

King's View

Magazine, No. 933

October/November 2023

**King's Park Church of Scotland, Glasgow
242 Castlemilk Road, GLASGOW G44 4LB**



King's Park Church Gift Weekend 28th and 29th October 2023

**Mission Statement: *King's Park Church*
*sharing God's love by reaching out to others.***

"1930-2023 - 93 Years of Spiritual Service"

FOR YOUR INFORMATION**King's Park Church of Scotland, Glasgow. 242 Castlemilk Road, G44 4LB**

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Please remember to inform the Church if you are changing your address. It's vital that our records are kept as up to date as possible. Thank you in advance.

**INTIMATIONS FOR THE DECEMBER 2023/JANUARY 2024 ISSUE
SHOULD BE EMAILED TO office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk NO LATER
THAN THE END OF THE MORNING SERVICE, SUNDAY 19TH
NOVEMBER. ANY ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THIS DEADLINE
WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024 ISSUE.**

Caveat: This magazine is published on our website. Please note if you are submitting an article and wish something not to appear online, indicate this on submission.

IF YOU NEED THE CHURCH PLEASE CONTACT:

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King's Park Church of Scotland, Glasgow is a Registered Charity
with Scottish Charity Number: SC017040.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

"Suffer the Little Children to Come Unto Me"

3rd September Max Matthew Marshall

AT REST

"I am the Resurrection and the Life"

July	Elizabeth Thomson, Kingsbridge Drive
13th August	John Aitchison, Carmunnock Road
15th August	Jack Halliday, Kingsheath Avenue
6th Sept	Alison Scott, Montford Avenue
23rd Sept	Marjorie Smith, East Kilbride

Prayer Focus..

Dear Lord. We thank everyone who helped deliver Harvest gifts this year. We also give thanks that our call for a minister is progressing. The organisations are back and there are plenty of opportunities to learn new things. We pray for the leaders as they nurture the children - they are our future! November sees the season of remembrance, we pray for a good turn at our church events. It is a time to remember and reflect and we give thanks for all who sacrificed their lives. Hear our Prayer. Amen
gaerataylor@btinternet.com

NEWS FROM THE PRAYER GROUP

We give thanks for your support. Do come along and join us on a Monday morning in the Lesser Hall. The dedication of the Garden of Remembrance will take place after the morning service on Sunday 5th November. On Saturday 11th November, the Church will be open between 10am and 12 noon, with a short service at 11am. Remembrance Sunday will be on the 12th November at 10.50am.

Gaera Taylor

FLOWER FUND

Thanks are due to all who contribute to the flower fund, beautifying our worship week by week.



Dear Friends

I'm sure, like me, you were pleased to hear the announcement that, after all this time of uncertainty, we have been granted permission to call a new minister on a five year reviewable tenure – subject of course, as there always seems to be in these matters, the usual protocols being satisfied.

We have been through much together since Sandra received her call to Blackburn - exacerbated by the COVID outbreak and, of course, the machinations of the Presbytery Mission Plan, but rather than looking back – now, more than ever, is a time to look forward.

There is much to be grateful for in what we have achieved together in that time – for the fellowship and support we have enjoyed.

There is much to be one in the process we are now embarking on – including the formation of the Nominating Committee.

And there is much to be done in the ongoing work of our church, as we meet together, whether in the sanctuary or online, and the organisations begin their new sessions, and together we seek to fulfil our mission statement:

“Showing God’s love by reaching out to others”.

These are challenging times, but they are also exciting times.

As I think I said in a previous letter, we, none of us, may know what the future holds – but we surely know who holds the future.

Every blessing, Raymond

Birthdays to Celebrate!

Our warmest congratulations go to

Mr John McCabe who celebrated his 80th birthday
on 26th July and to

Mrs Lena McDougall who celebrated her
90th birthday on 7th August.

We wish them both every Blessing, from all their
friends at King’s Park.

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCE*"We Give Thee But Thine Own"***FINANCE REPORT - 2023**

	<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>
<u>INCOME</u>	£	
Offerings & Donations	7,344	7,279
Gift Aid income	-	2,716
Hall Hire Income	1,298	1,125
Rental income	854	517
Charitable collections	337	515
Other regular Monthly Income	54	473
Total Month's Income	<u>9,887</u> =====	<u>12,625</u> =====
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Regular Monthly Costs	11,047	10,868
Charitable Donations	576	475
Property maintenance & repairs	186	56
Total Month's Payments	<u>11,809</u> =====	<u>11,399</u> =====
Monthly Income vs Expenditure	-1,922	1,226

HARVEST

We celebrated Harvest Thanksgiving on 24th September. A big thank you to all those who decorated the sanctuary, donated flowers and delivered them. Thank you to all who gave donations for the Lodging House Mission. We supported the Christian Aid Harvest Appeal through a retiring offering and will announce the total in due course. We continue to support The Pantry at Croftfoot. Thank you to all those who regularly donate food. Since the start of 2023 we have also passed on financial gifts for the Pantry of £1000.

