

PRISM



News & views from Craigmillar Park Church, Edinburgh
A worshipping and caring community, following Jesus Christ

www.craigmillarpark.org

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear friends,

Lent for many people is associated with 'giving stuff up', but it can be much more than that. Here are some suggestions for Lent 2014.

Don't feel you have to do something just for the sake of it.

As I have said before, Lent is a *voluntary* period of spiritual discipline. If we choose to be involved, it is so we can examine and redirect our lives in the light of God's word to us, through prayer and action, not so we can conform to what others expect of us. The Church of Scotland website describes Lent as a time when 'Christians may fast, or give up some of their usual routine, to give time to personal examination and to reflect on their relationship with God.' It says *may* and not *must*. However, it is good to take time to draw near to God and examine our ways.

Take up a daily challenge. Sign up at www.40acts.org.uk and you



will be challenged 'to do Lent generously'. You'll be sent a daily email from 5th March to 19th April: 40 nudges to help you be more generous to your neighbours, and you will have 40 blogs to help you think more deeply about kindness and generosity. You don't have to take them all up, but it might be a help to living in a more connected and big-hearted way.



Make time to pray for our church and parish.

You can do this straightaway, but you can also pray in an informed way. Statistics for Mission has produced detailed statistics from the 2011 Census for each parish in the Church of Scotland. You can find our parish statistics by putting a local postcode into the Church Finder search engine:

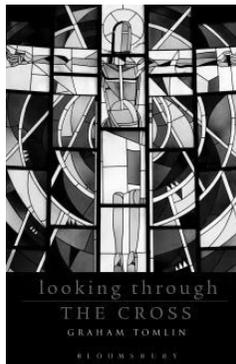
cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church_finder or directly at cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/docs/stats_for_mission/010027.pdf.

If that's too technically stretching ask a friend to get the statistics for you, or ask me to send you a copy. We have also reproduced some of the key statistics in this month's magazine on page 5.

Please pray for the different groups represented and for possible ways of reaching, serving them and engaging with them. If you want to think more deeply, there is a guide to help churches understand their communities better. *Who is my neighbour? A user's guide to Statistics for Mission* is available at www.resourcingmission.org.uk.

Choose a book to read that will nourish your faith.

Each year successive Archbishops of Canterbury have promoted a Lent book. This year's book is Justin Welby's first one, though it was actually written at the invitation of his predecessor, Rowan Williams. *Looking Through the Cross* is by Graham Tomlin, Dean of St Mellitus



College in London, who said this about his book:

'First, it looks at the cross, trying to make sense of this strange idea, that God the Father allowed his son to die a gruesome and painful death. . . The rest of the book is an exercise, not so much of looking at, but looking through. It proceeds to view the cross, not only as an object to be studied or examined, but also as a lens through which we might look at the world.'

It is not a difficult book, but is written in accessible language and in short chapters, preceded by brief extracts from the scriptures. If none of that fires your imagination, then, as they say on the BBC, other Lent books are available.

Be involved in something that will benefit others.

Another daily challenge comes from Christian Aid's *Count Your Blessings* calendar: 40 daily bite-size reflections to help you to give, act and pray so as to encourage justice in our world and change the lives of people living in poverty. You can get this as an app for Apple or Android devices or print out a paper calendar from www.christianaid.org.uk

Come along to some TryPraying prayer events.

There will be local prayer events in the Big Idea churches during the week leading up to Palm Sunday. I'll give you details of those in the next few



trypraying.

weeks.

**Join a
Lent
Group.**

Strictly
speaking

you have missed the deadline, but
David Cargill may be able to fit you

in, if there are spaces.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday,
which is on 5th March. If you would
like to meet for prayer on that
evening, then please let me know.

John

Here is the way I want you to fast.

Set free those who are held by chains without any reason.

Untie the ropes that hold people as slaves.

Set free those who are crushed.

Break every evil chain.

Share your food with hungry people.

Provide homeless people with a place to stay.

Give naked people clothes to wear.

Provide for the needs of your own family.

Then the light of my blessing will shine on you like the rising sun.

