

The Herald

Castlehill Parish Church

Autumn 2010



Welcome to our autumn edition of The "Herald".

Rather than have one editor, making it an onerous task to seek items and set up and plan each issue, the job is now undertaken by the Publicity Committee. We can all share the work, share the praise and share the condemnation of our readers. We have to rely heavily on our Organisations to provide information on the various activities and also on you the readers to let us have input. We are sure you all have interesting experiences of your life in the Church and the events that took place and the folks that you have met. There may be some old photographs which we might be able to copy and publish. We want to know about them all.

Each issue we hope to have a "Where are they now" item on past assistant ministers, starting this time with Rev Ian Groves who left Castlehill in 1989.

Our thanks are due to all our present contributors and to our previous Editor for their invaluable input.

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Auxiliary Minister	Rev. Douglas T. Moore Tel : 01292 671352
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Hall Convenor	Robert Forrester Tel. 264482
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From the Manse



Go tell...in the Swiss Alps

As you'll read later in the newsletter, our Guides went on a special centenary trip to Switzerland. These trips were organised over two years ago, so I went with my former Guiding District in Greenock just a week later than the Castlehill group. Switzerland was quite simply breathtaking. A highlight of the trip, for me, was meeting Fritz, our landlord who also provided musical entertainment on the Alpine horn one evening. On chatting to him I discovered that he had been Salvation Army bandmaster for 40 years. He played for us, among other things, Amazing Grace and Go tell it on the mountain. The sound was beautiful and haunting and Fritz was a powerful witness for all who were present.

As I settle back into a new session's work at Castlehill, I have many mountain top moments to savour from my Swiss trip, memories that will sustain me as days get shorter and nights get longer. Not least of those is the memory of an elderly Swiss gentleman witnessing for his Lord in the Swiss Alps.

Whatever you got up to this summer, at home or away, I hope you found rest and refreshment and that you are ready to :

Go tell it on the mountains, over the hills and everywhere...that Jesus Christ is Lord.



Blessings

Liz Crumlish

Forthcoming Services

5th September
Communion Services - 11am and 6:30pm

26th September
Worship with West Jesmond Rhythm Kings

3rd October
Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Taize Worship

Monthly midweek worship brings the opportunity to spend some quiet, reflective time in the sanctuary. Taize services will resume at the end of September and continue through until the end of March. Services take place the last Wednesday of the month at 7pm.



CHURCH FABRIC

Over the past year a number of jobs have been carried out on the buildings a new roof for the sanctuary being the major project.

It never rains but it pours, if you will pardon the pun, with the problems we have had with the Bell Tower and the damage that has been caused by water ingress to the interior of the building. We currently have two prices for repair and three for demolition, as all avenues are being explored. A number of Builders and Surveyors have been to look at the structure but as earlier stated little response as regards pricing the repair. The status at the moment is that a specialised engineer appointed by the Trustees of the Church Of Scotland is coming to look at it but still no word of who and when this will occur but hopefully in the near future .

On a brighter note we would like to give our many thanks to all the volunteers who have given up their time for various tasks required to be carried out in and around the church the latest project being a clearance of the cellar below the kitchen and at the side of the North Hall it has saved us a lot of much needed funds.

ONCE AGAIN MANY THANKS TO YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT

CASTLEHILL CHURCH FABRIC COMMITTEE

FABRIC FUND APPEAL

Last year, around £10,000 was raised through the Fabric Fund Appeal envelopes issued to all members in September. This has helped greatly to offset ongoing general fabric repair bills. The Congregational Board has agreed that an appeal of this nature will be required annually to enable us to keep on top of fabric expenses. Your continued support and generosity is greatly appreciated.

... Coffee Club restarts Tuesday 7th September ...

Castlehill Church Social Group

We have to thank everyone who has supported our events so far and hope you will continue to do so in the future. We are having another **Beetle drive on 1st September** in the North Hall, pay at the door night. This has been arranged because so many people enjoyed the last night.

September 26th is our poor man's lunch after Church in the North Hall. Tickets will be on sale three weeks before.

We have the **Christmas Fayre on 27th November** and we hope everyone will support this as there should be something for everyone. Look out for updates on activities planned for the lead up to our Fayre. Notices will be in the information sheets on a Sunday morning.

...Bell Ringers resume practising Monday 6th September...

