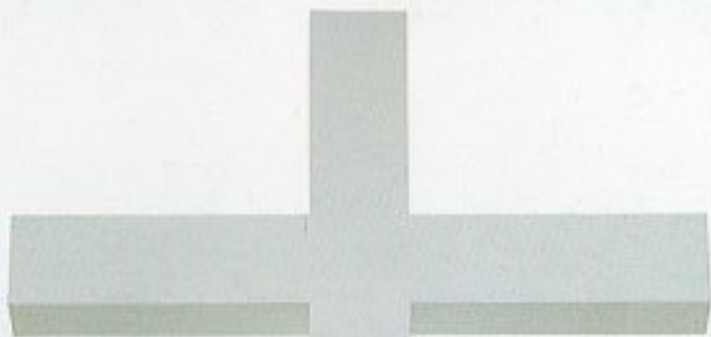


CRAIGSBANK



THE FIRST 50 YEARS

Front cover: Flower arrangements by Mrs Greta Foulston at the Cross
in Craigsbank

CRAIGSBANK

THE FIRST 50 YEARS



CRAIGSBANK PARISH CHURCH
CORSTORPHINE
EDINBURGH

*This publication is dedicated to
all past and present members of
Craigsbank Parish Church*

FOREWORD

I would like to thank Frances MacLeod for her excellent research into the first fifty years in the life of Craigsbank Parish Church.

Frances is an elder, and was for many years our Sunday School Leader. As a history teacher she was faced with 'making the past become alive', and she has made the 'past alive' for us in this jubilee book.

I would also like to thank the Publicity Committee for their work of planning and preparing this work—especially Sonya Brown and John Baker the past and present conveners and Jack Mills who has edited this review. All have given freely of their time and talents.

And to you the reader, may this book not just remain a record of the past but an inspiration to the future.

When the small group of people who formed that first congregation met together, they would be unable to see what was ahead of them. The building projects have continued over the years, but the Church is people, young, middle aged and old, all worshipping and praising the Lord. We must never lose sight of that simple truth. The Church is also that great company of people who have gone before us into the closer presence of Our Lord, family and friends who walked in the way of faith.

Craigsbank has always played an important part in the life of the community. It has organisations for every age group and countless activities.

For many families the road up to the Church has become part of the routine of family life as children are dropped off at the various groups, as they as a family, attend worship on Sunday, as the parents vote at election time, as, they attend social functions or take part in Congregational Board or Kirk Session meetings.

In the next fifty years I am sure that Craigsbank Parish Church, and East Craigs Church Centre will continue to play an important part in the life of the community.

*Captain of Israel's host and Guide
Of all who seek the land above,
Beneath Thy shadow we abide,
The cloud of Thy protecting line;
Our strength, Thy grace; our rule Thy word;
Our end, the glory of the Lord.*

GEORGE GRUBB



CRAIGSBANK

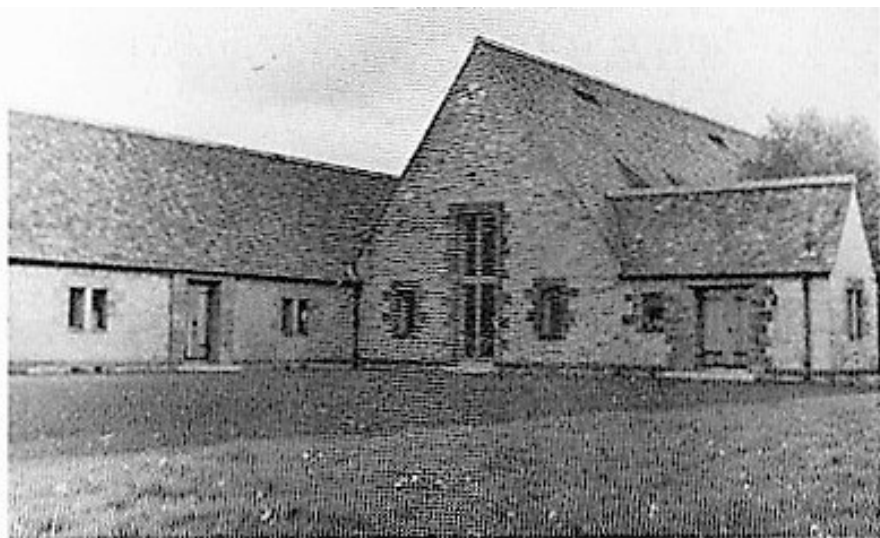
THE FIRST 50 YEARS

The story of Craigsbank really begins, not in 1937, but in March 1933 when the Church of Scotland feud a triangular piece of land on Corstorphine Bank Farm. All around, streets were being laid out and houses were being built; the National Church Extension Committee foresaw the need for a new parish to serve this developing area. Almost fifty years later, the Church of Scotland acquired land at Southfield Farm, East Craigs with a view to expanding the parish into another developing area. As it celebrates its Golden Jubilee, Craigsbank Church is planning a further extension to cope with the ever-increasing demands on its accommodation.

The history of Craigsbank falls into three phases, connected with building: the original Church/Hall with its 1954 extension; the new church opened in 1966; and the 1984 Church Centre at East Craigs. It is a happy coincidence that there have also been three ministries: those of the Reverend Graham Little, the Reverend James Donald and the Reverend George Grubb.

The foundation stone of the Church/Hall (now the Large Hall) was laid on January 27th 1937, by the Secretary of the Home Board and in September, Mr Little, then at St Serf's, Dysart, was appointed minister. Five elders from St Ninian's and five from St Anne's Churches formed the new Kirk Session. On October 15th, 1937, the Hall was dedicated and Mr Little inducted. There was no charge to the congregation because there was as yet no congregation. The new parish had been created although it was not until a vote by the members in March 1938 that Craigsbank became the official name, beating the other suggestions of Craigs, Corstorphine West and St. Colm's.

There were many problems to be sorted out in the early days. On the first Sunday, twelve children turned up but no Sunday School teachers; the ground round the Hall badly needed levelling, the work finally being done by one of the assessor elders, Mr Gray of South Gyle Farm; there must have been complaints about the cold at services because a thermometer was purchased! However, the congregation



The original Church/Hall.



The new look Hall after the extension had been added.



The interior of the extended Church/Hall.



The Chancel area.

