



A new beginning, shaped by hope and rooted in God's promise

Exploring how to love God, love our neighbour, and live out the Gospel with integrity, compassion and joy

A NEW BEGINNING...

Welcome to the first ever newsletter from the newly formed Parish of South Calder! There is so much going on and so much to do, it can be hard to keep everyone up to date with what is happening. This newsletter is here to help you find out everything our new church and church family have to offer.



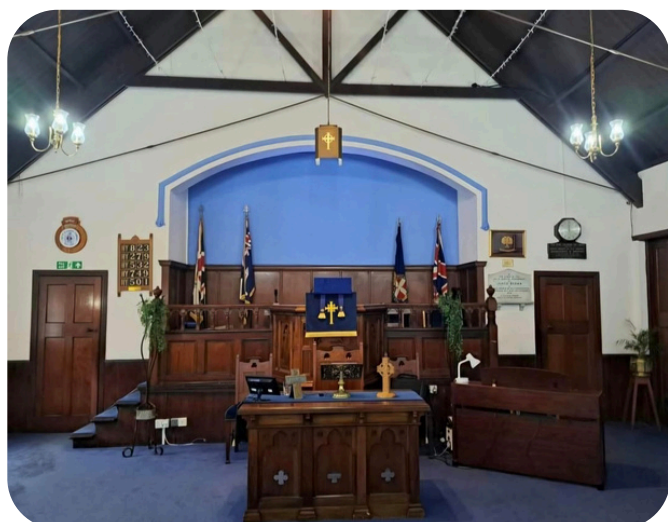
South Calder Parish Church, SCPC, was constituted on the 21st of January 2026, and is formed from the union of 5 well established local churches; Allanton, Bonkle, Cambusnethan North, Shotts Calderhead Erskine, and Coltness Memorial. Allanton church and the former Coltness church remain as the two sites of worship. Each heritage church brings its own traditions, values and talents. These will blend to form our new church of South Calder Parish.

HOW IT WORKS...

SCPC is a Unitary Constitution. For some this is familiar, for others it is a new concept. With a Unitary Constitution, Kirk Session and Congregational Board come together as one Kirk Session (KS) which oversees the spiritual and material matters of the church. It is comprised of approximately 20 Trustee Elders from the approximately 90 elders from the legacy churches. All Elders remain elders, but only Trustee Elders can vote at KS meetings. All are welcome to attend.

To help the KS in its role, several committees have been created to oversee specific pieces of work. It is not the job of the committee to do the work, others can assist or be co-opted, however, it is their role to ensure the work is performed appropriately, and to feedback to the KS. The KS has the final say in all matters. The committees we have are; Mission, Pastoral, Finance, Property, Social and Communications. In future editions of the newsletter we will have a short piece on each of the committees.

If there is anything else that would be useful and helpful to have in future editions of the newsletter please contact **Rhona Bell** or **Eric Wagner**.



USEFUL INFORMATION

Locum- Lynette Jardine, lpjardine@blueyonder.co.uk

Session Clerk - June Irvine, june.irvine@icloud.com

Deputy Session Clerk – Fay Parker

Hall Lets – Fred Hall (Newmains) and Tom Gormill (Allanton)

Pastoral Care – See Contact Us on webpage

Website - <https://southcalderparish.church>

FaceBook - <https://tinyurl.com/SCPCFBP>

YouTube - <https://tinyurl.com/SCPCYT>

Streaming - <https://southcalderparish.church/services/>

Prayer Link - See Prayer request on webpage



OUR PEOPLE - June Irvine, Session Clerk and Springsteen Fan!

In January 2026, when the union of the heritage churches came together, I took over as Session Clerk for South Calder Parish Church. Although I have served as an Elder since 2000 and held several positions within the Session, this was a new role for me.

Many of you will not know much about me so here's a short biography.

I grew up in Irvine (yes! same as my name) in a Christian home as the only child of my beloved parents. Sadly, my dad passed away quite early in my life, and I stayed at home with my mum until Eric and I were married in 1993. It was then that I moved to Newmains and began to attend Coltness Memorial Church.

I have never wavered from my faith throughout my life, and I have served the Lord and my churches in many ways, having been a Queen's Guide before becoming an officer in The Girls' Brigade serving at Regional level when I retired from that post.

I served for several years as a Glasgow Street Pastor which was one of the most challenging yet inspirational periods of my walk with Christ. I oversaw the opening of a Safezone within Tron Church in Buchanan Street, where folks could be brought to recover and/or someone could come to collect them. The Street Pastors patrol the city centre from 10pm until 4am and during my time there, I experienced many situations and people that I could not have envisaged in my wildest dreams. Happy to talk about that at great length if I corner you!

I spent my working career as a Research Microbiologist at the University of Glasgow with particular interest in hospital acquired infections. I retired from there a few months earlier than I had intended, as Boris closed the country down in March 2020 and I didn't get to return to tidy up my working area!

