

Govan and Linthouse Parish Church Magazine



THE BEST GIFTS YOU CAN GIVE THIS
CHRISTMAS ARE:

Your attention,
your kindness,
your time and
your love!

Jesus is the Reason for the Season

December
2019

Dear Friends

Christmas is nearly upon us, and the already the shops are full of activity with shoppers hunting for that perfect gift.

Very soon you will begin a search for your new minister. The Presbytery of Glasgow will at their December meeting return the right to call to Govan and Linthouse Parish Church. This will enable the vacancy procedures to begin, and so I would ask you to listen for a series of announcements, the first being the formation of the electoral register. This is different to the church roll, and to take part in the congregational meetings regarding the vacancy then your name needs to be on the electoral roll. To be on the electoral roll you need to be a member of the congregation or an adherent, someone who regularly attends Sunday worship.

Searching for a new minister is not unlike Christmas shopping. We go out full of expectation, we can get caught up in the atmosphere of the season, and we need to remember that a minister is just not for Christmas, a minister is someone who will give a spiritual lead to both the congregation and the community. Those who meet and interview applicants for the post, must themselves be committed to the task, and have a thought not just to their own needs and likes, but think on behalf of the whole congregation.

On saying all this, there still no decision as to when I will leave you. I will be with you as you form the Nominating Committee, the group of people who will select the new minister, and I will give you good notice as when I might be leaving. My role has been to travel with you as you grieved the loss of Moyna, and to give the congregation a sense of stability as work progressed within the Govan Cross building.

It would be important to say that there are still tasks to be done. We will get the keys to a new manse at the end of November. We will hold an open afternoon after Christmas to let you see it. We are presently preparing the legal work to allow the Linthouse building to go on sale, and we have to consider what the next stages are needed for the repair and upkeep of the building. Work continues as ever, and I look forward to continuing to be your minister meantime.

I am pleased to be able to fully introduce our new ministry team. As you will be aware Jamie Goodwin returned to us in a new role of Arts and Worship Development Worker. We welcomed Ann Lyall as our new Pastoral Development Worker, and Gillian McIlreavy will move fully to her new role as Community Co-ordinator by the end of the year. The team at Govan and Linthouse is though far bigger than that. I am forever grateful to the work done by Elspeth Millen as Session Clerk, Catherine Muir our organist, Frank Brown our Treasurer and our elders and office-bearers who carry the load of church oversight, and with that many, many others who day-to-day and week-to-week work away quietly in the background in our many groups and organisations.

Christmas is a time when traditionally the family gather, and it is the same with the church. Despite all our activities, we set time aside to celebrate together the worship of Christ child Jesus, our living Saviour and Lord. In a world that seems to be forever changing, we celebrate Jesus, as the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. Christmas allows us to enter the Bethlehem stable once again, and gaze with wonder at the love God has shown us. Do come along to our special Christmas services (details within the magazine), and gain a sense of the love that God has for you. His love is not just for Christmas, but for all times, and all seasons.

So, I wish every blessing this Christmas season. No matter how you spend it, may the joy and the love of Christmas be with you.

With every blessing *Eleanor*



GUESS WHO'S BACK?

AFTER TRAVELS FAR AND WIDE JAMIE RETURNS WITH HIS FIRST MAGAZINE ARTICLE AS ARTS AND WORSHIP DEVELOPMENT WORKER

GOVAN LOVES CHRISTMAS Wednesday 4th December

It's almost that time of year when all of Govan comes together to celebrate Christmas in an unforgettable event.

And although we will not be transforming the Church into Narnia this year, there are still lots of events that will take place including face painting, balloon making, Christmas films and more to be announced.

If you would like to be involved as a host on the day representing Govan & Linthouse Parish, please speak to Jamie Goodwin for more information.



They say that time flies when you are having fun, and that is certainly true when working with Govan & Linthouse Parish. The past three months have been full of joy and laughter as well as working to prepare us for the next steps on our journey together. It has been wonderful to get to know old friends and colleagues at regular activities, as well as welcoming those new among us.

November held a strong focus on Remembrance with my work in God's Gang, resulting in an excellent and moving film addition to our memorial service. I would like to give special thanks to Gemma, Kyle, James and Awande for their amazing

ideas and contribution during the weeks leading up to Remembrance Sunday. I would also like to thank our readers Grant, Thomas and Stanley who shared our letters from the front. Special thanks also goes to you, the congregation, for allowing God's Gang the space, opportunity and creative license to participate in a way of their choosing.

