

# **Amos Scripture** **Trust**

Annual Report  
2010



## Trustees

Alan Mackinlay (Chairman)  
Scott Gilmore (Treasurer)  
Amy Marcham (Secretary)  
Elinor Jones  
Sheila Moyes  
Gillian Morton  
Josephine Munthali

## Volunteer Co-ordinator

Thomas Sutcliffe

## Contact Details

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## Chairman's Remarks

### Church Reformed - Always Reforming

"Give praise and thanks unto the Lord" (Psalm 106); these stirring words to the tune 'Dunfermline', sung with enthusiasm and gusto, introduced a special session of the 2010 General Assembly. The occasion was to celebrate the 450th anniversary of the Reformation of 1560, and on the table the very bible from which John Knox preached at that first General Assembly. The Moderator read a prayer from Knox's Prayer of Thanksgiving for Deliverance and among the speakers was Professor Jane Dawson of Edinburgh University who explained how the Reformation changed the whole religion of Scotland, bringing about a diplomatic revolution and a new relationship with England. Three marks of the Reformation were the Word preached; the Sacraments properly celebrated; and the people under discipline. John Shedden, dressed and made up for the part, read extracts from John Knox's account of the martyrdom of George Wishart, and from the Scots Confession of 1560.

The Revd. Ewan Aitken spoke of the impact the Reformation had on education in Scotland; not only was there to be a church in every parish, but there was to be a schoolmaster as well; Scotland was the first land to bring religion to the whole nation, and today's educational vision was a continuation of that of the Reformers. Scotland became a literate nation and the way was paved for the Enlightenment. The Reformation was radical; Calvin's relentless logic saw to that. Henceforth the Church of Scotland was governed not by a hierarchy of Bishops, but by Kirk Sessions of lay elders and later by Presbyteries with power to ordain ministers. The General Assembly of the Kirk soon became a forum for Scottish opinion on secular as well as ecclesiastical matters. In a brief address, the Moderator, the Right

Reverend John Christie, asked what kind of reformation was right for us today. He suggested a reformation of our relationships, addressing the divisions that separate us.

At this celebration, however, it was the singing that brought us to our feet, inspired by the words of the Psalms, accompanied by the choir and Wind Band from Hyndland Secondary School, Glasgow. 'How excellent in all the earth, Lord, our Lord, is thy name' (Psalm 8); 'Therefore our help is in the Lord's great name, who heaven and earth by his great power did frame' (Psalm 124); 'Oh come and let us to the Lord in songs our voices raise' (Psalm 95); 'All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice' (Psalm 100). The service, which lasted for over two hours, did not drag; we did not grow weary. It was an inspirational occasion, reminding us of the power of the scriptures to focus our hearts and our minds on the Lord's great name. As we revise and renew some of our Amos cards, we do well to remember the power, the comfort, the assurance and the love that is available to us through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and through the Word of God. We hope that those who use our cards will experience this love and be inspired to share it with others.

Alan Mackinlay

June 2010



## Introducing New Volunteers

Although, I am originally from Glasgow my family moved to Edinburgh while I was still at school and I have lived in Edinburgh ever since.

On leaving school I attended Telford College one day a week where I pursued my secretarial training. For most of my working life, I have done secretarial work with a variety of firms such as Ferranti.

I like activities such as Aerobics, music, cycling, walking.

I am pleased to be working twice a week as a volunteer with the Amos Scripture Care Trust. I like carrying out administration tasks such as typing letters while working in the Trust office at St. Andrew's and St. George's West Church and find the work quite interesting. I hope to continue my work with the Trust for some time to come.