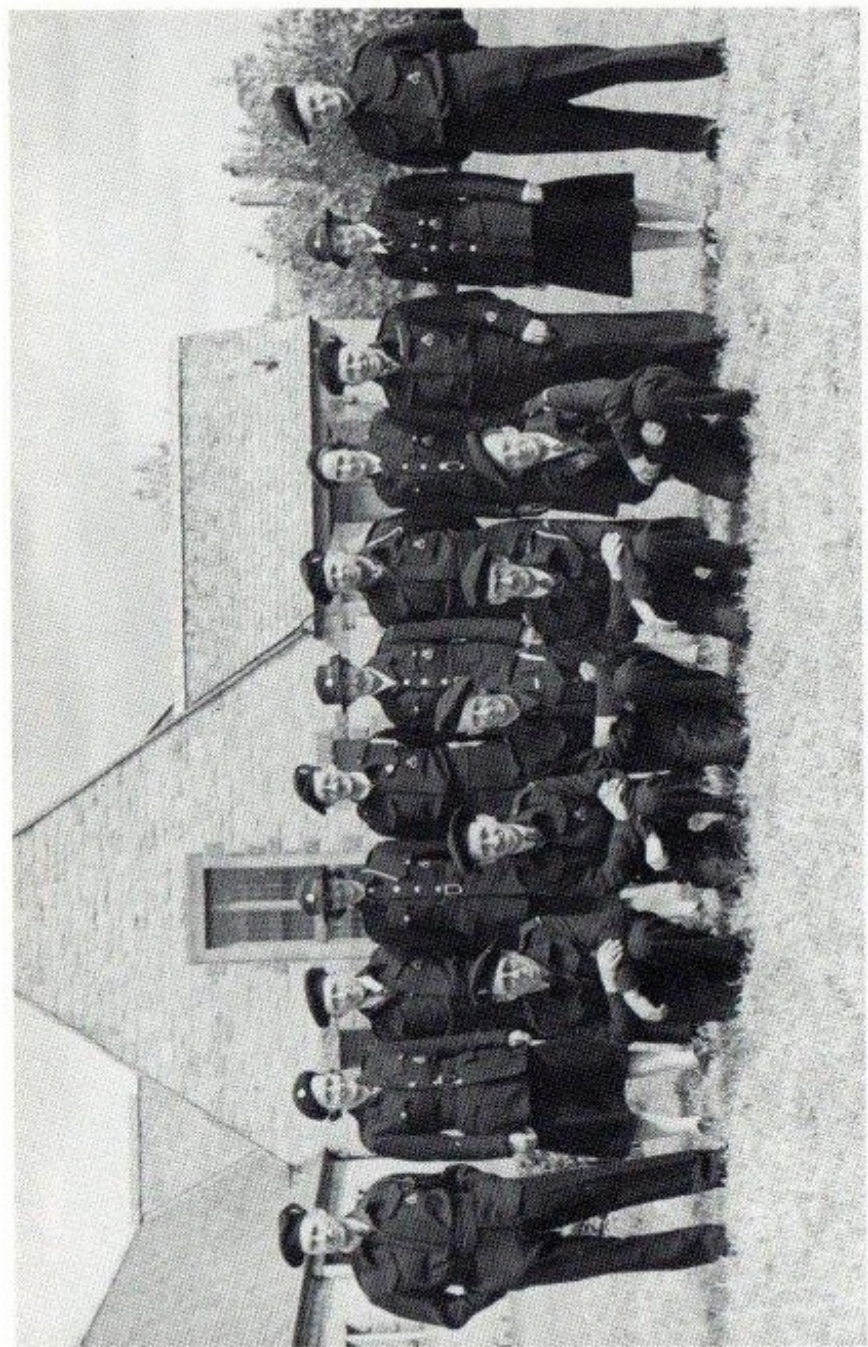
grew rapidly, Mr Little was assiduous in visiting new residents in the district, travelling about on his bicycle. Many were attracted to the church by his friendly approaches and were also impressed by the welcoming manner of those on door duty and by the fact that no seats were reserved, unlike many of the older city churches.

In the Hall, the seats for the Sunday services faced East towards the stage with the pulpit (which came from Garelochhead Church) on the left. Mr Little wore a frock coat and a top hat to church until the war when he relaxed the formality slightly and purchased a Homburg. At first there was no official choir but gradually some ladies, appalled by the standard of singing began to sit in the front row to lead the praise. Eventually the choir sat at right-angles to the congregation, in line with the draught from the outside door, as one member recalled ruefully.

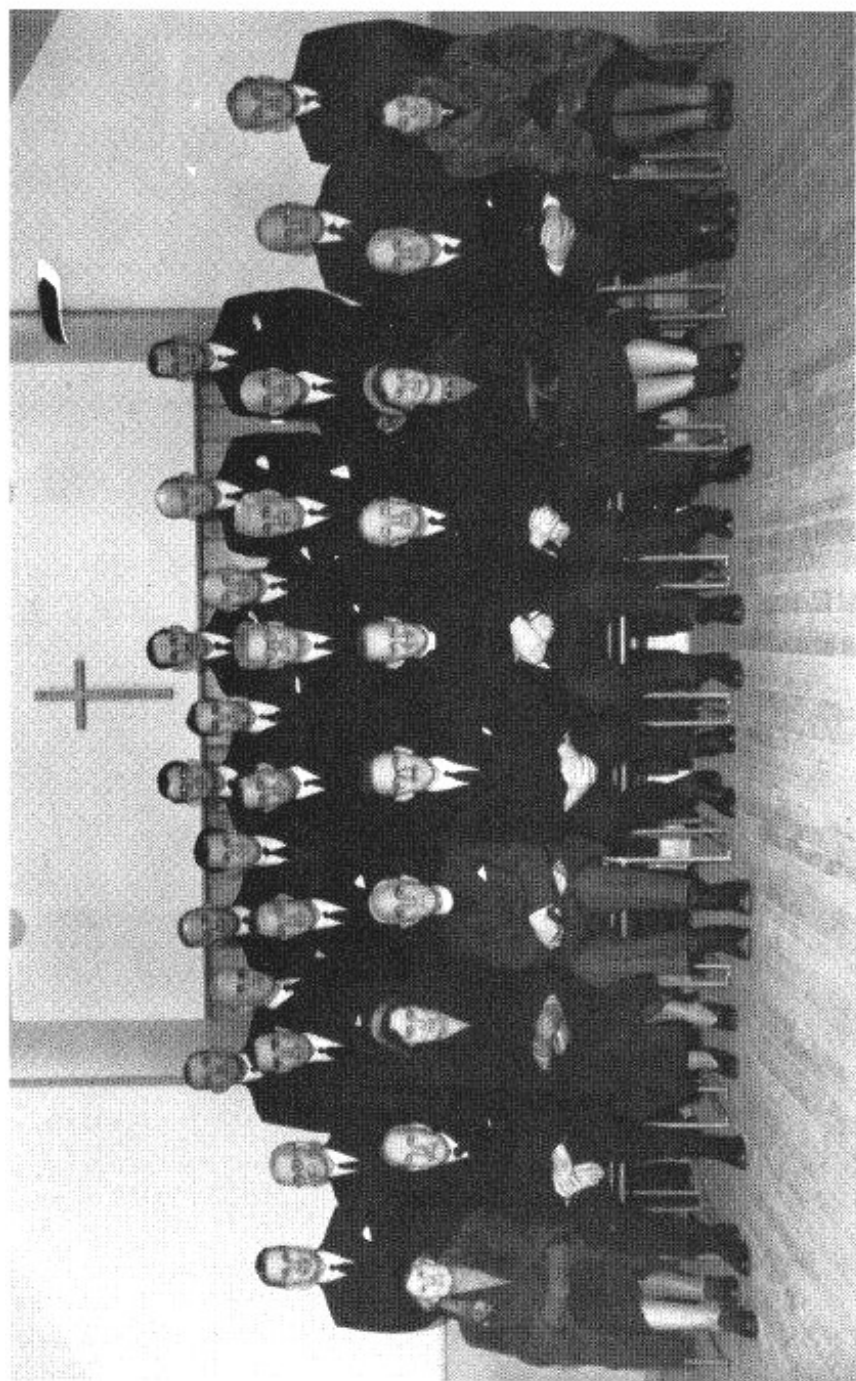
On September 3rd, 1939, Mr Little brought his wireless to the morning service so that the congregation could listen to Chamberlain's announcement of the outbreak of war. When this had finished, he said a short prayer and closed the service. As people made their way home, they heard the first air-raid sirens sounding. The size of the congregation had grown from 69 to 263 in less than two years but now war meant an end to house-building in Corstorphine and to hopes of a church for Craigsbank for many years to come.