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Many thanks to all who continue to beautify our Church by their gift of flowers. To the team of arrangers and thereafter to the ladies who deliver them to members of our congregation. All of these are much appreciated by those concerned. We would however be glad of some extra helpers so if you feel able to offer to assist occasionally on the delivery team or by helping with a display we would be most grateful. Please do not be shy, help will be given – we all had to start at some time! At present we have a team of five arrangers to cover the year but an extra pair of hands would make a big difference. If you would be willing 'to have a go' please contact the Church Office or speak to me, Trudy McLeod, and I will be delighted to help



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A Short thought from Douglas Moore, Auxiliary Minister

Hello everyone, it's good to have this opportunity to speak to you. At this time of year we look forward to our new session with [hopefully] renewed vigour.

It's good to take time off from our usual routines and relax whether at home or on holiday. This summer has been a bit on the damp side to say the least. However, in the summer when it rains, the rain is a bit warmer than the usual offering we get. So, I suppose you could say that every cloud does have a silver lining!

One of the problems of going away on holiday is coming back. That first day back at work can be a bit daunting to say the least. I can remember one time going back to work from an enjoyable holiday, feeling less than enthusiastic. So much so that I thought my shoes were made of lead. I know that many of you will have experienced this feeling at some stage in your lives. However, when I got there and got into the business of the working day, I soon forgot my reluctance and got back into the routine. There can be times in our lives when we feel weary and perhaps a bit reluctant or apprehensive starting another session. Well, I'd like to share with you a passage from Isaiah. In chapter 40 verse 31 we read, "*But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.*"

We have a God who is so good to us. He has promised to help us and refresh and renew us when we find the going getting tough. The verse says that they will run and not grow weary, walk and not be faint. What a generous God we have!

My hope and prayer is that you will know God's loving hand in all you do this coming session, in whatever area you serve the church. Be open to try or do new things. Remember you can serve our God by praying for the town and its people if you can't get out and about as much as you would like. Prayer is such an important ministry – the powerhouse of all we do in God's name.

Many blessings

Douglas



... Boys Brigade BBQ and Enrolment 27th August ...

Castlehill Youth Church

We are blessed in Castlehill to have such a vibrant Youth Church. We have nearly 40 children and young adults who come along each week to enjoy fun and friendship with others of the same age. 5 new children started in the Busy Bees this year which is great news for the future of the Church. We had some new older children as well who were welcomed into their various groups.

We started off the new season with a Party. Alan Marshall entertained the children with songs and a puppet show based on the story of Joseph. A good time was had by all.

Christmas saw a party for the younger children and a visit to the bowling for everyone else. The highlight of the party was of course a visit from Santa, Oh to watch the expressions of wonder and delight on the little faces!!!

Through the year the children enjoy learning more about being a Christian through stories, craft and drama. They are all so enthusiastic and attend regularly each Sunday which is a reward in itself. And what can I say about the B.C's, we are all really proud of this group of older children and young adults. They are really good friends and have a great fun sharing time and experiences together. There is always a buzz of activity going on in their lounge.

We finished in June with a trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park. There were 30 young people and 20 adults in all and for the 5th year in a row [and a lot of prayers for good weather] we again had the most wonderful trip and yet another sunny day.



I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all the teachers who come along faithfully every week, preparing fun ways for the children to learn more about God. There would be no young people in our Church if it was not for them.

... Youth Church restarts Sunday 5th September...

Castlehill Bowling Club

President's Report :

It is heartening to note that the Club is continuing to be successful with membership up to 37, We welcome Dorothy McCormack and Ian McLeod to their first prize giving and also to Tom and Sandra McClure who have indicated they may join next year.

The outing in July to Girvan was also a success with members and guests totaling 46 in attendance. The winning rink was Sandra Wyllie, Jean Paterson and Harry Hunt. David Yates won the first toucher prize, and the least said about the booby prizewinners the better.

Again some of our members have had indifferent health through the year, with a variety of operations etc. but all have survived and returned to the Club for more punishment.

A highlight of the year was Pat Patterson's 90th birthday when he with us all enjoyed an impromptu party. It is also worth mentioning that it was Pat and Jean's diamond wedding on the 4th of April.

My thanks are due to Jim Roy for his support and despite Mary being in hospital and having some poor health he was able to assist in his role as Vice President.

Helen Lynch is also due our thanks for looking after our finances and my own thanks for being my calendar girl, reminding me of cards to send and anniversaries to remember.

Without the tea Conveners, Jean Hunt and Joan Macfie and their helpers, we would not have had all our teas and coffees and the spreads we enjoy at Christmas, and our A.G.M.

Special thanks to David Kerr and the carpet layers for their help, and to everyone who contributed to the Club's success over the past 6 months.

Thank you all for attending and completing all the ties in time, even though I kept on at you a bit.

