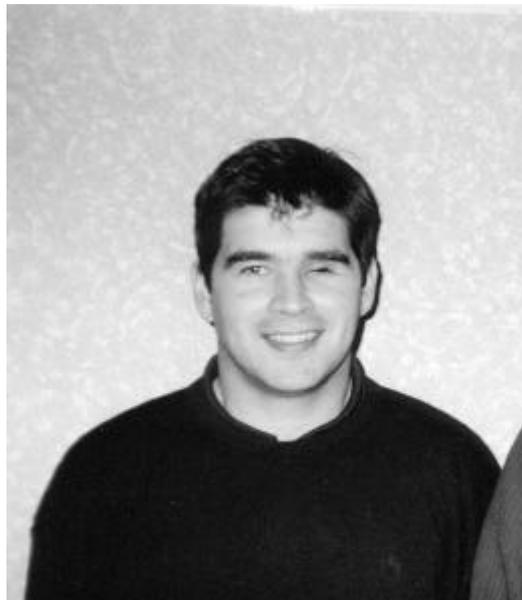


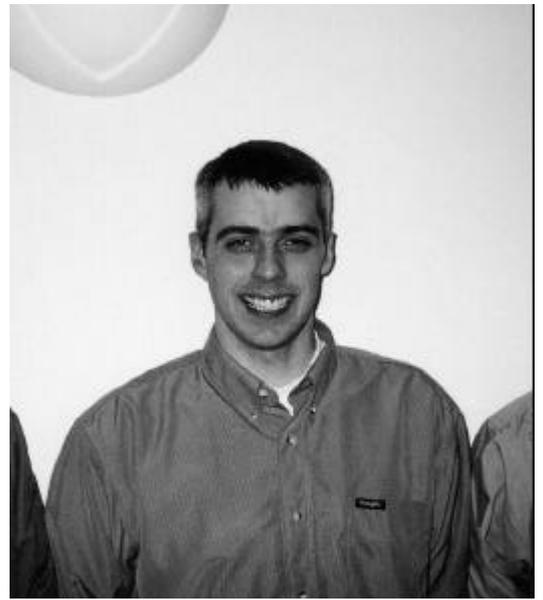
The APC News

The Magazine of the Associated Presbyterian Churches in Scotland

Who Are They?



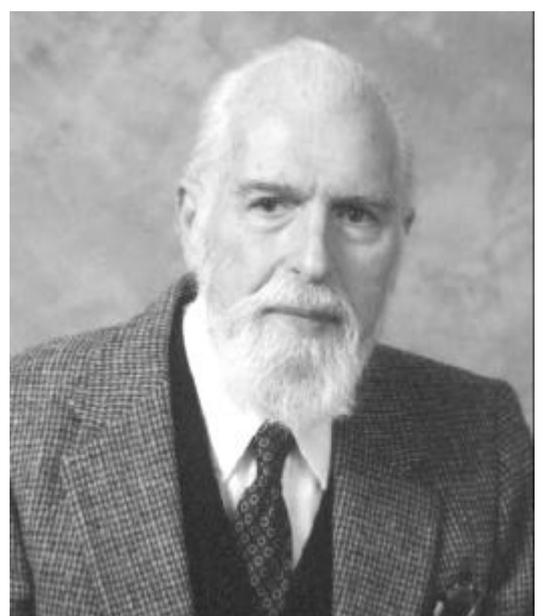
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Congregational Details

***“These are the
people of the prov-
ince...***

The priests...

The Levites...

The singers...”

[Nehemiah 7:5cf]

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Services held jointly with the Free Church, High Street, 11am &
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Bridge, Inverness-shire PH34 4EZ, Tel 01397 712405.

HARRIS

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School - 12 noon & 6pm Tue 7.30pm. Treasurer: John
MacKinnon, 8 Stockinish, Isle of Harris HS3 3EN Tel 01859
530211.

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Old Edinburgh Road - 12 noon & 6.30pm, Wed 7.30pm.
Treasurer: Mr Kenneth Macdonald, 'Arnish', 16 Drumdevan
Place, Inverness IV2 4DQ, Tel 01463 231364. www.
apcinverness.freeuk.com

KINLOCHBERVIE

Kinlochbervie: Conference Room, Harbour Offices, 11.30am;
Treasurer: W D MacLeod, 114 Inshegra, Rhiconich, by Lairg
IV27 4RH Tel 01971 521388.

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Church - 6pm. 2nd, 4th Weds 7pm. Treasurer: Miss
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LOCHCARRON

Revd J W Ross, APC Manse, Main Street, Lochcarron, IV54
8YD,
Tel 01520 722337 Lochcarron Village Hall - 11am & 6pm,
Wed 7pm; Kishorn Meeting House 3pm on 2nd Lord's Day of
month.
Treasurer: Mrs Alison Stewart, 13 Kirkton Gardens,
Lochcarron IV54 8UQ, Tel 01520 722239.

LOCHINVER & STOER & DRUMBEG

Revd David Parker, Free Church Manse, Inver Terrace,
Lochinver IV27 4LH, Tel 01571 844685, Free Church Stoer -
11am; APC Church, Drumbeg - 12.30pm; Free Church
Lochinver - 6pm. Treasurer: Mrs E. MacKenzie, Church
Road, Stoer, Sutherland, IV27 4SE, Tel 01571 855279.

