

1970

From 1st January the Co-ordinated Appeal changed its name to "Church of Scotland Mission and Service Fund". It would finance the Church's work under four headings - Overseas Council, Home Board, Social and Moral Welfare and Department of Education. The Overseas Council was responsible for a staff of 289, including 20 doctors and 35 nurses engaged in the missionary countries, working in hospitals, colleges, secondary and primary schools, special schools, leper colonies, etc. The Home Board was responsible for new churches, 204 had been built since 1945, Deaconesses, Lay Missionaries, Industrial and Hospital Chaplains, University Chaplains, etc. The Social and Moral Welfare Board operated a chain of 80 homes, hostels and approved schools throughout Scotland, including 40 eventide homes and 9 homes for children. The Department of Education dealt with Organisers for Sunday School, Senior Youth and Youth Fellowship, as well as Carberry Tower Conference Centre and St Colm's College. The total sum required in 1969 was £1,050,000. This sum was divided among the Presbyteries and the congregations according to their ability to help. Castlemilk West were asked to pay £743 as their share.

Although Mr Thomas Telfer had been in failing health for some time, his death on the 26th January in Mearns Kirk Hospital at the age of 75 was sudden and rather unexpected. He had been born in Rutherglen, but moved to Possilpark, where he became a member of the Henry Drummond Church. He had been an elder for nearly fifty years at his death. He had been Assistant Session Clerk in North Woodside U.F. Church, and in 1958 he became the first Session Clerk of Castlemilk West, a post he held for four years. He was also Presbytery Elder for a number of years. "He had a sincere and friendly nature with a keen sense of humour, and he loved the Church and everyone in it."

The Sunday School had been noticing a number of empty seats and was planning on knocking on a few doors to encourage attendance.

One night when the editor of the Crusader was delivering the magazines in the area of Castlemilk Drive, a man in his shirt sleeves came out of the

cold, dark night and thrust three two-shilling pieces into his hand, saying "That's for the Crusader." This man was not alone in his gesture as, in 1969, £103 17s 8d had been collected in the Crusader Box, including £1 notes and 10/- notes on occasion. £7 had been donated by the Men's Association, £2 from the Rev. Bob McDill in the U.S.A. and £2 from an anonymous donor, also thought to have come from the U.S.A.

Members of the Retired Ladies' Group, meeting in the Community Centre, raised £230 of their target of £250 to provide a Guide Dog for the Blind.

The Welcome Committee of the church, under the convener, John Smith, entertained retired members in the second of a series of three Social Evenings, and served them with light refreshments.

Elaine McCarroll of Dougrie Drive, seven years of age, grand-daughter of elder James Dool and Mrs Dool, won the Kay Shield Skating Competition at Crossmyloof Ice Rink. She had been skating for two and a half years and was a pupil of Castleton Sunday School.

The 3rd League of the Boys' Brigade football team beat every other side in the league. "Rangers might still get Manager Les Warnock from the 18th if Waddell fails".

The 2nd League under Eric Ashley had mixed fortunes and a fair number of postponed games due mainly to weather conditions. As a result of a grant from Youth Services Department of the Education Authority the Junior Boys' Brigade got a complete new outfit, red pants and red and black vertical strips. George Barbour was in charge of the boys there. Mr John Dick took the 2nd and 3rd stage First Aid class. In the Campers' Badge, 1st, 2nd and 3rd stages, 38 boys entered and 38 boys passed. Mr Alistair Angus worked very hard with the Pipe Band, and was helped by Mr Morrison Wilkie of the 118th B.B. who worked with the drummers. Mr Gordon Sneddon and Miss Irene Stewart joined the Junior Section of the Company Staff. There was an immediate need for staff for the Senior

Sections, as they had only five permanent staff, and if none were forthcoming, no new recruits would be accepted for the new session. The roll was 73 Company and 14 Seniors. They also thought about disbanding the Senior Section. They needed help also with the camp at Kildacoil Estate, Campbeltown, as they had only five members of staff instead of ten. The cost was to be £12 for staff.