Isaiah 58: 6-8a, NIRV

Newington Churches Together Monthly Prayer Meetings

Wednesday 12 March and Wednesday 9 April, 7.30-8.30pm

This year the venue is the New Hall of St. Columba's on Upper Gray Street

The meeting usually focuses on local community initiatives
and any other issues or concerns

Organised by Agatha Kai Kai (makaikai@staffmail.ed.ac.uk)

All welcome

LIVING IN THE EDINBURGH SUBURBS AROUND 1950

Part 4: Housing and shops

In general, most of the houses remained virtually unchanged from when they were originally built although a few were now being divided into two or more flats. Internally, due to wartime restrictions, they were what we would now call sparsely equipped and furnished. There was no central-heating, no washing machines, dishwashers, micro-wave ovens, refrigerators, far less deep-freezers. All the cooking was done on gas or electric cookers and hot water was provided, in our case, by a Tayco coke-burning stove which I am sure was actually in the kitchen.

We had coal-burning fires in the public rooms and I seem to recall small electric heaters in bedrooms (only for use in very cold weather!). Carpets were generally large room-sized rugs, not fitted, but surrounded by linoleum which at least cut out some of the draughts coming up between the floorboards.

Kitchens were very basic, with only a few cupboards and certainly not any fitted wall units or any of the luxury appliances of the modern kitchen.



Bathrooms (mostly in the singular)

were also very basic, with showers being unheard of. And as for "en-suite", that was just a funny French word!

Most bedrooms had small fireplaces, harking back to the days when maids would have brought coals up for the family to enjoy some warmth in the winter. Only a handful of houses had conservatories and those were really only used for growing plants etc., not as they are now for social parties or as an extra part of the living accommodation of the house.

In those days, shops really were local and they were used for most if not all shopping, certainly of the normal every day consumables. Good clothing and furniture were the exceptions and were hardly available anywhere due to the continuing rationing of many of those goods.

Our nearest shops were on Dalkeith Road where there was Copeland's Bakery on the corner of East Mayfield, next to which was a chemist's shop. Then next door was Miss Hately's popular sweet shop where we used our valuable sweet ration tokens and where we were sent by my mother to buy her "Craven A" cigarettes at a cost of maybe 1/9d for 20 (9 new pence). Most of these shops are now occupied by Helen Lowe Accountants. Further down Dalkeith Road were Wilson's paper shop where we could buy our comics (Beano / Dandy / Rover / Hotspur,

then westerns, as we grew older).
Further away at Salisbury were Wood's the butcher and Brown's groceries from where I think my parents had a weekly order delivered. And then there was of

course Frank Royle's famous toy shop!

In the next installment Roger remembers the trams that were in Edinburgh in the 1950s.

STATISTICS FOR MISSION

If Craigmillar Park Parish were a village of 100 people...

8 would be in primary school; 4 would be in high school
24 would be aged between 25 and 44
16 would be aged 65 or over
75 would be of working age (16-74), including
 6 who have no qualifications;
 54 who have a University degree
 26 who work full time;
 10 who are retired
58 would describe themselves as 'White - Scottish'
2 would describe their health as bad or very bad
9 would be providing unpaid care
22 would say they belonged to the Church of Scotland;
19 would say they belonged to other Christian denominations
7 would say they belonged to other religious groups.
The largest group (44) would be those who say they have no religion.
(That leaves 8 who didn't state a religious affiliation.)

If Craigmillar Park Parish were a village of 100 households...

27 households would consist of one person, 12 of whom are aged 65 and over
28 would have dependent children (aged under 16, or under 18 in full-time education)
17 would be in rented accommodation
84 would have access to at least one car or van
17 would speak a language other than English in the home

