

Crown Terrace Methodist Church
praise | hope | care

Pentecost

2010



A LETTER FROM THE MANSE

Dear friends in Christ,

What with the AGM and a General election, it seems voting for what you believe in or who you believe in is brought very much to the fore. I wonder what your reaction would be if the next prime minister was Jesus?

I have it on good authority that Jesus will not be standing as a candidate in the forthcoming election, which is a great shame, though by the time you do read this the election will have been and gone and we will (maybe) know who is to be the Prime minister.

But suppose, just suppose, that up there with Gordon Brown, David Cameron, Nick Clegg and co. was the right honourable Jesus Christ, standing in the constituency of Aberdeen. In an age when voting apathy is reaching record levels as one scandal after another engulfs Westminster, the politics of Jesus offer us a radical change. His manifesto would transform this country beyond the wildest dreams of any other party leader.

THE JESUS MANIFESTO

Economy: Luke 18:22 *“You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”* Jesus would not be a fan of our society’s obsession with finance and material goods. He would have some stern words to the fat cats who are lining their pockets while millions live in poverty. Jesus’ instruction to the rich young man in Luke 18 was hard to swallow and that man simply walked away. Yet it is important to remember that this verse doesn’t just apply to those who are rich – it applies to us all if we are to follow Jesus.

Healthcare: Matthew 10:8 *“Heal the sick, raise the dead to life, heal the people who have leprosy, and force out demons.”* Jesus’ reforms of healthcare would revolutionise the NHS. He was not one to say that we need more doctors and nurses. Instead He instructs His followers to heal the sick and perform miracles in His name. Imagine the impact that this would have! Hospitals would have bed space and overworked medical staff could enjoy a less demanding workload.

Law and Order: Matthew 5: 38-39 *“You know that you have been taught, an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I tell you not to try to get even with a person who has done something to you. When someone slaps your right cheek, turn and let that person slap your other cheek.”* Many people see these words from Jesus as the most challenging in the Bible, and he certainly would struggle to get this message across in a society where people like to get even and do unto others like they do to you. Jesus leads by example in this. As He hung on the cross, the crowd hurled insults up at Him. Instead of hurling an insult back, Jesus asks for a blessing for them by saying, *“Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”*

Education: Matthew 28: 19-20 *“Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach*

them to do everything that I have told you.” Jesus’ instructions on educational reform have the greatest impact on our daily lives. In the Great Commission, Jesus’ followers are told to teach people to do everything that he has told them. This impacts on each one of us. We can all educate and influence those around us by the way in which we choose to lead our lives. We can be positive role models and good mentors in a world that is lacking both. And if enough people can grasp this model of education, the Jesus manifesto will become a reality.

Decision Time: As you will by now have cast your vote, think about the Holy Spirit who can help us all work for a positive change. Think also about that man from Galilee. That man of the people, the one who didn’t go seeking fame and publicity. The one who didn’t believe in revenge. The man who told us to give away all that we have to the poor. The man who gave us the power to heal, the man who told us to teach the world about Him. A man of honesty and truth, and a man of integrity and compassion. That man Jesus Christ, although He was absent from the ballot box, we are challenged to carry out His manifesto in a changing world.

Once again thank you for your generosity to the building fund appeal, we are still getting some donations and are encouraged by them.

Every Blessing, *Ken.*

“The Holy Spirit is the fire within us to produce life - changing
Bible study, bold witnessing, Christ-like character, effective
prayer, peaceful relationships and true worship”

Quote from Willie Aitken
during a sermon preached at CTM

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations

to Mary Farquhar who celebrated her 80th birthday on February 25th



Marriage



On 16th March in Banff, Canada,
Elizabeth Cresswell to Jonathon Ashbridge.
We wish them every happiness

Engagement

Congratulations to Bruce Rae - son of Alec & Joan - who has announced his engagement to Sabrina Gordon-Keylock

Baptism: on March 14th Chikaodiri Olivia Ifeanyi-Nwobodo daughter of Ojay & Chiugo Ifeanyi-Nwobodo

Deaths

On Wednesday, 3rd March, in Glenfairn Nursing Home, Ayr, Gloria Benson, a loving mother, aunt and friend.

On Tuesday, March 30th in Hawkhill House Nursing Home, Milltimber, Lenice Bailey, aged 98, mother of Katherine Dalton

On Friday, 16th April in ARI, Douglas Smith, loving husband of Helen for over 65 years

God bless them and their families

TREASURER'S REPORT

The accounts to 5 April 2010 are generally in line with what was predicted in September. We will incur a substantial deficit on the year, primarily caused by essential expenditure on repairs carried out last year and paid for this year. Something similar is not expected to happen next year. Our hopes that the 250 appeal might cover these exceptional costs entirely have not come to fruition so far, but the 250 appeal runs until the end of August and we live in hope.

The weekly giving by the congregation in the Sunday collections and donations has been maintained at over £1,000 a week, the amount needed to run the Church. At a time of financial difficulty and anxiety for many members of the Church, we thank God for their generosity.

