



St. Andrew's Church Newsletter

SEPTEMBER
2015

contents

Letter from presbyter
Dr Graham & Claude
Martin 1
CNI Bhavan prayer 3
La Martiniere news 3
Youth Sunday 4
New VP of LMG 4
Dr. Sauvik Mukherjee
4
100 yrs of Einstein 4

Published by Rev. Andrew Simick, Presbyter,
St. Andrew's
Church, CNI,
15, B.B.D. Bag, Kolkata 700 001, ph2230
1994, 2252 3973,
8334027210, . e-mail:
standrews
church.kolkata@gmail.
com; andrewsim-
ick@gmail.com, for
private circulation only

Jonathan
Ravel of
J.Thomas
attends
our
Thursday
prayer.



Letter from the Presbyter

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9)



In September let us remember two outstanding people who gave their all so that children could be educated.

Rev Dr. John Anderson Graham accompanied by Mrs. Katherine Graham came out to India as a Scottish Presbyterian minister to work in the Darjeeling and Kalimpong hills.

It was the presence of children in the tea gardens in the Dooars that caught his attention. They were children of British and Indian parents and his heart went out to them.

In 1900 Dr Graham established the Homes to care for such children. A nursery, kindergarten, school, a farm, a bakery, a small hospital and cottages for both boys and girls was built by Dr. Graham with generous donations from people in authority. The children were cared for, given a home, a training and then sent out into the world to make a mark in life. After a hundred years the work of caring, nurturing and training still continues. Old and grateful students acknowledge the help that the Homes has given them in their formative years. Committees around the world support this work.

Mrs. Graham began schools in the local language for girls and began a centre for women to learn handicrafts. Today the Kalimpong Girls School is celebrating a glorious 125 years of its service to the girl child. In this month of September the birthday of the Homes we remember the labour of love of this outstanding couple.

The other person we give thanks in September is Major General Claude Martin.



We give thanks to God for this great soul, for his self-made life, his prowess as a soldier and multi-faceted gifts and the gift he has left to us in the legacy of the schools of Lucknow, Kolkata and Lyons. We also thank God for the many generations of children that have benefited from these schools. Major General Claude Martin came from a humble background yet by his own self effort has left us this legacy through his writings, buildings and educational institutions.

I would like to bring here the role the mother of Claude Martin played in his life. His mother told him *"son, you are enlisting as a soldier in the army but I want you to come home 'in a carriage'"*. Claude Martin's ideas on education are reflected in the following extract from his writings: "I have read a lot, pen in hand, often under difficult conditions, and I know the value of the first rudiments inculcated by the parson of St. Saturnin. That is why I divide my fortune in two.

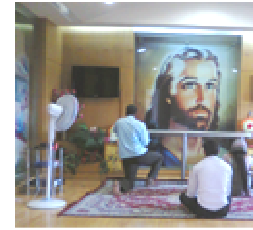
"I also want to give the children of both Lyon and India, the instruction which I received with so much difficulty. I want to make it easy for young people to get access to knowledge, specially the sciences."

Till the age of 16, Claude Martin studied in his local parish school and he excelled in physics and mathematics. Martin began his career as a soldier and remained essentially a soldier throughout his life, a fighter and a strategist which explains his extraordinary success in life in spite of tremendous odds.

Today we must encourage our children not only to become good soldiers in the forces but also to become good soldiers in the fight against evil. The forces of iniquity are not only in the world around us but are within us. Our minds and emotions are the ground of warfare where we must fight and win the battle against pride, lust, jealousy, greed, hatred, gluttony, sloth and selfishness.

Today we give thanks for Claude Martin who struggled hard, to learn, to do and having done all to leave his wealth so children of future generations could learn and do.

*Blessing and bright renown;
Be his forever!*



CNI Executive Committee honoured Esther Simick on 20.8.15 on passing the UPSC examinations 2014. Esther has been allocated IRPS (Indian Railway Personnel Service) and has to do a 92 week training period. The first part is the LBSNAA in Mussoorie which began on 7.9.15. On the top floor of the CNI Bhavan is a Jesus Calls Prayer Tower where a 24 hour prayer is made for the nation



The 70th Inter-Martiniere Meet between the four schools of La Martiniere in Lucknow and Kolkata took place in Kolkata from 18 to the 23rd of August, 2015.

The 4schools had their inaugural worship on 18th August. There followed competitions in swimming, basketball, debating, and in football. A very popular event that Kolkata looks forward to is the Boys and Girls Debate. The topic for the Boys' Debate was, *"Advertisements rely more upon fiction than upon facts"*. Dr. Gillian Hart was one of the judges for the debate held on 25.8.15. On the next day, H.E. West Bengal Governor, Kesri Nath Tripathy was the chief guest for the Girls' Debate. The topic was, *"The end justifies the means"*. Kolkata had to propose the motion and the motion was carried through.



The Best Day School in the Country

"Educational World" has again ranked La Martiniere for Girls the best day school in the country for the second year in succession



The Best Sportsman of the Year.

La Martiniere Schools celebrated 180 years of their work and existence on 12th September. Mr. Brandon Murray our goalkeeper

bagged the above award.



Youth Sunday in CNI Wesleyan Church was celebrated on 30.8.15. Mr. Question Pope brought the message to the youth in his characteristic way and also sang a song. Following this there was



a talk by **Mr. Victor Chatterjee** on "*Creation and Evolution*". Victor, who is doing Ph.D. in chemical engineering in IIT Kharagpur, by many quotations from scientists, illustrations and power point presentations proved that there has been no missing links between apes and humans.



Mrs. Swarna Joshua, was installed as the Vice-Principal of the La Martiniere for Girls School on 2.9.15. Mrs. Swarna Joshua, the wife of Dr. Joshua, has taught English in the same school for many years, led countless batches through ICSE and ISC, has been the debating coordinator and has been in the forefront in the dramatics for many years.

Dr Sauvik Mukherjee, professor of English Literature in the Presidency University, spent a considerable time with us on 13.9.15. He and his team have worked in our cemetery and other cemeteries of WB to make a database of who have been buried there. This will bring publicity to our church and cemetery.



100 years of Albert Einstein's theory of General Relativity. St. John's Diocesan School organized a unique fest to commemorate this great event on 18.9.15. The Chief Guest was Dr. Bikash Chandra Sinha, former Director of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics. Other great physicists of our city were also honoured. The high point was a play on Galileo Galilei This was followed by a debate and an exhibition.