OBAN

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PA34 5TN, Tel 01631 567076 Email: amcphail@quista.net
Campbell Street Church - 11am & 6.30pm, Wed 7.30pm
Treasurer: N Matheson, Carnish, Glenmore Road, Oban
PA34, Tel 01631 566259 and D Morrison, Glenstruan, Old
Shore Road, Connel, PA37, Tel 01631 710226.

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01599 544272
Email: jan@vanwoerden.freeserve.co.uk Plockton 3pm.

POOLEWE

Church of Scotland, Poolewe - 11.30pm & 6pm. Treasurer/
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Tel 01445 712050. Email: kendunedin@aol.com

SKYE

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Staffin Road - 12 noon & 6.30pm, Thu 7.30pm; C of S,
Dunvegan - 12.15 & 5pm. Contact: Norman MacKay Royal
Bank House, Portree IV51 9BX, Tel 01478 612822.

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72 Keith Street - 11am & 7pm, Thu 7.30pm.
Treasurer: Mr W K Macleod, 3 Oliver's Brae, Stornoway
HS1 2SS, Tel 01851 703796. www.treetapesministry.org

TAIN & FEARN

Revd John Ross, APC Manse, 2 Cameron Gardens, Tain
IV19 1NT, Tel 01862 892199, email: revjr@talk21.com
Tain Church, Upper King Street - 11.30am & 6.30pm; Hilton
Church 11.30am and 5pm, Wed 7.30pm. Treasurer:
Roderick Mackenzie, Geanies House, Fearn, by Tain IV20

EDITORIAL

Our Responsibilities

WE ARE SORRY THAT WE HAVE to write this article but our nation is in a very serious moral and spiritual condition – and a general election may be over before our next issue. If there is not a true spiritual revival within the next two decades, the social consequences for our nation will reach unimaginable proportions. We are heading for disaster – unless God intervenes.

The Church is responsible for the spiritual state of the nation, “*You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world.*” [Mat 5:13]. But the voice of the Church has almost been completely silenced. Horrendous things are taking place in our society, unimagined 30 years ago – and just a whimper here and there from God’s people.

We urge the people of God to be more active and assertive in speaking out for truth and righteousness. If “*righteousness exalts a nation, and sin is a reproach to any people*”, then we are indeed on the slippery slope. Strong Christians, unashamed to speak for Christ, is the need of the hour. The Bible teaches that “*people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits*” [Dan 11:32].

We are deeply thankful for The Christian Institute – but they need helpers. They are asking for the same support as the Psalmist asked for “*Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? Who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity*” [Psa 94:16]. The Christian Institute are drawing our attention to some of the moral and spiritual trends that are taking place in our society. We need to follow up with action. They are doing an excellent job but it will all be useless if Christians do nothing.

The breakdown of the family is perhaps the biggest cause of many of the social problems today. Some people believe that the breakdown of the family (which costs the nation £15 billion per year) is only the result of family life evolving into new patterns of family types. They maintain, we are going through a change which is natural for humanity at our stage of social evolution (progress)! However, it is not just the Bible that declares otherwise, research has now proved it. There is evidence in a Report, to demonstrate that family breakdown is the root cause of much of our present social problems.

In July 1998, the Home Secretary Jack Straw, received a Report from The Lords and Common Family and Child Protection Group outlining the disaster that is waiting to happen in our nation if present trends continue. The Report shows that the changes that have taken place in the last 30 years relating to marriage

breakdown, divorce, cohabitation, lone parents, step-families, births outside of marriage and the developments of different family types, are responsible for the damaging effects on children. Statistics clearly show that strengthening marriage is the best long term solution for meeting children’s needs.

The government however, has chosen to ignore the findings of this Report and are pressing ahead with their own agenda. Although our elected members of parliament are “*God’s ministers*” [Rom 13:4], they seem to have no regard for God’s laws, especially regarding marriage and the family. The Scottish Parliament have also ignored the will of the people who elected them, as well as ignoring the will of God.

In March, ‘Section 28’ (Section 2A in Scotland), the law which prohibits local authorities promoting homosexuality, was eliminated from our statute book and has been replaced with unacceptable recommendations. Some of the content of the resources recommended by the Scottish Executive are quite shocking. We are sure our readers will be horrified to read some of the literature which our teachers are encouraged to use to teach our children.

We personally are so shocked that we felt like publishing some of the content of these books to bring home to our readers the seriousness of the situation. Those over 50 years of age will marvel that such a deterioration in moral standards could take place so soon. Children from 11 to 14 will be asked to engage in homosexual role-play and to go and buy condoms from a chemist. Many other activities are suggested, too intimate to mention. The very things Wendy Alexander and Tony Blair promised would never happen if Section 28 was removed, are now recommended by our Scottish Executive!

Our MSP’s have lost all sense of moral and spiritual values and don’t even seem to care what the majority of the electorate feel about sex education.