The cost of Life and Work was 8d per month, and they were running a series of articles by a team of young ministers, under the leadership of Rev. D.W.D. Shaw, lecturer in Divinity at New College, Edinburgh. The titles included: "Who is God?" "How do we know God?" "Why bother about religion and the Christian Faith?" and "Why must I belong to the church?"

Rev Gordon Keir, who stood in when Miss Grigor was in America, was ordained and inducted to Galston New Church.

The Sunday School put on the pantomime "Snow-White and the Seven Dwarfs" to 400 strong capacity audiences for two nights in the Community Centre. The police said they were beginning to cause a traffic jam on Castlemilk Drive as many non-ticket holders had to be turned away. Misses Jean Cochran, Kathleen Grant, Irene Sinclair and Christine Stewart were the authors and producers of the pantomime.

The minister invited the congregation to select their ten favourite hymns or psalms and put a note of them in the Crusader Box, to find out which were the most popular. The favourite hymns were: 1. 106 When I survey 2. 700 I need Thee every hour 3. 12 Immortal, invisible 4. 251 Hushed was the evening hymn 5. 286 Abide with me 6. 410 I heard the voice of Jesus say 7. 477 Be Thou my vision 8. 479 Love Divine, all loves excelling 9. 508 O Jesus, I have promised 10. 701 What a friend we have in Jesus.

In an article in the Church magazine abstinence was recommended to all young people.

The Home Board of the Church of Scotland assigned an architect to the church and he was working on plans for enlarging the accommodation.

The first part of "The New English Bible", the New Testament, had been published in 1961. The translation was now completed with the publication of the Old Testament and the Apocrypha. The cost was 30/- for the Standard edition without the Apocrypha, and 35/- with the Apocrypha.

*Miss Erskine
receiving the right
hand of fellowship
from
Rev. James Millar
at her dedication
service.
Miss J. Grigor,
our deaconess,
is on the right.*



At a special evening service in the church Morag Erskine was dedicated as a missionary of the Church to work in Malawi with the Church of Central Africa, Presbyterian. She was presented with a Bible in the appropriate translation by the Rev. James Millar, a gold watch by Mrs Mitchell on behalf of the congregation and a tape recorder by a representative of the Junior Bible class. Morag was due to fly out to Malawi in July to take over responsibility of the nursing work of a mission hospital, with 60 beds, in Livingstonia. (Many more patients who could not get a bed lay on mats on the floor.) Morag had left Glenwood Secondary to train first at Logan and Johnston College of Nursing and then at Stobhill General Hospital.

The Boys' Brigade entered a team for the second year in the Battalion Cross-Country Championships and the Junior team finished 3rd among about 30 teams. The Intermediate team, because of an oversight by stewards, were entered for the Senior event, and the smallest boy in the field, John "Shomey" Duncan came 10th among the 16-19 year olds, although he was only 14. "No need for Frankie Vaughan in Castlemilk!" Jim Symon, Junior Section Leader in Charge was accepted by the Glasgow Police. Mr J. Brier was welcomed as a Warrant Officer.

The new bookstall, made by a member of the congregation, was now in position, hosting many paperbacks.

The Church of Scotland Social Services Committee opened 3 new establishments to add to the 42 eventide and other homes for old people they ran. The new ones were Belmont Castle Eventide Home, in Meigle, Perthshire, Morlich House, Edinburgh, under the Stein Trust, providing flatlets for elderly women on an economic basis, and an eventide home in Stonehaven.

The Sunday School Trip went to Troon. The cost was 14/6d for adults and 8/3d for children and this included the train fare from King's Park to Troon and back, and the purvey.

Mr James Aitken of Carmunnock Road took over the job of Halls Convener from Mr William Hurst, of Simshell, who became Rollkeeper.

Mr Bill Strain resigned as Session Clerk after three years, as he was taking up a post outwith the city. Bill had given "outstanding service to the church as Sunday School Leader, Building Fund Convener, Property Convener and Presbytery Elder, before becoming Session Clerk". During his time as Session Clerk, he managed to find time for the supervision of a scheme of renovation of the church and manse buildings, and he played a leading role in the Impact '69 campaign. "His finest hour was at the time of the gale damage to the church" when he led a party of volunteers on to the roof with tarpaulins. He also helped Rev. James Millar "in a tenacious and successful battle" over the insurance to be paid, so that "in the end there was little or nothing to contribute to the cost of the new roof and the redecoration of the church".

