

# REVIEW and OUTLOOK



PALMERSTON  
PLACE  
CHURCH  
EDINBURGH

## November 2010

[www.palmerstonplacechurch.com](http://www.palmerstonplacechurch.com)

Scottish Charity No SC004291

# MINISTER'S LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION

Dear friends,

November, with its falling leaves, always seems such an appropriate season for Remembrance Sunday. There is a real sense that the summer is past and the chill in the air reminds us that we face another winter. It is time for reflection on days that are past and preparation for what lies ahead.



No sooner have the last veterans of WW1 died than it comes as a shock to realise that combatants in WW2 are now in their late 80s or older. Of course, Remembrance includes all those who have fought in wars and conflicts since the end of WW2 not least currently in Afghanistan and so recently in Iraq. Throughout my life, however, it has been those two great world wars that have been the primary focus of our thoughts at this season of Remembrance.

People enjoy playing virtual War games on various forms of hi-tech equipment but Remembrance reminds us that war is never a game. Rightly, we honour those who were willing for a whole range of motives, to risk their lives and for some, to lose them or to live on but with the impact of war affecting the rest of their lives. We also, however, remember the horror of war and the terrible cost it exacts on everyone, combatant and civilian alike. War can and does brutalise as well as ennoble, and actions unthinkable in times of peace are justified by the war. Like Pandora's Box, once opened forces are unleashed that we have little control over.



So we need to remember, lest we forget. We need to remember that working for peace and justice may be demanding but it is infinitely preferable to sliding into war. We need to pray for peace and pray for those involved in war (and for their families at home). We need to remember that the gospel is of good news of reconciliation, of barriers being broken and bridges built.

So let us remember, and let that remembrance affect the way we live.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colin".

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### NOVEMBER

Monday	8	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Monday House Group at Annan House Kirk Session
Tuesday	9	7:15 pm	Festive Floral Fun - Christmas floral demonstration in the church with Fiona Cumming
Wednesday	10	2:15 pm	PPP Storytelling with Cathie Browne
Thursday	11	2 pm 7:30 pm	Friendship Club Prayer meeting in Annan House House group at Helen Macpherson's
Sunday	14	<b>10:50 am</b> 3 pm 6:30 pm	Remembrance Sunday Service Sutherland Street Evening Service
Monday	15	7:30 pm	Property and Finance Team
Wednesday	17	7 pm	Service Team
Thursday	18	2 pm 7:30 pm	Friendship Club Prayer meeting in Annan House
Sunday	21	11 am  6:30 pm	Operation Christmas Child Traidcraft Christmas stall Evening Service
Monday	22	6:35 pm	Coordinating Team
Tuesday	23	7:30 pm	Worship and Christian Education Team
Wednesday	24	12:15 pm	PPP Post Natal Depression
Thursday	25	2 pm	Friendship Club
Sunday	28	11 am 4 pm 6:30 pm	Morning Service (1st Sunday of Advent) City Carol Service at St. Andrew's Square Evening Service

### DECEMBER

Wednesday	1	7:30 pm	Manse House Group
Thursday	2	2 pm 7:30 pm 7:30 pm	Friendship Club Prayer Meeting Choir
Sunday	5	11 am  6:30 pm	Morning Service Annual Gift Service Evening Service
Monday	6	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Monday House Group at Annan House Kirk Sessjon

# The Prayer Page



## Prayer for Remembrance

God of Grace, who has seen every war,  
in your presence we reflect today on the horrors  
that continue to haunt humanity and darken our world.

This day we pray for those places across the globe  
where nations and people refuse to turn swords into ploughshares;  
We pray for people drawn into suffering,  
we pray for those who bear the pain of loss.

God of compassion,  
Where pain still overwhelms, bring healing.  
Where hearts are still breaking, bring comfort.  
Where peoples are still oppressed, bring liberation.  
Where communities are still victimised, bring justice.  
Where children are still brutalised, bring compassion.  
Where lives are still crushed, bring hope.  
Where evil is perpetrated, bring repentance.  
Where war still devastates, bring peace.

God of hope, we remember those who are caught up in situations  
not of their own making, but where duty and service have called,  
and where sacrifice and suffering may be required.  
We pray for members of the armed forces serving in Afghanistan.  
And we pray for those who work in government, diplomacy and relief  
agencies.

God of Peace, give us wisdom to seek peace  
and teach us how to build up and not to destroy,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OURD JL  
hear 77  
my prayer

# Palmerston News

## CARE VAN AND SHELTER

Thank you to all who supplied Cup A Soup and clothes as well as donations of cash after my appeal last month. We have enough soup to last through the winter but still require blankets.