Looking ahead December will also be filled with much joy, laughter and busyness! Both Govan Loves Christmas and The Govan Baby Pantomime are featuring heavily alongside our normal Church activities. I look forward to sharing in this time with you all and to what creative opportunities may lie ahead.

Jamie Goodwin

Hello from Ann

It is just over 4 weeks since I arrived in Govan and Linthouse and I already feel very much at home. Thank you for your warm welcome and your patience when I forget your name.

Thank you too, to all those who helped make my Service of Introduction such a special occasion. All those who came from other places enjoyed their evening, the welcome and the wonderful tea.

I come to you having been an Interim Deacon for the last 10 years working in 5 different places across Scotland. Before that I worked as Homeless Chaplain at the Lodging House Mission and before that I was a Deaconess in Castlemilk – so it is lovely for me to be back in Glasgow.

I'm looking forward to sharing this next part in the journey of Govan and Linthouse as we develop the worship, outreach and pastoral care of the congregation. I'm looking forward to working with Eleanor, Gillian, Jamie and all of you. I believe these are exciting times and I'm glad to be able to share them with you. God Bless - Ann

The Guild

It's now into November, cold nights, shorter days and Christmas isn't far away. The Guild restarted on Monday 7th October with a meeting and chat about what had been happening to us all throughout the summer. On our next meeting we were enthralled by Elsie's South American Adventure and we are looking forward to the second half at some future time. As our speaker for the next night was unable to come and we were so grateful to Eleanor for sharing with us her experience whilst a chaplain to the Moderator and the fun it was. We have had our Halloween party with dressing up (judging the best dressed member of course), pass the parcel, we doked for apples and rounded it off with our 'Bring and Buy' sale.

We will soon be hearing about 'The Green Turtle' which I'm sure will help us on our ECO adventure. We will have an evening learning about Central station. Helen Adams will then be with us to share her many stories. At the end of November, we will enjoy a Scottish night.

December 2nd will be our Christmas Dinner followed by Carols and mince pies on the 9th December, so much to look forward to and enjoy.

This year Guild week was brought forward from November to September so this meant that the Guild service was also brought forward and I thank you all for attending and participating. This service is also used to rededicate ourselves to Church and to God. I want to thank all those who assisted me and made this time so meaningful.

Going back to the beginning of September our usual four made their way to the Annual Gathering in Dundee. We had an excellent day of worship singing and listening and our journey there and back went very smoothly.

As usual my invitation to anyone who feels like joining the Guild to come along and give it a go, you will be very welcome.

My Prayers and Blessings to you all

Elspeth

God's Gang

This session the children have been busy in the Church. Bible readings on a Sunday. Helping set up table and chairs for the Guild after the service. Plus, our lessons - harvest, God's love never changes, 'build up one another' and origami crosses.

The highlight for the older children was making a video, with Jamie, for the Remembrance Service. They loved doing this and I hope you enjoyed it too. The younger children made poppies and read letters from soldiers sent during war time. Grant and Thomas also did a reading at the Cenotaph Service. All the children did very well and should be pleased with their part in the services.

The next big thing for the children will be our Nativity Service on Sunday 15th December. We are sure that this will be an enjoyable experience for all! Join us and start your Christmas celebrations with the children of the Church.

All the children would like to wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas xxx



Happy Christmas



Billy, Skye and I would like to wish you and your family a

Happy Christmas

and

a healthy & peaceful 2020 xxx

Karen Stevely - Donation to refurbishment fund -

Hi All,

We have had a successful start to the new session.

4 medals were won at the Partick District Sports Night on Monday 23rd September 2019. Kayden McIntyre won silver in the 60M and 200M events for the Primary 5's and Reilly McIntyre won Gold in the 60M and Silver in the 200M for the P7-S1 events. Other members managed to get into the finals but were placed just outside the medals.

We also took part in the Partick District 5 aside football competition at Scotstoun on Monday 7th October 2019 and enjoyed the chance to play as a team, unfortunately we finished just outside of the top 4.

We have started some of the new badge work and are looking forward to other District and Battalion events over the next couple of months including the Panto in December and the Sports Night in January at the Emirates Arena.

As we have only 1 Anchor Section member at the moment we have changed the times for both sections and are now meeting as a company from 6.30-8.30pm on a Friday Night, in the small hall at the Linthouse Building, Skipness Drive.

Thanks again for your continued support and we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

Marion MacKinnon
Captain 119th company



Back row Kayden McIntyre, Reilly McIntyre, Oscar Martin,
front Farrach McIntyre, Rudy McKie and Shaun Nesbitt.