VACANCY UPDATE

The vacancy process continues to move forward. The next step is for our Kirk Session to have its first meeting with the advisory committee, appointed by Presbytery's Vacancy Procedure Committee. The meeting is scheduled for early October and discussion will take place relating to what type of ministry will be best suited for our needs in King's Park; the final listing of the parish profile and the procedure for the forthcoming election of the nominating committee. Further updates will be provided as and when they arise.

Eunice & John

STEWARDSHIP 2023 - Gift Weekend 28th & 29th October 2023

Further to Stewardship announcements, which you'll have read in the last two issues of the magazine, we can confirm that our last 'Gift Day' in King's Park was in November 2017!

In 2018, the Stewardship topic was 'Time', and in 2019, the Kirk Session agreed at it's January meeting, that we would look at our 'Talents'. Everything was put aside though, as Sandra moved to pastures new and we concentrated on maintaining normality within a vacancy situation.

Normality disappeared completely in March 2020 when the church closed due to COVID restrictions, and again our focus had to be on surviving. Right through the pandemic times with the loss of income from hall lets, no physical offerings initially, as the sanctuary closed, and the need to resort to online worship, saw our income reduce, although the church family did rally round, moving to standing order etc to regularise giving, or making sure FWO envelopes were posted or delivered to the church building itself.

So, strictly speaking, our planned Gift Weekend, taking place on Saturday & Sunday the 28th and 29th October 2023 in normal circumstances should have been three years ago!

It's difficult to address the financial side of our Christian stewardship at this time, but unfortunately, we are seeing the deficit currently facing us, increasing as the year progresses. Cost of living increases affect the church as well as each and every one of us. Our membership has dropped – in the December 2017 magazine it states the number of communicants on the roll as 555. The number of members on the current roll is 402. That's a drop of 27.5%, a drop which unfortunately isn't replicated in the costs of running and maintaining the church buildings etc.

Over the past year or so, during the energy crisis, with rising gas, oil and electricity prices, the church has benefitted from being on a fixed tariff for energy, agreed between the energy suppliers and the national church. Unfortunately, our fixed tariff for electricity ends at the end of September, and the rate for gas, in March 2024. The General Trustees, the property holding arm of the Church of Scotland, advises that the newly negotiated contracts will see an average cost increase of 98% for electricity and 105% for gas.

"I am the church, You are the Church, We are the church together" - Yes, the church is indeed its people, but it is also a much loved building, with sanctuary, halls, and fabric, which it is our responsibility to maintain and care for. Accordingly, please do prayerfully consider your Christian giving at this time and support our stewardship responsibilities if you are able.

Details of how to contribute to our Gift Weekend can be found on the next page.

GIFT WEEKEND DETAILS

Our gift weekend will take place on **28th & 29th October 2023**. It will be a busy and mindful weekend and we would encourage you to attend our coffee morning on Saturday 28th October from 10am until 12noon and/or our soup and roll lunch after morning worship on Sunday 29th October.

All donations of home baking for the coffee morning can be handed into the church from 9am on the morning of 28th and will be gratefully received.

Please do give your church a little extra thought over that weekend, perhaps foregoing a night out, special dinner etc that weekend and donate to our Gift Weekend instead.

Donation envelopes will be made available at church and physically delivered with the magazine to those who receive it by post. For those who would prefer to donate online, we will also accept bank transfers using reference 'Gift W/E 23 and your name' to Kings' Park Church of Scotland, Sort Code: 82-63-31, Account 50335056 Please note, on Sunday 29th October, we will also re-introduce the uplifting of our offering during the service, rather than as you enter the Church, and there will a dedication of the donations we receive over this special weekend.

With anticipated thanks to you all.

KING'S PARK BRASS BAND - AN UPDATE

The band started the new session with an outdoor performance at Pollok House in mid-August, led by our new conductor Emily Stokes. We are now working towards our concert at Rutherglen Town Hall on Friday 17th November, entitled 'Kings and Queens of Brass' - a light-hearted take on music related to royalty in the year of the coronation.

