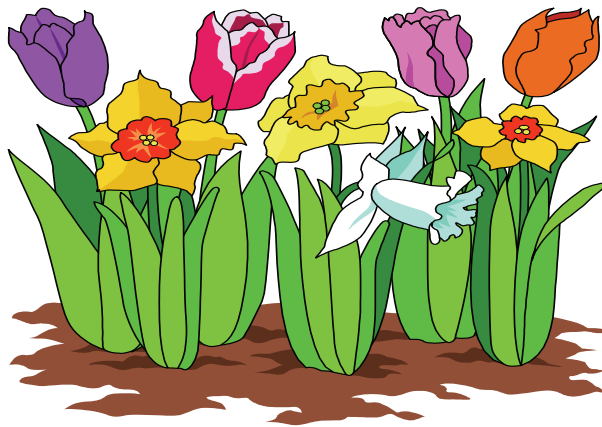
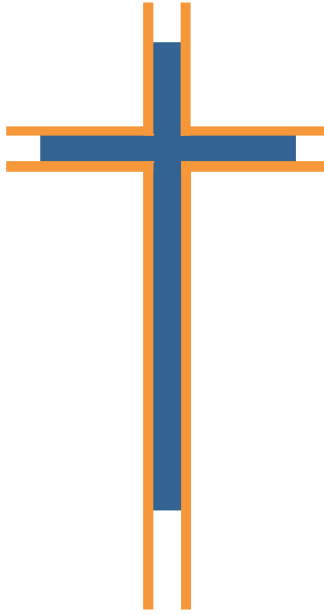


# CASTLEHILL PARISH CHURCH



The Herald  
Spring Edition 2008

# Church Office Bearers

**Interim Moderator**

Rev. Bill Hannah  
Tel. 0141 776 1337  
E-mail ~ revbillnews@btinternet.com

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Mr. Tom Petticrew  
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**Contact Companions**

Mrs. Trudy McLeod 443213, Mrs. Margaret Cairns 265217

**Organist**

Contact Office

**Church Website ~ [www.castlehillchurch.org](http://www.castlehillchurch.org)**

**Charity Regulation Number SC001792**

## THE EASTER PROGRAMME OF SERVICES



Sunday, February 10, which is the First Sunday in Lent, will begin our services leading into the celebration of Easter. The Rev Bill Hannah will be leading all of the services over the period with appropriate themes.

The service on the Third Sunday of Lent (February 24) will be a special Youth Service when we will observe Girl Guides Thinking Day, and the theme will concentrate largely on that. However, the Boys' Brigade have accepted an invitation to support the service during which two members of the Company section will be presented with badges: Greig Paterson will receive the President's Badge and Stuart Kant the Queen's Badge. Bill Hannah writes: "I am confident that the congregation will support this service in good numbers. I look forward to welcoming the officers and members of the organisations to Church, along with the Youth Church."

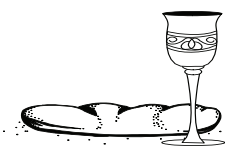
Then on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 2 (which happens also to be Mothering Sunday) we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion at 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Palm Sunday falls on March 16. Belmont Academy staff and pupils come to the Church on Maundy Thursday, March 20, for their Easter service, and in the evening we are holding a special Holy Week Service which will centre on the Sacrament of Holy Communion. That service will be conducted by the Rev Michael Dickie and the Rev Bill Hannah.

Easter Sunday will be the highlight of our celebrations. The Interim Moderator is currently thinking of how he can attract the young and old to a Sunrise (or thereabouts) service. Early warning !!! When he was minister at Muirkirk, he had the service 1900 feet up on the top of Cairntable. This one is likely to be at sea level!!!

To end the Easter celebrations, Forehill Primary School will come to Church on Wednesday, April 2 when the service will be conducted by the Rev Paul Russell who has kindly agreed to substitute for the Interim Moderator who will be on holiday.

Mr Hannah writes: "I know that many of you may be on holiday over the Easter period. Have a good break. Those who can are most welcome to bring friends to any of these services."



Could anyone wishing Home Communion please contact their Elder or the office.