Since then, I have become mum to my fur babies (black labradors Freyja and Tallulah), kept busy helping Eric out with his business and worked within the church as a Word and Worship Leader before commencing studies to become a Reader.

This is my very potted history and, happy to chat with you all but forgive me if it takes me a while to recall everyone's name. Oh.....and I love the music of Bruce Springsteen!!

June Irvine

OUR CHURCHES - Allanton

There is so much going on at both our sites of worship it is hard to keep track of everything. Here is a summary of activities. We will go into some of these in more detail in future editions...

Let's start with Allanton church-

Church Service - Sunday

We worship each Sunday in Allanton Church from 12.30pm till around 1.30pm (except joint services). Everyone is always made welcome in Church, and after the service there is an invitation to everyone, to come through to the Church Hall for a cup of tea and a blether.

Discovery Club - Sunday

Our Discovery Club (Sunday school) starts every Sunday, at 12.30pm within the Church and then moves through to the Church Hall till around 1.30pm. All children are invited to join the Discovery Club, to enjoy stories, games and lots of fun.

Craft Class - Monday

Our Craft Class meets every second Monday in Allanton Church Hall from 1.30pm till 3.30pm.

We are a friendly group, where everyone is encouraged and helped by each other, and we all usually manage to produce something that looks good. For the last couple of years, we've held a Spring Fayre, which has been very popular, and we also have a stall each year at the Allanton Church Christmas Fayre. We have an annual Autumn Day out together to the SSEC Craft Show, when we all "need" more wool, more material, or any new craft materials that catches our eye.

Our Craft Class is finishing up for the summer soon, and I'll let everyone know when the class will be starting up again in the Autumn.

All Sauced Up - Monday

All Sauced Up met every Monday in Allanton Church Hall from 4.30pm till 6.00pm. The group served up a huge variety of delicious food and there was always something to suit everyone. The group are now enjoying a well-earned break and will return in October.

Soon, a new Prayer Group will be starting on a Wednesdays - dates and times to be confirmed.

OUR CHURCHES - Allanton, cont.

Allanton Guild - Tuesday

Our Guild meet every Tuesday in the Vestry from 2.00pm till around 3.30pm. This year, we have had lots of interesting speakers, when we all learned something new.

1st Allanton Girls' Brigade - Tuesday

The Girls' Brigade meet in Allanton Church Hall every Tuesday evening.

- Explorers (Primary 1 to Primary 3) 6.00pm to 7.30pm.
- Juniors (Primary 4 to Primary 7) 7.15pm to 8.30pm
- Brigaders (S1+) 7.15pm to 8.30pm

Community Fridge - Friday

Every Friday within the Church, we have our Community Fridge. This opens at 12noon and stays open until all the food has gone - that is usually around 1.00pm. All of the volunteers work hard to bring a good selection of fresh food, salads, fruits, canned food and cupboard essential. This is an excellent service and we always appreciate that it is provided here in Allanton.

Toastie Friday - Friday

Every second Friday in the Church Hall we have our friendly Toastie Friday from 12noon till 1.30pm. This is a very popular day and everyone enjoys a piping hot Toastie with salad, tea or coffee and home baking. This is all free and we invite everyone to join us.

Our next Toastie is Friday 5th June.

Allanton Church Cafe - Friday

Every second Friday in Allanton Church Hall, we have our popular Cafe, which opens at 12noon and runs till around 1.30pm.

OUR YOUTH GROUPS

2nd Cambusnethan Company - Newmains

Session 2025 – 26 will be coming to a close very soon, with one of the most important nights of the year, the Annual Presentation of Awards and Prizes, taking place on Friday 15th May in South Calder Parish Church (Newmains Building), which will be our new home.

The New Session starting in September will be the start of the Company's 75th anniversary year, it will be the first session where we are not a part of Cambusnethan North Church, as such it's a good opportunity to say hello to everyone.

For those who are not aware of the Boys' Brigade, the Organisation was formed in Glasgow on 4th October 1883 by William A. Smith, the organisation spread out to all corners of the old British Empire and indeed continues to grow into new countries.

The 2nd Cambusnethan Company was founded on 10th November 1951 where we have continued to do our best to fulfil the Object of the Boys' Brigade; the advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys, and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self Respect and all that tends towards a true Christian Manliness.

While our current membership is small in number, we are big on enthusiasm.

The phrase "few but mighty" has been coined by one of the boys, and it's very accurate.

Over the coming weeks and months, and indeed years you will come to know us and we you. It is our hope that we can integrate into the life of the new church and go from strength to strength.



OUR YOUTH GROUPS

2nd Cambusnethan Company - Newmains, cont.

