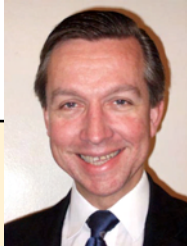




# NEWS&VIEWS

## WEBSITE NEWSLETTER



*from Roddy Macpherson* GUC Chairman

### 2010: Our Bi-Centenary Year

The launching of our redesigned website gave us a wonderful start to this historic year. February's publication of our very first on-line newsletter then followed soon after, marking another important step forward. I know from all your comments how delighted we are by these developments. Thanks have been given to everyone involved; but on behalf of the committee of management I wish to record our warmest congratulations to Lyanne Mitchell. The time and talents that she has devoted to improving our website are highly appreciated. It is very exciting to realise that, thanks to these, information about Unitarianism in our city has just become so much more accessible.

**Please note that the service to commemorate the 200th anniversary will be held on Sunday, 26th September.**

This will be held in the grand hall of the Trades Hall in Glassford Street - being the very place where the congregation met in 1810. The courtesy of the trustees of the Trades Hall in inviting us to return there is most gratefully acknowledged. We are so pleased that the Reverend Andrew Hill has accepted our invitation to give the address on this special occasion.

The service will begin at 2.30pm and, immediately afterwards, we shall be received at the City Chambers as guests of the Lord Provost, thanks to the generosity of Glasgow City Council.

To coincide with our Bi-centenary celebrations, the Mitchell library has agreed to mount a small exhibition of 200 years of Unitarianism in Glasgow. The exhibition will be in the tearoom on the ground floor, off Granville Street. Their archivist, Barbara McLean, has borrowed a selection of our documents and photographs for this purpose. She asks for any personal recollections of notable events in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and any stories from the eighteen hundreds. If you are aware of any such material, please convey it either to me, or directly to Barbara. Her email address is

[barbara.mclean@csglasgow.org](mailto:barbara.mclean@csglasgow.org)

The Mitchell library also holds a collection of historic church papers, and Barbara asks if some one or two people from the church could volunteer to look through this material and newspapers in search of any interesting items that could be included in the display. She has offered to search the Internet for biographical information on some of the famous names among our former members.

*Janet Briggs - Editor*



Alastair and Dorothy Moodie were warmly welcomed into membership of GUC on Sunday 7th February



**We'll Remember**

He was a quiet child.  
He hid himself  
behind his wide dark eyes  
so we misjudged his size  
never guessed  
the depth  
inside that quietness –  
the rare raw braveness.

We see it today  
in photograph –  
the soldier-man  
resplendently red-dressed  
standing forever at attention  
on his mother's mantel-shelf.

We come with our respect  
to see him  
wrapped in the Union Jack –  
this boy who'd overcome  
Iraq,  
this soldier-man who'd  
shown  
his same rare courage  
in the streets of home.

May he have rest  
near where our Calder River  
flows,  
where pointed spires of yew  
have grown.  
We've gathered him in.  
He's with his own.  
Come next November  
we'll remember him.

*Betty McKellar*  
November 2009

*Poem written in memory of the  
young soldier pointlessly murdered  
on the quiet streets of his home  
village of Lochwinnoch.*

**Chennai****Unitarian****Christian Church**

Glasgow and Edinburgh Unitarian churches collect and send money to support some of the work of our sister church in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. They offer tuition at the new church in Chennai and in the village of Ammanambakkam, about fifty miles inland. Here is their budget for 2010, and the letter of thanks we received from Mrs Merlin Gabriel, Mother of the present Minister there.



*"The congregation of the Chennai Unitarian Christian church wish you a very happy, bright and prosperous New Year 2010.*

*We are indebted to you for the very kind and generous support you are rendering for the uplift and progress of our project work in the Church as well as in Ammanambakkam village. I am proud to say that your support not only helps them to develop but also paves the way for their future livelihood. Your kind help inspires them more and more to develop their work.*

*Our Minister, myself and the congregation join together to convey our thanks for your unforgettable love you have towards our benefit." Merlin Gabriel*