May I give the usual treasurer's encouragement for all who pay income tax, to see Jackie Moat to sign up to Gift Aid at no cost to themselves, if they have not done so already. Also, if you have not done so already, please either join the Sunday envelope scheme (see Alex Sim) or ask your bank to set up a standing order for direct payment to the Church account (the Church account details are in the foyer and also please let Jack Hubbuck know if you do this).

As a new treasurer, I am particularly grateful to Barbara Cresswell and Nigel Herbert, and to several others, for helping me to understand something of how things work.

Jack Hubbuck

Provisional Accounts 2009/10

Income	Actual 31/08/2009	Budget 31/08/2009	Budget to 31/08/10	Actual 05/04/2010
Giving by congregation	52,562	52,000	52,000	30,797
Gift Aid tax refund	10,408	11,000	10,500	0
Use of premises	16,558	15,000	12,000	3,300
Grant from Ogilvie for Youth worker	3,000	3,000	0	0
Grant from District Advanced Fund for YAF	5,000	3,000	5,000	5,000
Interest on Bank/CFB deposits	973	800	500	199
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	4,082
YAF/Explore	395	1,000	0	142
Grants from Ogilvie for Manse Repairs	0	0	0	0
Grants from Emergenc&relief District Fund	5,000	10,000	5,000	0
Donations for Manse Repairs	2,000	2,000	0	0
CTM 250 Appeal	50	0	30,000	12,480
Totals	95,946	97,800	115,000	56,000

Expenditure

Assessment	42,695	42,500	46,000	22,534
Administration costs	4,285	6,000	2,000	1,787
Miscellaneous payments inc Dunblane	4,375	2,500	6,000	4,904
Insurance	2,807	2,750	3,000	3,298
Gas and Electricity	5,345	4,500	5,500	2,261
Repairs	19,527	20,000	35,000	26,810
Cleaning	2,130	2,000	2,500	1,178
Telephone	400	500	500	246
YAF	1,302	4,000	1,500	2,693
Discretionary donations	9,560	9,780	11,500	0
Totals	92,426	94,530	113,500	65,711

WORSHIPPERS DEFY CREDIT CRUNCH

Report from the P&J 06.05.2010

People across the north-east have defied the credit crunch and donated a record amount of money to the Church of Scotland over the past 12 months.

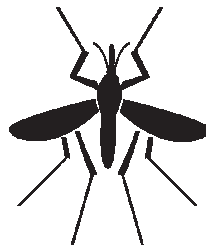
Offerings at Foveran Parish Church near Ellon soared by 45%, Noth Church at Rhynie by 44% and Dyke Parish Church near Forres by 31% according to a Kirk report.

Donations at Udny and Pitmedden Church increased by 24% and 19% at Rothes Church.

The churches are among sixteen who participated in a nationwide scheme to encourage worshippers to dig deep.

The report, which will be discussed at the General Assembly later this month, showed that people who attend 1,400 churches across Scotland donated £59.9 million in 2009.

Tax recovered amounted to £11.1 million, bringing the total to £71 million.



If you think you're too small to make a difference,
try sleeping with a mosquito

The Dali Lama



GHANA UPDATE

The top priority of St Peter is to finish building their church - currently they worship in the completed basement. Most of the workmen involved are members of the church. These photos were taken last year, when they were pressing ahead to complete the lower floor.





The following article,
by Daphne Cowking,
entitled *Worshipping
Together in Aberdeen
City Centre*, was printed
in the Christmas 2008
edition of the

Newsletter. At the end of it readers were encouraged to let Daphne know what they thought. At that time a very minimal response was forthcoming. The article has been updated and readers are now being given a further opportunity to express their views.

Please either speak to Daphne or e-mail her at alandaf@deeside4.plus.com

For many years, in May, the congregation from CTM joined eight other congregations from city centre churches for a united morning service. Over the years it was held in St. Mark's, Denburn (now closed), Gilcomston South, the Music Hall and finally at the East Kirk of St. Nicholas (now closed for redevelopment). There was a guest preacher and an amalgamated choir of about 50 sang an anthem. Of course not everybody came. Some objected to worshipping in the Music Hall because it was not a church, and some would only attend if it was in "their kirk", but usually 600 - 700 people from 6 denominations worshipped together. I enjoy worshipping with a small congregation but there is something particularly uplifting and encouraging about being part of a big congregation from time to time. The service was organised by the Central Churches Association, the CCA, which also organised united services for Holy Week and an Advent Carol Service. However, at a very sad meeting in about 1995, the CCA was disbanded leaving 3 congregations, St. Mark's, Langstane and CTM, who wished to work together to form OAK, (Organisation of Aberdeen Kirks). When Langstane was closed, the outreach they had started through Langstane Café was continued in OAK Café. For a time the North Church of St. Andrews joined OAK but when they amalgamated with Greyfriars to form Queen Street the congregation decided not to join OAK. The united morning service continues, but has moved to January to coincide with the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and in 2010 it was held at CTM. Hopefully, in January 2011, we will all worship at St. Mark's at a morning service. OAK Café continues to expand, and friends from St. Mark's join us at the OAK evening service on the 2nd. Sunday of every month. Personally, I think it would be good if more congregations joined us for work and we worshipped with them from time to time, but I think it will only happen if the folk in the pews or on the chairs want it to. What do you think?