## *The Easter Tree*

In Paradise where life began a wondrous tree grew tall,  
that stretched its arms to the tiniest bird, and gave God's gifts to all.

And Adam and Eve in the evening shade together sang under the tree.  
God sang along in their merry song, a song so light and free.

But then one day a serpent came and the beautiful garden grew cold.  
The tiny birds flew far away and songs were no longer told.

The tree was cased in fiercesome ice, and cried to God on high  
O God, let me shelter your creatures again, let them sing in the evening sky.

So an angel of God took a seed from the tree and gave it to Adam and Eve.  
Take this seed from the garden tree, plant it and always believe.

A tree one day shall open its arms to tiny birds again,  
and all the world shall sing for joy; and children shall sing their Amen.

Before the flood, Noah planted the seed; from its branches he built the ark.  
He built it so strong all the animals came, to float on the floodmark.

When the waters went down they blessed the tree, and God who showed them a way,  
and a child took a seed from the saving tree, to plant it another day.

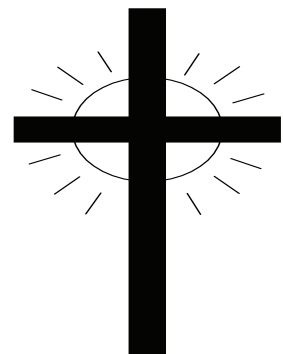
When Jesus was born Mary planted the seed on a hill near Bethlehem.  
God's peace, God's peace, the angels sang, God's peace is coming again.

On that day a tiny Child crushed the serpent's head,  
and earth grew warm in the winter's cold, around his manger bed.

They looked for a tree when Jesus died and they found it on Bethlehem's hill.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, everything sang as he rose from the dead by God's will.

And the Easter tree rejoiced in song, the tiny birds as well.  
It bore a prize beyond all else, beyond what words could tell.

*We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
by the tree of the cross you have saved the world.*



## PROPERTY NEWS

A new projector and lap top have been purchased and it would seem to be much improved for viewing. The previous equipment was the property of Peter Park.

The main items of expenditure were however not of our doing. In the recent storm, damage was done to the roof of the Sanctuary requiring immediate attention as water was coming in. Some of the cost will hopefully be covered by insurance. We had also some windows smashed at the rear of the Church and these had to be replaced.

We are also concerned about water coming into the vestibule from the bell tower.

This is currently being looked into.

Once budgets have been approved for the coming year we will see what requires to be done and more than that if, we can afford to do it.

### *Used Stamps*

*A big thank you to everyone who saved the used stamps for World Mission, and also to Margaret Devlin for delivering them to Edinburgh. Please continue to collect the stamps, remembering to leave at least ¼ inch border around the stamps*



If you know of anyone who would like a tape of our Sunday services. Please contact the office.

## THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE

In connection with the vacancy, the Congregation met after the service on January 20 and appointed the following members to form the Nomination Committee (the names

are in alphabetical order) – Robert Forrester, Sandra Goldie, Elizabeth Graham,

David Kerr, Joyce Kerr, David Lynch, Vivien Macpherson, Douglas Owens,

Marion Reid, Douglas Wilson and Sandra Wyllie. At a meeting of the Committee

thereafter, Douglas Owens was elected Convener, and Sandra Wyllie as Clerk

### *Too few pews ??*

.....Castlehill Parish Church had a problem in 1959, only one year after the new hall-church had been erected it was bulging at the seams with members. The Church was an extension charge, promoted by the Auld Kirk of Ayr, being founded in September 1952 when Forehill farmhouse was temporarily converted into a church building. On 10 October 1956 it was decided to set up a charge, and Rev David P. Munro was inducted as minister. In 1957 the new £22,000 building was erected at the junction of Castlehill Road with Hillfoot Road. With seating to accommodate 400 worshippers, but at that time there were 418 members on the roll. However, a year later, the Church had a membership of 720 and often there was simply not enough room to accommodate them all. To solve the problem the possibility of having two morning services was considered by the minister. Also in 1959 it was proposed that the church should break its link with the Auld Kirk and seek to become a full Quoad Sacra charge. ....