**Chennai Unitarian Christian Church - Budget for the Year 2010**

**Coaching Class Teachers Saleries for three teachers  
3 by Rs.1200 = Rs.3600 by 12 Rs. 43,200 = £573.00**

**Village Sewing School One Teacher Rs 1200 by 12 Rs. 14,400 = £191.00**

**Materials - Cloth, thread, scissors and other materials for embroidering  
and dressmaking Rs. 10,000 = £133.00**

**Maintenance charges for sewing machines Rs. 5,000 = £66.00**

**Scholarships To provide scholarships for very poor and deserving  
students (20 selected by Rs.2000). Rs. 40,000 = £531.00**

**Equipment and books to provide books, note books, and uniforms for  
the Village Night School and coaching class children  
Rs. 10,000 = £133.00**

**Village Teachers - Night School Salaries for two teachers  
2 by Rs.800 = Rs. 1600 by 12 Rs. 19,200 = £255.00**

**To provide snacks for evening coaching class children in the Church  
Rs 15,000 = £199.00**

**TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2010 Rs 156,800 = £2,081.00**

## Music at GUC

We were delighted to welcome back Mairi McIntyre to our musical team on 7th February, when she played for Barbara Clifford's service 'New beginnings'. Mairi's son, Stuart is making a steady recovery following a brutal attack, on his birthday last year. We hope she will be able to play for us on a regular basis, when time and family duties allow.

I am grateful to Maureen Buchanan, fellow member of Sounds International Community Choir, for helping out at services.

Heather and Jim Macmillan's musical partnership is sorely missed at GUC. We all remember and appreciate the rich contribution they made to our worship.

It has been a great pleasure to have Margaret Macintyre McClymont 'on board' as one of our regular pianists.

We are looking forward to a harmonious new year!

Lyanne Mitchell - GUC Organist



*Adapted from Quaker*

*News for January.....*



## Clerk's Letter



***The clerk reflects on the effects of business meetings on herself.***

*“Joining with friends in a Meeting for Worship for Business is an important aspect of worship for me. ... For many years I have been involved in secular business meetings of various sorts and I am aware that when human beings come together, conflict is a natural element, as each brings his or her own unmet needs, long held beliefs and patterns of thinking to the encounter. Quakers are no different from other people, where this is concerned: but what is different is how we conduct our business meetings. The wonder for me is that during a Quaker business meeting rightly held, the way forward can be glimpsed from the fragmented contributions of Friends, speaking in a spirit of worship, as the Light is given to them. This is not consensus decision making but collective discernment. It is a spiritual experience.*”

*At the start of our October ... meeting we minuted that, ‘As Friends, we hold the audacious belief that through prayerful worship we can find and follow the will of God.’ This is a tall order, as we have human imperfections. I am aware that the quality of worship at these meetings varies. ... However, each of us has a responsibility for the worship. Just as we are asked to come to Meeting for Worship with hearts and minds prepared, we need to prepare our hearts and minds for business meetings, and that includes understanding the business before us. For me, the effort is worthwhile, as such a meeting is an opportunity to experience the feeling of being part of a gathered people, a spiritual community.*”

*Am I changed by these meetings? As clerk, I've had the satisfaction of helping to keep our house in order, but satisfaction is not change. Of course there are times when the business ... is routine and dare I say, boring. But I find that the discipline of service grounds me in an approach to life which is about what I can give, as opposed to what I can get out of it, which is healthy. I've had an opportunity to get to know more Friends in the things which are eternal, as we've worked together to understand issues and look for ways forward. Working closely with others and taking on responsibility for supporting the Meeting are catalysts for personal change and growth.”*

**Contributed by John Dick**



# Diary

## MARCH 2010

### SERVICES at 11am

7th Roddy Macpherson - *Thoughts on the Pope's visit to Scotland*

14th Bramah Kumaris - *Subtle Service*  
\*SINGERS 10am

21st Iain Brown - *What is a Liberal Religion?*

28th Lyanne Mitchell  
*Great Expectations?*



### Music

Margaret MacIntyre  
McClymont

Margaret MacIntyre  
McClymont

Lyanne Mitchell

Mairi McIntyre

### OTHER EVENTS

Mar. 14<sup>th</sup> Singers Group 10.0am

21<sup>st</sup> Management Committee 12.45pm

Apr. 18<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting 12.45pm

25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Lunch 1.0pm

May 9<sup>th</sup> AGM



### FLOWERS

7th George & Margaret Paxton  
14th Alastair & Dorothy Moodie  
21st Janet Briggs  
28th John & Barbara Clifford