For six years the small congregation struggled with the problems of wartime. There was an ARP unit housed in the small shed in the church grounds; sandbags filled the corridor; blackout restrictions made evening meetings impossible for a while; coal for the boiler was hard to get and many members enlisted in the armed forces, leaving gaps in the organisations. Much of the work of the church fell on Mr Little's shoulders and also those of his family: Mrs Little commented that she sometimes felt as if they did everything but preach. Gradually life began to resume some normality and activities reflected the need to support the war effort. The church grounds were dug up for allotments and fund-raising events, such as dramatic performances and sales of work, raised money for ambulance wagons and comforts for the forces. The number of members remained at roughly 350 for these years with almost one-sixth of them away on active service.

The end of the war was celebrated at Craigsbank by the granting of "full status" by the General Assembly. The deed of constitution was handed over on October 13th, 1946 and the assessor elders from St Ninian's and St Anne's were released from duties which they had



War-time days. Members of the ARP unit which was housed in a small shed in the Church grounds.



The Congregational Board of 1954.

performed so faithfully for nine years. Craigsbank was no longer a Church Extension charge but a full church. The Kirk Session consisted of nine elders elected since 1941 while a Congregational Board was created out of a committee of management which had been operating since 1938.

The next few years saw the resumption of building and another spurt in the growth of the congregation. Fund-raising efforts were made to pay off the debt to the Church Extension Committee for the building; this was finally achieved with the help of an anonymous donation in 1951. The same year Mr Little accepted a call to Eddleston and the vacancy committee unanimously recommended the Reverend J. B. Donald to the congregation which now numbered 415. He was inducted on November 14th and immediately began campaigning for a new church as promised in the original plan.

In October 1952 the Church Extension Committee rejected this idea because there was greater need elsewhere but agreed to build an extension to the West end of the existing Hall, which would increase seating from 270 to 460 and could be partitioned off for weekday use. In addition, a hut-hall was to be provided. Both were dedicated in the presence of 370 people on November 26th 1954. Gifts for the new Hall-Church included a stained-glass window from the Social Centre, a carpet from the Women's Guild, a Bible from the Scouts and a bell which was inscribed:

*"May it peal loud in the air,
And call men to prayer!"*

The window and the bell were transferred to the new church in 1966.

The congregation now found itself facing West instead of East and singing to the accompaniment of an electronic organ instead of a harmonium. A permanent Communion table stood in the Sanctuary, an area which was reserved solely for religious use.

An important step in the growth of Craigsbank was the decision to buy a manse. Mr Little had always lived in his own house at 6 St John's Road, and Mr Donald, a bachelor, lived in "digs" in Balgreen Road, not a very satisfactory arrangement. A Manse committee was formed in 1956 and viewed several houses. The difficulty was to find one with seven apartments and in the right price range and the search in fact took four years while a Manse Fund was accumulated. At the



*The flower show was a popular annual Craigsbank event
from 1947 to 1963.*





Scenes from the shows. A highlight of the Woman's Guild in the early days was the Dramatic Section.





The Social Centre outing to Largs in 1951.

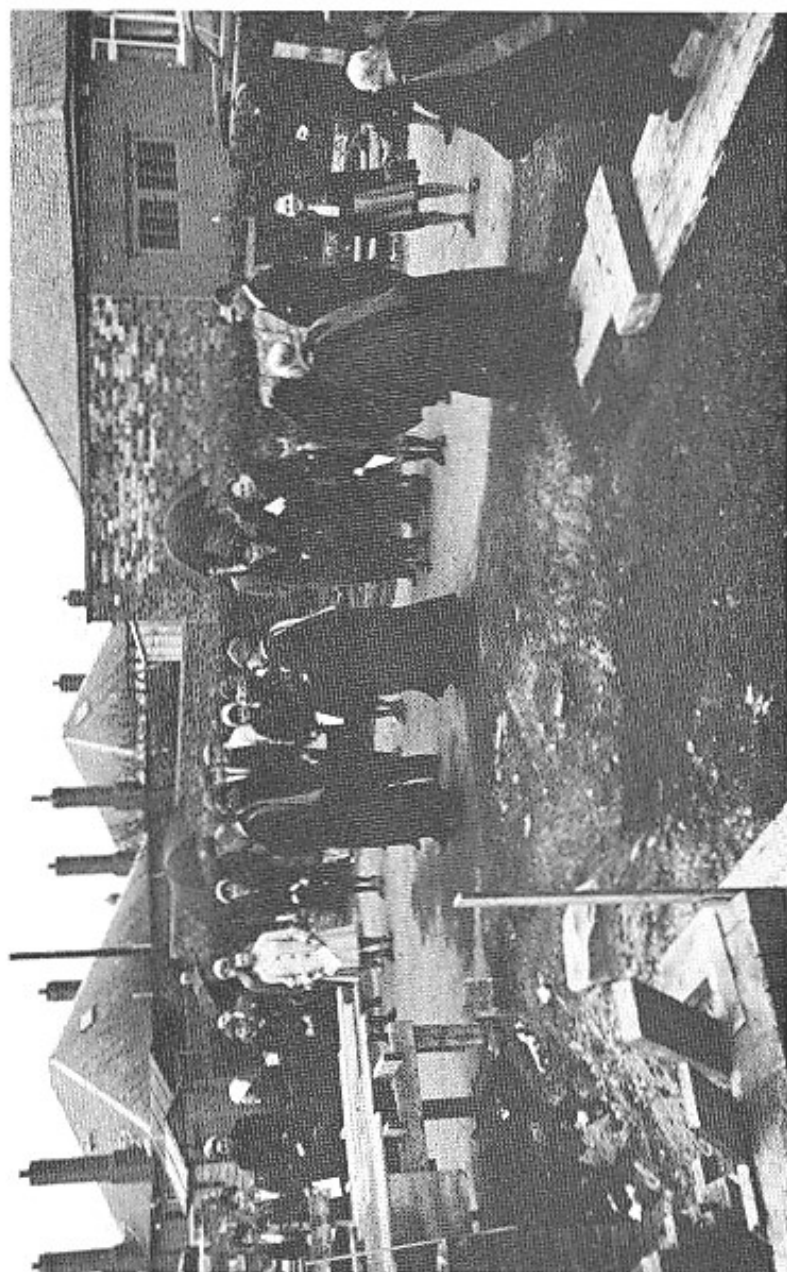
Church's 21st anniversary celebrations in 1958 an appeal for money for this and a Building Fund for a church was launched. Over 80% of the members contributed about £1,000. In February 1960 an offer to purchase 22 Belgrave Road was accepted.