Yvonne McElhinney

June 2010



I grew up in West Sussex in England. I later moved to London, (the big smoke!) which was a bit of a culture shock at first because it was so different. The place I grew up in was very quiet. My initial intentions were to become a simple homemaker, I had never wanted to be a career woman! I tried several jobs but none of them felt right for me. I didn't enjoy going out to work at all. The only exception to this was when I worked in childcare. I found childcare enjoyable and very rewarding. I am a believer in the traditional family with a keen interest in learning about, and advocating 'biblical womanhood'. I also promote companies that produce modest, feminine clothing for ladies.

I recently moved to Edinburgh. Before moving here I visited the Volunteer Scotland website and came across the Amos Scripture Care Trust which sounded interesting. I saw they had an opening and noted their details, planning to contact them as soon as I got to Edinburgh. I have now started working with the Trust as a volunteer; it is a real blessing to have found this organization. I see it as an opportunity to use existing skills and learn new ones, whilst helping to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

Pauline

June 2010

## Volunteer Co-ordinator's Comments

I said last year that the previous 12 months had been a time of consolidation for the Trust, this, to a large extent, is still the situation in which we find ourselves. Over the last year, there has been a good deal of progress in some areas. But unfortunately our overall card distribution went down in the last financial year. This reflects our continuing struggle to find the time resources and skills to create and implement an effective marketing strategy.

After a full scale revision of the Christmas and Easter catalogues last year some further and for the most part minor changes were made this year. At both Christmas and Easter, catalogues were sent out to customers in pretty good time, which was pleasing, given that in the previous couple of years we have struggled to get our catalogues for these festivals posted to customers in time to allow them to return and receive orders before Christmas or Easter. At Christmas the benefits of a revised and neatly laid out catalogue were clearly demonstrated by the number of cards we distributed, around a 1,000, which is a large number when compared to the same period in the last few years. Thus, the importance of completing the revision of our main catalogue/s has been highlighted. This is one major project which we have been actively working on for some time; it is my hope that the new General catalogue which will combine the old Pastoral and Out-reach catalogues will be completed in the next few months.

We have come to realise that despite not having completed our catalogue revision it is necessary to turn some attention to the issue of marketing. Pauline may do some work on this, but we would like to recruit a volunteer who has expertise in this area. The opportunity is being advertised by the Volunteer Centre Edinburgh but as yet with no luck. With

regard to volunteering in general our volunteer numbers are pretty healthy. Over the last year two volunteers have left due to family commitments but they have been replaced by Yvonne and Pauline.

Mr. Nihat Kaya recently suggested and carried out a further revision of our website. Notwithstanding the earlier revision of the site, this is undoubtedly a further improvement and I would like to thank Nihat for his continuing good work on our behalf. A brief guide to the new website has been written by our chairman and appears later in this report. As mentioned last year, it would be very useful for us to have a lap-top for use in conjunction with our main office computer. We would like to thank our treasurer, Mr. Scott Gilmore, for his donation of a lap-top which we hope will fulfill this role. Over the next couple of months I hope to work with Nihat to make this and one or two other items of equipment fully functional.

Finally, it should be mentioned that following our appeal for new card images last year, several people have sent us large numbers of pictures. This is much appreciated, but if anyone finds any pictures that seem particularly appropriate for use by the Trust we are always happy to receive them.

Thomas Sutcliffe

June 2010



## Website

### Visit our Reformed Website!

With a lot of help from Nihat Kaya, our Website ([www.amos-sct.org.uk](http://www.amos-sct.org.uk)) has been recently revised and updated. Why not have a look at it?

It explains 'Who we are' and the aim of the Trust 'to encourage Christians to spread the Word of God by making the cards available to a generation almost completely out of touch with the Bible's teaching'.

'What we do' is to design and produce laminated cards (credit sized cards) with a photograph/image on one side, and a Bible text on the other. We can produce a card to your design and/or with your chosen text.

'Volunteering' is vital to our operation; we have one part-time member of staff; everyone else who is involved with the Trust is a volunteer. We have card production teams in Edinburgh, in Kinross and two teams in Forres. These good folk cut, fold and laminate the cards from printouts. Other volunteers help with administration typing, making up orders, stocktaking. We are always looking for volunteer graphic designers to assist with

card creation, and for folk with marketing skills to help keep the orders coming in.