MDC.

What the church needed in 1941

Soon after taking office as church treasurer, Jack Hubbuck discovered a three-page document drawn up in June 1941 listing all the "movable effects within the buildings" of our church. It was headed "War Damage Act 1941", and would have served as the basis for an insurance claim if any of the church property had been damaged or destroyed by enemy action. The document is a carbon copy: the original may still be in some government archive, awaiting a claim that fortunately never needed to be made.

The list throws a vivid light on what has changed, and a few things that have not changed, in almost seventy years.

We still have "1 Wesley Chair", though it is no longer in the pulpit. Nor do we have a choir area with, among other things, "24 Bentwood choir chairs" (there were 97 more Bentwood chairs in the Hall). We still have "1 Great War Brass Memorial Tablet", and sadly now a second tablet commemorating the fewer dead of the second world war. We still have "6 offertory plates", and even "1 offertory pillar", occasionally used for retiring collections. We still have pianos in various places, but no longer the harmoniums that in 1941 were found in the Hall and the Church Parlour. Nor does the Church Parlour (more recently the choir vestry) contain "1 coal box", "1 set fire irons", "1 fireside rug", or "1 sewing machine". The cupboard off the back corridor still contains "1 safe", almost certainly the same one that was there seventy years ago. The minister's vestry already had "1 electric fire", though *not* the same one,

nor indeed the same vestry. The "Cupboard" in the (old) minister's vestry still contains "Quantity of odds and ends", as difficult to list now as it doubtless was then.

There is less brass about the place than there used to be. The "8 Brass stair rods and fittings" that used to help protect the preacher's ascent to the pulpit ; the "2 large brass umbrella brackets" in the choir, the "52 brass umbrella brackets" (not to mention the accompanying "52 iron umbrella receptacles") in the sanctuary (no doubt just called "the church" in 1941), all, all have gone; the 26 umbrella fittings in the gallery survive.

On the musical side, the organ, not being movable, was not listed, but the choir area held "Quantity of organ music", and the rear corridor, then as now, "1 choir cupboard containing hymn books", then but not now, "(locked)".

No one could read this inventory and remain an absolute conservative; but it may encourage us to take a fresh look at what, in 2010, we need to hold on to, and what we should replace, renew, or reject.

There remains one small puzzle, which some senior member of the congregation may be able to solve. Pew no. 29, *only*, had "1 pew rug". Why? Was it a particularly draughty pew? or was it occupied by someone with delicate health? or (since the rug was church property) was it the minister's pew? It would be good to know.

DESTINY

Lord, in my life's unfolding
I can and will acknowledge
Your over-arching care.
From infancy and school-age,
Sustaining, guiding, holding,
A deeper force than chance was there.

My destiny is charted,
But every passing second
The chart is drawn anew;
The course in heaven reckoned
Is re-appraised, re-started,
To take account of what I do.

No voice from heaven dictated
The course that I decided,
No pointing finger showed.
But where two paths divided
In love you stood and waited
To guide my steps on either road.

So will I praise the patience
Which, times beyond recalling,
Has seen and understood;
Which saved my feet from falling,
And used my inclinations
To make another kind of good.

Michael Hewlett

HOPE IS THE THING WITH FEATHERS

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all.

And sweetest in the gale is heard:
And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chillest land,
And on the strangest sea;
Yet, never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.

Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

Jesus stand among us In Thy risen power

On Pentecost Sunday last year, when he visited as part of our 250th anniversary celebrations, Rev. Gerald Bostock gave us a wonderful sermon about the Holy Spirit. The following Sunday Andrew Stobart began his sermon with the words: 'As someone was leaving after the service last week they asked me "How do we follow the Holy Spirit?"' Those of us who attended The Carpenter's Arms that week had the following as an example.

Rev. Ken was ill and unable to lead our worship that month and I was given no name by the Holy Spirit to ask someone else to lead, so I was responsible for the leading. For many days my inner conviction was "make no preparation." (This was for worship not refreshments). As each member arrived I told them that I had made no preparation, that we would be following the Holy Spirit and it would be a time of prayer. Each one agreed.

At the beginning of our service, as there were so few of us, I asked if those present wished to sing and, as they did, I asked the organist to choose the hymn. Mission Praise 380 was chosen and I was in total awe as we sang William Pennefather's words:

Jesus stand among us
In Thy risen power
Let this time of worship
Be a hallowed hour

Breathe the Holy Spirit
Into every heart
Bid the fears and sorrows
From each soul depart

Thus with quickened footsteps
We'll pursue our way
Watching for the dawning
Of eternal day

To me it was obvious that the organist had been led by the Holy Spirit.