We'll play a little "real" royal music, like Handel's 'Music for the Royal Fireworks'. We'll feature some fictional characters like Princess Merida from Disney's film 'Brave', and some rock music like Queen's 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. Some links may be so tenuous, there could be a prize for the first person to work them out! Tickets are on sale now from the Town Hall box office and online. We'll also hold our annual coffee morning in the Large Hall on Saturday 11th November, where there will be a short performance from our Junior Band. All are welcome to come along!

Mr Robert Coleman, 20th March 1947 – 4th July 2023

Robert certainly filled all of his 76 years of life with rich and interesting things. He was always determined to live life to the full and that life revolved around his wife Jacqueline, his family, his friends and his faith. Robert was born in Queen Mary Avenue in Strathbungo and enjoyed a happy childhood growing up in Giffnock, with mum Annie, dad Edward and twin sister Elizabeth, before moving to Boyd Street in Govanhill. After attending Victoria Primary, Robert went on to Allan Glen's school where he attained the history prize (or so he always told grandson Jacob, who shared Robert's love of history.) Leaving school, Robert moved to Bedford where he began learning the printing trade at the Gordon Fraser Card factory.

Sadly, Robert's dad Edward passed away with Robert returning home to Boyd Street, to be with his mum and sister Elizabeth, where he decided to take a temporary job as a conductor "on the buses". Robert went about his job as a conductor with a bit of a swagger for the girls, but was always a stickler for the rules and that's why a young Jacqueline McNamara, whose father was also employed on the buses, found herself ejected by the over-zealous Robert who counted six people on the platform as opposed to the five who were permitted. Not one to bare a grudge, it was only a couple of years later that they met again socially, at a work's dance where they enjoyed each other's company. And so began their travelling courtship with Jacqueline joining conductor Robert on the number 2 route from Toryglen to Knightswood, then back again – with Robert making sure Jacqueline paid the right fare on every trip! Romance soon blossomed and on 2nd February 1975, Robert and Jacqueline were married in St Margaret's in Oatlands. In March 1977, the happy couple were blessed with the arrival of daughter Yvonne and in the November the family moved to Brownsdale Avenue in Rutherglen and in October 1988 the family was complete with the arrival of son Jonathan.

Having moved to Westhouse Avenue in 1999, where the door was always open to Yvonne and Jonathan's friends, the family soon became involved in King's Park Church with Yvonne going through the Brownies and Guides and Jonathan joining the Pathfinders and then the Boys' Brigade while Robert and Jacqueline both became elders, playing a full part in the life of the church.

While Jacqueline became Clerk to the Board, Robert was involved in the Pastoral care group where he always enjoyed a chat with the members he visited and they always looked forward to his visits. As well as standing in for the church officer on occasion, Robert was a keen member of the gardening squad and was more than willing to lend a hand around the church where required. Robert always made time to place a cross in our Garden of Remembrance each year to remember those in his family who sacrificed their lives for others.

In February this year, Robert and Jacqueline celebrated their Golden wedding anniversary and throughout those 50 years of marriage they continued to enjoy each other's company. Robert had not enjoyed the best of health for some time, but throughout his illness, he never complained, never questioned "why me?" – always thinking of others before himself.

Sadly, on the 4th of July he passed away peacefully, and for Robert all pain and suffering are over and he is at rest.

Robert will be sorely missed by all those whose lives he touched within this church and far beyond. He lived his life following Jesus' commands to the letter – loving God with all his heart, soul, mind and strength and loving his neighbour as himself. And because of his unerring faith we feel certain that his life finds its completion, reunited with those who have gone before and with his Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

May the Lord Bless him and Keep him,
 May the Lord make his face to shine upon him,
 and be gracious unto him,
 May the Lord lift up his countenance upon him,
 and give him peace.

And May God's peace and God's strength be with us all at this time as we treasure the stories and memories in our heart, of the life of a very special, humble, gracious and faithful man, our dear friend, Robert Coleman.

Amen and thanks be to God.



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

We are very much looking forward to hosting our Christmas Bazaar again this year. It takes place on **Saturday 25th November** between 10am and 1pm - entry is by donation and there will also be a £2 entry to the Tea Room.

Santa will be making his annual visit to his grotto in the St Mungo Hall. He promises to bring a gift to every boy and girl who visit him on the day.

The following stalls will be available - bottles, cash in the attic, crafts, soft goods, jewellery, toiletries, pound stall, stationery, toys and much, much more!

Donations for all stalls will be gratefully received at the Church from Monday 20th November until 6pm on Friday 24th November. No items should be brought prior to that or on the morning of the Bazaar. We do not accept alcohol or clothing as donations.

Donations for the Home Baking Stall and Tea Room can be handed into the halls on the Friday Night or on Saturday morning. Bottle and Toiletries Stalls will be supported by the Sunday School and Youth Organisations. Hot pancakes will be on sale from the kitchen as usual.