The Care Shelter starts on Monday 1st November and lasts until Monday 4th April 2011. We had three people at a Care Shelter Information meeting on Monday 18th October when more than 100 people attended. We were told that almost all of the Shelter dates had been filled which is remarkable. We have been given three dates this winter:

- ◆ Tuesday 30th November at Bristo Baptist Church
- ◆ Monday 24th January at Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston
- ◆ Tuesday 22nd February at St Cuthbert's Church

David Boyd



## THANK YOU

As a result of my recent incapacity there are several people within Palmerston Place Church I wish to thank. Firstly, Rev Colin AM Sinclair, my Elder Mrs Dorothy Steel and Mrs Sheena Watson for their visits which were much appreciated. Secondly, to all my friends within the church for cards, letters and telephone calls received. Finally, for beautiful church flowers received. Thank you to Doctor and Mrs Michael Wilson for delivering them— this is a very caring congregation.

Elsie Stickle

## PRESBYTERY MEALS—HELP NEEDED

We are a team of 21 volunteers who provide a meal for men and women ministers and lay people who attend the meeting of presbytery in our church, 6 times a year. We are a great team and really enjoy working together, 7 at a time. At the moment we need another cashier to join us twice a year, taking payment for what customers have chosen to eat and reimbursing the volunteers who provide the food—not very hard work you will agree! Please get in touch with me if you feel you can help.



Ruth Sinclair

## EVENING WITHOUT A NAME

If you were not able to be with us on the evening of Wednesday 20th October you missed a fascinating insight into the world of the sightless. Many of us thought we knew all about the work of Sight Savers but we learned a great deal about causes, prevention, treatment and cure from Lyndsay Brown who works with Sight Savers.

Ruth Sinclair

# Palmerston News

## FUN GAME NIGHT!

On the evening of Wednesday 6th October the church hall resounded to happy chatter and intense concentration. A large group of Brownies with Guides, their leaders, parents and members of the congregation had eyes down to cross off their numbers. The enthusiastic winners had the hall echoing to their cry of 'Mosquito'!! In addition to the game two Brownies took their Promise. The Brownies had made some lovely bracelets which were rapidly sold. The delicious tray bakes were enjoyed with some lucky prize winners able to choose some of the cakes left over. The total raised for mosquito nets and baby milk was £309. A big thank you to all those involved in preparations for the evening and all those who came on the night. All in all it was a very lively evening to the extent that we are booked for another Mosquito Night on Wednesday October 5th 2011 so be sure to put the dates in your diaries!

Michael Wilson



**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Jo and Aaron Black** on the safe arrival of their first child, **Finley Colin Black** on Wednesday 27th October, and to **Dan Wynne and Sam Surface** as they get married in Holyrood Abbey Church on Saturday 13th November at 1 pm.



Colin Sinclair



**THE HANDSEL STALL** has raised £470 from sales of garden produce and home baking during May to September. This sum will be shared equally between Christian Aid and Chogoria Hospital. Thank you to everyone who has contributed in many different ways to raising this sum. Look out for the Handseal Stall again next year from the beginning of May.

Joan Meikle

## UNLESS THE LORD REPORT

We had a very interesting report from the team that visited our church under the Presbytery's scheme "Unless the Lord". Whilst they were very positive about many aspects of our church's life they highlighted three issues:-

- ◆ The need to go out into the parish and engage with people there and see what we can do to help them connect with the Christian faith. Whilst we do what we can to make what we offer attractive to others, we must go beyond our church and listen to those who live in our parish.
- ◆ Given that we are a gathered congregation we should encourage as many as possible to belong to a house group.
- ◆ We should offer training to those who seek to witness in their social or work context around the city.

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We will be considering this report at our next Session meeting.

Colin Sinclair

# WHAT'S ON?



## **CITY CAROL SERVICE - ST ANDREW'S SQUARE**

**Sunday 28th November at 4 pm**

The City Council are once again hosting the Carol Service on Advent Sunday at St. Andrew's Square. The event is free and open to all.

It will be led by leaders of Churches in Edinburgh and the Lord Provost. Music will be led by the Exile Choir in partnership with a school choir. Following the event there will be an International Carol Service at nearby Greenside Parish Church beginning at 6:30 pm the same evening. This is also open to all. Visit <http://www.edinburghschristmas.com> to find more details.