We then began to pray, but not in a usual way. We spent the next hour talking about the recent Air France tragedy, the MP's expenses scandal, the children in schools today, a recent murder in Northern Ireland, the war in Afghanistan, the members of our congregation who were ill and our families. We registered our concerns but also gave thanks. We ended by holding hands and saying The Grace together.

That Friday, as usual, I attended the Aberdeen Julian Meeting which is a time of contemplative prayer. As I shared the time I had spent at The Carpenter's Arms on Wednesday with several members of the group each one said "Oh, that was heart prayers."

How did we know we were following the Holy Spirit? The atmosphere in the church was awesome.

Matthew 18: 20, Romans 8: 26, Ephesians 6: 18, 1Chronicles 28: 9.

Gloria Milne,
November 2009

A POEM BY MARGUERITE KENRICK
(with apologies to Lewis Carroll)

"You are old brother William" the young man said,
"Yet you preach at each church in the Circuit.
With the weight of the years on your hoary old head
Pray how do you manage to work it?"

"In my youth," said the sage "if a chapel was far
We set out to walk at first light,
So to travel in minutes to church in a car,
Is luxury, lad, at its height"

"You are old brother William" went on the young man
"And have obviously never been "mod"
Yet you draw a good crowd when your name's on the plan.
I confess this seems a bit odd."

"I read myself full" Brother William replied
"Then I think myself clear - that's the test -
Then I pray myself hot till I'm glowing inside,
Then let go and let God do the rest!"

"You are old" said the youth "as I mentioned before
Though you're loyal, hard working and tough.
With a record of service that tops the three score
Don't you think that you've preached long enough?"

"Yes, I do" said the sage, "though I love the work so,
I'd be glad of a rest , no denial.
Yes, I and my friends would be ready to go,
If you and your friends were 'On Trial!'"

A PAGE FOR YOUNGER READERS

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS COMING

Nicodemus was a Pharisee, a very religious man, probably wealthy and very clever. Yet there was something or someone missing in his life. He wanted to meet this Jesus he had heard about, the religious teacher from Nazareth. He wanted to ask him some questions. So Nicodemus came to Jesus at night. He was probably afraid of what the other Jewish leaders would think of him, a respected man, seeking out Jesus. Jesus said something that Nicodemus was not expecting to hear. "I tell you the truth, no-one can enter the Kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.... You must be born again" (John 3⁵⁻⁷).

If we turn over a few pages in our Bible to Acts Chapter 2, (an awful lot has happened in those intervening chapters - world changing events!) we meet Peter, the disciple who loved Jesus but who often put his foot and his mouth, in it at the same time. Something strange had happened to the early believers after Jesus had gone back into heaven. They had been filled with the Holy Spirit.

After addressing the crowd, the people ask Peter a question. They were desperately searching for something (or someone) like Nicodemus had been. "What shall we do?" they asked. Peter replied "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2³⁸).

What happened to those early believers as they waited was so dramatic and life-changing, yet so natural, as God intended it to be.

This is how the Jesus Storybook Bible describes it:

Suddenly a strong wind filled the little room, whistling through the walls, rustling the straw on the floor. And there - on everyone's heads, shining in the gloom - were flickering flames. Fire that didn't hurt or burn.

And something more: inside, in their hearts, they felt a strange heat, almost as if all the coldness and hardness were melting away. As if their broken hearts were mending, and God was giving them brand new hearts - hearts that could work properly.

How it happened they didn't know, but they knew God's power had struck their hearts ablaze - and Jesus himself was coming to live inside them.

They had seen Jesus go away, but now he was closer than he had ever been - inside their hearts. And this time nothing could ever separate them. Jesus would always be there. With them. Loving them. Whispering the promise that would get rid of the poison and the terrible lie and the sickness in their hearts. God's wonderful promise to them "You are my child and I love you".

"Make your home in me , as I make my home in you" Jesus had said.

Could it be? Heaven was coming into their hearts.

Taken from 'The Jesus Storybook Bible'
Pub. Zondervan

Contributed by Sarah Sim

BIBLE NAMES

Each of these scrambled words are the names of someone in the Bible.

Can you rearrange them to find the hidden name?

- | | | |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. AHNO | 4. AEEHMLSTU | 7. EEEIKLZ |
| 2. EMOSS | 5. AEHHJOPST | 8. AABBEHHST |
| 3. AAABHMR | 6. AACHIRSUZ | 9. DEEIMRSTU |

Answers

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|------------|
| 9. Demetrius | 6. Zacharius | 3. Abraham |
| 8. Bathsheba | 5. Jehosophat | 2. Moses |
| 7. Ezekiel | 4. Methuselah | 1. Noah |

A LETTER FROM WILLIE & DOT PRIMROSE IN KENYA

Received 12.03.2010

Dear all,

Well we are now approaching our final few weeks in Meru and the experience has been a wonderful mix of challenge, frustration, tedium and yes certainly some satisfaction. We are so fortunate to have our health and background when surrounding us are so many with so little and an economic and political system which is unlikely to deliver much major change in the near future. Yet the opportunities for helping in a small way are evident whether in education, health, infrastructure, agriculture, water or food aid and we see many wonderful initiatives, often with Christian motivation being the inspiration.