No sooner was the manse acquired, than Craigsbank was looking ahead to the final fulfilment of the original plan: the construction of a church. Meetings were held with the Home Board at which it was pointed out that the congregation, which was growing in line with expansion in house building round about, had now almost reached the thousand mark. Similar points were made during the Quinquennial Visitation of 1962 with the result that plans for the new church were submitted to the Dean of Guild Court in February 1963 and building work began in the following August. The hut-hall had to be demolished causing great accommodation problems for the next 2½ years: the Sunday School occupied a caravan and a cottage-type tent in fine weather.

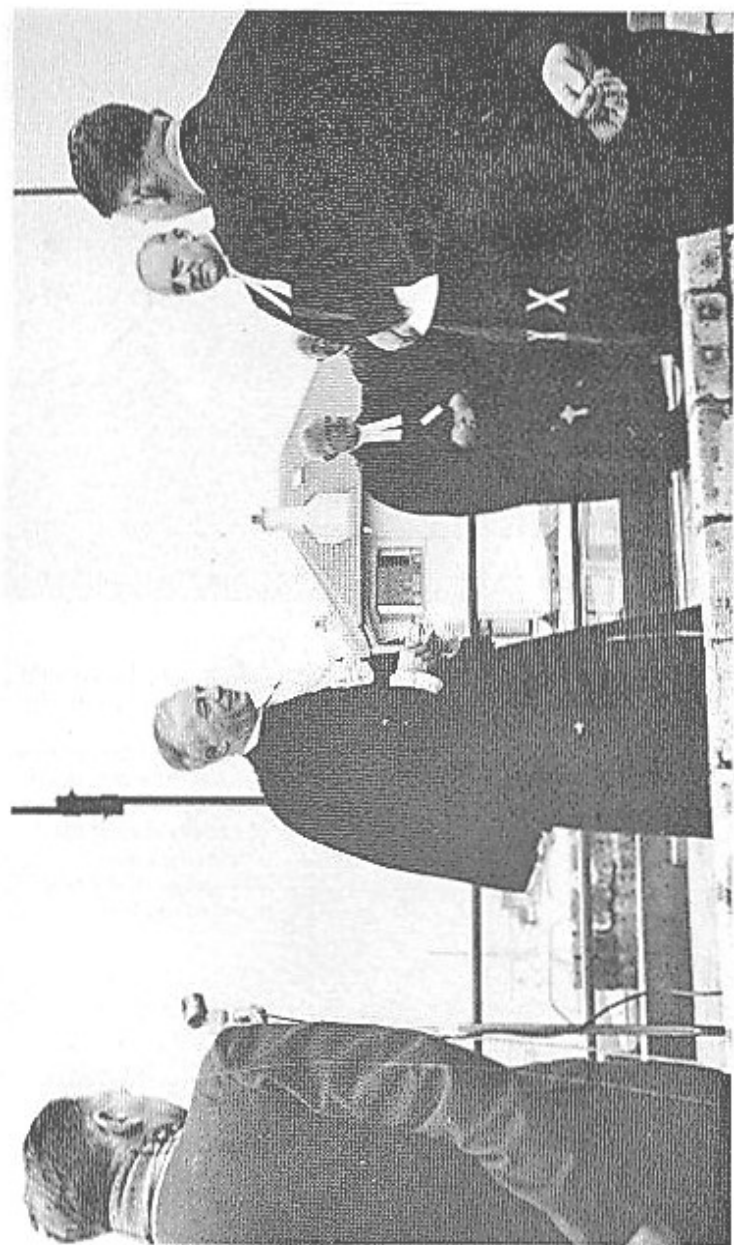
On February 22, 1964, the foundation stone was laid by the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Very Reverend J. Stewart. Three Sunday School children presented a casket, containing coins and documents, which was placed under the stone while the service was relayed by closed-circuit television to the congregation in the Hall. In the best Craigsbank tradition, the ceremony was performed in bitter weather.

The architect of the new church was Mr W. Kinninmonth, of Rowand, Anderson, Kinninmonth and Paul. The site made his work quite difficult because the 1954 extension had taken away some of the ground. To allow him to go down rather than outwards, he conceived the idea of the "conventicle" church to remind people of the hillside hollows where the seventeenth century covenanters gathered round their ministers. The excavations to achieve this effect went down sixteen feet and were frequently flooded by the natural springs which abound in this area. Other unusual features were the absence of windows, the white walls, the placing of the communion table in the centre of the semi-circle and the flat roof, which Mr Kinninmonth maintained would contrast well with the neighbouring houses. Little did the congregation realise just how much this last idea was to cost in repairs over the next few years, although on one occasion it did provide lodging for an intruder who lived up there for a week.

The opening of the new building was eagerly anticipated throughout 1965 and there were several complaints about delays. Finally, on



A procession in the rain for . . .

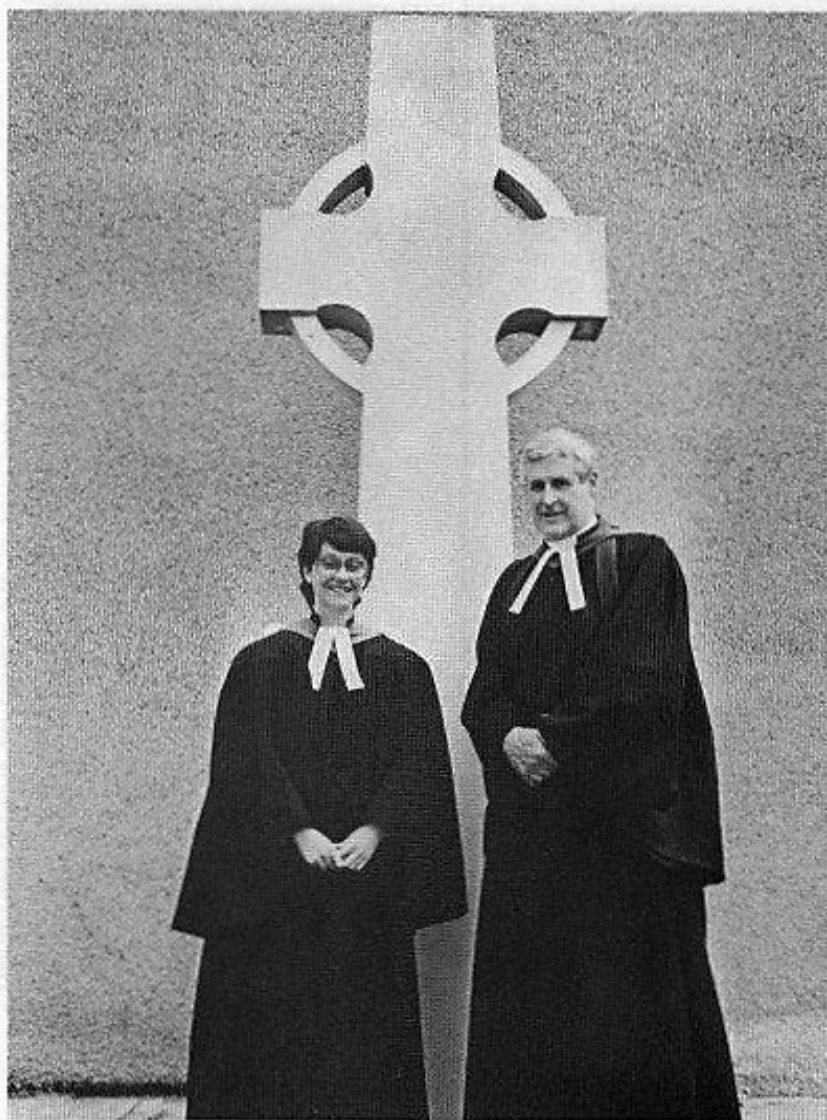


... the laying of the Foundation Stone in 1964.