Edinburgh Churches Together

## **ORIGIN SCOTLAND LIGHT OF THE WORLD CHRISTMAS EVENT**

**USHER HALL, SATURDAY 4th DECEMBER**

An evening with the Exile Choir, Band and Orchestra. A great event for bringing along friends as an introduction to the Christian faith. Guest speaker will be Rev Dominic Smart from Aberdeen. For more information visit:

<http://www.originscotland.org/3/index.php>  
or call the box office on 0131 228 1155.

Origin Scotland



## **P.P.P**

The Christmas Lunch will be held at Dunstane House Hotel on Wednesday 8th December, 12:30 pm for 1 pm.

Ruth Sinclair



## **GIFT SERVICE**

Once again, we have received a request from Saughton Prison asking our congregation to supply Christmas gifts for the children of the prisoners. The gifts received are used to help the children have some "normal" happy time with their fathers at Christmas.

Any gifts vouchers or money received will be given to our local school – Dalry Primary. The Headmaster in Dalry is extremely grateful for any monies received and usually uses them to buy items which otherwise could not be afforded from the school's limited budget. For example, last year, they were able to buy costumes for their Nativity Play.

At this time of year, there are lots of requests for help and our congregation is absolutely wonderful with their support. This appeal for help is a bit different in that it is for a local cause and both the Prison and the School are entirely dependent on local support to make the children's Christmas extra special.

Please indicate on the gift whether it is for a boy or a girl, or bring it along unwrapped with some Christmas paper. Gifts can be handed in any Sunday before the Gift Service to David McColl.

Eileen McColl



# WHAT'S ON?

## PALMERSTON PLACE ALL-AGE CHRISTMAS PARTY!

For the third year, by popular demand we are running an all-age party to mark the beginning of our Christmas Celebrations. Stewarts Melville College once again have kindly allowed us to use their Performing Arts Centre, now called the Tom Fleming Centre, for this event geared for all ages. Each year we have had people from every decade from under 10s to over 90s and we would like to do the same again this year. There will be quizzes for the more sedentary, games for the youngsters, dancing for all ages, a visit from "a special guest", a buffet supper and then some seasonal community singing and carols to bring the event to a close.

### The details are:

- ◆ Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December, Tom Fleming Centre, Stewart's Melville College.
- ◆ Come from 3.30pm—we start at 4 pm and finish by 8 pm.
- ◆ Tickets as last year - £6 with £20 for a family ticket and free for pre-schoolers.

It is very helpful if we can know the names and ages of any pre-schoolers and primary children who plan to attend. Tickets are available after the service each Sunday from our stall in the vestibule and from the committee members. Do come and make it a day to remember

Colin Sinclair

## CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

**CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED** is an informal and relaxed course for people who'd like to investigate Christianity or just brush up on the basics. Based on Mark's Gospel, it explores who Jesus was, what his aims were and what it means to follow him.

The course will run weekly on **Wednesday evenings from 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011 in the Church for seven weeks.** The evening starts with warm and tasty refreshments at 7 pm, followed by a talk and discussion time from 7.30 pm until around 9 pm. It costs nothing; all the course materials are provided.

Every adult (16+) connected with the church or otherwise is invited! Bring a friend if you like! We'd love you to come for at least one evening and see how you get on – maybe even stay for the whole course!

**For more details or to sign up for the course, please contact the church office on 0131 220 1690 or email [discover@palmerstonplacechurch.com](mailto:discover@palmerstonplacechurch.com)**

Gregor Innes



## SAMARITAN'S PURSE AND OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2010

For the past 20 years, Operation Christmas Child has shown that there's power in a simple gift. It has grown to become the largest Christmas shoebox appeal in the UK, demonstrating God's love in a tangible way.

**Is your shoebox ready to bring to Church?** It's not too late to find a shoebox, wrap it and the lid with pretty paper and fill it with inexpensive gifts for a child who has nothing. You need to have a leaflet from Samaritan's Purse, which will give you guidelines of the things to put in the shoebox, and please read the article in last month's Review & Outlook. The leaflets are available in the Church vestibule and on the table in the hall at Annan House. They include the Boy or Girl sticker for the outside of your shoebox plus the envelope for your donation of £2.50 which is required for transportation costs.

We are looking forward to receiving completed shoeboxes in Church on Sundays 7, 14 and 21 November and we will give thanks for all the shoeboxes in a special Shoebox Sunday Service on 21 November.

Our shoeboxes are again being sent to Belarus and this is Sasha's story...

The orphanage is alive with noise. Everywhere excited children are opening their shoeboxes. Cries of surprise fill the air as gift after gift is pulled out and shown off to others around. Amongst the colour and noise sits little Sasha, a huge smile beaming from her face. Sasha is 4 years old but has been living in the orphanage since her parents abandoned her when she was only 6 months old. Her parents are alcoholics and instead of taking care of her, Sasha was just left alone in a cot. When she arrived at the orphanage, Sasha's skin was so dirty she looked a dark brown and her eyes were glazed and dull.

