



scope
may 10

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Minister's Letter

Hello again – Risograph allowing!

Do you ever get annoyed and frustrated when what people usually refer to as 'the real world' cuts in on your best laid plans and completely mucks them up?

It would probably be wise for me to ensure that I don't get any answers to that question from the folk involved in the production of this magazine. The risograph, in case anyone needed to be told, has not been overly co-operative with ... anyone really in recent weeks. People pulling their hair out in aggravation and annoyance, repair men visiting so often folk began to feel they were here more often than some church members and that general air of 'man (and a few women) against machine' filled the atmosphere on many a cold April morning. The real world seemed to be all too real and all too uncompromising.

Then there's the Westminster Parliament General Election coming at us from every possible avenue and channel. Constant reference is made by virtually all the political candidates from it would appear every political party that we need to live in the 'real world' – in terms of finance, international affairs, climate change,



terrorism and on countless other fronts. The real world once again seems all too inflexible and difficult for the things of faith to gain any real traction in the world of real politique.

And what is more, certainly as I write this magazine piece right now, the real world appears to be dominated at the moment by a certain unpronounceable volcano hundreds of miles away which is in turn affecting hundreds of thousands of would-be air-travelers around the world. Nothing can change that – surely.

From the major headlines of international events to the minor (though no less intractable and frustrating) events of everyday life, it's quite simple; we often feel that our real faith is swamped by the real world. Not amounting to much in a

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3

Minister's Letter (cont'd)

fairly uncaring and disinterested world. Talking about God's love in these situations can sometimes feel slightly lame. It's a nice idea, sure enough, but it's still just a love that's overwhelmed by the real world. Yet the longer I'm a Christian the more and more I find that faith is simply taking Jesus at His word and trusting Him. It's about believing Him when He says that love really does make a difference. In the small things that others just can't be bothered to do but somebody does, in the name of Jesus, and does again and keeps on doing.

I heard Kenny Borthwick talk recently about not feeling up to the task of an international conference ministry. Asking God why I am doing this kind of preaching round the world, God said 'because you can take the knocks.' Love means taking the knocks and coming back to try to make things better. Whether it's waiting for the man to fix the risograph or dealing with folk that are testing and difficult or going to speak at international conferences. Taking Jesus into that real world with His real gospel isn't always fun. It certainly isn't going to get people writing books about you. But it will be real faith at work in the real world – and that's what Jesus wants and honours.

My mind was taken back to a poem that I read to the congregation on the night of Good Friday. It was a poem by Godfrey Rust which several people complimented and about which they wanted further information. It seems more than appropriate to reprint it here opposite. Hopefully, in some small way we are all beginning to understand!

Yours in Him

Ian Cathcart

Welcome to the Real World

I'm beginning to understand.
I saw a sign once
outside a church. It said
Are you really living
or just walking around
to save the expense of a funeral?

I didn't know
that Love is real life,
and everything else
just a more or less entertaining way
of dying.

And I didn't know
that Love is like nothing on earth.

Love isn't what you fall in.
It's what pulls you out
of what you fall in.
Love isn't a good feeling.
Love is doing good
when you're feeling bad.

Love means hanging in
when everyone else
shrugs their shoulders
and goes off to McDonalds.

Love means taking the knocks
and coming back
to try to make things better.

Love hurts.
It's its way of telling you
that you're alive.

And the funny thing is that after all
Love does feel good.
People say Love is weak.
But love is tougher than hate.
Hating's easy.
Most of us have a gift for it.

But Love counts to ten
while Hate slams the door.
Love says, you,
where Hate says, me.

Love is the strongest weapon
known to mankind.
Other weapons blow people up.
Only Love puts them back together
again.

And everything that seems real,
that looks smart,
that feels good,
has a sell-by date.
But Love has no sell-by date.
Love is Long Life.
Love is the ultimate preservative.

I don't know too much about Love
but I know a man who does,
up there on the cross
loving us to death.

Love is the key
to the door of the place
he's prepared for you
in the kingdom of God.

If you're beginning to understand
then welcome to the real world.

Godfrey Rust

Note from Kirk Session

1. We held a Session Away Day on 27th March to discuss the place of children in Church. Sheila, Vicky and Carol joined with us and we listened to a CD by George Barna whom the leaders had heard at the Eastbourne Conference.