The Bazaar Quiz will be available shortly.

We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday 25th November. Let's make this a happy and successful occasion.

Norah and Jonathan Buchan, Bazaar Convenors.

GLASGOW HOSPITALS' CHRISTMAS CONCERT

CONDUCTOR ALISTAIR DIGGES

FEATURING

THE GLASGOW HOSPITALS'
CHRISTMAS CHOIR

THE GLASGOW CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

WITH GUEST ARTISTS

STEPHEN ASHFIELD

CATRIONA CLARK

SALLY MAGNUSSON

AND

KELVINDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL CHOIR

FRI 8 DECEMBER 2023, 7.30PM
GLASGOW ROYAL CONCERT HALL

**Tickets Available
from
Andrew Aitken**

**YOUNG LIVES
vs CANCER**



Thank you ...

Myself, Mary and our children would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the entire congregation of King's Park for their warm welcome and generous support, both in monetary contributions and kind gestures, towards our family. It is evident that the church leadership has exemplified the core principles of our faith, as outlined in Philippians 2:5, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus," and further emphasised in Matthew 25:35-40, which speaks to feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, welcoming strangers, providing clothing to the needy, and caring for the sick - all of which have been faithfully carried out by the Church.

We hold in high esteem the collective efforts of each member of the congregation. While challenges may persist, your unwavering love and support have allowed us to witness and believe that, with God, all things are possible. We are thrilled to share that the exam, for which you supported my wife, has yielded positive results. She successfully passed, and we now eagerly await the news enabling her to practice as a nurse in the UK. Your steadfast support during this trying period has been a source of immense strength and encouragement. May God bless each one of you abundantly. With sincere appreciation, *Albert Sodunke and family*

I would like to thank all those who continue to support our church by attending the Tuesday coffee mornings. From January to the end of July £1,920 was raised. As well as our Tuesday coffee mornings, teas and coffees after Sunday services has produced £760 and lots of fellowship together. Thank you to you all, *Millie*

A recent coffee morning ...



Thank you ...

We would like to thank everyone who attended Jack's funeral and all who have sent messages of support and condolence. Thanks to Raymond for his comfort and support and for conducting Jack's funeral service. The flowers from the church were also greatly appreciated.

The Halliday family.

We would like to thank the church family for the beautiful flowers which we received, also Raymond for all his help and kind thoughts during a very sad time.

Doris and Alan Hume

Thank you very much to Alan Pratt for delivering such beautiful flowers on behalf of the church on the occasion of my 90th birthday. It was a lovely surprise and very much appreciated.

Lena McDougall

A big thank you to those who joined with God Tok, on the second week of the new session, with their litter pick on the streets around the church - and for the prayers of those who couldn't be with us, including Alison, the new priest, and the folks of St Oswald's. We warmly invite you to join with us on Mondays at 7.00pm as we explore God's word together - and of course enjoy coffee and biscuits! *Raymond*



SAIDIANA WOMEN PROJECT (KENYA)

Dear friends, I am sending the latest report from Saidiana. It's gratifying to read how their work is expanding. Thank you to all of you who support that work with your donations and prayers. You can contribute by cheque, made out to Mary Smith, and sent to her address (available on request) or directly into the bank account: HBOS, Sort Code 11-47-05, Account No: 00005903. Please let me know if any large sums are deposited so that I can acknowledge them properly. Also, if there is any change in your circumstances and you feel no longer able to support Saidiana, please let me know. With best wishes, Mary Smith

It is, yet again, time for submitting our report for the first half of 2023. It's not been an easy time, given the sky-rocketing costs of living which we suppose is a global problem. However, it's more hard-hitting in both developing and underdeveloped countries. Kenya is in the 'developing' bracket and indeed, in the past six months, we have had a fair share of the hard times. Worse still, is the political uncertainties we are currently experiencing in the country.

Half Year Highlights: In the first six months of 2023, the activities undertaken included sewing and hair dressing school, sewing and knitting proper, micro-credit and empowerment, relief supplies, HIV/AIDS care, Gavin's Mill and water harvesting. More emphasis however focused on putting in place vital structures that would lead to the establishment of Saidiana rescue/safe homes centre for the vulnerable groups in society, particularly targeting women and children in crisis.

School of Sewing and Hairdressing: Our 2023 class with 15 students is ongoing and we look forward to its successful completion toward the year end. The 2024 class is enrolling and it's interesting to note just how fast the numbers are growing. As mentioned in our last report, we are planning to donate four sewing machines to those students most deserving in the year, thus enabling them a new start in life. Our simple sewing machine costs, on average, the equivalent of £200, thus we're looking forward to spending roughly £800 to help four families start on a journey towards self-sufficiency in day-to-day life.