"We waited a long time for her first smile" explains one carer "but today it is wonderful to see the smiles on her face." Now, sitting amongst her friends, Sasha is a

picture of health. The shoebox is her first present and as she pulls off the lid there is slight confusion on her face, which breaks into a smile as she sees the first gift... her very own pink hat. Framing her little face, the hat remains firmly on her head for the rest of the evening. To Sasha, this shoebox represents love, from someone she will never know, but will always remember. To Sasha, this shoebox brought colour, laughter and smiles into her life.



*"... she breaks into a smile as she sees the first gift ... her very own pink hat."*

Thanks to people like you and to thousands of others from across the UK, children like Sasha have a reason to smile and feel loved this Christmas. Thank you for being part of this Christmas miracle.

Joan Meikle and Norma Rolls

## A FUNERAL WITH A DIFFERENCE

Having just come back from the International Council of Scripture Union (SU) in Kenya and visited the States on my way home for SU's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations there, I thought that was me home for good. However, the death of one of my predecessors as the International chair of SU, led to a request from the family, SU Ghana and SU International that I represent SU and speak at the funeral. The two problems were first that the funeral was in Ghana and secondly that, since he had been both Head of the Navy and a senior minister in the Presbyterian Church (after his retiral from public life as an Ambassador), the funeral would be a full military one as well as involving the heads of a number of denominations.

Ruth was born in and grew up in Ghana so she came with me for a fascinating visit in which we spent time with the family, took part in the service, spoke again at the Thanksgiving Service and as I was there, spoke at a large youth rally to mark 120 years of SU's work in Ghana. His Excellency Rev Dr Commodore Philemon Quaye was a remarkable man and it was a privilege to speak and watch a service which included a parade in an open gun carriage and a 12 gun salute - a splendid affair. Once again we were touched by the vibrancy of the church in Ghana and amazed that the leaders of all the main Protestant churches had become Christians through the ministry of SU. There is more to tell but not space here to tell it!

Colin Sinclair

Many of you will already be familiar with the Caring Christmas Trees service provided by Bethany Christian Trust. This year they will be selling Christmas Trees again.



caring christmas trees

Fresh Nordman Firs can be ordered up to 12 feet high. A tree base can be ordered at the same time. All proceeds from the sale of Caring Christmas Trees will go towards the funding of the Bethany Care Shelter. If you wish to order a Caring Christmas Tree please contact the dedicated order line on 0845 111 8733 or order online at [www.caringchristmastrees.com](http://www.caringchristmastrees.com).

**ORDER DEADLINE:** No later than 5 pm Friday 26 November.

Bethany Christian Trust

## CORRECTION FROM OCTOBER EDITION

Last month, the article about the **P.P. Stitches** evening on Wednesday 17th November incorrectly listed the venue as 2 Abbotsford Park. The correct address is **3 Abbotsford Park**. The Editor apologises for this mistake.



## **BOOK REVIEW by Gregor Innes** **RICH by Peter Dickson with David Gibson**

Four reasons I was attracted to this book:

It is written by an exceptionally clear and concise Scottish preacher and teacher. It is a newly published book in October (I like to catch "hot off the press" material). It has the word "RICH" on the cover and this also intrigued me as to why such a book would be published during this current time of financial uncertainty. It is a short book (128 pages).

You can't have missed the news story where speculation was rife over who had won the recent record breaking Euro Millions Lottery jackpot of £113,019,926. The winner eventually came forward but decided to remain anonymous. They also became the 589<sup>th</sup> richest person in the UK on the 21<sup>st</sup> October! What does it mean to be rich and why do we become so interested in it - even when it doesn't involve us directly?

Peter Dickson's new book opens with an event described by Dr Luke in chapter 4 of his Gospel account. It is the moment when Jesus was in the Synagogue in Nazareth and after being handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah, he read out the following lines:

*The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to preach good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to release the oppressed,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.*

Peter Dickson understands these words to be Jesus' manifesto explaining what he is all about and what he can do for each and every one of us. He goes on to say that Jesus is "the ultimate solution to the worst credit crisis the world has ever known."

I should warn you that it is not a "softly, softly" book that keeps repeating itself with simple and sometimes unworkable solutions in a difficult world of living. It is, however, a refreshing book in the sense that it is not saturated with "religious jargon" - so you don't need to have various theological books and a dictionary at your side. You also don't need to be a Christian to read it. Being a Christian, however, is about being part of a family of fellow believers with Jesus as our redeeming Saviour and Guide. This book dissects what it really means to belong to God's family and it is written in an honest,<sup>1</sup> challenging and reassuring fashion.

