



# OUTREACH

St. James the Less Scottish Episcopal Church, Penicuik



**View from the top!**

*Issue No 158 Easter: April 2010*



**Christmas seems a long time ago,  
but these were too good to miss!** *(Photos: Janine Hunter)*



**... winter's gone at last...** *(Photo: David McGavin)*

## Contents

Service Times .....	3
Groups and Activities .....	4
Rector's Letter.....	4
"Omega" - a new house group .....	5
J-Tots Birthday Celebrations .....	6
Care Van .....	6
Penicuik for Africa .....	7
Missing (from) St James. ....	8
Rotas - volunteers needed!.....	10
Welcome ... ..	10
It's Daffodil Time again!.....	10
Flower Festival.....	10
News from Thomas Joyner....	11
Dear reader ... ..	12
Currying favour .....	12
Art of the Efficient.....	13
Rotas.....	14
Mothers' Union News .....	17
Choir News .....	18
Choir Exhibition in Town Hall.....	19
Finding God in the War .....	19
Diocesan Synod.....	20
Keep Penicuik Tidy.....	22
Financial Matters.....	22
Penicuik Churches Shopping Service.....	23
Your prayers are asked for.....	24
Events coming soon.....	25
Contacts at St James.....	26

## Service Times

Sundays: 11.00am Choral Communion; Evensong as announced

Wednesdays: 12.15pm Midweek Eucharist

On the first Sunday of the month the 11.00am Sunday Service is a Family Communion; on the other Sundays the young people go out to Young Church during the first hymn and return in time for Communion.

## **Groups and Activities**

*(please contact the appropriate person listed inside the back cover)*

Sundays:	7.30pm	Youth Group for 10-16s
Tuesdays:	9.30am	“J-Tots” Playgroup
	10.00am	Bible Study at 24 Mauricewood Park
	7.30pm	Mauricewood Housegroup at 6 Arras Grove
Wednesdays:	7.00am	“Earlybirds” Prayergroup
	8.00am	“Earlybirds+” Prayergroup
Thursdays :	7.00pm	Choir Practice

## **Rector's Letter**

### **Easter is not enough!**

It's not enough? The stone rolled away from the tomb, visions of angels, Jesus appearing to his disciples? That's not enough? You want more?

Well – it's not enough **if**:

The point of the story is merely that everything bad turned out all right in the end, with the Church's Hero alive again and, more importantly, “right” all along and his enemies very “wrong”.

It's not enough **if**:

The point of the story is that a continuance of sentient life in reasonable surroundings awaits us once we die, and that we now have less reason to fear heart disease or pianos dropping from the third floor of Jenner's than do our non-believing neighbours.

It's really something, though, if the point of Easter is that life can now be lived with a large “L”, and that both the future and the present are illumined, inhabited, set alight, charged and filled with the endless light and power of the Risen Christ. That's more than enough!

The small community which burst forth from its known surroundings onto the roads of the Roman Empire believed that what had happened **to** and **with** and **through** Jesus Christ had changed the very nature of life – not only for him, but for them as well and not only for them but for the world. Eternal Life was not only a personal destination on the far end of earthly life; it was what the Christian could begin living in the present. What had been lifted from their shoulders (and ours) was not only the scandal of the Cross and the sadness of losing their master,

nor was it only the fear of their own deaths. What was taken from them was but the very “taste” of fear and futility in the midst of life: fear which drove people from each other, and the sense of futility which kept them hemmed in, small and parochial.

The Easter message was more than enough. It passed from one person to another along the Roman roads, through word of mouth and via the printed page. Over the centuries it overflowed in hymns and worship, it overflowed in Gifts of the Spirit. It overflowed in art and hospitals and movements to abolish slavery. It changed whatever it touched.

Did you listen on Thursday evening? In the intimacy of that Last Supper, Jesus told his disciples that the cup of his Blood which he poured out was for them and “for many”. You are that “many” he had in mind. You are no afterthought.

May the new Life, which Jesus not only lives in his Resurrection but which he imparts to the world through his Resurrection, take root in your lives and your work, your families and your futures.

God’s Blessing upon you.

*Robert*

*(Father Rob Warren)*

## ***“Omega” - a new house group***

The raison d’être of the new group is to prepare our church for mission. It will proceed on the basis that our worship format and activity profile will have to be tweaked on some occasions if they are to attract and sustain the interest of the young and uncommitted. The aim is to develop an outreach trajectory to complement our Alpha trajectory. Those who only join us for the great festivals may feel intimidated to be surrounded by so much apparent certainty on so many details of faith and unquestioning acceptance of all that is read from the bible. Our liturgy may leave the impression that what we believe is of the utmost importance and everything we read is ‘Gospel’, but is that true? What does the average person in a St James pew believe and hear?