We have decided not to print the offensive material as we feel it would come into the category of [Ephesians 5:12] which states “*it is even shameful to speak of those things which are done by them in secret*”. It is our prayer that the Christians will **ACT**, not just pray, about this matter. The literature and more information can be had from The Christian Institute, PO Box 23282, Edinburgh EH1 2XU, Tel 0131 226 3555, Fax 0131 226 3888, E-mail: info@christian.org.uk. Internet: <http://www.christian.org.uk>.

THE POWER of ONE

In 1645 one vote gave Oliver Cromwell control of England. In 1776 one vote gave America the English language instead of German. In 1941 one vote gave Adolf Hitler control of the Nazi Party! One woman, Esther, saved her nation from destruction because she was willing to get involved. You cannot do everything, but you can do something.

[Bob Gass]

Continued on page 5

Parents on Drugs, or on Drink? Which is Worse?

CHILDREN IN NEED

By Catherine MacKenzie, Inverness

THE TELEVISION SCREEN flickered slightly and then you saw her, four years old, blonde hair and dull-grey eyes. She was curled up in a bed with her two sisters on either side of her and they were discussing their life, their mother (a drug addict) and what they hoped for. What they hoped for wasn't much. A world where they could play in safety (no used syringes dropped outside their door), a home where they could live in safety (without debt collectors screaming at them through the letter box) a family where they could grow up in safety. That was the most telling part.

The three girls got into an involved conversation about whether it was better to have adults in the house who had been using drink or using drugs. After some deliberation the four year old decided that drugs were better. 'When they're on drink you never know what they're gonna do. They get really nasty.'

Where was this little girl from? You couldn't really tell from the programme. You didn't need to know. All you needed to know that these lives were being crushed somewhere in a town or city near you. They were all from the United Kingdom.

When you think about the situation of children world wide your stomach will heave in disgust. Worldwide at least 100 million children live on the streets. In Liberia children as young six years old are recruited as child soldiers, handed AK-47s and expected to shoot to kill. Last year more than 1.5 million children were killed as a result of war. Over 4 million were disabled and more than 12 million children are now homeless.

Each year one million children are lured or forced into child prostitution. In 1999 the worldwide figure was 8.2 million children living without parents due to the spread of HIV and Aids. 25 children under the age of five will die from preventable disease every second. One out of every six people on the planet are between 10 and 19 years of age. Almost one third of the world's population are under the age of 15; that is 1.8 billion children. Between the years of 1998 and 2025 it is estimated that a further 4.5 billion children will have been born.

It is so easy to be discouraged. It is so easy just to want to stop and give up. Even in the small problems we face every day. We

struggle to get children along to church, sometimes to keep the ones that we have. We look at the hundreds or thousands of children in our communities and can be depressed at the little impact we have as a church. Then we look at the world. The enormity of the problem throws us.

Edmund Burke said, "It is necessary only for the good man to do nothing for evil to triumph." As Christians we believe that evil will never ultimately triumph but as Christians we realise there is no room for complacency. We know that God holds children close to his heart and that his word shows us this. "See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my father in heaven" [Mat 18:10]. "But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea" [Mat 18:6].

In Patrick Macdonald's book, Reaching Children in Need, published by Viva Network - it is said that the Bible instructs us to get actively involved and not just to be passively concerned. "Defend the cause of the weak and the fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." [Psalm 82:3-4].

In James 1:27 it says that "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress." Jesus command is: "in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you" [Mat 7:12]. If you were trapped in a life of poverty and exploitation, would you prefer to be ignored or to be offered a way out?

In Lamentations 2:19 Jeremiah cries out, "Arise, cry out in the night as the watches of the night begin; pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord. Lift up your hands to him for the lives of your children, who faint from hunger at the head of every street." You could cry out the same verse standing in the middle of many streets in Brazil, Thailand, Africa, Peru... Scotland?

You might not think so but go back to the beginning of this page. There's a little girl, with blonde curls and dull-grey eyes and she lives in a city near us. She might not be fainting with hunger today, but she might be tomorrow. Her life is one of complete uncertainty as she discusses with her sisters whether it is better to have a parent on drugs or on drink.

"Is this not the fast that I have chosen... to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him... Then you shall call and the Lord will answer"

[Isaiah 58:6cf]

"...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me"

[Matthew 25:35]

Continued from page 3

What should we do? (1) Ask The Christian Institute for the material on Sex Education for schools and for the free copy of 'Sex Education for Kids'. (2) Write your MSPs. There are 8 for each region. (To find out who they are, contact, The Christian Institute (see above address) or ring General Enquiries at The Scottish Parliament on 0845 278 1999 and have your postcode ready. Be polite but firm, and ask the MSP to press the Executive to withdraw three publications, from their recommended sex education resources in the Executive's Teacher's Guide. The publications are: (a) Taking Sex Seriously, (b) Primary School Sex Education Pack, (c) Living and Growing.

Despite the plight of the times, I believe in the future prosperity of the world **before** Jesus comes back. But there will be no revival or improvement in the UK, until the Church, the people of God, take their responsibilities seriously.

We must be aware of what our children are being taught. We must pray more deeply and more often. We must take action and stand up for truth and righteousness. We must proclaim the gospel to sinners. We must live godly lives. Unless that happens, I fear there will be disaster before any revival will come.