## **BOOK REVIEW Cont.**

Peter Dickson uses various parts of Dr Luke's account as a grounded biblical reference point to help highlight Jesus throughout his writing. He is not afraid to address really big questions of doubt – such as the reliability of Luke's biblical account, why some people feel God is distant, who is the real Jesus and what is the real deal, what exactly is being achieved by the crucifixion and resurrection and why is this important during a time of economic crisis in our world, how do you know if or when you have "found Jesus", what does Jesus really have to say about wealth, what about Christians who have lots of money – is this OK, what about living life without including Jesus in decisions, what about being part of the Church without including Jesus in decisions and worship, why did Jesus offend some and draw others?

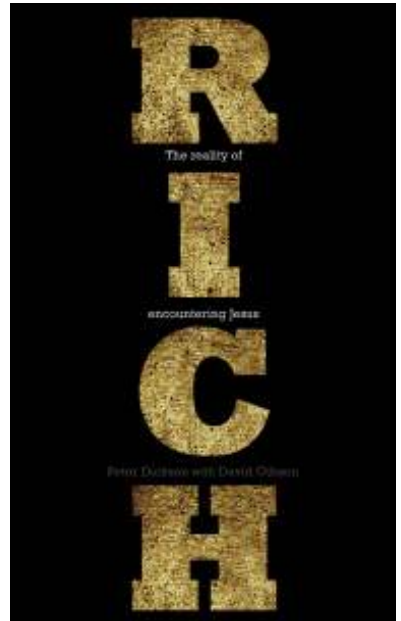
The book has good pace and is peppered with helpful illustrations taken from recent and familiar national and local news stories including questions and comments from famous Philosophers and modern day commentators such as Richard Dawkins. As my former Aberdeen New Testament Professor, I. Howard Marshall, puts it, "encountering Jesus is a matter of urgency for all people everywhere."

If you decide to read this book, you will find that Peter Dickson with David Gibson takes you on a thoroughly relevant and engaging journey introducing you to or reminding you of people who strive for acceptance and a guaranteed future of hope. Dickson encourages us to "be rich towards God" and to realise how the person "who embraces Jesus loosens their grip on everything else... they shift their priorities from themselves to others... their worries about the present shrink while their hopes for the future grow... their perspective is dominated by what is coming soon, not what is happening now. All because Jesus Christ is the greatest treasure they possess."

I highly recommend this book to anyone and everyone.

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Gregor Innes



**RICH –The Reality of  
encountering Jesus  
Peter Dickson with  
David Gibson  
Christian Focus Publications  
ISBN 9781845506070**

## NOTES FROM THE ORGAN BENCH



The nights are fair drawing in! The transition of autumn to winter always makes its presence felt as the church becomes a chilly place to practice in midweek. On my complaint about cold fingers, my first organ teacher retorted that I simply wasn't practising hard enough!

While Hogmanay remains a distance off, November does see the end and beginning of the Christian year. The last Sunday in November is the first Sunday in Advent, the period in which the church prepares for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Before then, however, the present year concludes fittingly with the season of remembrance. All Saints' Day is on 1 November, when many Christians remember with gratitude those who have gone before us in the faith. Many churches mark the occasion on the following Sunday; the concluding voluntary at the morning service on Sunday 7 November will therefore be Marcel Dupré's stirring toccata on *Placare Christe Servulis*, an ancient vesper hymn associated with All Saints'. Dupré was a pupil of Charles-Marie Widor, of *Toccatas* fame, and succeeded him as organist of the church of Saint-Sulpice in Paris (the one that PPC looks like!)

The following Sunday is Remembrance Sunday, when the choir will bring to us John Ireland's famous anthem *Greater love hath no man*, a moving setting of John 15:13. We're grateful to Tim Shimwell for joining us that morning to trumpet the Last Post in our act of remembrance. Tim and I will be playing Eric Coates' famous *Dambusters March* as the postlude. If any of you are interested, I'm playing a recital of music for Remembrance Sunday that afternoon in Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum in Glasgow – see advert on the next page. On the same day, Tim's wife Cathy will be playing for our evening service.

November's *First Sunday Bach* is a little later than normal. The morning postlude on Sunday 21 November will be JSB's Fugue in E flat, known as the 'St Anne' on account of the similarity of the theme to the hymn tune *St Anne*, commonly used for the hymn *O God our help in ages past*; an appropriate theme with which to bring to a close the Christian year.