Sewing and knitting: We brought forward some good stocks of finished goods from last year - mostly school uniforms, so our volunteer teams in the production side of things reduced in number to just five. Other teams remained engaged in the marketing of the finished goods. Given the high costs of living being experienced, this business-orientated activity realised just enough to keep the volunteer teams busy, but with only measured profits. Our stocks are now sold out having achieved fairly thin profit margins. In the next six months, we shall be doing much the same, though this time round, we will embark in the production of mixed garments, rather than just school uniforms.

Micro-credit and Empowerment: We are back to the cycle of empowerment both in farming and otherwise. Under this twin activity, the eligible families, mostly women, receive help, guidance, counselling, and financial services. The last six months saw fifteen families benefit from the project. Nine were helped financially whereas six were supported in buying and selling. Areas of concentration in this respect included dealing in chickens, vegetables, used clothing and charcoal. We are happy to mention that in this activity, we see women transforming their lives and their families, thus impacting their communities positively.

Relief Supplies: Food security has been an issue in Kenya this year and both the print and electronic media have been revealing very worrying trends, namely, demonstrations against the government to lower the costs of living. Accordingly, our relief programmes centred on the supply of food items to vulnerable groups in the villages, the ratios given to families depending on the level of need.

HIV/AIDS care: Four volunteers worked with seven families - mostly in visiting, to give moral support and encouragement. Affected families normally seek such support and we are always ready and happy to stand in the gap. We believe God comforts us to make comforters, not just to makes us comfortable (2Cor 1:1-6)

Water Harvesting: Saidiana plans to build housing units to serve as safe homes and thus refocus on the water and sanitation for the planned centre, though it's yet to begin. We are currently identifying and collecting the necessary information and resources to enable drilling of water from the ground. We look forward to partnering up with others in order to achieve this, given the costs of drilling. Our prayers are that God will touch others to feel obliged to help with this project for the very vulnerable groups in local communities. The building work is set to begin in 2024 and shall be opening up space for volunteers willing to participate both locally and internationally.

Gavin's Mill Gifts: Under the Gavin's Mill assignments, we supported the community in the following areas

- As mentioned earlier, under the 'Micro-empowerment' heading, the last six months saw us engaging with fifteen families – investing a total sum, equivalent to £1560.
- With regard to the School of Sewing and Hairdressing, the main expenditure supporting the fifteen 2023 students relates to a stipend paid to the instructor in a sum equivalent to £600. Students at entry normally receive a sewing kit donated by friends of Saidiana in Canada – thanks go to Patty & Rick Sinnamon. One sewing machine has been purchased, the first of four, planned to be presented to the most deserving students at the end of the year. We have the next six months to raise the remaining £600!
- We distributed a variety of seeds, ie maize, vegetables and fruits seedlings, at a total cost equivalent to £600. This is a 'revolving' activity whereby the beneficiaries give back seed money for use in the next season.

Conclusion: *As indicated in our report for the second half of last year, plans are in process to build the Saidiana rescue/safe homes centre, starting in 2024. The centre will be tasked with rescuing women and children facing crisis, reuniting children and families, restoring hope via education, business opportunities, parenting skills and spiritual guidance. The end result being the renewal of dignity among families and young adults in the area. We hope to be able to lift such vulnerable families from lives of neglect, and positively impact the surrounding area for future generations.*

Fridah N Wafula, Patron, Saidiana Women Project (Kenya)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

Sun 1st	11am Morning Worship
Sun 8th	11am Morning Worship
Sun 15th	11am Morning Worship
Sun 22nd	11am Morning Worship
Sat 28th	10am til 12 noon Gift Weekend Coffee Morning
Sun 29th	11am Morning Worship with Gift Weekend soup and roll lunch after the service

NOVEMBER

Sun 5th	11am Morning Worship, followed by the Dedication of the Garden of Remembrance
Sat 11th	10am til 12noon, Church open for reflection and prayer, with a short service at 11am
Sat 11th	10am til 12noon, King's Park Brass Coffee Morning
Sun 12th	10.50am Remembrance Sunday
Fri 19th	7.30pm King's Park Brass Concert, Rutherglen Town Hall
Sun 19th	11am Morning Worship
Sat 25th	10am-1pm Christmas Bazaar
Sun 26th	11am Morning Worship

DECEMBER

Sun 3rd	11am Morning Worship, first Sunday in Advent
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*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.*