The new Session Clerk was Mr John McKechnie, who had come to Castlemilk West in 1960 from the McMillan-Calton Church in London Road, where he had been ordained as an elder in 1955. He served on the Board for a time and was admitted as an elder in 1961, becoming rollkeeper in

1963. He acted as deputy Session Clerk for a year before taking up the post.

The practice of "scrambling" at weddings was discontinued because of the danger of accidents.

Miss Pat Kerr of Arnprior Quad., leader of the Youth Fellowship and Sunday School teacher and Miss Linda Flowerday of Glenacre Drive gained their Teacher's Diploma at Jordanhill College of Education.

The engagement was announced of Rev. Gordon Keir, who had been inducted as minister of Galston New Church.

The death was announced of the Rev. Raymond Hunt, B.A. B.D., the first Assistant Minister in 1957.

The Rev. Robert Ross of Castlemilk East died on the 30th July, as the result of a car accident. "During his seven years of ministry in the East Kirk, Mr Ross did much for the people of Castlemilk, and would be sadly missed, not only in his own congregation, but throughout the parish, where he was held in high esteem". Heartfelt sympathy was extended to his two sisters and to the congregation. Rev. James Millar conducted the Memorial Service for Mr Ross.

A letter was received from Morag Erskine from Livingstonia, Malawi, where she was working in nursing. She gave her first impressions of life in an under-developed country. She had lived in Blantyre, the main town in the Southern region, for three days on her arrival, and had shopped there for groceries to last her three months. In the supermarket she had seen several items with a "St Michael" label. Very few of the people in Malawi were employed and most lived by eating maize and casava, resulting in a very high level of anaemia, malnutrition and associated

diseases. Education was not compulsory and only the better off went to school, and only as far as Primary 7. There was only one university for 100 students per year. In Livingstonia, however, they had a secondary school with a staff of 50% African and 50% missionaries. The hospital was the David Gordon Memorial Hospital, with 86 beds for 130 patients, the surplus lying on mats on the floor. The hospital was very, very dirty and the standard of nursing very poor. There was only one doctor, Dr Brownlie, who had been there one year, and previous to that they had been "doctorless " for 6½ years. In the maternity, they had had 20 deliveries since her arrival and only 4 nappies, and they had no cots in the post-natal so babies slept with their mothers. In the ante-natal they had 12 patients in a room approximately 8 by 6 ft. Morag thanked everyone for their prayers and she had felt constantly upheld.

The two companies of the Girls' Brigade along with a company from Hillington had a "wonderful week" at camp at Guay, in Perthshire. Mrs John Smith of 74A company, previously captain of 74B company in Castleton School for a number of years, resigned as captain and was succeeded by Miss Marilyn Deas. 74B company under Miss Ena Thomson invited "new faces" along to undertake the activities on offer, namely, First Aid, International Friendship, Handcrafts and Physical Activities for Seniors and Brigaders, Dancing, Knot tying, Helping in the Home, and Verse speaking for Juniors. There was also a varied programme for the 5-7 year olds towards the attainment of the "Explorer's Star".

In the Boys' Brigade there was the introduction of the "new hat", royal blue in colour, and described as "something out of *Thunderbirds*". The Queen's Award was replaced by the President's Award. S. Sgt Ian Rough, Sgt Alistair Guy, Sgt David Braes and Sgt Stephen Robertson gained the Queen's Award. Cpl Alan McKechnie and Cpl Harry Olverman gained the President's Award. Alistair Angus was appointed Junior Section Leader in charge, while thanks were due to Jim Symon who, because of work commitments, was only able to help on the staff as his duties permitted. Sadly, Joan Sherriff, a capable leader, resigned as she had moved to Crookston.