Andrew Caskie

## **ORGANS OF EDINBURGH BOOK**

Readers of Review & Outlook may remember a recent advert for a beautiful new 'coffee-table' book featuring the many fine organs around Edinburgh, published by Delphian Records with the Edinburgh Society of Organists. The substantial book includes large full-colour photographs and articles on some 22 instruments around the city, and is accompanied by four audio CDs containing recordings of each instrument. Some four pages of the book cover the organ at Palmerston Place Church; the CDs include quarter of an hour of music played by me on the instrument. One of the many subscribers to the book was the late John Macpherson, much missed from our choir. John loved making music in our church, and had a significant role in the project to build our fine organ back in 1992. He often expressed to me his enthusiasm for the Organs of Edinburgh project, but sadly never saw its completion. His wife Helen has kindly offered his copy of the book to the church library, a donation we accept with gratitude. Please do borrow the book from the library if seeing and hearing our instrument (and 21 others) featured in this way would be of interest. We thank Helen for this thoughtfulness.

Andrew Caskie

### **Organ recital by Andrew Caskie**

Sunday 14 November 2010, 3.00pm

Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum, Argyle Street, Glasgow (admission free)

*Music for Remembrance Sunday*

Fugue in E flat 'St Anne' BWV 552b – Johann Sebastian Bach

Nimrod (from *Enigma Variations*, Op. 36) – Edward Elgar

Solemn Melody – Henry Walford Davies

For the Fallen (from *The Spirit of England*, Op. 80) – Edward Elgar

'Spitfire' Prelude (from *The First of the Few*) – William Walton

Elegy for April 7, 1913 – Hubert Parry

Introduction and March (from '*Battle of Britain*' Suite) – William Walton

RAF March Past – Henry Walford Davies

Carillon de Westminster (from *Pièces de Fantaisie*, Op. 54) – Louis Vierne



### **Music for Advent and Christmas**

Sunday 12 December 2010, 5.15pm – 6.00pm

Palmerston Place Church (admission free)

Organ recital by Andrew Caskie

Come and enjoy a respite from the busyness of Christmas, in this short, reflective programme of seasonal organ music for Advent and Christmas. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served between the recital and the evening service. The detailed programme will be included in the December / January R&O.

## **TRIBUTE TO JOE KING**

Joe King, an elder of Palmerston Place died on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2010. He was 94 years old. Joe was born on 24<sup>th</sup> August 1916 during WWI.

He was the youngest of seven. Educated at Dalry Primary School and George Heriot's School, he went on to serve his apprenticeship as an electrician with St Cuthbert's Co-operative in Edinburgh. After qualifying he worked first in London for 3 years at Pinewood Film Studios and then with Metropolitan Vickers.

Wishing to see the world, he joined P & O as a Refrigeration Engineer and went on several cruises to the Far East. On the outbreak of war he was transferred from the Merchant Navy to the Royal Naval Reserve, where he served on HMS Narkunda, a peace-time cruise ship converted into an armed troop ship. The Narkunda was the last ship out of Singapore before the Japanese invaded in February 1942, carrying troops and evacuees safely back to Glasgow in May 1942. Later that year returning from carrying troops to the front line in North Africa Narkunda was bombed and sank on 14 November 1942 some 100 miles east of Algiers. Joe was rescued and taken ashore to Algiers and billeted in the cinema of the naval barracks which also was bombed. Once again Joe survived where others did not, but these two events led to him returning home with what now we would call post traumatic stress. After some months he was invalided-out of the navy and resumed work as a civilian engineer being sent to Immingham Docks where he remained until 1946.

On his return to Edinburgh, Joe changed direction completely and went into the retail trade, first with RW Forsyth as a buyer, and then with Davison's Menswear. Being indoors all day did not suit him and he returned to the electrical trade with various firms until his retirement in 1981.

In 1942 Joe met Norah Loutit at the Plaza Ballroom. Courting by correspondence as he had to go to London the next day, a whirlwind romance led to him proposing going up Lothian Road. However, owing to both having major health problems, it was a long engagement. They were eventually able to marry on 5 April 1945 at St. Stephen's Church, Edinburgh. Married life started off in Grimsby followed by a move back to Edinburgh to live with Norah's elderly parents in Dundas Street, where his two children Sandra and Graham were born. They were happily married until Norah's death in March 1989 at the age of 67, following quadruple bypass surgery and a massive stroke.