There is a note on 'Funding' how we keep going money wise and a page on 'Trustees' - who we are. There is a section on our 'History' which makes interesting reading.

Moving on, we come to the 'Catalogues' and 'Cards' that are available (some of this material is under revision). Click on the card to read the text. To order, you can 'Log in' as a new or a returning customer. An 'Account' will be set up and a 'Basket' provided for your order, after which you go to 'Check-out'. You can make a donation 'on line' or by cheque.

There is a section on 'Testimonies' and under 'Publications' you can find recent Annual Reports and some relevant Prose and Poetry. This latter section contains short sermons by our founder, the late Bruce Crerar; poems and booklets by Elinor Jones, one of our Trustees; writings from Henry Drummond and Ian Fraser. These are worthy of a read. Websites need to be continually up-dated; bear with us as we seek to keep it current and relevant.



## Accounts

Amos Scripture Care Trust

Receipts & Payments Accounts for Year to 31st March 2010

<u>Description</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>Receipts</u>	£	£
Donations	1,979	
Dividends Received	8,818	2,943
Legacy	6,046	
Other	82	
Sale of Investment	36,280	9,515
Total Receipts	<u>47,159</u>	<u>208,504</u>
<u>Payments made</u>		
On Charitable activities	12,386	12,023
Governance	575	
Purchase of Investments	29,449	207,344
Total Payments made	<u>42,410</u>	<u>219,367</u>
Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>4,749</u>	<u>(10,863)</u>
<u>Balance Sheet</u>		
Investments	205,750	181,478
Less cash	(12,842)	(6,767)
Cash brought forward	8,601	19,467
Surplus (Deficit) on R & P	4,749	(10,863)
Balance carried forward	<u>206,258</u>	<u>183,312</u>

## Changes to Trustees

### It is farewell to Josephine!

It is with great regret that we have to announce the resignation of Dr. Josephine Munthali as a Trustee. Whilst living in Edinburgh for many years, she has worked with the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF) in Glasgow as an Africa Project Officer for East Africa and the Horn. She completed her PhD in 2001 on "Education for All Problems and Possibilities for Girls' Schooling in Malawi".

The study identified and explored the obstacles to the development and implementation of "Education for All" in a contemporary Malawian context, with a particular reference to the primary education system. Arising from her PhD, Josephine set up a charitable organisation, the Child Support Project, addressing HIV/AIDS, poverty, food security and education.

Over the years her work has taken her to many places in Africa, and she has now departed on a long-term stay in Nairobi, where she is a Programme Officer with the Forum for African Women Educationalists. We have so much appreciated her time as a trustee; her counsel and advice have been invaluable. We thank her for all she has contributed to the Trust, and know she will give her all to any projects that come her way. We wish her well for the future.



### And welcome to Bob Morley

Introducing himself, Bob writes:

'Bob Morley is an Edinburgh Chartered Accountant who spent the second half of his working life in a bank, and is one of those eccentric people for whom accounts are not a problem in fact he quite likes being where the money is!

Most of his working life has been in the City in London, with spells in East Africa and Australia. He and Maggie his wife moved back to Edinburgh some years after he retired and found St George's West shortly after.

Leisure interests include geology he got an OU degree to keep the grey matter working after retirement hill walking and travel.'

This modest self-portrait mentions his comfort with accounts, but not his enthusiasm and the ideas he will bring to the management of the Trust. We welcome him and look forward to using his gifts, talents and expertise to the benefit of the Trust.

Alan Mackinlay

June 2010



## On Eagles Wings

ON EAGLES WINGS is an Interdenominational Christian Mission Organisation. Our purpose is to show the compassion of Jesus to needy and hurting people in this world meeting practical, spiritual and physical needs. Working among the marginalised and vulnerable, we share the good news about Jesus, help people lift themselves out of poverty, equip church leadership teams, train leaders to train others and we work alongside other Christian ministries.