This was a very positive day with lots of discussion and ideas, looking at parental responsibility for children's spiritual development, how we might look at themes across the Church and develop long-term plans for children from Creche to membership. Further discussions will follow from this. We also appointed elders to the children's ministry:

Creche -	Mary Darling
S. Club -	Bill Jacobs
Mid Zone -	Jackie Ringan
Youth Church -	Angus Bayne and Rosie Townsley

2. The Risograph, as you will know, has broken down on numerous occasions. However two engineers have worked on it and replaced quite a few parts and we are hoping it will be more reliable in the future.

3. We received responses from the congregation concerning our Commitment Sheets and find that we

need to address issues which have been brought to our attention. These are – how we communicate with the congregation and the level of our pastoral care. Some people feel that Session is remote whilst others are positive about the connection with the congregation and the way forward.

These issues will be addressed and we are currently appointing elders to groups within the Church. Our meeting on the 27th with the Children's leaders proved really positive in connecting with the congregation. Visits have been made to people who have recently left the congregation and similar feed-back was received.

4. Four members of the congregation attended the recent training with Christians Against Poverty and following further training we will step out into this ministry within the community.

5. Four people have been approached concerning the eldership within the Church and are prayerfully considering their response.

6. A new laptop has been purchased to complement the new audio-visual equipment already installed.

7. A small group of elders is meeting to discuss the Church's involvement in Penicuik on Parade on 29th May – watch this space.

8. Initial training has been undertaken by Helen and George Hogg in respect of Healing Ministry, and taking this onto the streets of Penicuik. Fifteen members have come forward for further training over two days and it is hoped to start this ministry by June. A budget for initial capital outlay of £500 is being met from the bequest money.

9. The organisation IMPACT which came to speak to the Session about outreach in November 2010 has decided that this does not allow enough time to organise the event and has postponed until November 2011.

10. A sum of £500 has been given to Calum Henderson of Comfort Rwanda from the tithed portion of the bequest to support him in this ministry.

11. Bob Mallinson and Steph McLeod are planning an outreach into prisons through CD/DVDs with music, testimony and stories. They anticipate receiving funding for this

work and have asked if South Church can hold this money for them until Bob has his own charge.

Our next Kirk Session meeting is May 12th at 7.00 pm

Please continue to hold Kirk Session in your prayers.

Joyce MacLean

pull it out! **What's On?** pin it up!

Saturday 1st May	Men's Breakfast	West St. Hall	8.30am
Sunday 2nd May	Morning Service - God is the Creator of this world - Colossians 1:15-23 - Communion	South Church	11.15am
Sunday 2nd May	Evening Service - Honour your adoptive Father - Malachi 1; 1-5	South Church	7.00pm
Saturday 8th May	Bob Johnson Conference	Holy Trinity Wester Hailes	
Sunday 9th May	Morning Service - Christian Aid Week	South Church	11.15am
Sunday 9th May	Traditional Service	South Church	3.00pm
Sunday 9th May	Evening Service - Pastor Paul Ndahigwa	South Church	7.00pm
Wednesday 12th May	Kirk Session	South Church	7.00pm
Sunday 16th May	Morning Service - Maturity in Christ is the Goal - Colossians 1; 24-2;7	South Church	11.15am
Sunday 16th May	Evening Service - Honour your Heavenly Father - Malachi 1; 6 - 14	South Church	7.00pm
Sunday 23rd May	Morning Service - Colossians 2; 8-15	South Church	11.15am
Sunday 23rd May	Evening Service - Honour your true wife - Malachi 2; 10-16	South Church	7.00pm
Sunday 30th May	Morning Service - Holding fast to Christ is always the central issue - Colossians 2; 16-23	South Church	11.15am
Sunday 30th May	Evening Service - Honour Your True Church Leadership - Malachi 2; 1-9	South Church	7.00pm

S Club & Midzone

S Club and Midzone have been worshipping together for the past few weeks. Numbers have been low which has given the opportunity to get to know each other better. Following the same themes as church we have been using all age activities rather than those aimed at different developmental stages.