Our work time here is divided 3 ways - firstly the Charity-run rural clinics which take place in a variety of deprived settings, seeing scores of folk mostly with fairly minor ailments, or so it seemed to us - Dot in her element, myself a little less secure when it comes to the innumerable bairns - all the family come and most do not leave empty handed. The lure of free pills is too much and we have become complicit, though for many the placebo is a de-wormer, ...no, just don't ask. On every trip the geriatric land rover inevitably breaks down and the sample photo is but one of many - also attached is a picture of one of our clinic settings. Then there is the palliative/hospice work - partly Princess Diana funded - which Dot has been supporting and generally impressed by - though, despite the need, they do seem somewhat under-utilised. The Meru District Hospital has been the focus of my involvement and apart from teaching ward rounds and some direct patient care there has been a push to improve the patient medical and nursing records with one ward now a [potential] model for others. The photo shows a delighted Sister McKenna! The local Scottish charity, the Friends of Meru, with whom we are associated, is also supporting the development of a modest adult rehabilitation service and we are presently supervising the building work and kitting out the small unit. Time from start to finish will be less than 6 weeks, with tenders turned around in 3 days - amazing what can be done when one cuts out bureaucracy and there is a will to change! [The money helps too!]

Our accommodation remains strange - space for 100 - but just us, and with the early arrival of the short rains we are even more marooned with the red mud of Africa clarting the dirt roads, not to mention just about everything else. Quirky electrics and plumbing continue to surprise us - lights dimmed when the shower goes on seems quite normal now. At the weekends we have sometimes been able to borrow a vehicle, though travelling any distance is not really feasible. The other weekend we made friends with the local population up a track [i.e. major road], as they helped extricate our pick-up from self-same mud - as we searched for one of several sacred lakes [found, unfortunately now dried-up, though still a great walk]. Last weekend we rattled and deafened our way around the local gamepark - fortunately without incident, seeing some very chic hippos and oh, `er a per o` white rhinos and many an unnameable ungulate.

Thank you all for keeping us in touch with snowy Scotland - not to mention kith and kin. Trust daffs now creeping north and there are some lovely Spring days ahead. By early April we`ll be in Malawi, all being well, and after a wee holiday [Mt Mulanje and the lake], we will spend our final months of this wonderful adventure in Ekwendeni.

Orrabest, Willie, and Dot says hi too.



‘the geriatric land rover inevitably breaks down’



‘one of our clinic settings’



‘a delighted Sister McKenna’



‘Willie, and Dot says hi too’

MY ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT

The modern ecumenical movement is generally dated from the World Missionary Conference held in Edinburgh in 1910. *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* describes it as "the movement towards the recovery of the unity of all believers in Christ, transcending differences of creed, ritual, and polity." We shall celebrate its centenary, in Aberdeen and elsewhere, in a few weeks' time (*watch this space*).

My personal experience of the ecumenical movement consists of a few odd recollections, good and bad, stretching over a bit more than half that century. When I was a student, one year we rejoiced that for the first time Roman Catholics were allowed to join with other Christians in saying the Lord's Prayer together. Unfortunately, the following year the Catholic bishop withdrew this permission, for reasons we failed to understand.

Then came the Anglican-Methodist Conversations, which rumbled on throughout the 1960s, and which I generally supported. These culminated in July 1969 in simultaneous votes in the Anglican Convocations of Canterbury and York, and in the Methodist Conference. The Conference produced a 77% vote in favour, the Convocations 69%. It had been previously agreed that a positive vote of 75% would be required, so the scheme in that form failed. Someone commented that it was the first time that 69% of Anglicans had ever been agreed about anything! In retrospect, many people feel that the scheme was too much "top-down", and over the years it has been followed by a gradually increasing number of local ecumenical partnerships.

In 1967 I had returned to England after ten years based in Africa. Those years included two of my best experiences of the ecumenical movement, and one of the worst. In Yaoundé, the capital of Cameroun, a

study group was set up that met alternately in our Protestant college and in a Benedictine monastery. The two institutions stood on hills on opposite sides of the town. We Protestants were invited to the stone-laying, and a couple of years later to the dedication, of the monastery's chapel, which contained some of the most beautiful African art I have ever seen. There was nothing in the official order of service of either celebration to which a Methodist could have objected.

Those were also the years of the Second Vatican Council (1962-65), at which the Catholic Church in Cameroun was represented by its head, Archbishop Jean Zoa. He was astonishingly young, only 37, when he was appointed, and he brought a breath of fresh air to relations between the churches. His appointment was generally supported by Catholic missionaries and younger Catholic clergy; older priests were for a time less enthusiastic.