One evening a while ago I was shown some of the Amos cards by Elinor Jones at Bo'ness Baptist Church. Very taken with the idea of having little cards with appropriate Bible verses and a linked photo on the other side I asked if I could get some done. I spend about four months every year doing mission work in Rwanda and this brings me into close contact with people who have gone through the terrible trauma of the 1994 genocide. Most of my time is spent with very poor people, mainly widows and

orphans, in rural areas where I find it hard to communicate.

So I got Amos Trust to make me some cards with a photograph I had taken myself on one side and on the other side, Galatians 3:28: "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." I have a Bible in Kinyarwanda so I just copied out the verse in their language.

Now I always carry a few with me when I am out in the villages of Rwanda, struggling to make myself understood and ministering to people. When I give someone one of these little cards it is always a special moment just to look at the expression on their faces at first surprise and then a big smile and a hug. Because of the ethnic differences in that country this verse is a special blessing and even more so when given by a "mzungu" like myself!

Hazel Bech (Founder, On Eagles Wings)



None ntihakiriho Umuyuda,  
cyangwa Umugiriki;  
ntihakiriho imbata cyangwa uw'umudendezo;  
ntihakiriho umugabo cyangwa umogore:  
kuko mwese muri umwe muri Kristo Yesu  
Abagalatiya 3: 28  
Photograph taken by Hazel Bech  
(On Eagles Wings)

## Some Words on the Trust & its Work

The Amos Scripture Care Trust was started in 1995 by the late Bruce Crerar a long time member of St. George's West Church (now St. Andrew's and St. George's West) on Shandwick Place. Bruce started the Trust as a means of bringing our Lord's word to the attention of people who for one reason or another are not regular church attendees, do not attend church at all or have no faith. Our cards have a picture on one side and a text on the other. In this day and age many people have less time to reflect on the need to explore and question their attitudes to faith.

Our care cards can be easily stored in a purse or a wallet and accessed when necessary. They can be given to family, friends or strangers and bring comfort and peace in times of trouble or anxiety. They are a helpful reminder we are not alone if we share our troubles with our Lord. They can also be sent in Birthday and Christmas cards as well as given at celebrations for Silver and Golden Weddings. We receive orders from the ministers and elders for use when doing pastoral visits or visits after bereavement and from individuals who distribute the cards in various ways. The cards are sent to hospitals, hospices and retreat centres as well as to various places around the world; for example, Malawi and the Philippines.

Our production teams are all volunteers who turn up rain hail or shine every week for 2 hours. We are a happy bunch of people and support each other during production. We are pleased when users or potential users of our cards wish to enquire about, explore or comment on how people respond to them. Feedback from users is important to us. Please contact our Co-ordinator Mr. Thomas Sutcliffe if you require an order.

Margot Miller (volunteer)

### Thank you for Your Custom

We hope that as you browse through our range of cards you are usually able to find Bible verses and designs which are helpful to you and others.

If, however, you would like something more special then we are willing to make a customised card for you. One dictionary definition of the word, 'customise', is made to the specification of an individual customer, and that's exactly what we are able to do. All you have to do is choose an existing design or provide a photograph, painting or drawing along with a Bible verse and we will do the rest.

Ministers, elders, hospital chaplains and others often use our cards. You may include a personal message such as 'with Christian greetings from your elder, James Brown' or 'this card is from the folks at St. David's Church' or simply, 'I will pray for you'. (Cards are not sold, but donations are welcome).

We also produce cards for special Christian events such as Church anniversaries, praise gatherings, weddings, baptisms, and so on. When cards go out in multiples they usually bless in 'multiples', or should I say they bless 'multitudes'.