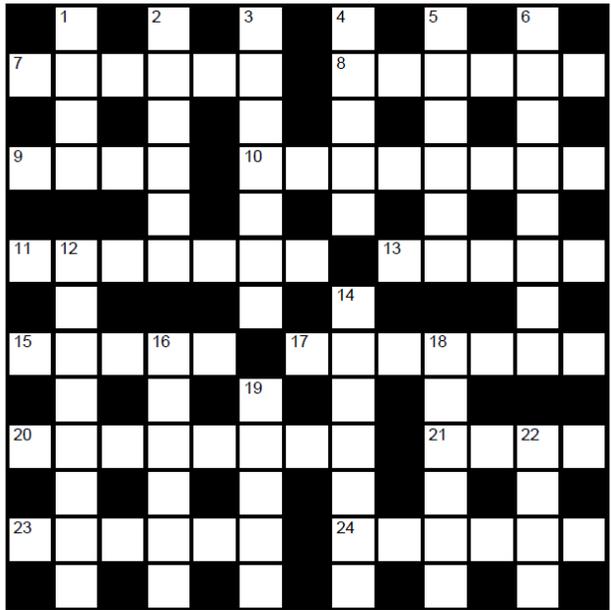
Source: Church of Scotland Statistics for Mission Group
cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/docs/stats_for_mission/010027.pdf
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LITERARY THEMED

CROSSWORD

by Roger Paton

Answers on page 10



Across

- 7** She wrote about Lord Peter Wimsey (6)
- 8** He wrote "The Caretaker" (6)
- 9** Short part of a film (4)
- 10** Five-line humorous verse (8)
- 11** Popular 1980's TV antique dealer (7)
- 13** He wrote "War of the Worlds" (5)
- 15** Greek philosopher whose words were stronger than his actions (5)
- 17** Where Sherlock Holmes lived (5,2)
- 20** Dan's heir could be a poet (8)
- 21** "Beware the _ _ _ _ of March" (Shakespeare) (4)
- 23** Small South African antelope (6)
- 24** Writing family who lived in Haworth Rectory (6)

Down

- 1/2** Famous 1950's radio detective (4,6)
- 3** He wrote "Macavity the Mystery Cat" (1,1,5)
- 4** You don't want these e-mail messages (5)
- 5** Green tree hides main course (6)
- 6** He laboured with these! (8)
- 12** Look, a ham chopped up for musical state (8)
- 14** He's always finding bodies in Midsomer! (7)
- 16** Fictional hero who swung through the trees (6)
- 18** Every magazine has one (6)
- 19** Rice Burrows, author of (16) down books (5)
- 22** Repeats contain foods (4)

101ST CITY OF EDINBURGH BROWNIES

Sponsored Daffodil Grow for Marie Curie Cancer Care

Before Christmas, each Brownie planted a daffodil in a pot and took it home to care for and 'encourage' it to grow. They asked friends and family to sponsor their daffodil growing efforts and we set a



target of £1 per Brownie in the hope we could raise £25. Our girls have gone above and beyond and have raised an amazing £155, just over 6 times our target.

Foreign Coin Collection

We would like to thank members of the congregation who have

Brownies

supported us by donating old foreign or pre-decimal coins for our collection - we recently sent a parcel away and have raised £30 for our funds.

Sainsbury's Vouchers

You may have noticed that Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers are being handed out again - we would be grateful if members of the congregation could save any vouchers for us and place them in the box in the hall. We are aiming to collect enough vouchers so we can get a camera.

June Savage
Brown Owl

COFFEE MORNING FOR MARIE CURIE

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to support and help me on 1st February at my coffee morning to raise funds for the Inca Trail Trek, including those who baked or donated gifts.

The final total raised was £560 which was outstanding. It will go a long way towards assisting those people who need help from the

Marie Curie
Cancer Care



hospice.

I leave for Peru on the 16th May and look forward to bringing my story

back to you afterwards.

Anthony would have been very proud of us and would have enjoyed all the cakes!

Julie Read



MUCH ADO IN MALAWI

David Livingstone would weep if he could see the plight of Malawi today. More than 150 years of so-called "progress" since he stood on the shores of his "lake of stars" has left our twin country in Africa still stuck in poverty, ill-health and corruption. And this, despite all his efforts and the labours over many years of Scottish missionaries and development workers which he inspired.

Over 40 per cent of the population are living below the UN's poverty line. Only 30 per cent of pupils complete their primary education. Ten per cent of the population of 16 million are affected by HIV/AIDS, with over a million orphan children. And now the country is facing a huge corruption scandal and a crucial election day on 20th May.

The "cashgate" scandal involves 68 civil servants, business people and politicians, charged with stealing £80m by processing false purchases through the government's central computer system. The accused include the justice minister. He's also charged with attempting to assassinate the budget director who first uncovered the fraud last September.