34th Glasgow Girls' Brigade



Since starting back in September, we have been working on our badge work. One area we have focussed on so far is taking care of our bodies. Each girl has been given a toiletry bag and depending on what we are learning about they receive an item that will help them to look after their skin, hair or nails. So far, they have received a nail brush, facecloth, hairbrush, shampoo, toothbrush and toothpaste. This is a very popular part of our evening. We have also been doing lots of lovely crafts including making Paper Mache hot air balloons, bible study, keep fit and dancing. You can keep up with what we do on our company Facebook page where we post what we get up to on a Wednesday evening!

Our annual work for Blythswood Care has resulted in 220 filled shoeboxes being sent from our company to those in need. A big thankyou to everyone who helped in any way to reach this great total. We really appreciate all donations. A **big** thank you also to Karen Stevely for coordinating the appeal.

On Saturday 30th November we will be having our Christmas Fayre between 11.00am and 3.00pm in the Church halls. This is our main fundraiser of the year. We would appreciate it if you could come along and support us on this day. Every year the Company pay capitation fees to Girls' Brigade Headquarters for all members. This year it will be £28.80 per member.

On Wednesday 4th December after the Govan Loves Christmas lights being lit, we will be going into the Church to watch a Christmas film. On Wednesday 11th December we are going to the "Santa Experience" at Intu, Braehead. We really are looking forward to this. We will be finishing on 11th December restarting Wednesday 8th January 2020.

We wish the congregation a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Sandra MacDonald

Shoebox Appeal

We would like to thank everyone who donated to the Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal. There is no way we could do this without your support. We received so many donations and money which allowed us to buy items we needed to fill the boxes.

We are delighted to say we donated 220 boxes, additional items to fill other boxes and a substantial monetary donation to help with transport costs.

220 extra smiles this Christmas – thank you!

Karen Stevely, 34th Glasgow Girls' Brigade

Family Film Nights, Messy Mondays, Scripture Fun, The Meeting Place & The Catch Up Group

Well it's been a busy old time for me! The Summer and Autumn went by with a woosh and now we are up to our necks in Christmas preparations and busyness.

Our Free Family Film Nights have been a great success so far and the good news is...we are having more! We will be showing a film on Thursday 28th November and we will be having a special Christmas movie on Wednesday 4th December after Govan Loves Christmas between 6-8pm. If you haven't managed to pop along yet then, please do, and spread the word. After the New Year we will be getting more dates in but so far the last Thursday of each month between 6-8pm have been our time slot and I think that will continue.

All our groups have been running well however numbers have been dropping off for Messy Mondays, so we will look at that come the new year and see what we can do to build it back up again; or indeed change it to something that suits better.

We finally managed to get a space for Scripture Fun to start back. The school now have so many pupils that they are using the gym hall for packed lunches at lunchtime. We have been allocated a classroom which changes the dynamics and structure but so far it's gone well and the children have adapted quickly.

The Meeting Place is going from strength to strength and we managed a lunch out to Dobbies Garden Centre where everyone had fun, even Alfie the dog 😊. We have our Christmas lunch planned for Thursday the 5th December and all are looking forward to that.

We have had a few 'Catch Up's' and the families seem to enjoy it. We simply meet together and have some lunch and a chat...a time to catch up and to breathe...thank you to all who help out at each of our groups and events, we couldn't do it without you.

I would also like to say how wonderful it is to have a full team in place! It feels like Jamie never left and has just been on an extended holiday and it's great getting to know Ann. Thank you to each and everyone of you who support us in a variety of ways...the most important being your prayers and hugs.

Best wishes, Gillian



Art Group

We are looking to start an art group up in the New Year based on some interest we have had. If this is something you would be interested in then please speak to Fiona Chisholm (Fi) for more information. There will be a chat about it on Sunday 24th November after the service.

Hogmanay Ceilidh

The Hogmanay Ceilidh tickets will be on sale in December from Sandra MacDonald and Karen Stevely. This will be an evening of dancing, singing, quizzes, food and friendship.

Numbers are limited so please get your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

The event starts from 7.30pm in the church hall at Govan Cross.

Christmas Hamper

This year we are selling tickets for a Christmas Hamper. All money raised will go to the Renovation Fund. This year there will be numerous prizes including a Christmas Hamper and vouchers.

If you are able to sell tickets to friends and family please speak to me, tickets will be £1 each and will be available from mid November.

Get Well Soon

A wee note to all our church family who are feeling under the weather and haven't been able to make church. We are thinking of you and you are in our prayers.

If you know if someone is unwell and in need of a visit then please let us know.