We must avoid the pitfall of believing the right things and doing nothing, in the hope everything will turn out right in God's time. God uses His people to effect the necessary changes in society. We are not robots operated by remote control. We have responsibilities and duties to perform – many of which are unpleasant and difficult, which if we fail to do, we will suffer – and our children with us. We must be **doers** of the Word and well as hearers.

LATE NEWS

AT A PRESBYTERY meeting in Edinburgh on Wednesday 4th April, (see page 9) the Revd Roddy MacRae was called to be the pastor of the congregation. The ordination and

induction was appointed for Thursday 17th May at 7pm at Viewforth Parish Church, 104 Gilmore Place, Edinburgh. Please pray for God's blessing on Mr MacRae and his wife and family and the congregation.



The Kite



My waking dreams are best concealed,
Much folly, little good, they yield;
Now and then, I gain when sleeping,
A friendly hint that's worth the keeping.

Lately I dreamt of one who cried,
"Beware of self, beware of pride;
When you are prone to build a Babel,
Recall to mind this little fable."

Once on a time a paper kite
Was mounted to a wond'rous height,
Where, giddy with its elevation,
It thus expressed self-admiration:

"See how yon crowds of gazing people
Admire my height above the steeple:
How would they wonder if they knew
All that a kite like me can do!

Were I but free, I'd take my flight,
And pierce the clouds beyond their sight;
But ah! Like a poor prisoner bound,
My string confines me near the ground;

I'd brave the eagle's towering wing,
Might I but fly without a string."
It tugged and pulled, while thus it spoke,
To break the string – at last it broke.

Depriv'd at once of all its stay,
In vain it tried to soar away;
Unable its own weight to bear,
It fluttered downward through the air;

Unable its own course to guide,
The wind soon plung'd it in the tide.
Ah! Foolish kite, thou hadst no wing,
How couldst thou fly without a string?

My heart replied 'O Lord I see
How much this kite resembles me!

Forgetful that by Thee I stand,
Impatient of Thy ruling hand;
How oft I wished to break the lines
Thy wisdom for my lot assigns!

How oft indulged a vain desire,
For something more or something higher!
And for but grace and love divine,
A fall thus dreadful had been mine."

John Newton

(The above poem was sent in by Mr Wm Taylor from Thurso)

'One day my husband and I got into an argument and ended up yelling at one another. Our two-year old daughter came and sat down beside me afterwards in the living room, saying 'I love you mummy'. 'I love you too' I said. Hugging me closer, she said 'I wish you could love my daddy too'. 'But I do love your daddy' I assured her. Off she went. I asked 'Where are you going?'. She said 'I am away to tell daddy you love him'!

"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you"

[Eph 4:32]

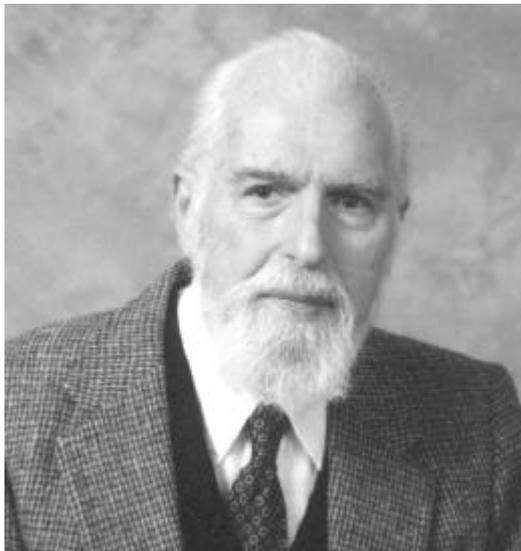
Blessed Are Those Who Die in the Lord

Here are three brief accounts of three different Christians who died in recent weeks. The death of a Christian is precious in the sight of God [Psalm 116:15], and Solomon tells us *“A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of one’s birth”* [Ecc 7:1]. These three individual Christians lived vastly different lives – but all served the one Saviour and brought glory to God.

ROUSAS J RUSHDOONY

ENGELS SAID AT Karl Marx’s funeral (there were only eleven mourners), that ‘His name and work will endure through the ages’. Rousas J Rushdoony is unknown in many Christian circles today but we believe his name and work will go down in history. He died on 8th February 2001. His philosophy was the very opposite of Marx’s.

Rushdoony was often considered the father of modern Christian and home schooling. He was a strong advocate of religious liberty and testified at scores of court cases on behalf of Christian schools, as well as churches. He was a noted theologian and



Rousas J Rushdoony

scholar. He often read and indexed a book a day leaving a personal library of 40,000 books! He wrote on theology, philosophy, law, economics, politics, science, history and education – just like his mentor, Calvin.

He started The Chalcedon Foundation in 1965 which was listed by Newsweek in 1981 as the ‘think-tank’ of the religious right. He regularly supported churches and parents,

when their religious liberties were challenged by government action.

He wrote scores of books. His magnum opus was The Institutes of Biblical Law, over 800 pages. Harold O J Brown named this book as the most important Christian book of 1973 in his column in Christianity Today in 1974. In the book, Rushdoony took the ten commandments as the principle for the whole of biblical law, old testament and new. He analyzed each of the case laws in terms of the decalogue. He considered which principles carried over into the new testament era and how they should be applied to modern life.