In 1970 £101 3/- was donated to the church magazine via the Crusader box, while £5 was donated by the Men's Association and a further £2 came from the former Session Clerk in the U.S.A., Mr John Lawrence. The cost of printing had risen steeply, and unless the income could keep pace with the expenditure the future of the Crusader would be in jeopardy.

1971

Rev. John D. Miller, M.A., B.D., S.T.M., who was born in Oxford, but was brought up in Kilmarnock, was inducted to Castlemilk East in January. After studying at New College, Edinburgh, he spent two years as an assistant in Edinburgh, and a year in the U.S.A., in New York. By coincidence, Rev. John's father was interim moderator when Rev. James Millar went to his first charge.



Rev. James Millar, in his letter in the church magazine, encouraged parents to instil in their children faith in themselves, faith in others and above all faith in God, and to come with them to church.

In October, 1970 and again in February 1971, teams of elders and lady visitors did a visitation to all the houses in the lower half of the parish with the exception of the Valley, which had been visited, encouraging people to come to church.



Mrs. Millar with some of the weight-watchers from the Guild, who by their efforts raised the sum of £26 10/- towards the cost of Guild China. Adding to this sum by other means, we are pleased to announce that the full cost of the china (£38 4/-) has now been paid—and we even made a profit of 8/-. Well done, ladies!

A visit from the M.P. For Cathcart, Mr Edward Taylor, a talk on Old Glasgow, and a concert by a Salvation Army Group were some of the evenings on offer in the Youth Fellowship.

The third Senior Church Members Social took place.

A work party of senior members who were tradesmen was set up, meeting on a Wednesday morning at 10a.m. to carry out repair jobs around the church. A great deal of very useful work was accomplished in a "friendly, relaxed atmosphere, complete with tea breaks".

Because of the abnormally mild winter the roses were still budding and blooming in early February. Convener of the Gardens Committee, Mr Harry Logan was going to need help when things really got going in the Spring.

A Grand Concert was held in aid of the David Gordon Memorial Hospital in Livingstonia. The admission was 15p (3/-). This was the first of many projects to help Morag in her work. Donations, large or small, could also have been sent to the manse or handed in at church.

Miss Jean Grigor, the "talented" deaconess, left at the end of May to go to Australia to take over an appointment in Melbourne. She had been in Castlemilk West since September 1963, succeeding Miss Sheena McNaughton, and although she had been in Castlemilk longer than was usual, there was despondency about her departure. She would be missed for her work among the young folk in the Sunday School, and Junior Bible Class where the average attendance was 70-80 each Sunday in this particularly difficult age group, and among the elderly and infirm in the parish. Many would remember the "happy carefree days in Craigengower", on a holiday organised every year by Miss Grigor. There was also the Church Holiday School where literally hundreds of youngsters descended

upon the church each morning for a week . Above all she would be missed because she was loved by everyone.

To mark her departure there was a special evening service, and a get-together afterwards, where she received a presentation from Angus Matheson of an inscribed New English Bible and a cheque from the congregation. Miss Irene Sinclair presented her with a brief-case from the Sunday School and Junior Bible class.



The *Garden Fête*, opened by Mr Jack House, was held in aid of the Fabric Fund instead of the Building Fund, as there was only £382 left in the Fabric Fund after two bills of £411 and £590 over the last two years. The admission was 2p for adults and 1p for children.

In 1958 at the first *Garden Fête* held in the grounds of Castleton School the amount raised was £330 and 2,000 people attended.

Mr Jack Girdwood, who took over the Captaincy of the Boys' Brigade at the beginning of the session 1967-68, when the Company was at a rather low ebb, resigned as he had moved to East Kilbride. In Mr Girdwood the company had a man of "wide experience of B.B matters and tremendous enthusiasm", but also a man "with a genuine and sincere personality" and in no time at all the company was playing an important part in the life of the church and of the Boys' Brigade world in Glasgow.

Mr Girdwood did not resign before he had arranged with Mr Alex. Johnston of Rutherglen, a very experienced B.B. Officer, to take over as captain. Mr Johnston had been in his previous company, the 209th for 40 years

Under the chairman Mr McDougall, vice-chairman Mrs McKechnie, secretary Mrs Todd, treasurer Mrs Heron, and social convener Mr Todd, a newly formed Boys' Brigade Parents' Group, was set up to broaden the interest of the parents in the work of the Boys' Brigade and to provide social interests which would help the Boys' Brigade financially in its work.