An extract from Dane Love's book "The Way we were"

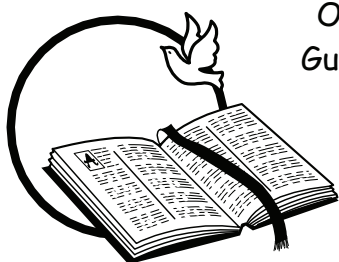
### Some things never change

So often we hear of the problems of raising children and of their declining behaviour. One important and well-known writer summed up the trials and tribulations of children when he complained as follows:-

"Boys and girls are dressing alike. They love luxury, have bad manners, show contempt for authority, show disrespect for their elders, and prefer to chatter than to exercise. Children are now tyrants and not servants of their households. They no longer show respect when elders enter the room, they contradict their parents, chatter over the top of their elders, gobble their food at the table, cross their legs and tyrannise their teachers". Sounds familiar? Well it might interest you to know that these words were written by none other than Socrates who lived from 467 to 400 B.C.. And B.C. doesn't stand for 'Before Computers,!

## The Rules of life

Over the last few months many of us at Castlehill have lost relatives and good friends that we have known for many years. It is sad to say goodbye, but we know through our faith, we will one day meet again in the after life. We are all here for a short journey, and it has often been likened to other similes, but a good comparison is that it is like the board games we played as children e.g. Ludo or Snakes and Ladders, and remembering the great excitement when we got six dots on the dice to start the game, but during the game we got set backs and had to go down the snake or up the ladder to reach the end or "home". In Ludo, once we got started sometimes we were overtaken by an opponent, and they won the game. Our rules will sometimes allow others to overtake us on our earthly journey, but we have to accept the rules of the game of life, The Commandments, given to us in The Bible, so don't be downhearted and know that one day we will meet again, and if we obey the rules we shall surely go "home" one day and reach our heavenly home.



Lead us heavenly Father, lead us  
O'er the worlds tempestuous sea;  
Guard us guide us, keep us, feed us,  
For we have no help but Thee;  
Yet possessing every blessing  
if our God our Father be.

Margaret MacCormick

### *Line Dancers*

Line dancing is still going strong at Castlehill Church. There are classes every Tuesday evening from 8 to 9 pm and every Wednesday morning 11am to 12 noon. Last year the summer classes were well attended and we were able to give £300 to the Church funds and £350 to the following charities: Hollybush House, Riding for the disabled, Diabetes Ayrshire, Ayr hospital Radio and Ayr hospital coronary unit.

We also gave donations to the Church organisations: Boys Brigade, Guides, Brownies, Youth Church and the Flower Circle.

We start a new absolute beginners class on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April in the main hall from 7.30 to 8.30 pm.

Why not come along and join in the fun, wear what you please, comfy shoes, and no need for a partner. You will meet and make new friends, get a bit of exercise and help good causes.

Line dancers all over the country give to many charities and deserving causes, so why not join us, everyone is welcome. Go on give it a try.

*Margaret & Dorothy*

## ***Recruitment Of Pilots....***

**The chief of staff of the US Air Force decided that he would personally intervene in a recruiting crisis affecting all of our armed services. He directed a nearby Air Force base be opened, and that all eligible young men and women be invited.**

**As he and his staff were standing near a brand new Jet Fighter, a pair of twin brothers who looked like they had just stepped off a Marine Corps recruiting poster walked up to them. The chief of staff stuck out his hand and introduced himself.**

**He looked at the first young man and asked, "Son, what skills can you bring to the Air Force?"**

**The young man looks at him and says, "I'm a pilot!"**

**The general gets all excited, turns to his aide and says, "Get him in today, all the paper work done, everything, do it!"**

**The aide hustles the young man off. The general looks at the second young man and asked, "What skills to you bring to the Air Force?"**

**The young man says, "I chop wood!"**

**"Son," the general replies, "we don't need wood choppers in the Air Force, what do you know how to do?"**

**"I chop wood!"**

**"Young man," huffs the general, "you are not listening to me, we don't need wood choppers; this is the 21st century!"**