Following Norah's death, Joe made a supreme effort to socialise. He went swimming regularly at Dunfermline College and over lunch afterwards made friends, including renewing acquaintance with Penny Ainslie, a recent widow. They began to go together regularly to tea dances until Joe's heart problems put a stop to such energetic pastimes. When Penny's cancer recurred Joe looked after her until November 2001 when he suffered a heart attack and was hospitalised. Three weeks later Penny was also hospitalised and she died in January 2002. After his heart attack, Joe went to live with Sandra and David, giving up his house at East Barnton Gardens.

Joe was very musical. In younger days he was a tenor with various choirs and a violin player in various orchestras. Joe's greatest love was ballroom dancing for which he won several medals.

He was extremely good at DIY – it was rarely necessary to have a workman cross the doorstep. He was also fearless, a fact that could make him reckless. One time he fractured his spine showing his children he could stand on his head! But game for anything Joe went down a flume at Centre Parcs at 73 though he could not swim! The day after, going down the Wild River Rapids he had to be rescued! In his eighties he was to be seen climbing onto the roof of the house to 'sort' a window.

His interests latterly, were reading naval novels, watching TV (and channel hopping!), listening to music, playing cards – mostly Patience, but Bridge when he got the chance, and meeting friends on a Saturday for lunch.

Until last autumn, when he became more infirm, he led quite a busy life. He regularly attended Palmerston Place Church for over 78 years – initially in the Youth Fellowship then later serving as an Elder where he was ordained in 1963. More recently he enjoyed attending the Palmerston Place Friendship Club, the local Probus Club and the Cameo Lunch Club at St Columba's Church in Blackhall.

He always took a great interest and pride in his grandchildren, Morven and Neil and also his three great-grandchildren, Owen, Niall and Cameron. We extend our sympathy to Sandra and David and to Neil and the family at this time.



## **TRIBUTE TO TOM BROWN**

Tom Brown died in St Columba's Hospice on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at the age of 79.

Tom grew up in Stockbridge and shared the family home with his two younger sisters, Betty and Christine. Tom went to Stockbridge Primary and then Broughton Secondary School. In 1943 when Tom was 13, his father Peter died and the family had to struggle to make ends meet. A year later Tom developed a form of TB and had to be in hospital for 6 months and lost a year of school.

Whilst ill, he read avidly about travel and was determined to go to sea as a deck officer in the merchant navy following his grandfather. So, when he was able, he joined the Sea Cadet Corps and enjoyed messing about in boats down in Granton. Sadly he failed an eyesight test and had to rethink his future.

A fellow cadet told him of an opening for an office boy at Miller and Bryce and he applied and was accepted in July 1946. His wage - the princely sum of £1 per week. Millers and Bryce are searchers of public records who provide reports on the various public registers of Scotland for lawyers, mainly in connection with conveyancing transactions. Two years into his job TB struck again and he was off work for two years. Yet his employers both kept his job open and paid his salary - not too burdensome to them! It was a good investment, for Tom was to work with the firm for 50 years and rise to become Managing Director and one of the owners of the firm.

Meanwhile the family moved to Montgomery Street, his mother using the larger house to take in boarders. In the early 1950s Tom met Edith Jamieson through a common interest in Vespa Motor scooters, very fashionable at the time. Tom and a friend started a local Vespa Club in 1954 and Edith joined it. Together they went regularly on bike runs and so the friendship developed. Edith and Tom got married in Old Restalrig Parish Church in September 1957 and they began life together in Restalrig Avenue. Tom and Edith were to enjoy over 45 years together and share a very happy and close marriage. They also both joined the church at that time and were both faithful members from then on.

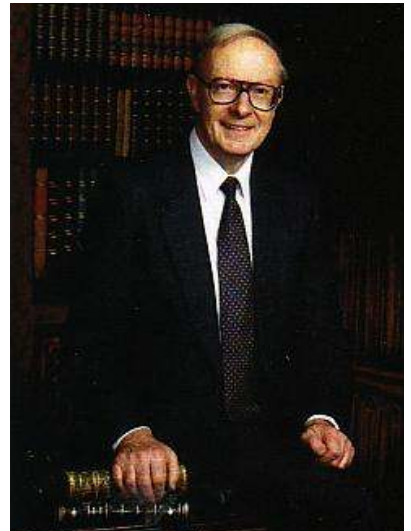
Tom was still connected with the Sea Cadets then but when their son, Simon, was born he resigned his commission as a Lieutenant in the RNVR to give more time to help Edith. The family grew as first Alison and then Jennifer joined their brother Simon in the family. With sailing gone Tom's new interest was to be golf, which he was introduced to by Edith.