The prize winners this year were as follows:

Gents Singles	Winner: W. Grierson Runner Up: Jim Roy
Ladies Singles (B.& B. Duncan Plate)	Winner: May Harris Runner Up: Isabella Kerr
Mixed Pairs (Ina Walker Trophy)	Winners: Alex Smith/Pearl Neil Runners Up: W. Grierson /Betty Taylor
Ladies Pairs (E.Grierson Quaich)	Winners: Elise Henderson/Sheila McKenzie Runners Up: Pearl Neil/Joan Macfie
Gents Pairs (W.& M.Grierson Salver)	Winners: W. Grierson/Alex Smith Runners Up: David Kerr/David Yates
Wed. Points League (Kerr Rose bowl)	Winner: Mary Smith Runner Up: David Kerr
Mon. Points League (John Thomson Rose Bowl)	Winner: David Kerr Runner Up: David Yates

Election of Office Bearers:

President:	Wellwood Grierson
Vice President:	David Kerr
Treasurer:	Helen Lynch
Tea Conveners:	Jean Hunt and Joan Macfie

Dates for next year

Opening	20 th Sept.2010
Christmas Break	6 th Dec.2010 to 5 th Jany.2011
Closing and A.G.M.	11 th April2011

Subscriptions for the year 2010/2011 were agreed at £4 and tea money to stay at 50p.

Any other business: The President was asked to make arrangements for the annual outing to Girvan in July and inform the members of the details.



Castlehill Church Seniors

The final afternoon's entertainment was held on 13th April. Jim Colvin and friends provided their usual high standard of singing and it was thoroughly enjoyed by the members. We had a record turn out of over 60 and this was the best response we have had. Jean Hunt and Irene Crawford indicated that they would be retiring from the committee and a bouquet of flowers was handed over. Margaret Grierson also stepped down from organizing the afternoons after about 10 years. She also received a bouquet of flowers and Douglas Moore thanked the ladies for their hard work over the years.

Remember to note in your diary **Tuesday 12th October** which will be the start of the new session.

This is an invitation to existing members and to new friends whether they are in the congregation or in the Parish or just visiting.

Wellwood Grierson

Shake, Rattle and Roll

When I sit down to breakfast, it doesn't consist of fried eggs, sausage and bacon, but, instead just cereal, crispbake, with marmalade and honey, and a refreshing cup of tea. Nothing elaborate, or taking a lot of effort to prepare. One thing I really enjoy though, is a sprinkling of muesli over my cereal. The instruction on the packet says to shake it before serving, which has to be done every day. The reason for that is because the oats, barley and wheat crumble and fall to the bottom of the pack, and if wasn't spread throughout the mixture, the last serving would be just dust. Sometimes, we Christians are like that in our praise and worship, jogging along with the singing of hymns and prayers. Perhaps we should give ourselves a shake. Get rid of the old comfortable routine, shake off the old ideas and set habits and look for new revelations. It will give you a spring in your step and lightness in your heart. Just ask the Lord to shine His light into your spirit, and you will be singing and praising with great gusto or even Caruso. Try it and see, and you will be amazed.

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna make it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna make it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna make it shine,
Every day, every day, every day.*

Margaret McCormick, Prayer promoter

... Keep Fit restarts Thursday 9th September ...

Wee Kirks



The Wee Kirks total for April was £1410. This is the highest figure we have had in six years and we are grateful for the continued support. My thanks also go to the collectors who give up their time to call on many households in the parish. Anyone requiring a Wee Kirk can have one by contacting the office or myself.

Wellwood Grierson

Line Dancing

Margaret and Dorothy would like to thank all the Ladies who have supported us faithfully at all of our Line Dancing classes throughout the 14 years we have been teaching at Castlehill Church. We have given generously to many charities, Church Organisations and the Church Fabric Fund during this time, and this would not have been possible without your loyalty. Sadly now, after much thought and discussion, due to unforeseen circumstances, we have decided not to carry on our classes.

We will miss the laughs, the chatter, the comradeship and most of all your good selves "The Old Faithfuls" for turning up rain, hail or shine.

Thank you all so much for your generosity to us through the years.

Sincerely, Yours in Dance,

Margaret and Dorothy.

Castlehill Church of Scotland Guild

The new Session of the Guild starts on Wednesday 6th October, with our Opening Social. The entertainment for the evening is going to be Kincase Church Praise Band,. The programme up to Christmas includes speakers on the Guild projects, Burns Country Smokehouse and Wellwood Grierson will be presenting a talk entitled "The Bank and The Cross".

The Committee are looking forward to the new Session and seeing all our "regulars" and welcoming any new folk who wish to come along and join us. Tickets will be on sale for the Opening Social nearer the time.