The numbers in both the Company and the Junior Section increased considerably. The summer camp, under canvas, went to Bridlington in Yorkshire.



Boys' Brigade in camp at Bridlington

In his letter in the church magazine the minister stated, "Marriages in Castlemilk West have reached almost epidemic proportions. So many who have been so active in the organisations among the young are being married soon, and as most of them will be leaving the district, we shall be deprived of their services." He appealed for help in the Sunday School and the Girls' Brigade.

Pupils of Glenwood Secondary raised £700 over the year for the charities, Muscular Dystrophy, Royal National Institute for the Blind, Guide dogs for the Blind and Dr Barnardos. £415 was raised during a sponsored swim in Castlemilk baths, from an initiative by Bobby McGregor, Olympic Silver Medallist. In thirty minutes, the time limit, two pupils swam 42 lengths, and the average was 25 lengths.

Pupils of Grange Secondary raised £250 for Guide Dogs for the Blind. They also raised money for the Pakistan Flood Disaster and for Oxfam.

The Parents' Club of Mitchellhill Primary invited over 100 pensioners to a concert in the school and on leaving each pensioner was presented with a parcel of groceries, which had been donated by pupils. There were also enough groceries left over to distribute to a further 60 homes of pensioners in Castlemilk.

Mr William Kent of Stravanan Road died on the 14th March. Although Mr Kent had not been a well man since his service in the R.A.S.C. during the war, where he took part in the D-Day Landings in Normandy, he was keenly interested in the life of the church. He contributed articles on several occasions to the Crusader. Willie was an elder in London Road Church in 1945, and in Springburnhill Church, from where he moved to Castlemilk and became an elder in Castlemilk West in 1963.

Mr Hugh Gilchrist, a popular elder of Arnprior Quad., died on 28th April. Although a member of Kinning Park Church in his earlier years it was only in November 1964 he became an elder in Castlemilk West. He was always a willing worker on the Congregational Board, where his skill as a joiner proved very useful, and on the Kirk Session until he took ill. Hugh was one of the men who ventured on to the roof of the church at the time of the storm to make emergency repairs. "Hugh will be long remembered in Castlemilk West, not only for his friendly, obliging nature, but also for his fine Christian witness and example".



Miss Morag Erskine

Since the situation in Livingstonia was so desperate, a group was set up called the Livingstonia Mission Hospital Group to "alleviate the burden laid on Morag and her colleagues" by providing medical equipment and material goods for the hospital and the community in Livingstonia. Two concerts were held and an 8 mile sponsored stroll took place from Castlemilk via Carmunnock and Busby to Clarkston, and back through Linn Park. 70

members of the congregation took part in the stroll and Mr and Mrs Barker provided tea and home-baked cakes in their garden at the halfway point in Busby. Mrs Warnock and Mrs Bert Grant served tea and sandwiches to the walkers on their return to the church hall. £168 was raised. In October a Mini-Market was held and more than £30 was realised for the Hospital Fund. In September, 13 parcels were sent out to Morag from the congregation and at the time Morag's mother was on a five week visit, having taken with her £150 which would purchase necessary equipment.

The Sunday School Trip took place to Strathaven.

In the B.B., Lieutenants J. Brier and A. Imrie completed their officer training course. The 3rd League football team, run by Les Warnock was at the top of the league and the 2nd team, run by Eric Ashley was close to the top with a few games still to play. In the Battalion Cross-Country Championships the Junior team were 21st against very strong opposition and the Intermediates gained 1st place in their section. They were John Duncan, Andrew McDougall and George Buchanan. The Parents' Group ran a very successful dance.

Miss Jacqueline Petrie completed her three year training to become a deaconess, and took up her first appointment at the Mains of Fintry Church in Dundee. Mrs Mitchell of Carmunnock Road presented her with a wristlet watch to mark the occasion.