**"Well," the young man says, "you hired my brother!"**

**"Of course we did," says the general, "he's a pilot!"**

**The young man rolls his eyes and says, "So what! I have to chop it before he can pile it!" !!!!**

### **Traidcraft**

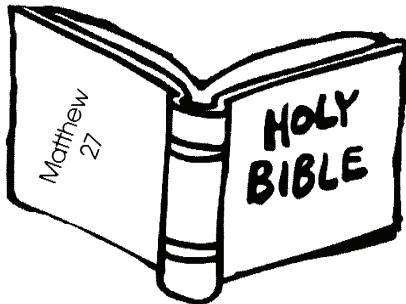
**There will be a Traidcraft stall in the Fellowship Area on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March. These dates coincide with Fair Trade fortnight, when there will be a stalls in Asda , Tesco and Morrisons, highlighting fair trade products. Please support the stalls in Asda and at the Church and do your part for the "Fair Trade" movement, which allows the manufacturers and suppliers of fair trade items to receive a proper wage for their efforts.**



# CHILDREN'S

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## JESUS' BURIAL

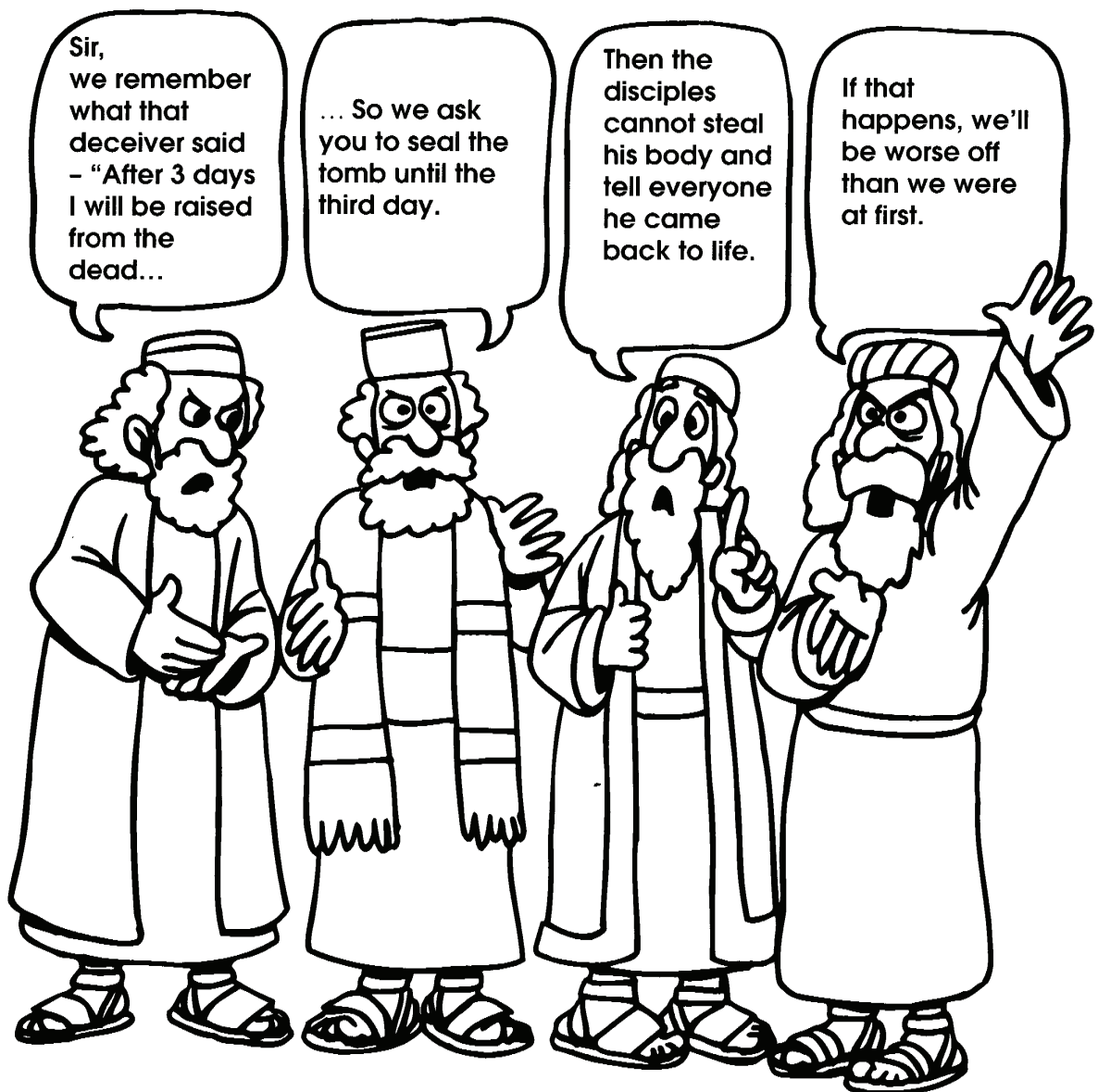


That evening, Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate released Jesus' body, and Joseph wrapped it in a long linen cloth. He placed it in his own new tomb, which had been carved out of rock. Then he rolled a great stone across the entrance as he left. Both Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were watching him from nearby.



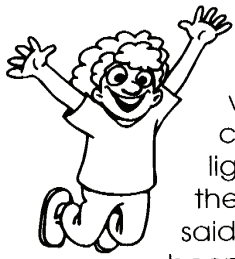
## GUARD AT THE TOMB

The next day, on the first day of Passover ceremonies, the leading priests and Pharisees went to see Pilate...



And so Pilate said, "Take guards and secure it as best you can." They did this, and left guards to protect it

## THE RESURRECTION



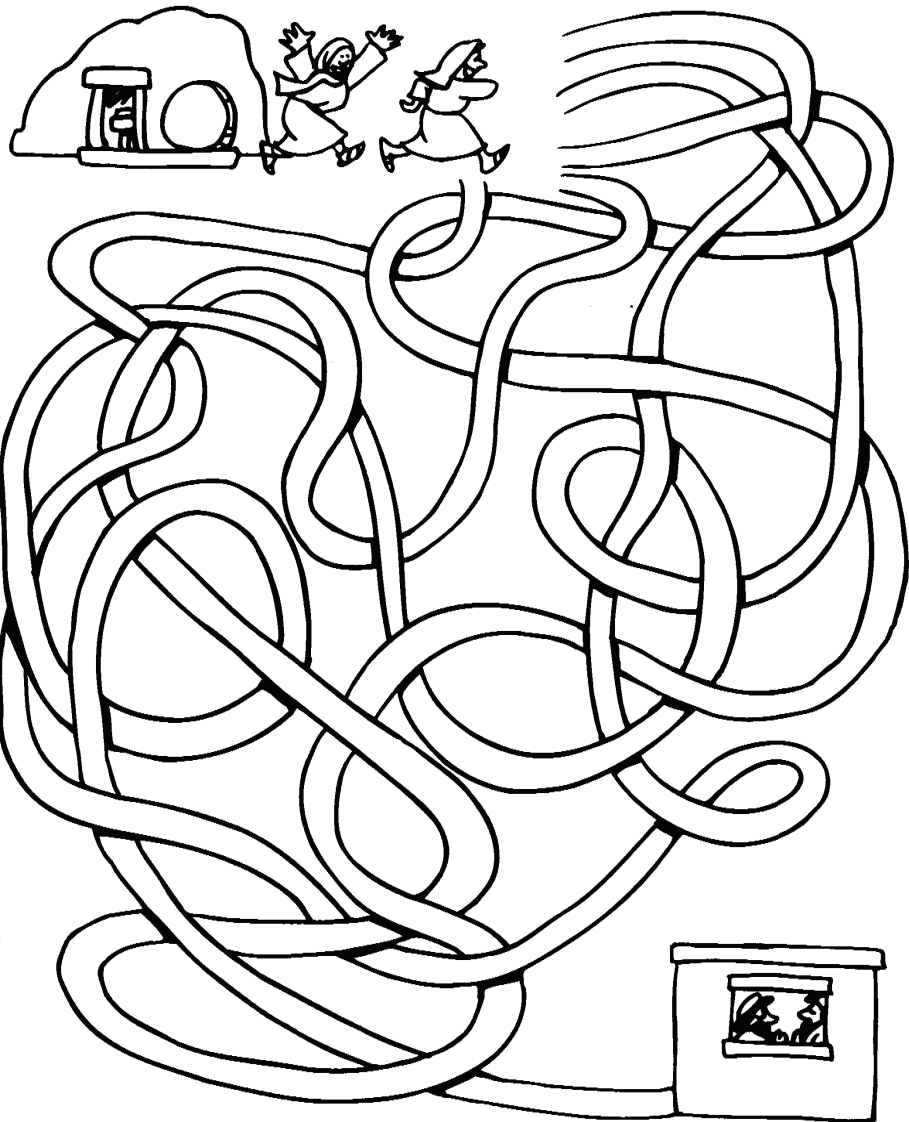
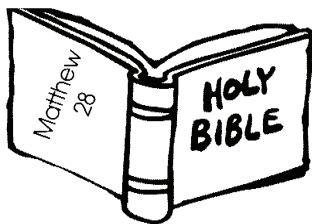
Remember we mentioned a happy ending? Well here it comes!