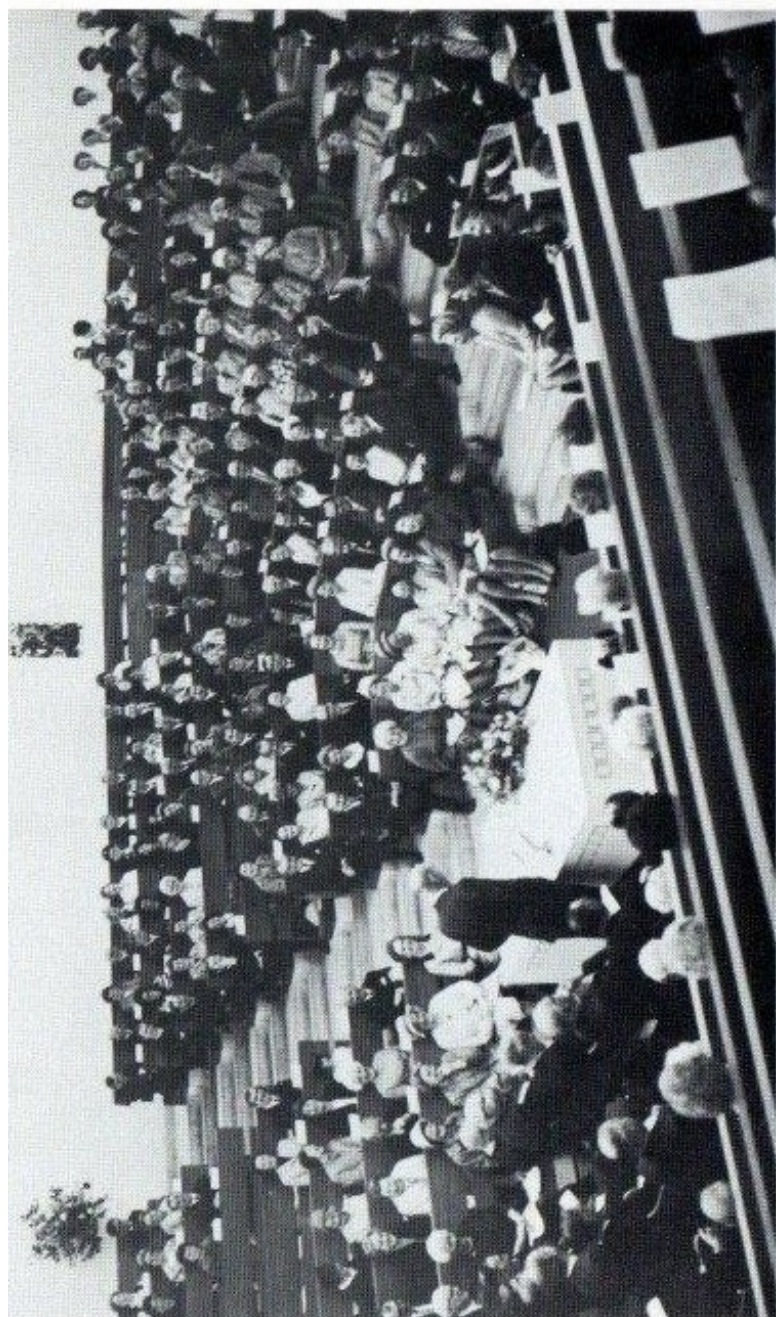
*The Rev. Graham Little.
He guided the fortunes of
the original Church Hall
from its dedication in
1937, saw it extended and
handed over a thriving
charge in 1951*



*The Rev James Donald.
He took over from Mr
Little in 1951,
campaigning for the new
church promised in the
original plan and saw
the realisation of his
dream with the
dedication of the new
Church in 1966.*



The Rev. George Grubb and the Rev. Ann Inglis. Mr Grubb succeeded Mr Donald in 1971, taking over at an appropriate time to meet the challenge of the third major Craigsbank development, the Church Centre at East Craigs. Mrs Inglis was appointed Associate Minister in 1986.



The farewell social to Mr Donald and his sister Miss Nan Donald.

January 8th, 1966, the service of dedication was conducted by the Moderator of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, the Reverend T. Maxwell, while the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Reverend Archibald Watt, preached the sermon to a congregation of about 750. The following day, the Moderator-Designate, the Reverend Leonard Small, took the first Sunday service and on three evenings that week socials were held to celebrate the event. As in 1954, gifts were presented, including a carpet for the Chancel area from the Women's Guild and Social Centre, a font from the Young Wives', a bible from the Sunday School, hymn books from the Youth Fellowship and other items from individual members. In return, Craigsbank was able to donate the old pulpit and communion table to the recently renovated Longniddry Church and the organ to St John's, Oxcgangs.

One problem that has faced Craigsbank for most of its 50 years has been that of raising money. The first priority had been to find enough money to pay a certain part of the minister's stipend in order to obtain "full status", as well as establishing a Building Fund. Then there was the cost of the 1954 extension followed in 1966 by that of the church, in both cases one fifth of the total. Various schemes were devised, such as sales of works, giving a day's pay and covenants. That last idea was adopted after a visit to the the Edinburgh Synagogue in 1951. Craigsbank was justly proud that the final instalment of £1,000 for the new church was presented to the Depute Secretary of the Home Board on December 27th, 1970, less than five years after the dedication service. This was a record repayment of the debt.