Lorna Currie has joined Craig in the Midzone leadership. There are opportunities to serve with both S Club and Midzone in prayer support, admin and direct work with children. Please speak to Ian, Craig or Sheila for further information.

Sheila Anderson

**Deadline for articles
for next issue of Scope:
Monday 24th May 2010**

Pastor Paul's visit to Scotland

We are delighted to announce that, God willing, we will be joined at our evening service on Sunday 9th May by Pastor Paul Ndahigwa, of L'Eglise Vivante (The Living Church), Rwanda. He is only in Scotland for a short time and we are very privileged indeed to have him visit us. Pastor Paul is the vice president who pastors in Gatenga, Kigali, one of their many churches throughout Rwanda, and one which we spent a lot of time in during our visit in September. The churches are thriving and actively involved in bringing the Kingdom of God to Rwanda through the word, their example and their practical love.

Pastor Paul is also involved with leading a Healing and Reconciliation Ministry. Pastors and community leaders and those who represent survivors along with those who committed Genocide are brought together to work through issues of healing, forgiveness and reconciliation.

Pastor Paul is a wonderful man of God and I urge you to come along to the evening service to meet, listen to and be inspired by him.

Linda Dowling

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Ministry Group are offering another Men's Breakfast on 1st May in Penicuik South Church Hall. The morning will start at 8.30 am with fellowship and breakfast comprising bacon rolls, croissants, tea and coffee. We will then have a time of worship, prayer and testimony on the theme of forgiveness. Bonus Fombo has also kindly agreed to give a short lesson on the same theme as part of the ministry time. The morning is open to all men attending Penicuik South. Visitors from out with the church are welcome though please let Billy and Ash know in advance. There is no cost, but donations to cover the cost of food would be welcome. We anticipate the morning will finish at approximately 10.00 am.

If you are interested in attending please let Billy Hudson (674086 billy.hudson@sky.com) or Ash Wood (674796 ashleywood1@live.co.uk) know no later than Thursday 29 April so that catering can be arranged.

Kind regards,

Ash and Billy

The Faith Mission Edinburgh Convention 2010

29th June – 4th July 2010

On Wednesday 30th June, 12 – 1 p.m., Robin Sydserrf is talking about "Evangelism in a Secular Age". How does an aggressively secular age impact the way we 'do' evangelism? This seminar outlines a model and strategy for evangelism in a typical church. (Such as ours?)

And on Thursday 1st July, also 12-1 p.m., Robin's seminar is, "Preaching that precedes Revival." This seminar examines the preaching of McCheyne, the Bonar brothers, and others, in the period prior to the 1859 revival in Scotland. The themes, emphases and style of their preaching offer some challenges and encouragements for the Church longing for revival today.

Robin Sydserrf is minister of St Catherine's Argyle Church of Scotland. Previously Director of Ministry at the Proclamation Trust in London. He was a chartered accountant before entering the ministry and lectured at Heriot-Watt University.

While highlighting this particular speaker (because I've heard and appreciated his speaking!), there are a number of other speakers at the convention. Admission is free and there is no booking required. For further information, please see the flier in the South Vestibule.

Rosemary MacDowell

Gardening....can you help?

Do you like gardening? Did your gifting survey come up with "helps"? The grass at the back of the church will need some kind person(s) to cut it every 2 or 3 weeks. It needs to be kept tidy so that the children and others can use it on Sunday mornings

or for BBQ's. There is an electric mower at the church, so it just needs someone or a group, with some free time to take on the job. Volunteers, please to Mary Darling (675260)

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – A WAY WE CHANGE THE WORLD

Ever wondered why we do Christian Aid Week?
Here are seven good reasons why we're involved...