Members Deaths

It's with a heavy heart that we announce the deaths of the following members of our church family:

Isobel Easton

Winnie McAlpine

Jack Haggerty

*those we love
don't go away
they walk
beside us
every day
unseen, unheard
but always near
still loved,
still missed
and very dear.*

DECEMBER SERVICES 2019



Govan and
Linthouse Parish
Church



1st 11am - Songs of
Praise Service

4th 6-8pm - Christmas
Film Night (after Govan
Loves Christmas)

15th 11am - The Nativity
Service

22nd 11am - Christingle
Service

24th 6-7pm - Christmas
Eve Family Service

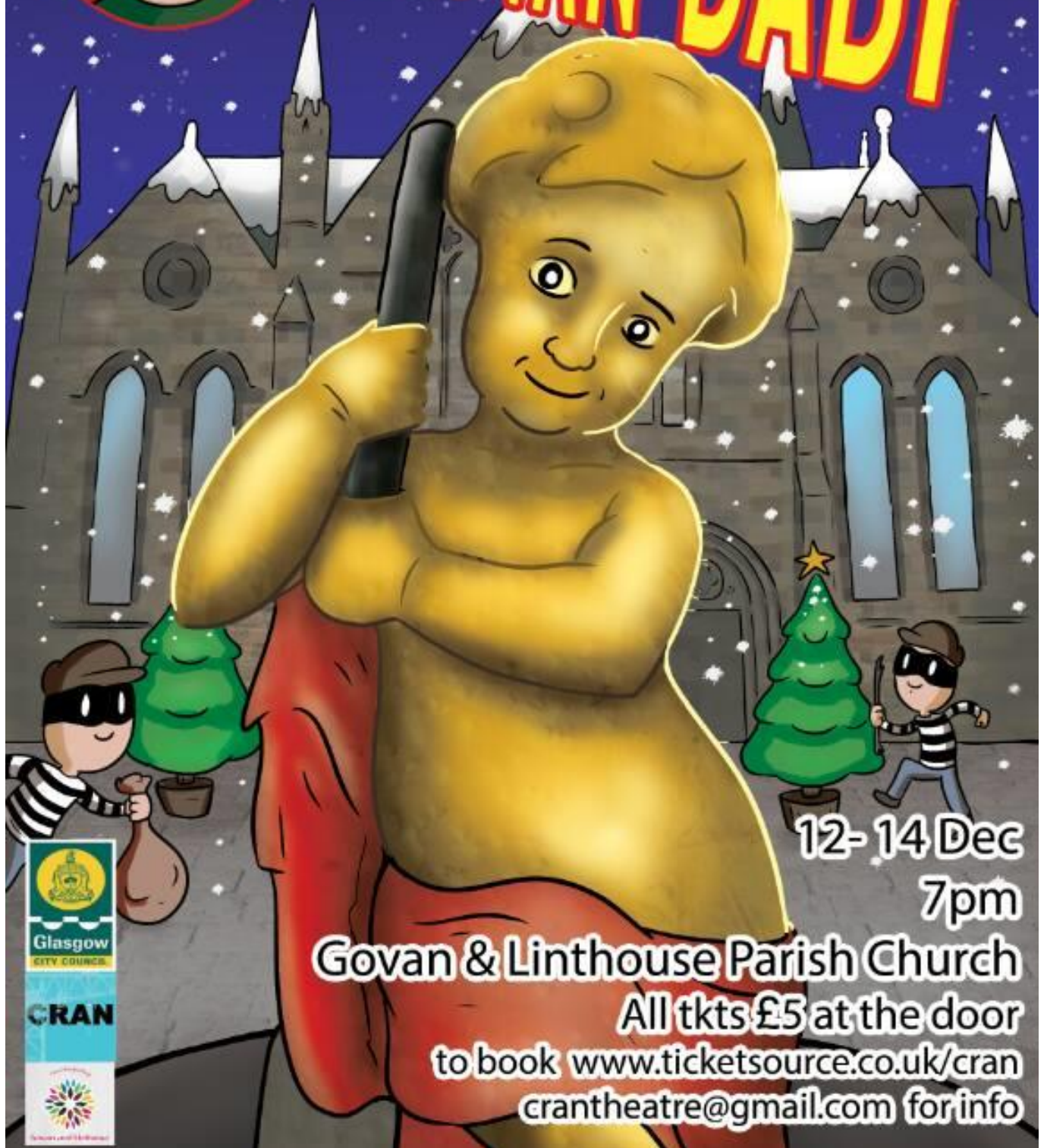
24th 11.15-Midnight -
Watchnight Service

