

ST MUNGO'S PARISH CHURCH GUILD

GUILD NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CONVENOR

Dear friends,

A warm HELLO to you and I pray this Newsletter finds you well.

I am grateful to the Committee for their help in putting together this newsy letter. It's been a tough year. Way back in March who would have thought we would be unable to meet in our usual place in St. Mungo's by the end of the year. Covid19 has meant many inevitable changes but, as many have stated, we are just "getting on with it".

We have seen many uplifting moments: blue skies, sunny days, rain...lots of it, rainbows filled with God's promise, birds and flowers in the garden, smiles and waves from friends as they passed by, phone calls, emails and Zoom meetings and quizzes with family. We have shared recipes and found new ways of doing things and done the never-ending cleaning, tidying and housework.

Our theme, Companions on the Road morphed into Going the extra Mile. Who has done that for you this year?

The Festival of Light with Christmas tree display is proposed again this December so, with this in mind, could you print on a Christmas gift tag (no names) who or what has gone the extra mile for you during covid, i.e. "My neighbour", "local shop" etc. If you can send it to me or a committee member we can use them on our tree.

The capitation fee is due and funds are needed more than ever to keep the Guild working at local and National level. It has been suggested a fee of £10 would cover the fee plus a donation to the Sailors society so if members feel they can donate their subscription for the current year please let Jean have it to enable the work of the Guild to carry on. Hats are still needed by the crews stuck in local ports so if you still have yarn and a pattern they would be gratefully received by Pauline, who came to visit us last session.

May I also suggest, if funds allow, each member could put aside their usual collection so that when we eventually are allowed to resume meetings, we have the funds to disperse to Projects and the Church. All the work of the Church continues even if we cannot meet in person.

We must open our hands and let go of everything unnecessary and receive the fruits of Autumn. We will be more focused than ever on our Mission... to be Fishers of People, so we work towards having our Guild reopening in the Spring 2021, and filling the Session House with Love, Peace, Harmony and lots of singing

As ever, hugs and love to you all,

Christine Wildau,
Guild Convener

THE GUILD PROJECTS

Over the 3 years of the Guild Strategy, 6 projects are supported by the Guild as a whole. The total amount raised so far for these projects is £296,016.54.

So far, we have supported 4 of these projects and in the coming session had hoped to be able to support the remaining 2 – Crossreach and Malawi Fruits. As it has not yet been possible to restart the Guild and we have therefore been unable to organize speakers for these projects, we thought we would let you know a bit about them.

CROSSREACH – JOIN UP THE DOTS

This project is designed to tackle the problems of loneliness and social isolation in Scotland. Crossreach has been aware of the effects of loneliness and isolation on people's well-being for some time but it is particularly appropriate in the current situation to look more closely at this problem as many more people are feeling the effects after several months of restrictions.



With this project, through sharing lived stories of isolation and loneliness it is hoped to highlight the problems and provide solutions for them.

Some of the more recent initiatives in the project are:-

Mellow Parenting which provides short residential breaks for young folk with complex needs to enjoy. The parents can also enjoy the break away from their caring duties. The Mellow Parenting sessions, let parents discuss with their peers the issues they have and, together with them, play with the children in a planned activity time.

Befriending in Inverness where volunteers are trained to befriend those moving on to their own tenancies having had a spell in our Cale House temporary accommodation in Inverness. This can prove a particularly difficult and lonely time for an individual when it can be tempting to drift back to unhelpful old ways and old friends.

SAILORS' SOCIETY



You will remember that last session Pauline the Port Chaplain spoke to us about the work of the Society. This year she is making an appeal for help with Christmas Gifts for Seafarers.

Christmas is going to be difficult for so many folk this year and this includes the seafarers that bring to our ports so much of what we use every day, including all our Christmas Amazon orders! Many crew will have been

on board ship for 10 months to more than a year. It could also be their second Christmas away from home and loved ones. Lots of crew have not been on shore since February of this year.

To make it easier for folks to donate this year Pauline is asking for cash donations, large or small. The estimated cost of each bag is around £15 pounds. This will buy: wrapped chocolates, shortbread, fudge/ tablet, mixed sweets, and mixed nuts. It will be accompanied by a Christmas card. One bag will go to each ship that comes into Leith and the other ports on The Forth in the run up to Christmas.

Hats for seafarers are always needed so if you are bored you could knit some hats – Christine has a pattern!

THE BIG SING

This will not happen in person this year but it is planned to hold a virtual event that will be available online. The Guild are looking for your help to put together some rousing carols as they will be recording some popular favourite carols and YOU can be part of it.

Email Karen on kgillon@churchofscotland.org.uk to register your interest and they will send you the details.