His ministry stressed the application of God’s Word to every area of life. He believed and taught that the Christian life was one of inevitable triumph because of the victory of Jesus Christ over sin and death.

Although of an unusual forbidding personality, Rushdoony took great pleasure in noisy family gatherings, and relished a good joke. He leaves a loving wife and five children serving the Lord in various fields of service.

RICHARD WURMBRAND

The following is an edited version of an obituary Catherine MacKenzie read on the internet for Richard Wurmbrand.

RICHARD WURMBRAND, FOUNDER of Voice of the Martyrs and author of Tortured for Christ died on the 17th of February, 2001 of respiratory failure.

Rev. Richard Wurmbrand was born the youngest of four boys, in a Jewish family in Bucharest, Romania. Richard’s father moved his family to Istanbul, Turkey. After the father’s death the Wurmbrands returned in poverty to Romania. Richard was a very intelligent young

“For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee”

[2 Cor 5:1cf]

man. He was fluent in nine languages but had a stormy youth. He met and married Sabina Oster in 1936.

They were introduced to Jesus Christ through the witness of an uneducated German carpenter who placed a Bible into their hands. The carpenter urged these two educated, Jewish, intellectuals to read at least one of the Gospels, in essence a short biography of the most famous personality of the Jewish people, Jesus Christ.

Richard and Sabina continued their Christian work throughout the Second World War and were responsible for smuggling numerous Jewish children out of the ghettos. In the short period after the end of WWII and the transformation of Romania into a communist state (1945-1947) Richard printed and organized the distribution of one million Russian Gospels to the Russian troops that occupied Romania.

In February 1948 he was kidnapped from the street by the Communist government and disappeared into the Communist prison system. He spent fourteen years in total in Communist prisons and suffered torture and solitary confinement.

In 1964 Norwegian Christians paid the communist government \$10,000 for the release of the Wurmbrand family. Sabina Wurmbrand died on the 17th of August 2000. They are survived by their son Michael Wurmbrand.

Catherine MacKenzie

IRENE FINI

The following is a condensed and edited obituary written by Revd John Tallach, who paid several visits over many years to Italy to minister to this family. John held services in their home for a few who gathered to hear the gospel.

IRENE FINI WAS A HUMBLE lady, born and brought up in the tiny village of Loppia, about a mile from Fornaci di Barga, in Tuscany, Italy. In many ways she had a hard life. Looking back on her life, I think of another lady of whom I heard many years ago. Someone who was standing near this lady's bed said, as she was dying, "She met a lot of suffering in the world". The lady heard this comment and her response was, "It was in the world that I met Christ". So it is with Irene. The troubles she has left behind, but the supreme blessing of possessing Christ as her Saviour and Lord - she has taken that with her to a better place.

Through an extraordinary combination of circumstances, the gospel came into



Three generations - granddaughter Simonetta, Irene daughter and Emelia

Irene's life, into her home, and into her heart. Others had ministered the gospel to Irene, but it was in 1972 that Isobel and I first met her. She received us so graciously. Our knowledge of her language was basic but she had a wonderful gift of encouragement despite our inarticulate preaching and speaking.

I remember, on one occasion, how the conversation during an informal service came round to what Peter said at the end of John chapter 6. She said with such freshness and fervour "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life". She had a hold of the word of God and it had a hold of her.

During the last years of her life she suffered a succession of strokes. She was wonderfully cared for by her daughter Emelia. It is typical of Italian families that she was cared for in her daughter's home, but the level of care which Irene received from Emelia during these long years of Irene's increasing weakness was surely exceptional.

In an old book, with passages from Scripture and other items like the Apostle's Creed, Irene had written the words here and there, "per me" (for me). I believe that Psalm 23 and Isaiah 55, for example, were marked. So, in the simple service at her funeral which was held at Via della Logge 6, on Wednesday, 28 February, these are the passages which were read. I feel very much that Irene, dying at over ninety years of age about a mile from where she was born, never having travelled much in the years between, belonged to a family which was much wider than she ever knew in this life. I do not mean that she had a narrow conception of the family of God, but that she was unavoidably limited in her experience of how broad it is.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those in Scotland who prayed for Irene over many years, whatever church they belong to. I think for example of one Free Presbyterian who, when we were in Kinlochbervie, bought a tape recorder on which I could record sermons and send them over to Italy. Irene built up a stock of these tapes and was still listening to them perhaps as recently as a year ago. Those who cared like this for

"These all died in faith...having seen (the promises) afar off...embraced them and confessed they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth...Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared for them a city"

[Hebrews 11:13cf]

Presbytery and Congregational News

"Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the epistle from Laodicea."

[Colossians 4:16]

"Above all things have fervent love for one another, for 'love will cover a multitude of sins'. Be hospitable to one another without grumbling"

[1 Peter 4:8cf]

Some people have felt that not enough presbytery news is being filtered through to the people, so we have decided to include some of the decisions made at the last presbytery in March along with the congregational news. See also back

ABERDEEN

At a congregational meeting held at the beginning of March it was decided to continue worshipping as a congregation with one APC service on Sunday mornings only. The present arrangement using the Aberdeen Mission's premises would also continue. The evening service in the Mission hall was not conducted under the auspices of the APC although an APC member might preach. Mr Paul Wraight continues to preach most Sundays and his care, interest and attention is most acceptable to all.