The archbishop was concerned to let everyone know how things were going in the Council, so on his return from each of its four sessions, he held a public meeting, not on church premises, but on neutral ground in the French Cultural Centre – as it happened, opposite the cathedral. The meetings were crowded.

It was towards the end of that period that I was invited to speak, during the week of prayer for Christian unity, to Catholic priests in training at their senior seminary. That too could have been a happy experience, except that it coincided precisely with a bitter schism within the local Presbyterian church, dividing families including that of one of our students.

Well, that was my ecumenical movement. What about yours? How is it moving in Aberdeen?

Paul Ellingworth

Aberdeen Fairtrade News



Since 1983, the Third World Centre has been at the forefront of the move to Fair Trade in Aberdeen. There are three aspects of the organisation, the most obvious of which is our shop, Fair Trade Aberdeen, re-housed last July at 101, George Street. We also run an education centre, known as the Montgomery Development Education Centre, which has separate funding and operates out of premises in Queen Street Church. Part of a network of small centres throughout Scotland, it supports teachers in embedding global citizenship throughout the curriculum and delivers training and resources.

The final aspect of the Centre's work is the co-ordination of the Aberdeen Fairtrade City campaign. Although Aberdeen has Fairtrade City status, the work of raising awareness and expanding the use of Fairtrade products is growing and developing all the time. Aberdeen Fairtrade is the network of campaigners co-ordinated by the Centre and working in partnership with the City Council on Fairtrade events.

The Centre as a whole needs to plan for the future of its three constituent parts and is undertaking a consultation with as wide a selection of its customers, users, campaigners and supporters as possible.

Please do help us in any way you can. You will be ensuring Aberdeen's continued commitment to the wider Fair Trade scene and helping to build on the solid foundation laid down by the Centre over the past twenty-seven years. In fact, we can't do it without your help.

Sue Good
(Aberdeen Fairtrade Co-ordinator)



OAK NEWS

Organisation of Aberdeen Kirks

OAK made the following donations during 2009. A big thank you to all who have helped us in this work.

ORGANISATION	£
DEC Congo Crises Appeal	400
DEC Gaza Fund	400
DEC Sumatra Appeal	200
The Archie Foundation	1600
Rugut Family Fund (c/o Queen Street Church)	250
Sue Ryder Care Scotland	600
Mpachika Church Malawi	65
Presbytery of Aberdeen Malawi Water Fund	1000
VSA Aberdeen	500
Grampian Research in Orthopaedics	1000
Earl Haig Fund	350
Teal Charity Ball	100
Scottish Bible Society	1000
Cogwheel Trust	725
New Hope Trust (for shoebox transportation)	300
Ghana Fund (c/o CTM)	400
Big Issue Meal (for hospitality)	120
TOTAL DONATIONS	9010

Malcolm Steel
(OAK Treasurer)

In April O.A.K. had a very successful Special Lunch in aid of the Aberdeen Branch of The Diabetic Association. We had a very happy time and it was the first time our tickets have been completely sold out. Our after lunch speaker was Dr K. McHardy who gave a very witty talk and lots of information on how to keep the side effects of diabetes at bay. Our grateful thanks go to all the staff who coped with the full house and made serving 100 people look very easy.

We hope to keep the café open during the summer holiday months so any extra help of a few hours a week or month would be appreciated. Just speak to Daphne or Betty or come and see us one morning.

As we start to decide how we are to pack our holiday suitcases O.A.K. comes along to remind us that they will be packing shoeboxes again this year. Anyone who would like to donate a Christmas gift, which will be sent to Eastern Europe by The New Hope Trust, should deliver it to The O.A.K. Café before 31st October .This will give us a little time for packing and transportation.

Our O.A.K. Evening Services continue on the second Sunday of each month at Crown Terrace Methodist Church at 6.30pm.A warm welcome is assured for all who come along.

We hope you all have a happy summer and an enjoyable holiday.

Betty & Malcolm Steel

EXTRACTS FROM REAL CHURCH NEWSLETTERS

- Don't let worry kill you - let the church help
- Thursday night - potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs
- This being Easer Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

Following the acquisition of top players Martin Richens and David Low, the latter a former Scotland International, the Crown Terrace "A" team were utterly convincing in taking the First Division title in the Aberdeen and District Table Tennis League. Together with Dennis Oon, Peter Aird and Willis Ma the team remained undefeated in league games throughout the season.

Less convincing were the B and C teams. The B team (Nigel Herbert, Heng Zhou, Gregor Ksiazek, Ken Allan), new to Division One this season struggled, finishing 7th and unluckily relegated by 1 point. Their one consolation was knocking the "A" team out of the handicapped North of Scotland Shield! The C team (Hassan Kassam, Liam Richens, Angelai Shek, Daniel Fong, Anthony Fong) were all new to league play this season and look forward to making headway in Division 3 in 2010-11.