Mr J. Lavelle of Raithburn Avenue gained 1st prize in the Castlemilk Gardens Competition organised by the Community Centre. Mr D.J. McLaughlin of Arnprior Road and Mr A. Taylor of Carmunnock Road were 2nd equal. Mr W. Chesney of Dougrie Street was next in order of merit.

A branch of the Citizens' Advice Bureau was opened on the 4th May at the Community Centre in Castlemilk. Buying a house, Hire Purchase, Legal

Aid, Personal Problems and Social Insurance and Pensions were among the subjects where advice was offered.



Mr Ian Paterson assisted with parish visitation, the Junior Bible class and work among the organisations after the departure of Miss Jean Grigor, since no deaconess was available. In the past Mr Paterson had previously visited the church as a B.T.I. student.

Mr John Smith accepted on behalf of Castlemilk West the Anniversary Trophy for bowls and John himself won the Tom Fraser Singles Trophy.

New arrivals in Castlemilk and existing members of the church were asked to come forward to help in the Sunday School, the Boys' Brigade, the Girls' Brigade, the Choir, in the Kirk Session and the Congregational Board, as their help was needed "very urgently". Although the church roll showed that the numbers in the congregation were more or less what they had been five years previously, movement of workers in the church to new towns and other housing areas in the city, and the marriage of young people and their consequent removal from Castlemilk to set up home elsewhere, had resulted in the great need of help.



The Church—from Simshill Road

Sincere thanks for their invaluable service in Castlemilk West and God's

richest blessing for the years ahead was offered to the young people who had just been married or who were about to be married. They were Christine Stewart, leader in Castleton Primary S.S. and member of the Congregational Board, Mary Duff, teacher in the Junior Bible class and Ena Thomson, Girls' Brigade Captain.



Also being married were Jim Campbell, B.B. officer, Nora McIntyre, G.B. Officer and S.S. Teacher, Andrew McLintock, elder and S.S. teacher, Irene Sinclair, leader in Arnprior Junior S.S., officer in G.B., and member of the Congregational Board, etc., and Jean Cochran, leader of the Beginners' S.S.

Mr and Mrs James Milne of Dunagoil Road, members of the church, celebrated their Golden Wedding on the 6th April, as did Mr Milne's sister and her husband in Calgary, Canada who had been married at the same ceremony in the Imperial Hotel in Aberdeen in 1921. Sadly in September Mrs Milne died.

Mr and Mrs Ronald of Drakemire Avenue, also members, celebrated their Golden Wedding on the 20th May. They had been married in Ibrox Church, and had lived in Ibrox and Riddrie before coming to Castlemilk four years previously. Their daughter lived in Downcraig Drive.

Mr and Mrs Robert Lawrence, of Arden Craig Road, parents of Mrs McAslan, Mrs Brier and Mrs Miller, all members of the church, and Mr John Lawrence, the former Session Clerk, were married in Chalmers Street Halls on the 14th July, 1921. John and family returned to Scotland for the Golden Wedding celebration. Sadly Mr Lawrence died on the 6th

August, only three weeks after the Golden Wedding, and John returned for the much sadder occasion.

Mr Bill Strain paid a visit to Castlemilk West on one of the Sundays of John's visits and along with the present Session Clerk this made for rather a unique occasion with three Session Clerks attending the same service.

The Youth Fellowship entered for the first time an inter-church hockey tournament and to their surprise finished fourth in a league of eleven teams. For the winter session they had a very varied syllabus, with a film night, discussions on subjects like Capital Punishment and Racism, guest speakers, panel nights and a musical evening.

Miss Flora Bailey of Birgidale Avenue, a teacher in the Sunday School, Miss Margaret Greenlees of Arnprior Road, Captain of 74B Company of the Girls' Brigade, Miss Joyce Millar of the Manse, Sunday School teacher and officer in the Junior Boys' Brigade, and Mr James Nixon of Downcraig Road, former member of the Youth Fellowship, all successfully concluded their studies at Jordanhill College of Education and embarked on their careers as school teachers.