A proposal to adapt part of the building to make it suitable for outreach work, was held over until there was more certainty about the long term use of the building. Please pray about the future of the congregation and the situation with the Mission. It is the desire of both parties that more evangelistic work would be carried on at the premises.

DUNDEE

Dundee congregation held their Thanksgiving Service on Saturday 17th March. This was to give thanks to God for the redecorating and altering of their church building. Many friends from far and near came to join them and worship time was followed by a lovely meal and fellowship.

Mr James Quinn, a dear friend and a retired preacher who attended the mid-week meetings when his health permitted him,



Revd Jackie Ross is on the left and Mr Quinn is on the far right

spoke affectionately of his interest and prayers for the congregation. The Revd John W Ross from Lochcarron also spoke on Christ building His Church and gave good advice.

A communion service was held the next day and Mr Ross took both services

emphasising the love of Christ and the duty of repenting every day. The congregation wish to thank all those who gave of their time, talents, and money to help renovate the building. It is their earnest prayer that the hearts and souls of people will be redecored with the love of Christ.

The congregation are very interested in employing a full time outreach worker to contact the local community. An opportunity has arisen of employing an experienced person, who has unexpectedly been made redundant and would be most interested in doing this work for a year at a very low cost. He knows our congregation well, having taken part in our clubs and missions. Do please pray about this matter and if you can help do not hesitate to contact us. Please read about the Dundee Appeal on the back page.

STORNOWAY

February is always a busy month in Stornoway as churches not only have the winter communions held throughout the town, but a Conference run by the Highland Theological College takes place just a few days previous.

The communion services in the APC was largely conducted by Revd Robert Macleod, of Free Church in Falkirk. His messages were both challenging and stimulating. Many felt the Lord had spoken to them through the weekend. The Revd Andrew Coghill and Revd Iain Murdo Macdonald from the island preached at the preparatory services and were much appreciated.

The congregation enjoyed hearing some friends again when the lecturers of the Highland Theological College came at the beginning of February to hold their Winter Conference. Nick Needham and Noel Due also preached at the APC services over that weekend.

At the beginning of March the congregation enjoyed its first Congregational meal in the church building when 49 people sat down to a three-course meal. Mrs Maimie Macleod was "interviewed" about her visit to Windsor Castle to meet the Princess Royal, and Mrs Shona Macleod spoke of her visit to Sweden in connection with her work in "Lifestyle".

On Wednesday 14 March, the con-

gregation had its fifth "Video Night" in the manse when it viewed the film on Martin Luther. The other videos seen were John Wycliffe; John Huss; William Tyndale; and William Carey.

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ADDRESS

On the 28th of February Revd Archie McPhail from Oban had the responsibility of addressing our new Scottish Parliament. He had only a four minute slot! Those who have to preach will know that it is more difficult to speak for a very short time, than to have plenty time to say all you want to say! Mr McPhail's message was received warmly.

His message was based on re-establishing our relationship with God and referring questioners back to first principles. The most basic principle was the character of God. "Our emphasis on inclusiveness and individual rights must seem to Him a less than adequate foundation for life. Intolerance of moral judgements ignores God's character. Christ's answer to a question on sexuality was *"In the beginning God made them male and female"*. His model prayer began *"Our Father in heaven"*.

Mr McPhail concluded "We pray for all who influence the spirituality of our people, especially our young people. May our work be informed by the realities of life, guided by the teaching of Jesus, and helped by the Spirit of God. Forgive us when we exclude You from personal or national life, and when we seek to justify evil".

Please pray for our politicians.

EDINBURGH CALL

The presbytery will next meet in Edinburgh on Wednesday 4th April at 7.30pm at Viewforth Parish Church, 104 Gilmore Place. The purpose is to 'moderate-in' a closed call to Revd Roderick MacRae presently living in Fearn.

Revd Alexander Murray from Lairg is expected to preach at the presbytery before the proceedings begin. Our congregation in Edinburgh is very small and every encouragement should be given to them at this time. Please pray that God would be glorified as we prepare to start a new ministry in the congregation there.

MTW SCOTLAND

The PCA in America have a missionary branch called 'Mission to the World' (MTW). Following the decline of Christianity in the UK they wish to send missionaries from the USA. They would like an indigenous committee in Scotland to oversee the selection and work of those missionaries. Members from various Christian groups and churches are to be represented. The presbytery appointed Revd Donald C Macaskill to be the APC representative. The first meeting was held in March in Dundee.

NEW APC DIVINITY STUDENT

At its meeting on 20 March, the Scottish

Presbytery received Mr Malcolm Macleod, a policeman from Stornoway, as a student studying for the ministry within the Associated Presbyterian Churches.

Mr Macleod is married to Joan and has two young children, Clare and Malcolm. He is expected to start his studies in September this year. The APC have not had a divinity student for some years and this news is most encouraging to the whole denomination. We hope that the church as a whole will *continually* remember Malcolm and his family as he begins his course of studies.