Further success for the "A" team came when they represented the Aberdeen League in a competitive match at Largs against league teams from across Scotland. The team of Martin, David, Dennis and Peter reached the final and were narrowly defeated 3-2 by West of Scotland, having won all their group matches. We now say thank you and goodbye to Peter, whose has had his best season with the club this year - his job now takes him to Edinburgh.



Division 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	B	Total
CTMA	14	13	1	0	118	22	14	132
Triangle Swifts	14	11	2	1	100	40	13	113
Triangle Pumas	14	8	2	4	84	56	9	93
CS Surfers	14	6	3	5	75	65	12	87
Triangle Athletic	14	4	2	8	53	87	14	67
Hall & Tawse	14	3	0	11	49	91	13	62
CTMB	14	4	1	9	47	93	14	61
Triangle Gashers	14	2	1	11	34	106	12	46

Division 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	B	Total
Triangle Eagles	12	10	1	1	84	36	12	96
AU Falcons	12	10	1	1	83	37	12	95
Westhill Caesars	12	4	3	5	64	56	11	75
Westhill Demons	12	5	2	5	59	61	12	71
CSI Aberdeen	11	4	3	4	52	58	11	63
Westhill Academy	11	3	0	8	38	72	11	49
CTMC	12	0	0	12	30	90	12	42

HOW TO MAKE MONEY FOR CROWN TERRACE WITHOUT REALLY TRYING (FOR INTERNET USERS ONLY!)

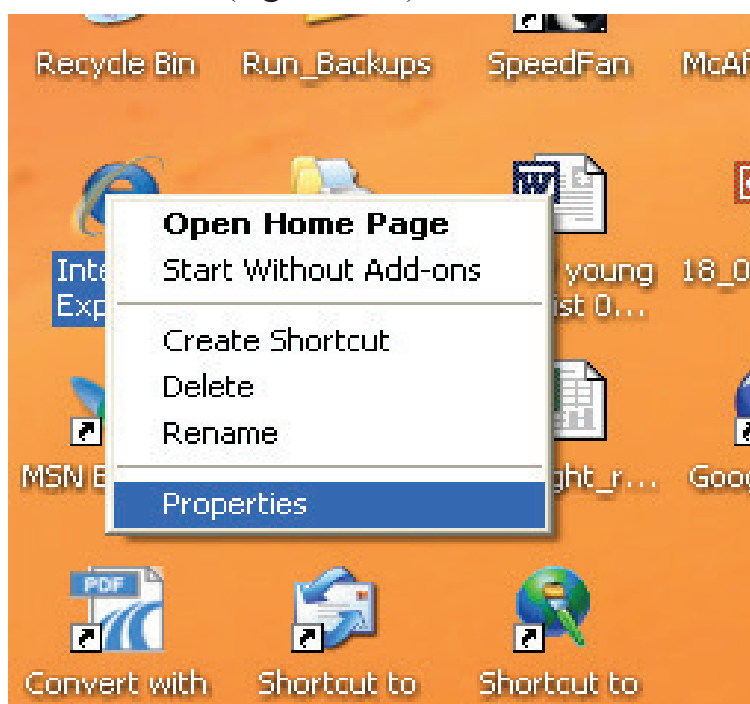
By using the Easyfundraising website both your searches and your internet purchases will make money for Crown Terrace.

Change your Search Engine

1) Find the Internet explorer icon on your desktop



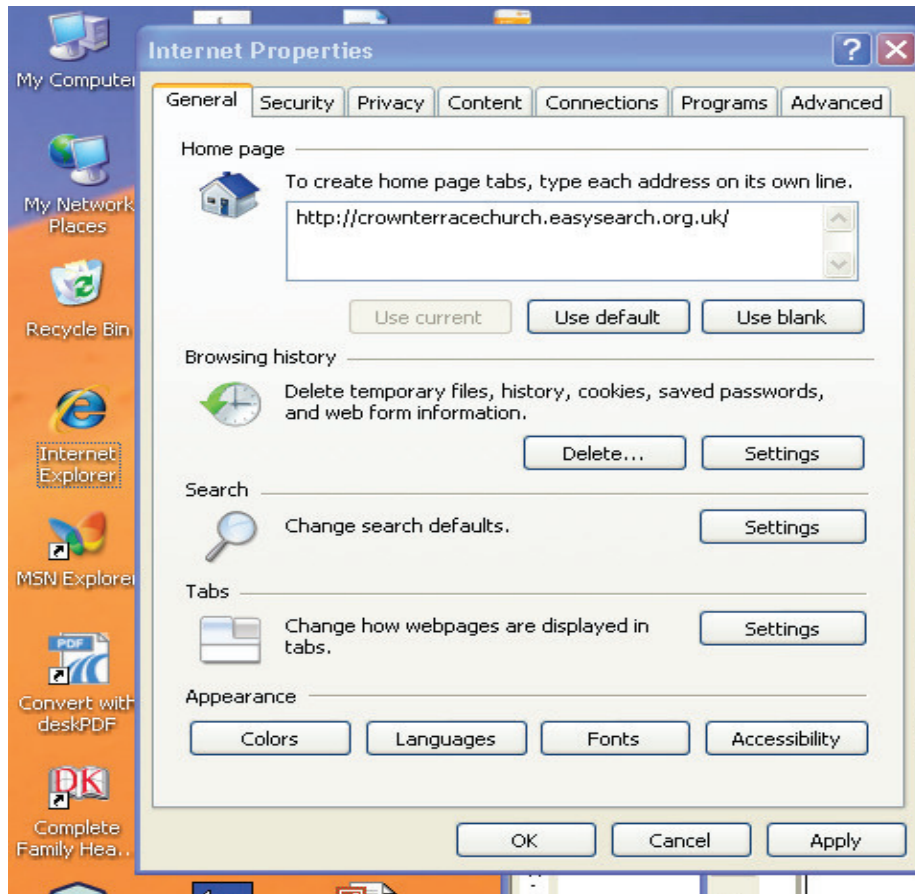
2) Click on it with the third (right hand) mouse button and select Properties