When the family moved to Belford Avenue in 1974 they both joined Murrayfield Golf Club and also Palmerston Place Church where Tom would be a member for the next 35 years. In 1979 Tom was ordained an Elder. Having been Clerk to the Board at Restalrig, Tom became Preces of the Managers' Court for several years at Palmerston Place. Tom and Edith were very much part of the congregation supporting many of its activities. Tom was responsible for organizing the Welcome teams, ensuring visitors felt warmly welcomed.

Tom had a variety of other interests. Capable intellectually he was also a very practical man. He was always willing to lend a hand where needed. He was a regular volunteer on the Care Van to help the homeless, once giving away his brand new gloves given as a Christmas present the day before because he met someone whose hands were cold – a generous act but not immediately appreciated by the giver. He also insisted that fresh milk be used on the Van for the tea, a custom that has now been adopted by all the Palmerston Place teams who go out. Tom was a very well organised man who took all his responsibilities seriously but who also had a very clever sense of humour which sometimes took others a few moments to grasp. In 1998 Tom and Edith moved to an apartment on Murrayfield Road. In 2003 Edith died following heart problems. As well as his three children following their marriages, Tom enjoyed his extended family and his 7 grandchildren. After Edith's death he travelled widely going on small specialist cruises and golfing holidays including going on one of the last flights of Concorde to New York.

Earlier this year Tom received the diagnosis of an inoperable tumour and he faced his death as he did everything else. He wanted everything to be in order and for all his farewells to be made properly. The last pieces of the jigsaw puzzle in place, he said his goodbyes to his family and friends. Then he was ready to die, his faith quiet and certain. So he did just that, sure of his Christian hope and grateful for the love and prayers that surrounded him. We give thanks for a life well lived, for death bravely faced and for a Christian hope that carried him through both.

Colin Sinclair



## FAIRTRADE NEWS

Our Christmas stalls will be on November 21<sup>st</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> in the vestibule after the morning service. We promise to have a wonderful selection of fairly traded products suitable for Christmas gifts for friends and family. There will also be cards, decorations and wrapping paper for sale.

Thank you to all who support our monthly Traidcraft Stall! Every purchase helps make a difference to someone's life and the profit from each stall goes to our own missions and projects in Palmerston Place.

*Why buy fairly traded products?* Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability and fair terms of trade for workers in the developing world. A premium is also paid to each trading community to use in a way they choose. For example, to extend the local school building or increase health services. Commonly the women decide where the premium would be best used as they often have direct experience and knowledge of where the deficiencies lie.

Here is a delicious recipe using fairly traded products. It can be found along with lots more great recipes at the Traidcraft website, [www.traidcraft.co.uk](http://www.traidcraft.co.uk).

### Cape Chutney

This fruity chutney is perfect with cheese or cold meats or with left-over turkey or ham at Christmas. We made it and it tastes very good!

These ingredients make around 3 jam jars

- 150g Traidcraft dried apricots
- 225g Traidcraft raisins or sultanas
- 1.2 litres vinegar
- 225g Traidcraft brown sugar
- 2 onions, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp ground ginger
- 1 tbsp ground coriander
- 1 tbsp mustard seeds
- 3 red chillies, de-seeded and cut very thinly



1. Start by soaking the apricots and raisins overnight in vinegar.
2. When ready, spoon the fruit and vinegar into a heavy pan and add the other ingredients.
3. Bring slowly to the boil. Simmer for about 1 hour over a very low heat, stirring with a wooden spoon, until the mixture sets. Leave to cool and then store in clean glass screw-top jars in the fridge.

Robert and Sheila McCabe

# **SUNDAY SERVICES IN PALMERSTON PLACE CHURCH**

***"bringing Christian worship, fellowship  
and service back to the heart of everyday life"***

11.00 am Morning Worship  
6.30 pm Evening Service

Crèche is available every Sunday morning.  
Beginners, Seekers, ESMS Boarders and Senior Horizon  
normally meet during the Morning Service.

## **KIRK SESSION**

Next meeting will be held on Monday November 8th at 7:30 pm.

## **PROPERTY AND FINANCE TEAM**

Next meeting will be held on Monday November 15th at 7:30 pm.

Meetings of Kirk Session are held in public.  
You are welcome to come along.

## **THE REVIEW AND OUTLOOK**

All material for the December/January issue  
should be in the hands of the Secretary  
by **Tuesday 23rd November**

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The Minister asks those who read the *Review and Outlook* to inform him and his team about ways in which they can help, such as requests for hospital and other visits, and also about changes of address. The card inserted into the cover of the congregational hymnbook is convenient for this purpose, and is also for the use of those visiting the congregation. You may wish to draw visitors' attention to it.