THE YEAR SO FAR

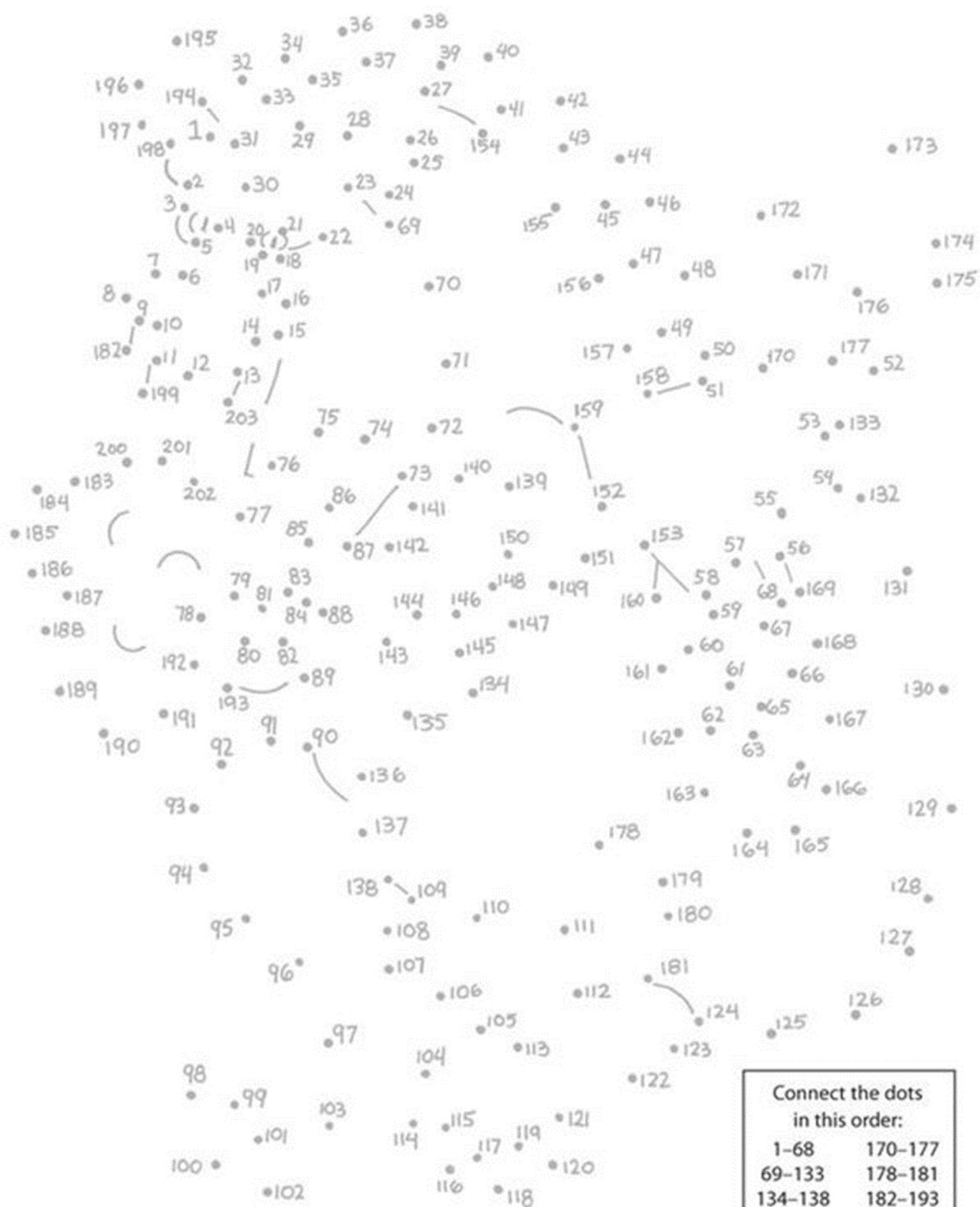
At the moment, we do not know when we will all be able to meet together in person but we are sure that everyone is looking forward to that day. A phone call or a Zoom meeting is just not the same! The Guild Committee would be obliged if Guild members who have an email address could send it to Christine so that any information we get from Guild Head Office or our own Guild can get to them quicker and at less cost than by post. Printing, copy paper and postage all adds up and email is FREE. Christine's email address is chriswil9@sky.com.

A COUPLE OF PUZZLES TO PASS THE TIME!

The Guild

D	G	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	H	I	P	L	G
P	R	O	J	E	C	T	S	I	A	B	I	D	E
A	L	S	D	S	O	D	A	P	O	N	P	H	D
S	R	E	L	A	O	N	I	A	A	A	A	E	A
D	S	R	N	I	S	G	F	F	N	R	O	B	G
U	L	T	A	A	J	U	N	T	T	N	H	A	I
P	R	A	I	A	N	O	U	U	H	R	D	K	R
P	B	I	G	S	I	N	G	R	M	U	W	I	B
W	A	R	I	O	U	U	G	G	G	T	E	N	S
C	T	I	A	N	M	D	U	F	U	T	S	G	Y
S	D	A	O	R	S	S	O	R	C	I	U	B	O
G	E	G	A	T	H	E	R	I	N	G	L	E	B
L	R	E	T	H	G	U	A	L	H	S	I	D	G
I	G	I	W	A	L	A	M	H	E	C	B	G	I

BIG SING
ST MUNGOS
LAUGHTER
BOYS BRIGADE
GUILD
CROSSROADS
FRIENDSHIP
MALAWI
BAKING
PROJECTS
FUN
GATHERING



Connect the dots
in this order:

1-68	170-177
69-133	178-181
134-138	182-193
139-153	194-198
154-159	199-203
160-169	