3) Enter this line in the Home page window as shown below:

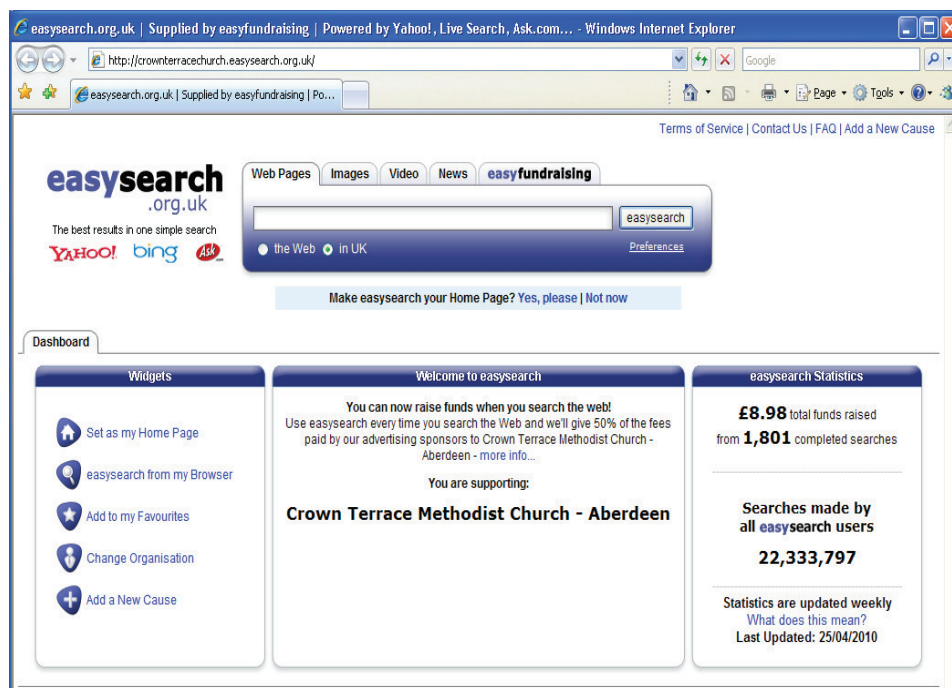
<http://crownterracechurch.easysearch.org.uk>

This can be in addition to or instead of other entries you have there.



4) Click OK

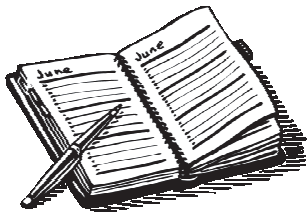
5) Now open Internet Explorer – you should see this...



6) Now you can search using this engine (instead of Google or whatever you normally use). Through advertising commission, Crown Terrace will receive income from the searches that you do.

7) In addition you can make purchases on websites by using the “easyfundraising” tab . This generates much more income for Crown Terrace. E.g. purchases on ebay made through this site attract a 15% donation. The first time you use this you’ll have to click the SIGN UP button and give a username and password:





DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE (if other than CTM) and any other information
Wednesday May 26 th	19.30	An evening with Lisa Milne & the Acclamations	Music Hall in aid of VSA Young Carers project
Tuesday June 1 st	19.30	Church Council Meeting	
Sunday June 13 th	18.30	OAK Service	
Tuesday June 15 th	16.45	Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen Annual Praise Night	Salvation Army Citadel with the Salvation Army Band and the Combined North East Male Voice Gospel Choir
Monday 23 rd August	09.45 - 12.00	Babies & Toddlers re starts	
Saturday September 4 th	14.00	Induction service for Jenny Lee as District Network President	Banff Preacher Revd. Lily Twist
Sunday September 5 th	15.00	Circuit service to welcome Revd. Martin Keenan and his family	Portessie
Thursday September 9 th	19.30	Ghana Bible Study restarts	The home of Michael & Elsie Dyer, 48, St Swithin Street
Thursday September 30 th	10.00	Women's Fellowship restarts	Room 6
Saturday, October 2 nd	15.00	Circuit Meeting	Buckie