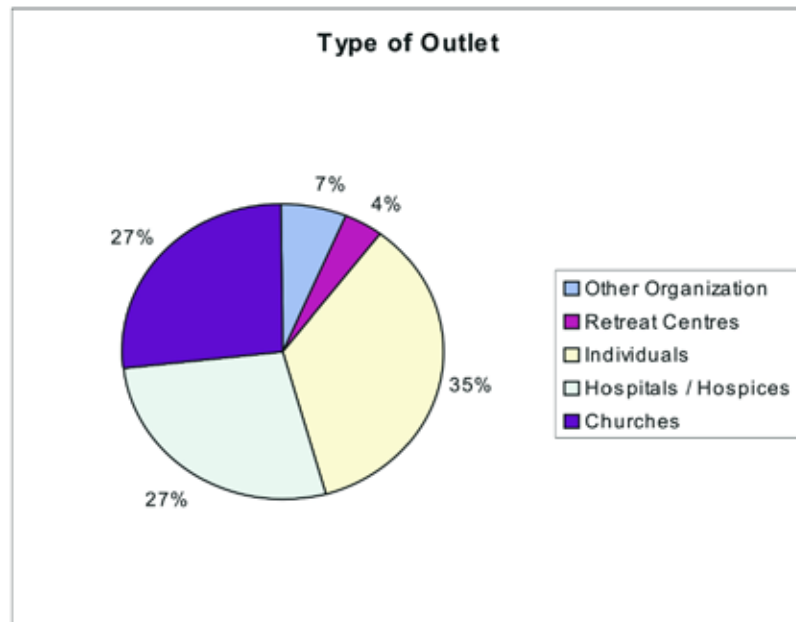
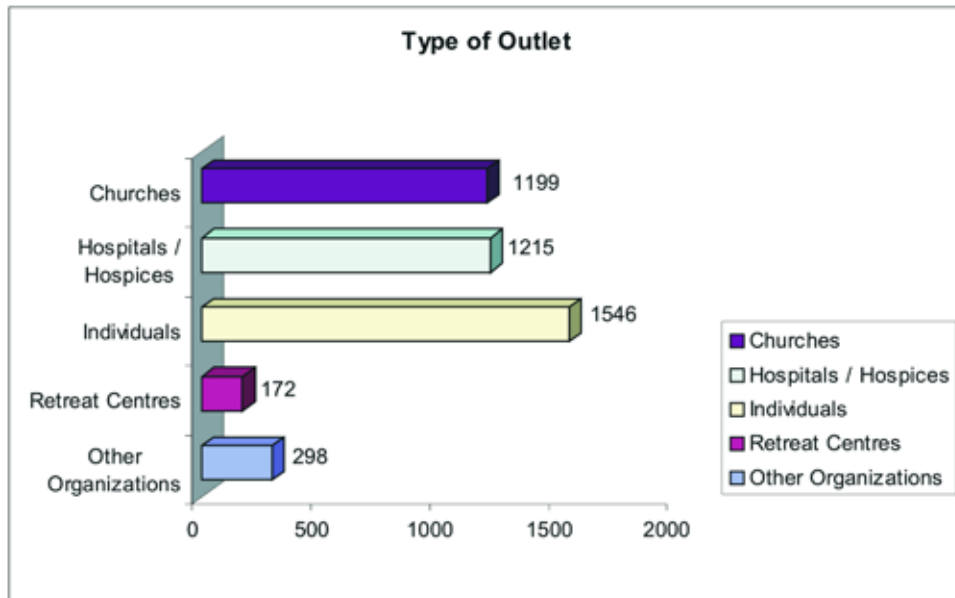
Whether customised or otherwise you will surely agree that our Amos cards are small enough to fit into wallet or purse thus allowing people to have a tiny piece of Scripture always to hand. Now isn't that a good thing?

Please let us know if we can help.

With happy Christian greetings,

Elinor Jones (trustee)

## Outlets by type



## Card Distribution