- 1 We are joining with more than **20,000 churches** in an unparalleled act of Christian witness to our communities – showing them we care about justice and poor people.
- 2 Christian Aid has a vision – an **end to poverty**. By being part of this week we're not only funding life-changing projects, we're helping tackle the root causes of poverty – helping to change the world for good.
- 3 The church has an **amazing heritage** of working for justice. Christian Aid Week has run every year since soon after the Second World War – demonstrating the church's faithfulness to helping the poor.
- 4 In these **difficult financial times**, the world's poorest people need our time, prayers and financial support more than ever. Christian Aid Week helps us give people the opportunity to be generous.
- 5 Around **300,000 volunteers** give their time to deliver envelopes door to door and put on events. We are part of this movement for change.
- 6 We get **money for nothing!** Every taxpayer who signs a Gift Aid declaration on an envelope is giving Christian Aid 28 per cent extra – making even more development work possible in the world's poorest countries.
- 7 Christian Aid has successfully campaigned on 'dropping the debt', carbon-declaration reform and trade justice. Christian Aid Week helps world-wide **structural change** to take place.



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 9–15 May 2010

We believe that poverty is a scandal and that we can really do something about it.

To find out more about how you can get involved, just ask your Christian Aid Week representative or go to www.caweek.org

POVERTY-LET'S END IT

UK registered charity number 706951. Company number 5171928. Scotland charity number SC039790.
Northern Ireland charity number XR94630. Company number NI028154. Republic of Ireland charity number CHY 6988. Company number 428828.
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Christian Aid Week 9th -15th May 2010

If, like Christian Aid, you believe these are seven good reasons for getting involved and that poverty is a scandal, then you can do something about it!

We need volunteers and we are even more desperately short of them this year. Please consider giving just a little of your time this year to be a collector for Christian Aid – for you it is just a few hours out of one week but for those who live in the poorer communities of this world, your few hours could be life changing.

Please prayerfully consider getting involved and please just add your name to our list of collectors – contact: -

Ellen Walley – 01968 672014

Christian Aid Week keeps hope alive for many of the world's poorest communities. Thank you for being a part of it this May.

Mobile Phone

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our mobile phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to Kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go...hmm...where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing.

Unlike our mobile phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Contributed by Sandra Fraser

Comfort Rwanda A Letter of Thanks from The Living Church

Our beloved partners Comfort Rwanda, we once again wish you a happy and prosperous New Year, may God multiply your blessings in 2010. We thank you for your support since the time we have been working together to minister the Kingdom of God to the people of Rwanda.

When we look at the Friends of Jesus (Street Kids Rescue) now we see what a great work we have done in the Kingdom of God with your hand. The F.O.J. bakery is now serving the community and the boys in the Friends of Jesus are enjoying being part of the team that is making bread. When we look at the progress in the lives of the pastors we have been training at Eglise Vivante with your support we thank God for our wonderful connection and partnership. What do we say about the land bought because of your generosity, now we are going to build the technical college soon it is all a product of our friendship and we always thank God and pray for you because you have done and are still doing a great work in the Kingdom of God.

The mothers in Eglise Vivante who were given money to run small scale businesses are very grateful to your

ministry, some are doing well and others who didn't do well previously are now blessed with training and soon will receive their second phase support. They say they are better now than when they were given the first phase.

Kamonyi people are witnesses to your wonderful help in practical reconciliation because now people live in roofed houses because of help and giving hand, the ladies and orphans in Kamonyi now have a hope for a better future because of the sewing machines you gave them, they learn with passion and enthusiasm. The other children from Eglise Vivante and the Eastern province who are supported in their education also thank God for you, their parents narrate how your support has helped them take their children to school, had it not been because of your helping heart then they don't know how they would have been today. So dear beloved partners join us and let's thank God together for our partnership and role extending the Kingdom of God.

Taken from the
Comfort Rwanda Newsletter

Contributed by Ian Cathcart

Keep Scotland Tidy

At the time of print 2 of the organised litter picks have already happened and the last one is about to take place (looking forward to seeing you there).

All the volunteers have done a great job and cleared up some of Penicuik's beautiful woodland. Thanks to anyone who turned up and who is going to turn up. Many thanks to AI for supplying the Police signs to encourage the traffic to slow down.

Chris Leavy from the Penicuik & District Community Council has been pleased with the turn out and has thanked everyone by supplying bacon rolls, crisps, caramel shortcake and water after each event.

Hopefully the Riso doesn't kill the pic below which shows some of the stuff collected which included TVs, bicycles, tyres, trailers and a £20 note.

Ross Hadwen



hope4
penicuik

SCOPE

Penicuik South Parish Church
Scottish Charity SCO11871