A "Call" to spread the gospel through preaching is not something that one hears much of these days, yet it is the basis of the



Malcolm and Joan Macleod

"Evangel". A willingness to serve God wherever there is need is much to be commended, but a "call" to preach is something quite specific and is a sign that God has a purpose and plan in mind. Romans 10:14,15 puts it perfectly *"...how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"*

God 'called' Jeremiah, from the womb, to preach to his own people Judah, but as far as we know he had no 'converts'. In fact, God told Jeremiah no one would believe his message [Jer 7:27]. What was the nature of 'success' for Jeremiah then?

'Success' for Jeremiah, meant obedience to God's command in spite of the fact that nobody would listen to his preaching. God's purpose in sending preachers to certain places can sometimes be to leave sinners without excuse. It provides evidence that sinners are rebellious by nature.

However, it is every true minister's desire that his preaching will be owned by God and be instrumental in the salvation of many. Let us consistently pray for all who go out with the message of salvation.

GIM

An Anglican Bishop asked 'Why is it that everywhere the Apostle Paul went they had a revolution, but everywhere I go, they have a cup of tea?' Because Paul did not blend in, he stood out! On his first missionary journey, they stoned him and left him for dead. On his second one, they threw him in prison. How did he handle it? He prayed and praised God until every door in his prison was opened! Child of God, the word for you today is 'Give it all you've got and keep pressing on'!

[Bob Gass]

Election Questions

At the time of going to print the possibility of a General Election is still likely despite the progress of "Foot and Mouth" disease. When the time comes we should ask candidates of all parties the following questions:

1. CLONING OF HUMAN BEINGS:
Would he/she vote for the removal of restrictions so as to allow reproductive cloning?
Would he/she support the re-introduction of a ban on all cloning of human beings?
2. EURO EMPLOYMENT DIRECTIVE:
Does the candidate believe the government should have signed up to this aspect of equal opportunities legislation **against the wishes of religious people and their leaders?**
3. HOMOSEXUAL AGE OF CONSENT:
In a representative democracy would the candidate choose to placate a small, but influential minority rather than respect the expressed wishes of the majority?
4. MARRIED TAX ALLOWANCE:
Should a 'pro-family' government abolish the Married Persons Tax Allowance which the present Chancellor has done?
5. HOMOSEXUALS & THE FORCES
Does the candidate support the present ruling?
6. LIQUOR LAWS & DRUGS POLICY:
What are the views of the candidate?
7. PARENTAL RIGHTS:
Does the candidate support the outlawing of corporal punishment of any kind?
8. REVIEW OF SEXUAL OFFENCES:
What are the candidates views on the weakening of public order offences and the liberalisation of gay sex in public places?
9. RADIO LICENCES:
Ask the candidate to justify the discrimination against Christian radio stations.
10. SECTION 28
Ask the candidate his views.
11. EUTHANASIA:
Ask the candidate to state his views clearly.

The above is a short summary of an article in 'Evangelicals Now', April 2001. GIM

"...the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ever and ever"

[Revelation 11:15]

BOOK REVIEW

Who's Running

Hope of the Wicked: Master Plan to Rule the World

Ted Flynn's book, 'Hope of the Wicked: The Master Plan to Rule the World,' will open your eyes to the greatest deception in modern history. It explores the convergence on a global basis of multinational corporations, foundations and the political and sociological instruments of a one-world government to bring about a New World Order. The book is 550 pages with 82 photographs and 1,200 footnotes, with a strong historical basis to show that there is a global elite working to end the sovereignty of nations, to place all under the United Nations. The recent Labor Day weekend meeting at the U. N. is ample evidence -- 168 world leaders all in one place, the largest gathering of its kind in world history, and yet very little meaningful news coverage.

In this well-documented book, readers will learn the following:

- * Is there a conspiracy to rule the world?
- * What is the plan to bring America into a one-world order?
- * Hundred of quotes from world leaders
- * The utopian dream of the United Nations
- * The long tentacles of the United Nations in your life
- * World taxes and a world court for world citizens
- * What is the Federal Reserve and who owns it?
- * The links of world businesses, foundations and governments
- * What are the Bilderbergers, Council on Foreign Relations and Trilateral Commission?
- * What are the authority and mission of FEMA?
- * What is the role of the New Age movement and environmentalism in a world religion?
- * The erosion of rights, freedom and national sovereignty
- * The need to create chaos to usher in a new world order
- * The subversion of the Constitution by Executive Order
- * What is the real agenda of secret societies?
- Technology's theft of privacy: chips, satellites and tracking
- * Is artificial weather modification real?
- * Who was the most influential woman of the 20th Century?
- * Who are the world players trying to bring change?
- * Pulling the plug on the world economy - nearer than you may think
- * How will the global elite's plans affect you and your family in the near future?

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Adults can use this page with our permission. APC Kids



When we follow the way of the Lord Jesus then he will keep us from falling or going off the road. Following Jesus means to live the way he told us to in his book the Bible. Falling or going off the road means disobeying and ignoring God's word. At the end of their lives people who have followed Jesus are able to look back and say that Jesus has kept them on the right way. King David was like this – see what he said by completing the puzzle below. Write the following letters in the following squares:

'e' – f1, d2, g2, e4, f4, l4, j5 'h' – a2, f2, i3, i4
 'o' – 0 l2, b3, b5 'p' – g1, f3, h5, i5, 't' – e1, k2, h3, g4, c5

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h | i | j | k | l |
| 1 | m | y | | s | | | | s | | | | |
| 2 | | a | v | | | | | l | d | | | |
| 3 | y | | u | r | | | a | | | s | | |
| 4 | m | y | | f | | | | | | a | v | |
| 5 | n | | | | s | l | i | | | | d | |

This puzzle is from The Names of Jesus puzzle book. It's not out in the shops yet, but it soon will be. So keep an eye out for it.

