

the McDONALD family

SCOTTISH MISSION NEWS: CUMBERNAULD - AUGUST 2014



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✕ Perth – The Work Begins ✕

With A Little Help from Our Friends

CUMBERNAULD & BUFORD AT WORK

At the very beginning of June we had a three-day campaign in Scotland's fair city. Members from Buford, GA came across with their youth group and we hit the streets and parks talking to people and getting contacts.

We had café Bible studies, street surveys and in the evenings we ran a youth event in the local park. We made some good contacts and have been in touch with people

that we met. In the café study, we were approached by Annette Ferguson who is a member of the church but as there is no church in Perth, she hadn't attended worship in many years. She is very excited about the prospect of the church being planted there.

Our friends from Buford were a great help to us and we had an encouraging time together. Plans are already afoot for another campaign in 2015. In the meantime, we begin a weekly outreach later this month.



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Website Down

Our website went down a few months ago. I am in the process of repairing it and hope to have it up and running again in the next few weeks. More information later.

Camp Heatherbell



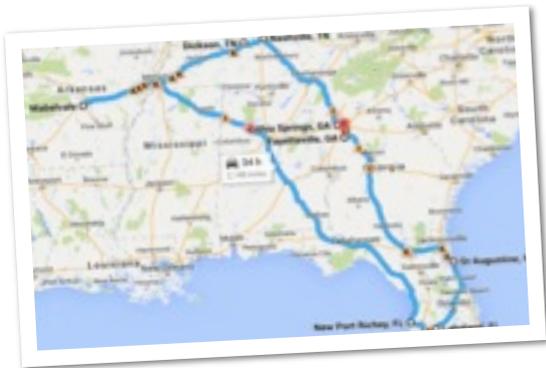
Camp was the very first week of the school holidays this summer. The theme this year was “Jesus - The Real Thing”. We had a great week despite our numbers being lower than usual. Our oldest staff member this year was Alex Strachan from Peterhead, an octogenarian. Alex

is Jack’s brother-in-law and his wife passed away earlier this year. Camp is a place where everyone feels younger.

Our young adults did a tremendous job organising the various activities and at the end of the week we had another great talent show. Kids have a wonderful imagination. Next year’s camp will be in a different location as we return the venue we used many years ago.

Seven Weeks to America

On September 22nd I fly out to Atlanta. As well as visiting supporters, I have several other missions to do. Firstly, I am raising a new work fund. I’ve never



had one since I began preaching 23 years ago. With the new effort in Perth (50 miles away) and other projects needing finished, I have little option to raise a work fund otherwise I can’t afford to do much there. Secondly, I need to promote the need for a family to commit to moving to Perth to help plant the work there. Scott will move there in 2015 provided we can get a team involved with him. If you are interested or know anyone who would be, please let me know. Finally, I’ll be using my time there to promote the APT program and all that goes with it. It’ll be a busy six weeks and I hope to see as many of you as I can while I am there.

Preaching in August

Next week, I fly to Northern Ireland to preach for the Westway congregation in Belfast. I spoke there last year for their spring mission. My theme for the week is “And then the Judgment”. I haven’t done too many gospel meetings over the years so it is a challenging time for me getting the lessons together but it will be a thoroughly encouraging time for me, and hopefully the others too. Then, at the end of August, I will preach in Aberdeen for the youth weekend event there. Again, I haven’t preached at too many youth weekends but I have spoken there before and I am looking forward to it. Please keep me and these events in your prayers.

From Beth

Good day to all of you.

Where does all the time go? There is less than half of this year left. Yikes! It really hits home when you put it like that.

The kids are having a blast, what with it being the summer holidays and that we have been having wee heat waves off and on. I on the other hand am running around like a headless chicken nonetheless. Still got bits and pieces to get for the kids uniforms and loads of last minute errands to run. Joshua is getting ready to go into 5th year (11th grade). Hopefully he will stay on till 12th grade: time will tell. He may end up in college after this year. It's hard looking at him and thinking that he is almost an adult now.

Both the girls are doing great. Megan has started going to a drama school on a Saturday now. It has really helped with her confidence. The world is her oyster. Bethany has been busy with the young carers group that she is in. She is just back from a few days camping at the Fringe festival. She finds it so easy to make new friends. I'm so happy for her.

Elijah just seems to go with the flow at the moment. At this time in his life he can relax a little before the pressures of life start to bog him down. He is such a funny character.

The summer months are always our busiest time of the year. Camp Heatherbell went great this year again. The kids always come back home



buzzing from the activities at camp.

