

NEW YEAR! **NEW BEGINNINGS!**

Here we are at the start of another year, and already there are signs that 2012 is going to be a year of NEW BEGINNINGS in Polmont Old.

TWINSPIRE



After more than 40 years of being involved in the production of *Twinspire* and its predecessor the *Polmont Parish Magazine*, Bill Smart has decided to retire from his position as editor of *Twinspire*.

In his time, Bill has experienced many advances in technology - from typewriter to computer keyboard, from a Banda copier machine to Risograph to photocopier. He organised the collation of the magazines with precision, but even that has advanced – what used to take about 6 or 8 people 2 hours to collate is now all done by the photocopier, plus a little bit of stapling help from someone.

I am sure you all want to join me in thanking Bill for his many years of contributing to what I hope is nowadays an informative and entertaining form of communication for our members.

WEBSITE

In 2007, it was suggested that Polmont Old should move into the 21st century by having its own website. For this we have to thank Iain Morrison, who took our ideas onboard, designed and developed the website we have today. Iain said he would assist us for the first year, and here we are almost 5 years later, and Iain is still our Webmaster!! – that is, until earlier this month, when he decided to step back from the everyday control and hand over the reins to Jamie Lockhart. Iain will remain as advisor, but we wish to extend out grateful thanks to Iain for all the time and effort he put into this task in his unique creative way.



CONGREGATIONAL BOARD

Martyn Richards decided to step down as Clerk to the Congregational Board at the end of the year and we are delighted Andrew Fernie has agreed to take on this task. Many thanks to Richard for bringing to the job his skills and expertise – we are extremely grateful for the time he gave to this at times demanding job.

TWINNING

At the end of 2011 Polmont Old entered into a Twinning Agreement with Highlands Church in Harare, Zimbabwe - something completely new for both churches. It is hoped that this twinning will bring about a greater understanding of life in both our countries / churches for the members of the congregations.

THEME FOR 2012

As we enter a New Year the *Twinspire* Committee has met and drawn up its plans for the 6 editions due to be published during 2012. Our theme throughout the year will be the *Church at Home and Abroad*, to reflect the ongoing work here and overseas;



eg. At Home:

- in our own Church community with the popular Messy Church services, the development of our House Church Groups, the continued success of the Lunch Bunch – to name just a few.
- in the wider Polmont Community, where we are involved in the Story Club at St Margaret's Primary School, the services held at the local Care Homes, and the links we have with other local organisations such as Rotary etc.

eg. Abroad:

- our new Twinning links with Highlands Church
- our Mission projects in Bangladesh and Zimbabwe
- our support of children through Action Aid and World Vision
- the Fellowship's support of two of the Church of Scotland's Guild projects
- hosting the World Day of Prayer in Polmont Old

In this edition we are concentrating on two themes – House Church Groups and Mission - though no doubt these will continue to feature in future editions.

I hope you will continue to enjoy reading *Twinspire* under your new editor – please give me some feedback, to let the committee know that we are on the right track.

Sandra Reid
Editor



From the Editor