As Sunday morning was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to Jesus' tomb. Suddenly there was an earthquake, and an angel came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was shining like lightning, and his clothing was brilliant white. When the guards saw the angel they shook with fear and fell into a dead faint. "Don't be afraid," the angel said to the women. "I know you are looking for Jesus. He isn't here. He has been raised from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. Go quickly and tell the disciples. You will see Jesus in Galilee."

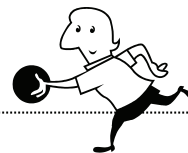
The women were very frightened, but also joyful. They rushed to find the disciples and tell them what the angel had said. As they ran, Jesus met them and greeted them. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshipped him. Jesus said, "Don't be afraid. Tell my brothers to go to Galilee and I will meet them there."



Now you can help the women who are running from the tomb with the good news of Jesus resurrection! Help them find their way to the disciples house.



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## Bowling Club

We had a very successful Christmas Party and some fun games of bowls. Our membership has held up very well over the season so far but we can always find a welcome for a few more new members. It is with sadness that we remember two of our founder members, Joey Gordon and Hugh Hamilton who passed away recently.

*Wellwood Grierson*

## News from the Guild

As you read this we will be coming to the end of our current session, but don't let that stop you coming to join us on a Wednesday evening in the north hall from 7.30 p.m. for some warm and friendly fellowship.

Our closing social is on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March in the main hall when the entertainment will be The Maybole Concert Party.

Tickets will be on sale for this nearer the time and everyone will be made most welcome

Marion Reid (Convener) and the Committee

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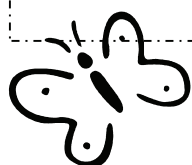
It's always a real pleasure to visit the Guild and convey the greetings and thanks of the Kirk Session, who are very conscious of all the good work that the Guild does.

This year Tom Petticrew and I joined members and guests to sample the delights of Piggery Brae. And what an evening! The group, who included Ian the son of the late Nan Robb, charmed us with an outstanding programme of music, songs and humour.

A large audience of over 120 listened and sang and laughed, and had a thoroughly enjoyable evening (which also realised the magnificent sum of £700). And this was only one part of a first rate, varied winter programme. Its success is a tribute to the hard work of Marion Reid, the convener, and her enthusiastic team.

Guild attendances remain impressive despite the dreadful weather conditions, Indeed, the Guild continues to play a much appreciated role in the life of our Church here in Castlehill. Well done!

*Alastair Hendry.*



The Boys' Brigade at Castlehill have been enjoying a good year both from the point of view of numbers and events.

The **Company Section** has more boys now than we have experienced for a very long time. We have taken part in three competitions so far. We were third in the Swimming, third in the Bible Quiz and second in Drill for 1<sup>st</sup> year boys. Coming up in the next couple of months is Cross Country, Volleyball, Basketball, Squad Drill and 7-a-side football. Hopefully we will have some success to report in the

next magazine. We are taking part in the youth service with the Guides on February 24<sup>th</sup>. We are pleased to be able to present Stuart Cant with his Queen's badge at this service and Greg Paterson with his President's Badge. We now have four boys working towards their Queen's Badge, Gregor Queen who should qualify this year and David Moore, Greg Paterson and Ewan Smith who should all qualify next year. It might interest you to know that part of the qualification for the badge requires the boys to do voluntary work in the community. Gregor is working at the Hospice and David and Ewan are working at Cumnor Hall.