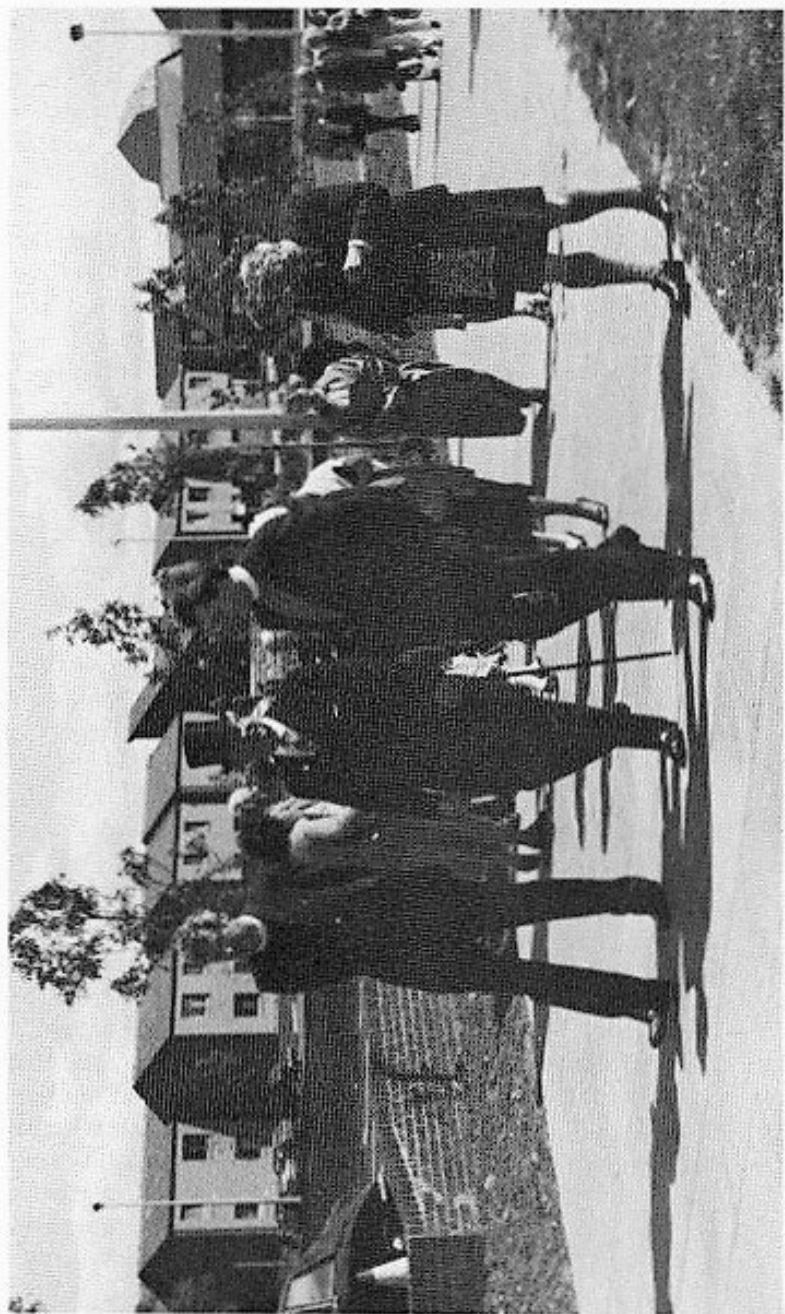
Three months later Mr Donald announced that he was accepting a call to St Bride's, Callander. Among the candidates considered by the Vacancy Committee was the Reverend George Grubb, who happened to be Craigsbank's assistant minister. He had been ordained in the Methodist Church and became an RAF chaplain; at that time he was studying at New College and had been admitted to the Church of Scotland. He was recommended unanimously to the members and inducted in December 1971 to a charge now numbering 1,118.

With a clear vision of his ambitions for Craigsbank, Mr Grubb brought enthusiasm tempered with reality to the task. His ministry has been steadily progressive, taking the church to the people, not least so by innovative approaches such as the establishment of activities like the Gogarburn Group and the Three O'Clock Club.

It was, as it turned out, a good time for a younger man to take the helm for in the offing was a major development which would pose



Lord Birsay, Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly with Mr Donald at the opening of the Church in 1966.



Lord Elgin, the 1974 Lord High Commissioner with Mr Grubb and the Rev. Robert Kerr at the opening of the East Craigs Church Centre.

challenges for the minister and congregation and dominate Craigsbank's life in the 1970s. In April 1972 there is the first mention in the Session minutes of the new housing development in the North-West of the parish. At first a suggestion was made that the dwindling congregation at Wester Coates Church should be transferred to East Craigs but this was not seen as a satisfactory arrangement and from then on the need for a church presence there became a major concern for Craigsbank. In 1977 the Church of Scotland took up the option on a site beside the Bughtlin Burn but very soon decided that it could not afford to establish a new parish. Craigsbank was required to fill the gap; a hall would be built as a church centre.

Plans for the hall were approved in 1981 while a house was bought for a community minister. The Home Mission Committee had recommended the appointment of a full-time minister to work with Mr Grubb. He (or she) would be a young, married person who would live in East Craigs and have a special responsibility for the area. As a result, the Reverend Robert Kerr was appointed in 1980. He had already established an excellent working relationship with Mr Grubb as his assistant in 1978-9. Many people have vivid memories of their famous "double acts" at children's addresses during morning services; on one occasion a police dog appeared to round up an apparently "errant" minister to the delight of both young and old. Mr Kerr served the parish for three years before moving with his family to Canada.

The house was occupied for about a year by Assistant Minister the Rev. Derek Gunn. On his departure the Kirk Session decided to inform the Church of Scotland headquarters that the house was not suitable as a manse and that Craigsbank would have no further need of it.

In October, 1986, The Rev. Ann Inglis, a former student at Craigsbank, was ordained and appointed as Associate Minister.

In March 1984 the East Craigs Church Centre was opened and amongst the gifts received were a large external cross from St Bernard's, Stockbridge, a small one from Craigmount School and a communion table from Logie Parish Church. An important feature of the area round the centre is the presence of three sheltered housing complexes, Balfour and Stuart Courts for the elderly and Laura Ferguson Court for the disabled. Services are held regularly in each one and the church mini-bus ferries residents down to Craigsbank every Sunday. The church centre has access for wheelchairs and in 1987 a young trainee for the ministry paralysed after an accident, was able to complete a student attachment there. A second hall is now



The Congregational Board, 1987.



Studying the plans for the next development at East Craigs are Dr Norman Leitch, Session Clerk; Mr Tom Hamilton, Clerk to the Congregational Board; Mrs Nancy Mackenzie, Halls Convener and Mr Grubb.

under construction to maintain the church as one of the focal points of the new community.

The history of Craigsbank can be told through its buildings but it is also seen in the activities of the people who have used these buildings over half a century. In his first pastoral letter to the congregation after his arrival in 1951, Mr Donald wrote: "Let me say how impressed I have been by . . . the way in which, under Mr Little's ministry, there has been built up in Craigsbank a tradition of friendship and fellowship." This tradition is reflected in the flourishing organisations that have developed from the early days at the Sunday School to the "Teapot" club at East Craigs.

The Sunday School was formed in January 1938 with a staff of seven and boys and girls strictly segregated. Very soon the tradition of the Sunday School picnics began and trips were organised to such places as the Deer Park at Hopetoun, Liberton Park, The Bush Estate and Heriot-Watt University. Where war or oil crises restricted travel, venues included a field on Corstorphine Bank Farm or the playing fields of Craigmount School. Highlights have included the year Mr Donald was seen going down the chute at Newcraighall Park and the annual display of football skills by adults of various ages. In 1952 the church magazine reported "Hearts' management might send along one or two scouts to keep an eye on the fathers." In 1958 panic set in when it was realised that the destination—Linlithgow Palace—had a ban on football.

In 1942 a Bible Class was formed. For years it could boast a membership of over 30 including children from the Trefoil School. On one occasion some members formed a small orchestra to entertain children from the Pleasance Sunday School. There have been many Sunday School choirs performing at Christmas and Easter services as well as in special productions such as "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat", while various Nativity plays have been presented. Amongst fund-raising events organised have been the collecting of ship halfpennies, "the chantants" and modelling the church in coins. In recent years the Junior and Senior Sunday Schools have been updated into a group called "Signpost" while in 1981 a Sunday School was opened in East Craigs Primary School and transferred to the Church Centre when it became available.