***At the first of a series of four meetings on Wednesday evenings (at 7.30pm on 7 April at 44 St James Gardens, Penicuik) you can begin to find out.***

In subsequent meetings we will study in detail one of Marcus Borg's\* early books, *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*. His thesis is that the 'Real Jesus' can easily be masked by all the accoutrements of the 'Christ of Faith'. By re-focussing on the teachings which stunned religious leaders of his day, and a life of compassion that attracted outcasts, we may be better placed to help outsiders to meet Jesus themselves. Armed with fresh understanding and mutual awareness, we might in a future series set ourselves the task of devising 'worship for seekers', or study another book that pushes at the boundaries of our faith, such as one on the so-called *Gospel of Thomas*. Either way, proceedings at the Omega Group will be anything but dull and introspective - do come along!

*Neville*

*\* Marcus Borg is a bible scholar and theologian at Oregon State University and married to Alice, a priest in the Episcopal Church of America. He is due in Edinburgh in September (St John's, Princes Street) when he will be leading a weekend of study, discussion and worship on the theme 'Being a Christian in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century'. He comes with the commendation of former team member, Stephen Goldsmith, who went so far as to forward a booking form for the conference which I have duly completed!*

## ***J-Tots Birthday Celebrations***

Please join us on Sunday 9 May 2010 for a special Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration to mark J-Tots 10th birthday. This will take place at St James' during our morning service at 11am, followed by cake and nibbles in the hall. Current and former members and all friends of J-Tots are most welcome to attend and help us celebrate.

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Alison, Tricia, Ros and Cyril*

## ***Care Van***

In a bulletin dated 13.1.2003 I made the following statement:

"The number of clients availing themselves of the care van services tends to be around forty." In some measure this holds true at the present time except that the clients now seem to consume a lot more soup. At that time we were taking out three, and sometimes four flasks; now we take at least four and sometimes five.

The current demand for clothing is also similar to what it was seven years ago, and we are particularly short of sweat shirts, fleeces, tee-shirts, socks, small size 'boxers' and jeans. There have also been some requests for wool jumpers.

We currently have a good stock of thermal hats and gloves due to your generous donations over the winter period, and these should be sufficient to meet our requirements until the autumn, (sorry for mentioning the autumn word!).

### **Winter Care Shelters**

Bethany and Edinburgh City Mission, in their joint Care Van winter newsletter, have recorded that a number of the clients using the night shelter at the present time are from Eastern Europe; this has also been our experience as a Care Van team. A copy of this newsletter is on notice board.

The numbers quoted for clients staying overnight and those receiving an evening meal are 40 and 55, respectively.

During the period when the Care Shelter operates, (November to March), the number of clients attending the Care Van tends to reduce slightly. However, some still have our soup, roll and tea/coffee, (biscuits are currently under an official ban), then, being so hungry, they go and have their supper at the Care Shelter.

### **The Team**

Again, I would like to thank the St James team, particularly the 'hard core' who go out on a regular basis, including those who tackle the considerable task of making 14 to 16 pints of soup. Without this support the whole operation would not be possible. The assistance given by Robert Higgins of St Andrews, West Linton as a member of the team, is also acknowledged.

The role played by the St Mungo's West Linton team, now covering Care Van evenings as a group at various times throughout the year, led by Edward Trevillion, relieves a great deal of the pressure.

*Bernard Hunter – Current Team Co-ordinator*

## ***Penicuik for Africa***

**School build:** Elections have their advantages, especially when you don't have to suffer all the campaigning and just benefit from the giveaways! It is election year in Zambia too, and the local MP for Chitambo, who is also Deputy Health Minister, has taken our Midwifery

School project to his heart. He has pledged £100,000 to create new hostel, tutor and classroom accommodation with a re-opening date of January 2011! We are therefore freed to focus on the fixtures and fittings; also the IT support that will be needed to sustain a teaching resource in a rural setting, slap-bang in the centre of the country.

**IT Platform:** Although our bid for government funds for an IT/feasibility study came to nought, our bid partner, NES (NHS Education, Scotland), will proceed with a plan to trail their 'information platform', a computer software package designed to keep new health information flowing to the remote regions of Scotland, before an audience of IT specialists at an International eLearning Conference in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, at the end of May.

**Chitambo progress platform:** We thus have an unexpected chance to assess the progress on, and the needs of, the Midwifery School, because our Jo Vallis will be presenting the NES conference paper and going on to visit Chitambo with her 'IT-savvy' son, Paul. We thus have an opportunity to get our hard-earned funds straight to the point of need, possibly commissioning on the spot the classroom furniture from local tradesmen.