The **Junior Section** is enjoying a successful year with good numbers. They have taken part in Swimming, Bible Quiz, Safety Quiz and figure marching. Their next competitions include Mime and Drama, 7-a-side football and Outdoor Competition Day. On the 25<sup>th</sup> January the Junior Section hosted the other two sections for a Burns Supper. Apart from a wonderful Bill o' Fayre, cooked by Fiona Cant, we were treated to a selection of recitals of poems and songs as well as a few rousing tunes from our piper 12 year old Jack Garret. The Junior Section is also going to hold a coffee morning on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March. This is part of their community badge work, the money raised is being donated to charity. This session we are being helped by Greg and David who are working in the Junior Section as part of their Queen's Badge work.

Our **Anchor Section** boys (primary 2 and 3) are a lively group of boys who are showing a great interest and enthusiasm for their work for their activity badges. The Section benefits from the presence of some of our teenagers. Ewan Smith is helping as part of his work towards his Queen's Badge, Rachel Queen is helping as part of her voluntary work for her Duke of Edinburgh award and Gillian Downie has been helping voluntarily for the session. They are helping the Primary 2 boys working towards their green badge and our Primary 3 boys for their red and blue badge. The badge work centres around five main topics: Body - fit for fun; Mind - think and go; Spirit - God and me; Community - me and my world; Creativity - Make and do.

Our boys will be enjoying the Battalion Games afternoon on Saturday 8th March at the Citadel this is an opportunity for Anchor Boys, from all companies, to come together for a fun afternoon.

To those members who have given donations in the last year we very much appreciate your generosity. The work of the Boys' Brigade is very important to the life of the church and it is gratifying to know that it is appreciated.

A history of our company is being compiled and we would appreciate any stories, photographs or memorabilia you might have. All materials will be returned

We are entering a time for celebration this is the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Boys' Brigade movement and next year our company will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Something we can all celebrate is the fact that after fifty years at Castlehill we still have over fifty boys attending Castlehill Church every week receiving the Christian message!



## Seniors Afternoons

We had a successful Christmas Party with entertainment by Castlehill Carillion and some fiddle excerpts from Rev Bill Hannah.

Mrs Trudy McLeod also gave us some humorous readings.

The company of almost 60 enjoyed their morning with a good selection of goodies supplied by the Coffee Shop helpers and to them many thanks.

By the time this reaches you in the Magazine we will have had our February meeting held on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Our final meeting will be held in the Lesser Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> April and a cordial invitation is extended to all our members and friends.

Wellwood Grierson

### A smile

A smile costs nothing, but gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it lasts forever. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad and is nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it can't be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen, for it is something of no value to anyone until it is given away.



### *Castlehill Carrillon*

The Handbell Ringers of Castlehill Carillon are once more together enjoying the fun of making a 'joyful sound'. Although the numbers are depleted we still have a full team and are determined to keep going.

We would be delighted to welcome a few new members - you do not need to be able to read music, just be able to count to four! Our present members feel a great sense of achievement with what we have attained already and would be delighted to share this. At present we meet on a Sunday afternoon at 2.30 p.m., but this is under review.

An open day is being arranged for Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 2.45 p.m. when we hope to welcome you; come along and have a 'hands on' experience or just listen. Please don't be shy; all ages are welcome, we all had to start from scratch not so long ago.

Should you wish to come and join us, please speak to any member of the Bell Group who will confirm dates and times.



If anyone is interested in taking on the Editorship of the magazine ,  
could they please contact the office.



The Summer 2008 Newsletter will be issued in mid May  
If anyone has any articles, they should be handed into  
the office by Mid April

#### PASTORAL CARE ~ HOSPITAL VISITING

A team of hospital visitors are available to visit members of the congregation who are admitted to hospital. Ensuring that someone who needs a visit gets one, depends on the team being informed as soon as possible after the person has been admitted to hospital.