Activities have sometimes been organised in the school holidays. In 1958 the Reverend H. C. Hamilton of Orlando, Florida, exchanged pulpits with Mr Donald for the months of June, July and August. He ran a "Vacation Bible School" for three-to-eight year olds which



A day in the sun at a Sunday School picnic.

attracted an average daily attendance of 60 children and which was copied for the next three years. The idea has recently been revived in the Holiday Club at East Craigs which was organised in 1987 by Ann Inglis and her husband.

To cater for the teenagers, a Youth Fellowship began in 1942 when twenty young people came along. During and after the war, the absence of many youngsters on National Service restricted the numbers but activities were varied; a baby-sitting service was set up, charging 1/6d. an hour, to raise money for the Building Fund while the bread-and-cheese lunch for Christian Aid has been going since 1962. In 1980 a Young People's Group was created for those young adults who were beginning to feel a little old for the Youth Fellowship.

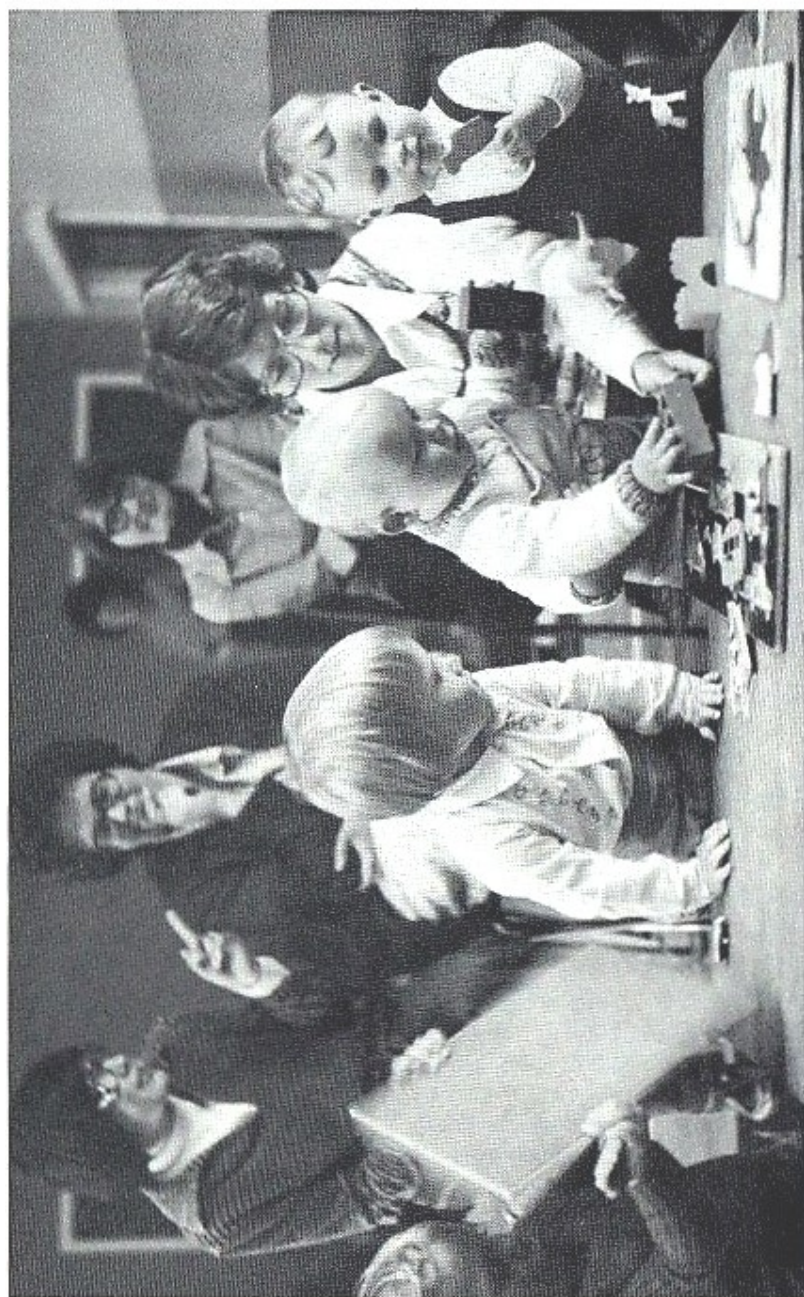
Several times since 1944, attempts have been made to run a Youth Club. At first the Youth Fellowship and Bible Class got together to organise this; in 1968 a group of parents formed a committee to open one on a Saturday night and soon attracted average attendances of over 70. However recurrent problems with vandalism and gate-crashing forced the eventual closure of the club.

The musical side at Craigsbank has been served by the Church Choir, first organised by Mr Campbell Young before the war and for the last seventeen years led by Mr John Young—it can certainly be called “young at heart”. A particularly memorable organist was Miss Rena Scott who, for ten years from 1941, travelled several times a week from her home in Rosewell to lead the praise. Among outstanding choir performances have been a “Moodey and Sankey” evening and another of Wesley hymns while the choir has frequently been asked to sing at events outwith the parish such as the International Clan Gathering.

In May 1938 a Boys’ and Girls’ Club was formed for evening meetings of games and sing-songs. Six months later the Girls’ Club was transformed into the 103rd Edinburgh Guide Company while in 1939 Mr Little, an enthusiastic Scout for many years, disbanded the Boys’ Club and started a Scout Troop and Wolf Cub pack, the 26th Midlothian. All the groups were soon flourishing although the war caused a serious gap in the ranks of leaders and Mr Little was called upon to act as Scoutmaster for some years. At this time activities included looking after the allotments in the Church grounds. The Cubs, “dug for victory” and raised money by selling the vegetable produce, while a former Cub remembers berry-picking at the Blairgowrie Camp in 1943 when the fruit fetched three-farthings a pound and he raised the princely sum of 10d. After the war the Scouts began a series of annual concerts, such as “April Fools” in 1948, “Together Again” in 1951 and “Wild West” in 1954. So popular were these that there was frequently standing-room only in the audience. In 1957 the pantomime “Red Riding Hood” was reported as “bringing the house down”. Eventually the Scouts and Guides began to expand their talents to include wider audiences in the Edinburgh Gang Show.

Rover (later Venture) Scout and Ranger Units were set up for older teenagers and a Beaver pack for pre-Cubs in 1982. Many Craigsbank members have happy memories of their days in these organisations which were well supported by parents’ committees which organised jumble sales, dances and Bonfire Night parties on what is now East Craigs School playground.

With the development of East Craigs and the growth in the young population of the area, Boys’ Brigade pre-junior and junior sections were established in 1980 followed by a company section, the 63rd Edinburgh, in 1981. Four years later the Girls’ Brigade was added to groups which now cater for many youngsters of all ages.



Mother and toddler groups are now an accepted part of the Craigsbank scene.