Congratulations were also offered to Elizabeth Miller of Arden Craig Road, a Sunday School monitor, who was Senior Athletics champion of Glenwood Secondary, and who had also won medals for hockey and swimming. Marion Miller, sister of Elizabeth, a member of the Junior Bible Class won cups, shields, and medals for ballroom dancing and a certificate for swimming. Sharon Booth of Castleton Primary Sunday School gained a silver medal for ballroom dancing.

The Sunday School adopted a new teaching system and to cover the cost of the books and equipment needed they held a Jumble Sale which raised £70.

To commemorate the ministry from 1964-1970 of the late Rev. Bob Ross, who died in July 1970 as the result of a car crash, Castlemilk East erected a plaque in the vestibule of the church, and this was dedicated and unveiled at the morning service on the 3rd October.

Although the response to giving a day's pay two years ago was less than had been hoped for, more than £200,000 was collected from members of the Church of Scotland. Using the philosophy, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for one day - Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime" was one of the ways the money was spent. The building work undertaken in war-devastated Nigeria by Archibald Halliday, a missionary returning there, was another way. Last year the Church of Scotland gave £44,275, as part of the Mission and Service Budget, to Christian Aid for their continuing work.

The Boys' Brigade hoped to form a Bugle Band and re-form the Pipe Band. A. Millar, G. Olverman, W. Watt, D. Heron and G. Clelland won the Gold Award in the Achievement Awards. As the officers would like to broaden the Company's activities, they wanted help from anyone with the specialised skills of trampolining, map-reading, athletics, snake-charming, etc.

On display at the church bookstall was "a fine selection of Bibles" including the Children's Bible at £1.75, and as it was in great demand towards Christmastime, orders were to be placed early.

Sunday, 21st November was "a historic day in the annals of Castlemilk West, for, although women had been eligible for election to the eldership for several years the Kirk Session of Castlemilk West had stoutly resisted the intrusion of the female sex into their all-male domain". On that Sunday six lady elders were ordained and admitted, along with three new "mere male" elders to the office of Elder. The new elders were Mr Jack Brier of Arden Craig Road, Mr Chris Neilson of Dougrie Road, Mr James Richardson of Arnprior Quadrant, Mrs Margaret Aitken of

Carmunnock Road, Miss Mary Dunlop of Dougrie Terrace, Mrs Elizabeth Erskine of Arnprior Road, Mrs Margaret Grant of Raithburn Road, Mrs Janet Rough of Dougrie Road and Mrs Barbara Neil of Rockall Drive. During the previous two years the ranks of the Kirk Session had been "seriously depleted by death and by the movement of elders to homes outwith the parish".

The Social Service Committee of the Church of Scotland opened another Eventide Home at Bellfield House in Banchory, Aberdeenshire. This was the 44th home in Scotland and now it had 1,500 old people under their care. In addition there were 10 Homes for Children (one for the mentally handicapped), 5 Hostels for Young Women (one for epileptics), 6 for Young Men (one for epileptics), 1 Residential Club for Young Men, 2 Approved Schools for Girls, 1 Approved School Hostel for Girls, 2 Approved Schools for Boys, 2 Mother and Baby Homes, 1 Flat for Unmarried Mothers, 2 Holiday Houses, 2 Rehabilitation Centres, 3 Rehabilitation Hostels for Girls, 1 Hostel Flat for Girls, and 1 Rehabilitation Hostel for Men. Most of the money for these came from the Mission and Service Fund and Castlemilk West gave £896 to the Fund in 1971.

The church was broken into in the early hours of Saturday, the 18th December, when 16 large food parcels, destined for needy families in the parish were stolen. On the Sunday, after having been told about it, the congregation rose to the occasion, and Rev. James Millar was swamped with offers of help and all parcels were duly delivered the same week.

Boys from the Boys' Brigade Juniors went out carol-singing along Dougrie Terrace, and as it was a very cold evening a cup of hot soup awaited them on their return. During the session the Road Safety Officer for Glasgow had talked to the boys about the Green Cross Code. The Senior Section had visited the Police Museum, where they had seen counterfeit money and weapons, and had learnt what went on behind the scenes when a 999 call was received. The 2nd league football team was doing well while the 3rd team after a good start had fallen away slightly.