It would be appreciated if a family member or a close friend would contact a team member to let them know a visit is required.

Contact Nos. of team are as follows :

Church Office	Sandra Wyllie	267332
Biggart Hospital	Margaret MacCormick	263949
	Margaret Grierson	285903
Ailsa Hospital	Andrew Graham	261486
Ayr Hospital	Pat Colquhoun	267749

All information will be strictly confidential.



Our Church magazine is now available on our website  
([www.castlehillchurch.org](http://www.castlehillchurch.org)).

It is also available to be sent by email. Anyone wishing the  
magazine to be sent to themselves or indeed friends and family,  
please let the office know.

## *An Easter Prayer*

Lord Jesus, in bloody agony you breathed your last.  
Powers decreed the era of the troublesome Galilean over  
Gently laid by loving hands in the cool stillness of the tomb  
Bathed in tears, wrapped in cloth, all was quiet, silence  
Waiting for a new beginning, the first signs of new life  
Resurrection

Out of darkness comes hope, pushing into the air,  
bringing light, like tightly held leaves,  
that break from dark bands in spring.  
Bursting fresh vibrant – luminous with new life,  
life that cannot be contained.

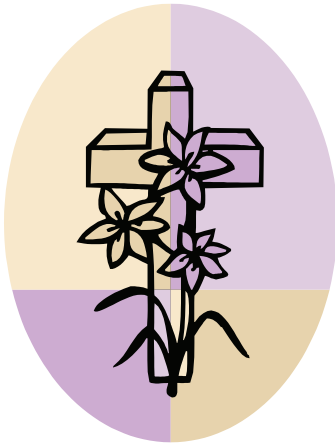
As we marvel at the re-awakening of nature help us  
to touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently  
and so nourish the life of the world in our care.

God of life – reach into the dark places of our being,  
fill us with light that we might reconnect  
with the source of our faith,  
the roots that nourish us,  
our deep need for recreation.

May God's love revealed in a reclothed world,  
help us discover afresh the goodness of God,  
so tenderly revealed in his son,  
Jesus Christ our living Lord.

That we might, in his strength,  
grow, flourish and bear fruit in the world.

*Amen*



### FUNERALS

#### November

Mr. Alex Cannell  
25 Peggieshil Road

Mr. J. Brown  
12 Glendale Crescent

Mrs. Reta Holland  
132 Burnbank Road



#### December

Mrs. Jessie Whisker  
30 Orchard Ave

Mr. William Roulstone  
78 Peggieshill Road

Mrs. Isa Scott  
22a Glendale Crescent

Mrs. Mattie Holland  
57 Belmont Road

Mr. Colin Greig  
71 Glendale Crescent

Mrs. Joey Gordon  
22 Orchard House

Mr. John Doolan  
8 Orchard House

Mrs. Vi Agnew  
Rozelle Farm Care Home

#### January

Mr. Hugh Hamilton  
3 Hillfoot Crescent

Mr. Hugh McCreath  
61 Glendale Crescent

Mrs. Mary Clark  
15 Glencairn Road



# *Regular Weekly Events*

## *Sunday*

Youth Church

Bell Ringers

Morning Service

Creche

Bowling Club

## *Monday*

Tiny Tots

Highland  
Dancing

Brownies

Guides

## *Tuesday*

Guides

Coffee  
Shop

Line Dancing

Rainbows

Brownies

Anchor Boys

Child Minders  
Group

## *Wednesday*

Music Makers

Line Dancing

Guild

Bowling Club

## *Thursday*

Seniors  
Keep Fit

Weightwatchers

Tai Ji

Board & Session

## *Friday*

Enjoy-a-ball

Boys  
Brigade

Hazelbank  
Mothers & Toddlers

## *Saturday*

Weightwatchers

*For current meeting  
times of the various  
organisations  
please contact the office*



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Do you know of anyone who might  
like to advertise?

If so then please contact Liz Reid or the  
church office  
who will make the necessary arrangements.

### Frank O'Lone

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Mobile: 0771 139 1967



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