The president, Joyce Banda, has so far managed to distance herself from the scandal and remains favourite to win the presidential



Joyce Banda, the President

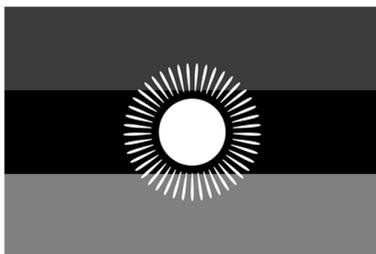
election on 20th May. She became only the second female president of an African country two years ago after the sudden death of Bingu wa Mutharika, the latest in a line of corrupt leaders since independence in 1964.

Parliamentary elections are also being held on the same day and so too are local council elections, the first for 14 years. There are over 50 political parties in Malawi. Joyce Banda's Peoples Party faces the Democratic Progressive Party led by Mutharika's brother Peter.

The United Democratic Party is headed by the Atupele Muluzi, the son of a previous president. And the Congress Party is led by the charismatic Rev Lazarus Chakwera, until recently the

president of the Assemblies of God. It's a potent political stew in a country liable to food riots and fuel protests and worries about the fairness of elections.

When I visited Malawi in 2009, to



see some of the 60 aid projects supported by the Scottish Government, I too wept for this lovely country and its long suffering and hard working people. They could be so prosperous if their government had given them just the basics - honest administration, clean water supplies, irrigation, roads, schools and clinics. Instead I saw churches and charities trying bravely to fill the gaps - Presbyterians, Anglicans, Roman Catholics, Evangelical churches, Muslim

foundations, private charities - all putting their shoulders to the task.

The same of course had to be done in Scotland. We've had poor governments in our time and we still have our corruption scandals at Holyrood and Westminster. But hopefully David Livingstone would not be weeping for his homeland now and he might be able to stop weeping for Malawi if all goes well on 20th May.

John Knox

THE GUILD



We had a very good meeting in February when Cameron Black from Bethany Christian Trust came and talked about his work with the evening

and lunchtime Care Van projects and with the winter Care Shelter.

He was very inspiring and it was good to hear of all his work and the kindness and love he shows to those so much worse off than ourselves.

This month at our meeting on Tuesday 11th March a speaker from

"Out of Africa into Malta" is coming to talk about their work. This is one of the Guild projects we are fundraising for this session.

Our AGM is on 25th March when we will also be watching a DVD of the Guild Annual Meeting in Dundee.

Note for Diary

Our Daffodil Tea this year will be on Sunday 27th April from 3pm. This tea is open to everyone to come along and enjoy some company, food and fellowship together.

Julia Yarker

Craigmillar Park Church Stated Annual Meeting

Sunday 16 March

in the church after the service

DUTIES

2nd March is Communion

9th March – Convener: Gordon Braidwood (667 1773)

Renate Butler, David Cargill, Margaret Cargill, Kathleen Cockerell, Betty Laing, Harry Laing

16th & 23rd March – Convener: Christopher McLeod (667 1475)

John Kelly, Sandra Lamb, Elizabeth McLeod, Julie Read, Katy Ruggeri, Isabel Smith

30th & 6th April – Convener: Jim McNab (667 3408)

Christine Thomson, Miriam Weibye, Norman Weibye, Pauline Weibye, Seonaid Wilson, Julia Yarker

13th April – Convener: Roger Paton (664 2877)

Colin Aitken, Ian Breadon, Renate Butler, David Cargill, Margaret Cargill, Kathleen Cockerell

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Clues Across: (7) Sayers, (8) Pinter, (9) Clip, (10) Limerick, (11) Lovejoy, (13) Wells, (15) Plato, (17) Baker St., (20) Sheridan, (21) Ides, (23) Impala, (24) Bronte

Clues Down: (1)&(2) Paul Temple, (3) T.S. Eliot, (4) Spams, (5) Entree, (6) Hercules, (12) Oklahoma, (14) Barnaby, (16) Tarzan, (18) Editor, (19) Edgar, (22) Eats

Coming up at Stewart House Men's Club in March...