Then we had our H.B.C. Some days were better than others but all involved had a blast. The group from St. Augustine was well and truly run round Scotland. I'm sure they took great memories back to the States (as well as photos) to share with everyone back home.

We have had our picnic day in Perth last month which was a glorious day. We are hoping for the same great weather this Saturday when

we have our next picnic in Perth.

For a few weeks now I've had a bit of bother with my eyes. Things are looking up as they say. With daily drops in my eye it is hoped that things will settle down soon. Prayers are most welcome :)

Next week Graham heads off to Belfast to preach for their gospel meetings. I can't go with him this time as the kids return back to school during the same time. Maybe next time I will get the chance to go with him again. I hope he doesn't tire himself out too much. He won't have much of a rest when he gets back home before he heads off to Aberdeen with the youth for the youth weekend. He definitely will come back from that trip tired. So glad the girls sleep in homes.

Well, take care all of you and have a safe and eventful time, until we speak again.

God bless

Beth xx

Getting some pictures in Oban



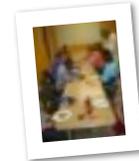
Steve looks fondly at his ancestral home, Mull



Working at the HBC



Craft time!



Holiday Bible Club (aka VBS)

Steve and Gayle Greene led a group from St. Augustine, FL to work with us during our annual HBC. The groups has done several VBS events in Central and South America but most had never been to Scotland before. Our surprise heat wave made them feel as though they hadn't let Florida. A number of young people attended the HBC and in the afternoons we organised a

youth event in a nearby park where we got to know some new kids from that community. We had a good week with Mike Glover from Birmingham, England preaching. Mike is from Scotland but has worked there for several years. Our meetings were well supported at night and Mike did an excellent job preaching.

At the end of the week, we had the opportunity to spend a

couple of days travelling through the Highlands. The excellent weather made it a wonderful spectacle and spending time together was a great blessing.

Next year, members from Huntsville, AL will work with us and we have some new ideas for outreach.

AUG 9 Perth Picnic Fellowship	AUG 16-21 Belfast Gospel Meeting	AUG 19 Kid's Bible Classes Start	AUG 29-31 Aberdeen Youth Weekend	SEP 22 Leave for America
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APT

The Applied Preacher Training program has reached the end of its first year. The studies have proven more challenging than Scott has expected but he is almost back on track. He has just returned from a trip to the Philippines and later this month visits America for five weeks for the next phase of his raining at lectureships and internships there.

Eldership

We continue our efforts to install an eldership in the congregation. The men will meet again this Sunday to discuss the next stage. Nominations have been made and the next stage will be giving the congregation the opportunity to make any objections to the nominations. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we approach the end of the process.



Getting ready to start...



Promoting the HBC with our banner



Teen class @ HBC



The Gospel Meeting

News from Home

Quite a few members have ongoing health problems. Jack Strachan has significant problems with his kidneys, liver, shoulder and blood. He was recently diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver caused by his diet. He's never had a drink in his life but Scots often have a fatty diet and that has damaged his liver. There are some medical options that will be tried but if unsuccessful, he'll be placed on the liver transplant list. He is to have surgery on his shoulder in which he tore the ligaments and he has kidney stones. Apart from all that, he's fine. My mother-in-law, Janet, has had shoulder trouble and cataracts. Several members have eye problems just now, either cataracts or glaucoma. Beth has an inflamed eye for which she is receiving treatment. On a more positive note, I have made a full recovery. The surgeon is so impressed he has suggested various diet tips because I will live my expected 70-80 years and as I am at risk now of malabsorption I should start taking supplements. Sadly, most of his patients seldom have the kind of success I have experienced.

Our kids are doing well. The school holidays have kept them under our feet since the end of June but they return to school in 10 days. Joshua enters his penultimate year at school which is merging with another high school. He looks very smart in his new uniform. Megan and Bethany have had a busy summer. Megan has begun attending an acting academy as she prepares for her future (she hopes) in media production. Bethany has been busy with the Youth Action charity who took her camping and with whom she has been attending various courses. Elijah is in love...again. He met a girl at camp and they phone each other. Hard to believe my 11-year old son is "in a relationship", LOL. All I knew about girls at that age was that they were rubbish at soccer. Changed days indeed.

Thank you again for your continued support of our work in Cumbernauld and Scotland. We thank God always for you. God bless you. Keep the faith.

In Him,

Graham, Elizabeth, Joshua, Megan, Bethany & Elijah

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