Amongst the adult organisations of the church, the first to be put on a formal footing was the Woman's Guild, which was inaugurated on October 25th, 1938 when thirty ladies enrolled and Mrs Little was elected President. Within two months, a sale of work had raised £84 for the Building Fund. At first, meetings were held on Tuesday evenings but during the war they were moved to the afternoon and it was only in 1953 that evening meetings were resumed. Today's Guild has both, while a Women's Fellowship at East Craigs meets on Thursdays.

Apart from the well-known activities of coffee mornings, work parties and talks, a highlight of the Craigsbank guild in the early days was the Dramatic Section. This was formed in 1941 to help church funds and remained a part of the guild until the end of the war. Then it became a separate organisation and continued to present productions until 1951. In ten years, many plays and sketches were produced, including such gems as "The Black Bull" "Lonesome Like" and "The Spent Match". The performances were not without incidents, such as the occasion on which a certain lady lost her teeth in mid-speech, necessitating frantic "ad-libbing" by the rest of the cast, or the evening when the illicit substitution of home-made sherry for the usual stage drink of cold tea resulted in a more than usually powerful entertainment.

In October 1959 a Young Wives' Group was formed with more than one hundred members. It took charge of the Cradle Roll which had been organised by Miss Calder for twenty-one years; visits were made to the elderly and fund-raising included in 1976 a sponsored "scrub-in" of the church lasting ten hours. In 1975 the men of the church began a group for regular talks and outings.

In the May, 1946, issue of the church magazine, a notice appeared under the heading "Stop Press"; it announced the calling of a meeting "to consider further the formation of a Social Centre . . . ex-servicemen and women please join us". This stemmed from an idea of Mr Little who was very anxious to provide some activity for those returning from the forces where they had been used to much organised entertainment. As a result, a new club was born. Each Tuesday, it would provide a recreational evening of dancing, games and talks for adult members and friends of Craigsbank, all for an annual fee of 2/6d. A badminton section was soon initiated and on September 1, 1947, a Flower Show, the first of many, was held. The committee wrote to "Amateur Gardening" promising to deliver advertisements for that magazine in return for prizes. In 1948 there were 221 items from 45 entrants and shows continued to flourish until 1962; the construction of the new



The congregation depart after a service at Craigsbank . . .



. . . and at East Craigs Church Centre. And as the congregation depart the Sunday School pupils take over the Centre.

church caused the cancellation of the 1963 Show and it has never been revived.

Other events for which the Social Centre was famous were the Burns Suppers ("tickets are as difficult to get as those for a Hearts cup tie" said the 1956 magazine), and the Fancy Dress parties. On one occasion, Mrs Little came as the minister with Mr Little as "his wife"! The badminton section eventually became a separate club, meeting on Mondays and Thursdays, while a junior section was formed for members of the Bible Class. When Bainfield Bowling Club sold off their carpets for indoor bowls for £10, the Social Centre treasurer seized the chance to buy although, as he was only authorised to spend £5 at one time, he had to make the purchase in two weekly instalments. Bowling, along with country dancing (where in the early days there was "a shyness among the male members to take part in this") have continued to attract a good attendance at Craigsbank halls on Tuesday evenings.

Craigsbank has always been involved with caring for the people of the church and the local community. This trend has increased under Mr Grubb's ministry in the 1970s and 1980s, starting with the opening of playgroups and Mother and Toddler groups which meet in the church hall and at East Craigs. A major innovation occurred in 1975 with the creation of the Gogarburn Group: two teams of helpers began to entertain patients from Gogarburn Hospital for the mentally handicapped on Thursday afternoons. This was the first venture of its kind in Scotland. In 1979 the Three-O'Clock Club, a support group for disabled people, was started. Helped by the generous gift of a mini-bus from a charity organisation, it has given an opportunity for people in restricted circumstances to meet others similarly situated. In 1980 a Focus Group of the Kirk Session was created to assist and encourage the student ministers placed at Craigsbank. In order to involve the elderly housebound in the life of the congregation, a Friendship Club, meeting once a month, began in 1984. Volunteers ferry members to the church for a cup of tea and a chat, giving the chance of renewing acquaintances that had lapsed when age made travel increasingly difficult.

In 1983 Craigsbank had a festival year. To coincide with the Edinburgh Festival the Church staged its own three-day festival on the theme "Flowers and Music in Harmony." Complementing the flower arrangements which adorned the church were musical contributions by Craigmount Fiddlers' Group, Corstorphine Music Club, East Craigs



The Teapot in session in 1987.

school pupils, young people of the church, Royal High School FP Singers and Fauldhouse Youth Brass Band.

In 1985 the youth groups of the church combined to mount an ambitious charity fayre to mark International Youth Year.

In 1987 Craigsbank has a congregation of 1,309. The Kirk Session numbers 74 including 8 women. The first women elders were ordained in 1978, 32 years after the church voted 46-18 against such an event. The Congregational Board has 104 members while there are 269 in the Sunday Schools, Bible Classes and Youth Fellowship and over 400 in the uniformed organisations.

It seems appropriate to close the story of Craigsbank with words from Psalm 16, quoted by Mr Little in his first pastoral letter:

*"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places;
yea, I have a goodly heritage".*

CRAIGSBANK

Ministers and Church Office-bearers 1937-1987

Ministers

1937-1951	Rev. G. Little
1951-1971	Rev. J. B. Donald
1971-	Rev. G. D. W. Grubb

Community Minister

1980-1983	Rev. R. Kerr
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Associate Minister

1986-	Rev. A. Inglis
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Session Clerks

1937-1942	Mr J. Adam (St Anne's)
1942-1947	Dr N. J. Hunter
1947-1952	Mr D. R. Barr
1952-1956	Mr A. Dickson
1956-1969	Mr J. Suttie
1969-1984	Mr W. Coventry
1984-	Dr N. Leitch

Students and Assistants

1955-1956	Seth Newton
1956-1957	Roderick Pettigrew
1958-1959	Colin Norton
1959-1960	Fred Bronkema
1960-1961	Callum Carmichael
1961-1963	Ian Williamson
1963-1964	Mary Williams
1965-1966	Bill Addley
1966-1967	Alastair Logan
1967-1968	Paul Sewell
1969-1970	William Black
1970-1971	George Grubb
1973-1974	Reid Stewart
1974-1975	Victor Laidlaw
1975-1976	Hugh Adamson
1976-1977	Shona Morris
1977-1978	Graham Deans
1978-1979	Robert Kerr
1980-1981	Ann Inglis
1981-1982	Jim Cowan
1982-1983	Liz Henderson
1983-1984	Peter McDonald
1984-1985	Robert Smith
1984-1985	Jared Hay
1985-1986	Steve Haas
1985-1986	Derek Gunn
1986-1987	Victor Murphy

Congregational Board Clerks

1938-1940	Dr J. Hunter
1940-1948	Mr D. R. Barr
1948-1956	Mr J. Suttie
1956-1960	Mr J. Kay
1960-1965	Mr W. Whitelaw
1965-1973	Mr J. Baggaley
1973-	Mr T. Hamilton

Treasurers

1937-1946	Mr J. Thomson
1946-1947	Mr J. Bradie
1947-1954	Mr R. Nicholls
1954-1961	Mr W. Rumbles
1961-1962	Mr D. Brown
1962-1987	Mr J. Johnston
1987-	Mr J. Millar