### COFFEE

Paxtons  
Moodies  
J. Briggs  
Cliffords

### ALSO IN THE CENTRE in MARCH

Mar. 1<sup>st</sup> Baha'is 7.0

2<sup>nd</sup> Singers' Company 7.30

4<sup>th</sup> Recorder Players 7.30

Russkaya 7.30

5<sup>th</sup> Jazz Record Society 7.30

6<sup>th</sup> Incorporated Society of  
Musicians 2.0

Shakespeare Reading Society  
2.30

Singers' Company 7.30

11<sup>th</sup> Russkaya 7.30

14<sup>th</sup> Mairi Beckett 2.0

15<sup>th</sup> Trinity College Music  
Exams 9-5

16<sup>th</sup> Trinity 9-5  
Singers' Company 7.30

18<sup>th</sup> Trinity 9-5  
Recorder Players 7.30  
Russkaya 7.30

19<sup>th</sup> Trinity 9-5  
Jazz Record Society 7.30

20<sup>th</sup> Shakespeare Reading  
Society 2.30

23<sup>rd</sup> Singers' Company 7.30

25<sup>th</sup> Russkaya

26<sup>th</sup> SCAMPS 10.0

30<sup>th</sup> NarcAnon 7.0  
Singers' Company 7.30



## Saturday Sessions

Preparation is in hand for a series of monthly meetings on Saturday afternoons. The chosen theme will be views of Jesus from our largely Post-Christian stance. There will be two speakers, with time for discussion and refreshments. Primarily, these meetings are for our own members, to help us clarify our thoughts, and to experiment with open meetings that are not services of worship. They will require our support. They will also be advertised more widely in the hopes of reaching people who would be happy to find the openness, freedom and encouragement that Unitarianism has to offer.

If they result in more people wanting to come to our church, that will be good news, but the initiative is not intended as a recruitment drive.



### It's time again to **Think Thursday!**

Please join me on

#### **the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month**

for an evening of socializing, discussion, a little learning and FUN!

**\* My humblest apologies \*for giving the wrong date on the flyer for February.**

For March, there are three plays at the Citizen's Theatre which I think might offer good food for thought and discussion:

#### **My Name is Rachel Corrie**

running 2 - 20 March, 2010

(I also have a copy of the script for this fine work.)

#### **A Funny Valentine**

running 16 - 20 March, 2010

#### **Mary Queen of Scots Got Her Head Chopped Off**

2 & 3 March, 2010, only

(This is a unique student performance.)

To explore the ideas presented and other topics of interest,

#### **The next gathering of Think Thursday!**

is on

**Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> March @ 6:30 pm**

(juice & nibbles provided).

**Location: Glasgow Unitarian Church downstairs foyer**

For more information, contact Linda at 07810 718 839 or [boudicca999@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boudicca999@yahoo.co.uk).

# The Power Of Words Over Water- Contributed by Janet Briggs

**Can water be affected by our words?** Dr. Masaru Emoto, a Japanese scientist, believes so. And he has proof.....

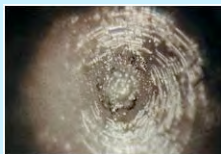
The results were totally mind-blowing. Here's a photo of ordinary water without any prayer spoken over it. The molecular structure is in disarray.



The photo below is water after the prayer was said. It's simply breathtaking. (I now have a great respect for praying before meals! More on this later.)



Dr.Emoto also exposed water to Heavy Metal music. Here's how it looks like. Looks sad if you ask me.



Here's water exposed to classical music. Looks much better, right?



Next, Dr. Emoto stuck a piece of paper with these words: "You make me sick. I will kill you." Here's how the frozen water droplets looks like under the microscope...



Below is how water looked like with the words "Love" over it. The difference is amazing.



-----<  
This is Polluted water...

This is water from Lourdes, France. Utterly beautiful, right?



## Wait A Minute... Aren't You Made Up Of Water?

**Yes! 72% of your body is made up of water. Imagine how your words affect your own body.**

When you say, "I'm a failure," or "I'm hopeless," or "I won't get well," imagine how these words weaken your health.

Make a choice to say the best words out there. Say often, "I'm wonderful," and "I'm beautiful," and "I'm God's child," and "God has a great plan for my life!"

## It's not only water.....

Dr. Emoto also experimented with cooked rice.

He placed one cup of cooked rice in two airtight jars. On one jar, he wrote, "I love you," and on the other, "You fool." Everyday for 30 days, Dr. Emoto would say these words to each jar of rice.