7th—*The Georgian House*, Dr Sheonagh Martin

14th—St Mary's Music School

21th—*South America*, Madeleine Thomas

28th—*The Work of the Scottish Lighthouse Board*, Roger Lockwood

Fridays at 10.15am in the Church Hall. Coffee £1.50. Visitors welcome.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March

Sun 2 at 10.30am – Holy Communion

Sun 2 at 3.15pm – Holy Communion at St Margaret’s Care Home

Wed 5 - Ash Wednesday (beginning of Lent)

Fri 7 at 2.30pm – World Day of Prayer service, St Columba’s, Upper Gray St

Sun 9 at 10.30am – Morning Worship

Tue 11 at 2.15pm – The Guild Into Malta: Guild Project

Wed 12 at 7.30pm – Kirk Session

Wed 12 at 7.30pm – NCT Praying Together in St Columba’s, Upper Gray St

Sun 16 at 10.30am – Morning Worship (Stated Annual Meeting afterwards)

Sun 23 at 10.30am – Morning Worship with Mrs Fiona Devoy

Tue 25 at 2.15pm – The Guild AGM and film

Sun 30 at 10.30am – Morning Worship

Mon 31 at 5pm – Prayer for Cameron Toll Chaplaincy (Costa Coffee)

April

Sun 6 at 10.30am – Morning Worship, Holy Communion after in the chapel

Wed 9 at 7.30pm – NCT Praying Together in St Columba’s, Upper Gray St

Thu 10 at 7.30pm – Congregational Board

Fri 11, 7pm – Big Idea Prayer Walk in Gracemount (KLM Church)

Fri 11, 9pm – Big Idea / TryPraying all-night prayer (Liberton Kirk)

Sun 13 at 10.30am – Morning Worship for Palm Sunday

Sun 13 at 6.30pm – Big Idea Joint Service for Palm Sunday (TBC)

Mon 14-Fri 18, 7.45am-8am – Holy Week meditations followed by breakfast

Fri 18, 10am to 11.15am – Good Friday NCT Walk of Witness, CPC to
Nicolson Square Gardens

Fri 18, 12 noon to 3pm – Good Friday Vigil with NCT at St Peter’s

Fri 18, 7.30pm – Good Friday Evening Service in the church

Sun 20 at 10.30am – Holy Communion for Easter Day

**Sun 20 at 3.15 – Holy Communion for Easter Day at St Margaret’s Care
Home**

Tue 22 at 7.30pm – Kirk Session

Sun 27 at 10.30am – Morning Worship

Sun 27 at 3pm – Guild Daffodil Tea

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

New Members by Transference

Mr Peter Thanisch and Mrs Ann Thanisch, 100 St. Alban's Road, Edinburgh EH9 2PG

	Reader	Sound	Sunday School
Mar 2014			
2nd	Roger Paton	Danny McQueen	Rebeca Topping
9th	Astrid Gracie	Norman Weibye	Katy Ruggeri
16th	Pauline Weibye	Christopher McLeod	Rebeca Topping
23rd	David Cargill	John Kelly	Rebeca Topping
30th	Colin Aitken	David Topping	Katy Ruggeri
Apr 2014			
6th	Ruth Longmuir	Danny McQueen	Rebeca Topping
13th	Elizabeth McLeod	Norman Weibye	Katy Ruggeri

CPC is a registered Scottish charity, Scottish charity No: SC 017061		
Minister	Rev John Urquhart	14 Hallhead Road, 0131 667 1623 minister@craigmillarpark.org
Session Clerk	Pauline Weibye	0131 668 3545 session@craigmillarpark.org
Treasurer & Depute Session Clerk	Christopher McLeod	0131 667 1475 treasurer@craigmillarpark.org
Roll Keeper	Roger Paton	0131 664 2877 rollkeeper@craigmillarpark.org
Chairman Congregational Board	John Kelly	0131 663 2428 board@craigmillarpark.org
Caring Service	Christine Thomson	0131 667 5145
Organist	Edward Cuthbert	organist@craigmillarpark.org
Prism Editor	Ruth Longmuir	07754 952 297 prism@craigmillarpark.org
Hall Letting	Norman Weibye	0131 668 3545 lettings@craigmillarpark.org
Church Website	Stephen Bridgett	www.craigmillarpark.org webmaster@craigmillarpark.org