Everyone is very welcome to attend.

For further information please speak to any Committee Member

Guild Committee for 2010/2011

Marion Reid, Sandra Wyllie, Moira Alexander, Agnes Gairns, Maureen Gulbis, Pat Hynds, Elsie McDougall, Margaret Morgan, Frances Russell, Betty Taylor, Linda Telfer, Rita Walker.



Castlehill is once again a church involved in training students for ministry. As we welcome a new generation of ministers in training, we look back at previous assistants and ask:

Where are they now?

Anne, Paul and David and myself left Castlehill (eventually) in November 1989 and headed back to our native North East, to the charge of Inverurie West. But we will never forget our time in Ayr for all kinds of reasons, not least the huge support we received from folks there as this young(ish) couple and kids stepped out into the unknown world of ministry. The assistantship experience at Castlehill, under the empowering Michael Dickie, has been of immense value ever since. Michael showed his assistants a tremendous amount of trust, but also infused us with what it means to be a parish minister.

So we headed to Inverurie expecting to be here for perhaps ten years or so, only to find ourselves still here after twenty years! That has something to do with the changes that have been happening all the way through that time – but more of that later.

As we settled into Manse life Anne committed herself to "being there" for the boys and supporting me as one new thing after another tumbled onto the plate. Out of a starter at Castlehill Anne deepened her own interest in Fair Trade and started a monthly Traidcraft shop at the church. Since then she has become quite an expert in the field with a huge understanding and knowledge about the whole process. She has mentored a number of other Fairtrade reps in the area and managed the Oxfam Fairtrade shop and been Assistant Manager at the Third World Centre both in Aberdeen. She currently manages and operates UBUNTU our own permanent fair trade shop in the Church Centre.

Paul and David too have moved on. Paul is married to Emma and living in Johannesburg with four month old Hannah. He works as an aircraft engineer and Emma runs her hairdressing salon. David is a double glazing installer, lives much closer in Aberdeen and has a two and a half year old called Alfie.

I said earlier we are still here after twenty years because there has been lots of changes. The town itself has grown massively – at one point it was the fastest growing town in Britain. But in 2001, as we thought our way through Church Without Walls, the congregation decided to take a huge risk and redevelop our church building. So we put in a floor at gallery level and split the building in two. Upstairs we have a very attractive worship space which is also used for conferences and concerts. Downstairs, besides a chapel, a small meeting room and a counselling room we have our hospitality area which is open five days a week for coffees, teas and snacks.

We have small administration and catering staff, but the centre is served by a team of volunteers which allows those with special needs or returning to work or just looking for something to do an opportunity to serve in the community.

All this was only possible because of the enthusiasm of the congregation which is a mixture of all ages. So life has never been quiet since we left Castlehill, but we are always grateful that we made the move south and laid so many foundation stones for what was to come. Anne and I send our best wishes to you all and thank you for the invitation to let you know "where we are now!"



Ian Groves

Children's Corner

The school band needs to load their instruments onto the bus. Draw the path to the school bus starting at 5 and counting by 5s up to 500.

315	320	355	360	365	490	495			
310	325	350	345	370	485	500			
305	330	335	340	375	480				
300	295	390	385	380	475	470	465	460	455
285	290	395	400	405	410	415	430	435	450
280	275	270	265	200	195	420	425	440	445
245	250	255	260	205	190	185	180	175	170
240	225	220	215	210	95	100	105	160	165
235	230		30	35	90	85	110	155	150
			25	40	45	80	115	120	145
			20	15	50	75	70	125	140
			5	10	55	60	65	130	135

SHREK Word Search – find the following words on the table and put a line round each one as you find it.

- CASTLE
- DONKEY
- FAIRY TALE
- FARQUAAD
- FIONA
- MAGIC
- OGRE
- PRINCESS
- QUEST
- SHREK
- SPELL
- SWAMP

A	P	R	I	N	C	E	S	S	E
L	B	Q	C	K	R	J	H	Z	L
H	M	V	D	T	O	G	R	E	A
S	P	E	L	L	N	Y	E	Q	T
W	J	S	V	D	O	N	K	E	Y
A	M	S	K	C	I	B	O	L	R
M	N	E	U	I	F	D	H	T	I
P	W	A	L	G	I	X	F	S	A
F	N	D	A	A	U	Q	R	A	F
I	G	O	C	M	E	P	G	C	S

DID YOU KNOW?: Monopoly was introduced in 1935 and is based on the streets of Atlantic City.