25th 11-11.30am -
Family Christmas
Service

29th 9.45-10.15am -
Govan Old Communion



WIDOW WATT & THE MYSTERY OF THE GOVAN BABY



12- 14 Dec
7pm

Govan & Linthouse Parish Church

All tkts £5 at the door

to book www.ticketsource.co.uk/cran

crantheatre@gmail.com for info



CRAN



Opening Doors to a brighter future for Glasgow's Homeless

Frank Brown (Treasurer)
Govan and Linthouse Parish Church
796 Govan Road
Glasgow
G51 2YL

11th October 2019

Dear Frank

Heartfelt Thanks from the Lodging House Mission

I am writing to acknowledge and thank your congregation at Govan and Linthouse Parish Church for their generous Harvest donations delivered to assist us in our work with homeless, vulnerable and socially excluded persons at the Lodging House Mission here in Glasgow. We also note with appreciation your generous donation of £195 towards the provision of much needed fresh produce.

The continued provision of free breakfast and lunch meals to the homeless and needy at our Day Centre in East Campbell Street is largely dependent upon our food-store being annually replenished at Harvest-time and we are grateful beyond words that you have chosen to bless us with your harvest gifts. Be assured that every item donated will enable us to continue to provide hot meals throughout the coming winter months.

At LHM, we seek to make a positive difference to the lives of those we support, who are often living chaotic lives with multiple complex support needs. The provision of vital sustenance 7 days a week, by way of healthy breakfasts and lunches, is often the gateway to extending Christian companionship, care and compassion and supporting individual guests by providing other assistance, including housing and benefits advice as well as addiction and mental health support. Our Day Centre offers shelter to between 90-120 individuals daily who know they will not be judged and can always find a friendly word.

We are very aware that we can only carry out the work we do at LHM thanks to the generosity of supporting churches such as your own. We are always keen that our gratitude, especially at harvest-time, is cascaded down to the generous folks in your congregation.

We wonder whether we might ask you this year to affix our enclosed Certificate of Appreciation in some suitably prominent spot within your church premises where it might be seen by those who generously contributed to your harvest gifts. On behalf of everyone at LHM, please accept our heartfelt thanks for your loyal support.

May God bless you as you have blessed the least of these brothers and sisters of Christ.
(Matthew 25:40)

Yours Sincerely

Claire
Claire Herbert
Chaplain

Enclosed: Harvest Certificate of Appreciation



35 East Campbell Street,
Glasgow G1 5DT
t: 0141 552 0285
e: enquiries@lhm-glasgow.org.uk
www.lhmglasgow.org.uk



Certificate of Appreciation 2019



Presented to

The congregation of
Govan and Linthouse Parish Church

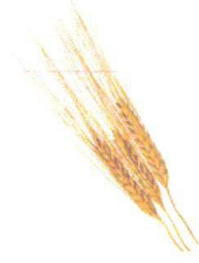
in gratitude for your Harvest Donations and faithful support of the
work of The Lodging House Mission

*The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their
food with the poor*

Proverbs 22:9



Lodging House Mission



Pride as restored Roll of Honour remembers forgotten soldiers

BY HEATHER CARRICK

GOVAN has been celebrating a restored First World War Roll of Honour which has been placed in Govan War Memorial as part of an ongoing restoration project.

The new Roll of Honour was completed by Vice Chair of Govan Reminiscence Group, Colin Quigley, who was dismayed at finding the original 1922 document water damaged and unreadable.

He said: "When we did get to it, it was pretty disappointing that it was so damaged.

"You couldn't read any names at all, it was just mush."

Colin painstakingly re-created the document, which lists all the names of Govan soldiers who died during the war from a copy found 200 miles away in Skye.

"When the woman got in contact, I couldn't believe my luck. I was dancing around the living room like a kid on Christmas!"

The restoration has been carried out by Govan Cross Townscape Heritage Initiative, with project



Colin Quigley places the new Roll of Honour. Cathy MacLeod, left, holds the capsule. Pictures: Mark Gilbeon

officer Bryony Robinson describing the event as "very poignant".

She said: "A lot of people have come out today and it shows you how it brings everyone together."

Cathy MacLeod, 81 and a local

church parish member who attended the re-burial ceremony,

said: "There will be people asking why we've come down to stand in the cold but it's no sacrifice to those soldiers who stood in the trenches."

Colin was over the moon at the completion saying: "It's special to see that we now have something for soldiers that were local. It sends a message that these men were born in Govan and belonged."

First for news, sport, what's on and comment

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For more information on our church and activities please visit our website at:
www.govanlinthouseparish.org
or our social media @govanlinthousep