**Fellowship Lunch:** All of the above adds significance to our next fund-raising event, the Lunch on Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> after morning worship. By then we will know how much our Sponsored Slim raised and we can decide how the funds at our disposal, which could then exceed £4000, should be spent. The customary requests for material and culinary support will appear, but above all we need your continued financial support. When we announced the plan to re-open the Midwifery School at our last Fellowship Lunch, it did not seem possible that just one year on we would be looking realistically at its fulfilment but here we are - come and celebrate!

*Neville*

## ***Missing (from) St James.***

*Ruth Green writes:*

Since the beginning of February, I've been on placement at St Peter's, Luton Place, in Edinburgh. This involves spending at least 40 hours there over eight weeks and writing a diary entry after every visit. It's

quite a strange experience, to be a part of a church, but not really involved, trying to be objective and theologically critical. It's an interesting and challenging thing to do, and I have been made to feel very welcome. St Peter's is a very active place, with lots of activities going on and so many different services and groups to try out, it's going to be impossible to fit them all in. As the church is sitting in a densely packed residential area in a busy part of the city, it's much easier to be visible in the surrounding community. Also, as the church is numerically large, there are so many activities that are possible. Here are some of the highlights.

One of the things that has really struck me is the variety of Sunday morning services. Every week at 8.30am there's a 1929 Holy Communion. Then at 10.45am some weeks there's the usual 1982 Family Communion, another has the 1970 Liturgy, and once a month there's a 1929 Sung Mattins, whilst simultaneously in the Church Hall there's a child-orientated Family Service. Something for everyone!

On Saturday mornings there is a Bible Class held in the Metropole Café on Newington Road. In amongst the breakfast eaters and coffee drinkers the group meet to read and discuss the Bible (as well as eating and drinking!).

There is a large choir that sings anthems every Sunday morning, and at Choral Evensong once each month. The choir practice on a Thursday has a children's education session before junior choir, followed by the main choir practice (an exhausting evening!). The youngsters, around ten of them when I went, are taught with the RSCM's *Voice for Life* system, working at individual levels so that they can earn medals and ribbons as they learn.

Once a month, during the Sunday morning service, there is a Godly Play session. This is a partly structured and partly unstructured religious education. It combines a gentle, careful, uncritical teaching with opportunities for children's response and creativity. It aims to stimulate the children to think about what they are learning.

There have been lots of things to think about, and of course there's an essay to be written at the end, 2000 words concentrating especially on personal and communal prayer in the church. However, despite enjoying it all, I'm feeling quite homesick for my St James family, and look forward to seeing you all soon!

*Ruth*

## ***Rotas - volunteers needed!***

St James is very grateful for the people who help it run smoothly. There is always room for more volunteers, so please let **Angela Sibley** (*angelasibley@talktalk.net*) know if you would like to help spread the load.

If you are already on the lists, please do remember, in order to meet *Outreach* deadlines, rotas have to be prepared well in advance. If you know you are going on holiday, it would be helpful to tell Angela. If you can't be at St James on a day you are on the rota, please try to arrange a swap with someone.

Thank you for your continuing help.

## ***Welcome ...***

*Good morning! Nice to see you. How are you today?*

It's good to be greeted when you walk through the front door of a strange place. Especially so when that place is a church you haven't visited before: *which way do I go now I'm through the door? Is there somewhere for my little one to go? Where's the toilet?* The front door is the vital first contact for a newcomer to St James, and in those few seconds opinions are formed.

We have seven stalwart welcomers, who, working in pairs, cover four, sometimes five, Sundays a month. This means they are on the rota very frequently. If you feel you would like to join them, please don't wait to be asked: speak to Rob, or ask Angela to put you on the rota. Thank you.

## ***It's Daffodil Time again!***

The annual Daffodil Tea will take place next Saturday 10 April, 10.00 am to 12.00 noon in St Mungo's Hall, Penicuik. Please put the date in your diary and come along to support this fundraising event!

*Marion Mather*

## ***Flower Festival***

We shall be staging a Flower Festival at St James on the weekend of **2-3 October 2010**, the weekend of our Harvest Festival. The theme is to be ***The Church Year in Music***. We have not held such an event for

many years, and this will be a major fundraiser, involving the whole congregation. Penicuik Floral Art Club will be arranging the main displays for us, with additional arrangements by our own Flower Team. This will cost over £300 before we even start to make a profit.

We very much need volunteers to take responsibility for a specific area such as refreshments, stewarding, music, stalls, parking, publicity etc. Ideally, the organiser in each area will find their own volunteers to work with, thus freeing Marion to oversee the floral side of things. Please speak to **Marion Mather**, or sign the list on the notice board, if you feel you can organise a particular aspect of the event. As always, the more who volunteer, the wider the load is shared.