After 30 days, the "I love you" rice was still white. But the "You fool" rice was so rotten, it was black. How can you explain this

Just as a side note: When I was a child, my mother taught me to pray before meals. Now I realize it wasn't just a nice thing to do. When I pray over my meal, I know a material transformation takes place in the molecular level of the food that I pray for. I say, "Be blessed," to the water and food on the table—and I expect it to be blessed.

## Can Water Read Or Listen To Words?

### Yes and No.

Let me explain this in the simplest way I can. I'm taking a deep breath now, because I can't believe I'm going to do this: I'm going to give a mini-lecture on Physics. Me, the guy who got a D in all my science subjects!

Do you remember Albert Einstein? My friend Albert said that everything is energy.

Remember his formula  $E=mc^2$ ?

Well, he believed that energy and matter are interchangeable. Because in a subatomic level, the most solid matter you can think of, like a table or a rock (or my biceps) isn't really solid at all. Everything is a sea of vibrating energy. Ever changing, ever moving, at the speed of light. Thus, in a mind-boggling way, there's really no difference between a thing and a thought. All is energy.

Because of this, everything is interconnected. We're all inside this ocean of fluid energy. That means my thoughts and words can really affect the entire material universe.

Amazing? You bet. When you start speaking like this, people automatically think this is New Age and reject it. Not necessarily. What I gave you are reflections based on the Theory of Relativity and Quantum Physics. (Note: From a scientific perspective, I probably will get an F with my explanation above. I apologize to all the scientists out there.)

Friend, use your words to create your desired destiny. Speak Words of Faith. Believe that your words affect your universe.

<http://bosanchez.ph/remove-the-lies-in-your-mind/>

### Top secret report from the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries - Contributed by Gila Allen

**Bio-fuelled engine to replace conventional tractors!** Our scientists have developed a model running on Grass, silage, hay, oats, dry bread, carrots and apple cores.

**Advantages** Excellent on rugged terrain and steep slopes; never overturns

- Upon decommissioning, engine is edible, provides stuffing for gaskets and mattresses, plus leather.
- Produces fertilizer
- 2 intact engines, coming together in a process known as copulation produce a new model. Development takes 11 months and the 2 years to mature.
- Provides heat for human accommodation above garaging space.

### Disadvantages

- Maintenance; 7 days a week, year in year out; grooming, oiling hooves, mucking out, feeding, watering exercising.
- To be kept in clean, dry, draught-proof shelter with suitable bedding.
- Liable to kick, bite, step on foot, squash operator against a wall.
- Can spook and bolt.





## Christine Mackenzie Exhibition Plans

We have been greatly enjoying the late Christine Mackenzie's pictures, hanging in our worship room. GUC is helping to store them as her daughter Kathryn and friends prepare for an exhibition of her mother's work in may

2010. The venue is

Scotland Street School. All proceeds will go to the Eve Appeal (ovarian cancer charity) More details will follow in April's issue of News & Views. Christine was a much loved / missed member of GUC.

Lyanne Mitchell

## Brigid's Fountain

Weeping for the love of Brigid,  
my tears filled the fountain.

The milky water rose,  
and from the centre of the pool  
the lady's blessings rippled outward.

Anahita of the Celtic lands,  
Guan Yin of this Enchanted Isle...  
She came to me.

Bubbling up from the Earth,  
her laughter lifted me.  
Dancing 'round the circle,  
her bright flames embraced me.  
Singing sweetly in the night,  
she whispered my name.

Minerva of the Oaken Grove,  
White Buffalo Woman is here...  
She stays with me.

The milky waters rise,  
and from the centre of the pool  
the lady throws out her mantle-net.

Sleeping in the arms of Brigid,  
my dreams fill the fountain.

© Linda Haggerstone (Imbolc, 2010)

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## Breakthrough Breast Cancer

Some weeks ago, Barbara Clifford devoted the Sunday coffee money to this worthwhile charity, dedicated to fighting breast cancer through research, campaigning and education. Here is part of their answering letter.

*"Thank you so much for your recent donation of £30... We'll be putting your donation to work immediately, and we wanted you to know that your fund-raising could pay for 3 specialised gels that are needed to examine proteins during experiments, yielding insights into the causes of breast cancer; a vital resource in our Research Centre and Units."*