Shettleston New Church, a union of Eastbank and Carntyne Old churches since 2007, has been a place for worship for over 100 years and a landmark in the community, but it is also a place with more on the inside than the outside...

Prior to the building of the church Shettleston was a quiet village with whitewashed cottages and open farmland. Towards the end of the century the countryside began to fill up, and folks discussed the prospect of having their own church. In 1896 thirty-two people met in a school and were constituted as Shettleston United Presbyterian Church. A site on Old Shettleston Road was secured and the congregation commissioned Messrs Rowan and Smith to draw up plans for a church and a hall. However the cost was beyond the congregation so it was agreed to proceed with a hall initially. A Bazaar was held over three days in December 1902 to raise funds. It raised £2,500 and a memento of the Bazaar, a multi-signatured curtain, is still in the church today. By 1904 the congregation had succeeded in funding the new building and William G Rowan designed the striking Arts & Crafts church.

The building was renamed Eastbank Church of Scotland in 1929 and remained that until the union with Carntyne Old Church, in Wellshot Road, in 2007. The name Shettleston New Church of Scotland was chosen to reflect the area it served.

PEOPLE OF SHETTLESTON

Elizabeth Aitchison

“My grandmother, grandfather and their six children all lived in one room and kitchen in Annick Street. Members of the family have lived in this street for over 90 years. The picture of Aunt Nessie is at work in Hollands Mill in Fielding Street. She was born in 1899 and started work at 14. She never married and lived until she was 94.”

Harry Scally

Harry Scally’s grandfather, Robert Blythe, was a founder member of what was Eastbank Church. He had three daughters and Barbara married Harry’s father James Muir Scally. They were both members of this church. “We lived in a terrace house in Sandyhills where we had a garden and kept chickens. My Mother and her sisters were always knitting, sewing for the church. They had bring and buy sales and I could never understand why they did that as it would have been easier to just give a donation!”

David Armstrong

“Near the start of the 20th century, on the corner of Shettleston Road and Academy Street my Great grandfather George Ballantyne and wife Margaret Jamieson had a fruit and veg shop, complete with horse and cart. Nancy Ballantyne herself would go on to run her own shop and her brother Jack another one in Bridgeton.”