As with any organisation people are needed to run it, and in the case of 2nd Cambusnethan we are:

- Ewan Lannigan – Company Captain
- Steven Marshall – Company Adjutant and Officer-in-Charge Company and Senior Sections
- Arron Willson – Officer in Charge Junior Section
- Lisa Kyle – Officer in Charge Anchor Boys
- William Lannigan – Company Secretary
- Mary Lannigan – Company Treasurer
- Matthew Gray

And soon we will hopefully have 2 new officers in the form of Jamie Marshall and Colin Russell our first 2 King's Men.

If you know of anyone who would like to join us (Boy or Officer) please get in touch with us.

- Anchor Boys for Boys in Primary 1 to Primary 3
- Junior Section for Boys in Primary 4 to Primary 6
- Company Section for Boys in Primary 7 to Secondary 2
- Senior Section for Boys in Secondary 3 to Secondary 6

I will close by saying I am also keen to try and keep the legacy of the other Companies alive that would have been within the cluster, 1st Newmains, 1st Bonkle, 1st Allanton and 1st Shotts. If anyone has any information on these Companies, please get in touch and share it with us.

Thank you, God Bless.

Ewan Lannigan
Company Captain



STUFF WE DO!!

LiveWell Charity Shop

If you didn't know that South Calder Church had a charity shop, then this is your chance to read all about it! Unfortunately, the sign on the shop doesn't have the words charity shop on it and some people pass by, not knowing what it is. We aim to change the sign soon, so that everyone will know it's a charity shop.

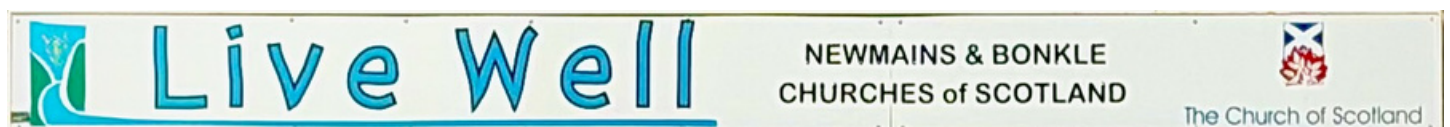
It is situated at 6 Main Street, Newmains, just beyond the roundabout, across the road from Asda car park. So, if you are out at the supermarket, why not pop in and see the shop - it's really worth a visit and you'll be made very welcome! It's a great service to the community and it makes a lot of money for the church, around £300 per week, which goes into the Development Fund. This fund supports CAP and the Food Bank, so it helps people in the area in need.

The shop is open Monday-Wednesday 9.30am-3.30pm, and Thursday-Friday 9.30am-12.30pm. There are ~15 women who work in the shop, all volunteers, giving their time to serve the community. Usually, they work a morning or afternoon shift of 3 hours and some of them do several shifts a week. They really are a fantastic team of people!

We take in donations of clothes, shoes, bedding, curtains, books, bric-a-brac, household goods, jewellery. Unfortunately, we can't accept electrical goods. If you have items that you could donate to the shop, we will be glad to take them. We only ask that they are clean and in saleable condition. We try to re-use and recycle as much as we can, and if there are items we can't sell, we try to pass them on to other groups and charities that can use them.

The shop needs new volunteers, so if you would like to come and do a 3-hour shift, please come in and pick up an application form or speak to me at the church.

Marion Allison



OUR CHURCH GROUPS

Shotts Guild

Shotts Guild is a small group of ladies who regularly meet each Monday.

Although we may be few, we greatly value each other's company—along with, of course, the ever-important tea and cake.

It is with great sadness that we recently lost one of our most valued members. We will be attending her funeral to honour her life and share cherished memories with her family. The chain is broken once again.

On a brighter note, we are currently making plans for our summer outing in the coming weeks. Wherever we choose to go, we hope the weather will be kind to us on the day.

With all the changes within our churches a verse that provides some inspiration.

Try It

It Works

Stop wishing for things you complain you have not, and start making the best of all that you've got.

By Helen Steiner Rice

Wishing everyone a restful summer

Elizabeth White



OUR EVENTS

Annual Craft Show

Preparations are well under way for our annual craft show – this is our 26th year.

We choose a charity to support each year – CHAS, Macmillan Nurses, St Andrews Hospice, Barnados, British Red Cross, Pancreatic Cancer, Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health, Chron's and Colitis, British Heart Foundation, Chest, Heart and Stroke, Cancer Research, Dementia Care, Dreammaker, Chris's House, Samaritans, Erskine and Prostrate Cancer to name a few!

This year our chosen charity is Lanarkshire Cancer Care – a voluntary service who supply transport for patients attending hospital appointments.

This year's show is from 17/6 – 19/6. Open from 10am – 9pm each day. Tea, coffee and home-baking served. *Entry fee is £2.00.*

Paintings, woodwork, embroidery, knitting, crochets, ceramics, jewellery, cards, plants, planters, home-baking, homemade jam and sweets are all on sale.

We have many talented artists and crafters in our congregation and encourage anyone in our community to show their work – either to sell or simply display so that everyone can enjoy seeing it. It is free to exhibit.





**SOUTH CALDER
PARISH CHURCH**