April before wreaking havoc in Milne Bay Province. In its wake, MAF has been evacuating survivors, flying in aid and undertaking aerial surveys to assess the damage. MAF's Aquila Matit reports.....

Floods and landslides caused by category five Cyclone Maila have killed at least 11 people including four children in the Bougainville region – an isolated collection of islands east of Papua New Guinea's mainland.

Critical infrastructure has been destroyed including roads and bridges. Supply chains, schools and businesses have been severely disrupted. Homes and health centres have been damaged. Riverbanks have burst and trees have been uprooted. MAF began its emergency relief flights on 13 April by flying a team to Nissan Island – one of the Green islands – which has a population of 12,000 people.

Due to the dangerous waters caused by the cyclone, Holy Cross Nissan High School was unable to replenish its food stocks for a week. When supplies were running low, MAF's deliveries were a lifeline. School Head, John Irisie said ***'I am really thankful to MAF for stepping in and assisting us. In the event of a disaster, this kind of support is so valuable.'***

MAF (cont'd)



Flower Rota 2025/2026

Donation

Delivery

June 2026

7 Janet Brown & Mr & Mrs G Kidd
14 Mrs Rita Powell
21 Mr J Stewart
28 Mrs M Rogerson

Mr & Mrs G French
Mrs Rita Powell
Mr & Mrs I Gibb
June Larwood

July 2026

5 Mrs C Moore
12 Mrs J Connell
19 Mrs R Broadfoot
26 Mrs I Kernochan

Mrs Helen Bowers
Mr & Mrs I Muir
Joan Beattie
Lily Chim

August 2026

2 Mr N Bathie
9 Mrs M Blair
16 Sunday Club
23 Mrs I Davies
30 Mrs M Aitken

Mr & Mrs G French
Mrs Rita Powell
Mr & Mrs I Gibb
June Larwood
Mrs Helen Bowers

September 2026

6 Boys Brigade
13 Mrs I Perry
20 Mrs D Morgan
27 Mrs A McKelvie

Mr & Mrs I Muir
Joan Beattie
Lily Chim
Mr & Mrs G French



Summer Grain

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Service 10.30am

The service is livestreamed and may be viewed on the church website (www.kirkintillochstcolumbas.org.uk)

OR

On YouTube (Search for St Columba's Hillhead Church Kirkintilloch)

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.