Parish Registers

Funerals

February

John Mossie Glencairn Road
Steven Ryan Holmston Drive

March

Mary Dunlop Glencairn Road
Mary Hay Hillfoot Road
Anne Ransome Treebank Crescent
Jane Hailey Bellevue Nursing Home

April

Catherine Bailey Biggart Hosp,
Tom McClymont Forehill Road,
Allan Gentles Castlehill Court

May

Rhona Peddie Briar Grove
Kathleen Campbell Whitehill
Suzanne Adair Mount Oliphant Crescent
Margaret Clark Holmston Drive

June

Donald Stoddart Briar Grove
Jack Milroy Dalblair Court
Betty Pettigrew Glenriddell Road

July

Nancy Muir Carrick Nursing Home
Audrey Orr Leeward Park

Baptisms

Aaron Robert Macdonald 14/3/10
Jessica Swan Watt 4/4/10
Shanna Laura Elizabeth Rae 23/5/10
David Nicholas Baines 30/5/10
Hannah Jane Mulrainey 13/6/10
Paige Diane Bonis 27/6/10
Ava-Rose Young 4/7/10

Weddings

22nd May 2010
Stephanie Lynne Smith & Gary Thomson

5th June 2010
Carol Oriana Graham & Euan John Thomson

12th June 2010
Carrie Anne Naismith & Darren Stewart Gillies Hunt

10th July
Stephanie Robertson & Steven Johnstone

Mission in Action



One of our young folk, Euan Smith, returned to Peru this summer to teach English. Euan was able to take with him £262 raised by the folks of Castlehill depositing their loose change on Sunday mornings. The money will be used to provide material for friendship bracelets that Euan will bring home to sell. And so the work goes on. Euan has been changed by his experience working with the Vine Trust in Peru, witnessing abject poverty and hardship firsthand and is determined to make a real difference by becoming involved and changing lives..

The "Vine Trust" is an organisation set up to deal with the ever-present problem of "street boys" throughout Peru. The Vine Trust seeks to improve the lives of these boys and has set up six centres across Peru in which they can live, learn and worship in safety.

We look forward to hearing of Euan's latest trip and finding out how we can support this life changing work.





Girl Guiding

On 2nd July after 2½ years of fundraising, 10 adults and 11 Guides excitedly met at Castlehill Church to commence their journey by coach and ferry to Adelboden Switzerland.

After about 30 hours of travelling we arrived at the chalet we were staying at. Adelboden was everything I imagined Switzerland to be: snow capped mountains, green meadows with cows with bells round their necks and wooden chalets dotted over the landscape - all very beautiful.

When we arrived there was a thunderstorm with heavy rain but for the rest of the week we had lovely warm weather which allowed us to carry out our various activities. These included:-

- DAY 1:** Took a cable car up the Sillernbuhl mountain, where we walked for a bit.
- DAY2:** We visited the Trummelbach Falls, which were pretty amazing, throwing out 20,000 litres of water per second, we then visited Interlaken, where believe it or not the girls headed straight to “McDonalds” for lunch and then went shopping to “Claire`s Accessories”. We finished the day by taking the funicular railway up the Niessan Mountain with a height of 7 thousand 7 hundred feet. From the top of the mountain, you are supposed to see quite a bit of Europe and various mountains including the Eiger but after me facing my fear of heights and getting to the top, we couldn't see a thing as the cloud was so low.
- DAY 3:** We went to a toboggan run and the girls had an absolute ball and then we spent time in the village.
- DAY 4** We went to the Woodcarver where his creations were amazing. We had a long walk back due to a diversion. We were like the “Von Trapp” family going over the hills to try to get back on track. We finished off the day at the swimming pool, which I found totally bizarre, as it was 30degree heat and we were swimming in an outdoor pool surrounded by mountains covered in snow.
- DAY 5:** The girls played mountain games which had been arranged, these included, tossing the horse shoe, throwing balls at cow bells to see how many could be hit, rolling cheese, milking a plastic cow and sack throwing. The rest of the day was spent shopping in Adelboden.
- DAY 6:** This was the highlight of our holiday, we visited Our Guide Chalet in Adelboden, where three new Leaders took their promise.

All too soon our week was up and we were ready to make the long journey home.

The girls were a great bunch and represented us well.

I would like to thank Janette Rankin for inviting me and giving me the opportunity to go in our centenary year. It was a great experience and one that I won't forget.

We would also like to say a thank you to everyone who donated to our fundraising.

Linda McClurkin

Brownies E restart Monday 6th September; Brownies C restart Tuesday 7th September.

Guides A restart Monday 30th August; Guides B restart Tuesday 7th September

Rainbows restart Wednesday 8th September

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