The Amazing World of Light

Light is something everybody takes for granted. We see it every day. We switch on electric lights and torches sometimes but here are some amazing facts about light and sunshine.

Nothing in the whole universe travels as fast as light. It goes a million times faster than a jumbo jet.

Daylight comes from the sun and even though it has to travel 93 million miles, it only takes it about eight minutes to get there.

Light is made up of little things called photons which like to zoom through the air. Light will pass through transparent things like glass but opaque things such as animals, trees and people are not transparent. Light can not travel through them so that is why when the sun is shining all people have a shadow where they are blocking out the light. Sometimes it's a nuisance when someone is blocking out your light. Particularly if it is dark and you are in the middle of reading something. But sometimes shadows are great.

Do you remember what the climate is like in the land of Israel? It is very hot and very dry. In a hot, dry climate it is lovely to stand in a cool shade. The shadow of a tree will protect you from the searing heat of the sun. In Psalm 121 it says that God is your shade at your right hand. The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. God is our protector, Look up Psalm 17:8 and Isaiah 25:4. The Bible has quite a few references to shadows and shade. But there is another thing about light. Did you know that light is actually made up of colours. However, it is only at certain times that you can see these colours. The best time to see them is when there's a rainbow. It must have been an amazing sight to see a rainbow for the first time. God chose to make the rainbow as a sign of his promise that he would never flood the whole world again. God has made many promises – and he will always keep them. Hebrews 10:23. *lufhtiaf si desimorp sah ohw eH* – These letters and words are all back to front. Try and work out what the sentence says before looking up the reference.

"And teach them to your children and your grandchildren"

[Deuteronomy 4:9]

The APC News is published 9 times per year in the following months:

- January/February*
- March*
- April*
- May/June*
- July*
- August/September*
- October*
- November*
- December*

All the views expressed in this magazine are not necessary those of the editor or the denomination. The articles are meant to stimulate thought and provoke a serious study of the Holy Scripture.

All articles not attributed to an author are by the editor.

The typescript is set in 10pt 'Footlight MT Light' on Microsoft Publisher 98. The style for Scripture quotations is italic within double inverted commas, and then square brackets for the Scripture reference, chapter and verse separated by a colon.

The most helpful way to send articles is by email. Text may also be sent on disc in Microsoft Word. Some rtf files are so acceptable. Clearly printed well-spaced typing and artwork in one column is also good as we can scan it.

Photographs can be sent by post or by email or on disc – in JPEG format

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KESWICK

GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE from the Campbell Trust to enable ministers and full time Christian workers from Scotland, together with their spouses, to attend the Keswick Convention in 2001. This year the Convention has been extended to three weeks. The dates are July 14-20, 21-27 and 28-2 August. The second two weeks are family weeks, with full alternative programmes for children and young people.

The grant assists towards travel and accommodation for any week. The only stipulation is that those applying should not have been registered members of the Convention in a previous occasion. Full details are available from the Revd John Butler, 2 Southview, Dalmuir, Clydebank, G81 3LA. Early application is advised as only a small number of grants are available each year.

MINISTRY TRAINING

THE APC PRESBYTERY has decided to open a Ministry Training Fund, in order that some financial assistance will be available for those training for the Ministry of God's Word. Special collections are to be taken twice per year - in April and October, on whichever Lord's Day in these months suits the local situation. Please pray that the Lord would raise up, and equip, those who would go out to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ. Please also give as the Lord enables you. KM

STUDY THEOLOGY AND PAY NO FEES?

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DUNDEE APPEAL

A UNIQUE SITUATION has arisen in Dundee where an Outreach Worker could be employed for a year. His work would concentrate on outreach work around the church. This is an excellent opportunity, as a local person, who also knows our congregation well, is the right person to devote a lot of time contacting the community around the church. The post would just be for a year in the first instance.

The congregation have been able to raise about 60% of the salary required but asks for help from any interested people. Donations marked 'Outreach Worker', may be sent to the minister Revd D C Macaskill, 238 Arbroath Road, Dundee DD4 7SB, or to the treasurer Mr W J Macaulay, 4 Lomond Drive, Carnoustie DD7 6DN.

We are most like beasts when we kill. We are most like men when we judge. We are most like God when we forgive.

Forgiveness is a lovely idea – until we have something to forgive.

Subscriptions and Renewals for APC News

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Note for Congregations

Congregations please note that the **minimum charge** for bulk copies (up to 50) is £20. Additional copies thereafter in bundles of 50 for £15 and 25 for £7.50. Congregations of course, can order fewer copies, but they must pay the minimum £20 for each issue. They can, if they wish, charge for their own distribution, or give them away free. Cheques should be made out to 'APC News' and sent to the address below. Please state if acknowledgement of donation is required.

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