This is a big “ask”; however, this will be not only a major fundraising event, but also result in wide outreach to the community of Penicuik and beyond. A huge “thank you” in anticipation!

***Please note this date in diaries and calendars.***

## ***News from Thomas Joyner ...***

*... writing to Jean Hindle*

“My apologies for the long delay and I hope all is well with you and Ralph. I hope you endured all the snow and things are back to normal. The big news for me is that I have a new job (as of the first of May). I'll be leaving Montgomery and moving about 45 minutes northeast . I'll be the Assistant Rector at Holy Trinity in Auburn, AL. Auburn is a town of about 50,000 people, and the home of Auburn University, one of the two major universities in Alabama, the other being my alma mater, the University of Alabama. Auburn is about an hour and a half drive from Atlanta.

So, it's good news and I'm excited, but it means no trip to Scotland this summer (and I was hoping to go watch the Open at St Andrew's, alas). Still, all is well despite the million details surrounding a transition but all is good, and, I hope, for you and all in Penicuik too.

*with love, Thomas”*

*[The website for Thomas's new church is*

*[http://www.holytrinitychurch.info/Holy\\_Trinity/Home.html](http://www.holytrinitychurch.info/Holy_Trinity/Home.html) We wish you every blessing and success in your new post, Thomas! Auburn's nickname is “The Loveliest Village On The Plains”. Spot the reference?  
Sub-Ed]*

## ***Dear reader ...***

We hope you enjoy the articles in each issue of *Outreach*. We have regular reports eg: the Rector's letter, Choir News, upcoming events. We have our occasional contributors, eg: our Mad Scientists. Articles for publication are always welcome, and the more we have, on as wide a range of topics from as large a number of contributors as possible, the better and more interesting the magazine will be.

A few suggestions for possible contributions:

- if you visit an interesting church on holiday, share your discovery by sending us an article and photo
- read any good books lately?
- a favourite hymn, or a piece of sacred music that speaks to you
- local events that affect church life
- reminiscences of St James and Penicuik; local and family history
- photos of St James folk involved in the local community are especially welcome
- news from scattered friends of St James
- share your achievements

Do not be put off if you have no access to a computer; I am happy to type up any material you would like to contribute.

This is *your* church magazine. Thank you for your continued support.

*Georgina Phillips, Editor*

## ***Currying favour ...***

If you've enjoyed the delicious curries served at St James's curry evenings, you'll be delighted to know that Edinburgh's Central Mosque kitchen was recently short listed in the Best Indian Restaurant category at the 2010 Scottish Restaurant Awards.

Mohammad Akbar opened the kitchen a long time ago, but extended it to non-Muslims after 9/11, as a positive move to show people what the Islamic faith is about and as an outreach initiative.

Akbar runs the kitchen; his chef, Shabbir Ahmad, and his volunteer team offer a simple menu with meat and vegetarian choices. Food is served on disposable plates, with plastic spoons, and eaten in a communal setting. They were nominated for their tasty food at reasonable prices – for example, chicken curry £4, lamb curry and rice

for £4.50! Profits are donated to Scottish and Pakistani charities, as well as going towards upkeep of the mosque.

They may have missed out on a title, but are surely reaping a far worthier reward in their daily work. Why not visit them sometime?

## ***Art of the Efficient***

*(To ponder!)*

A company chairman had been given tickets to a performance of Schubert's Unfinished Symphony. He couldn't go, and passed them on to his Work Study consultant. The next morning, the chairman asked him how he had enjoyed the performance, and was handed a memo which read as follows:

1. "For considerable periods, the four oboe players had nothing to do - the number should be reduced and their work spread over the whole orchestra, thus eliminating peaks of inactivity.
2. All of the 24 violins were playing identical notes. This seemed unnecessary duplication and the staff of the section should be drastically cut.
3. Much effort was absorbed in the playing of demi-semiquavers. This seems an excessive refinement and it is recommended that all notes should be rounded up to the nearest semiquaver.
4. No useful purpose is served by repeating with horns the passage that had already been played by strings. If all such redundant passages were eliminated, the concert could be reduced from 2 hours to 20 minutes.

My conclusion is that if Schubert had attended to these matters he would probably have been able to finish his symphony after all."

*(contributed by Jennifer Edge)*

## ***Church Women's Fellowship***

The dates of the next meetings are:

April 12th and 17th May - venue 64 Deanburn.

# Rotas

April 2010

	04 - Apr - 2010	11 - Apr - 2010	18 - Apr - 2010	25- Apr - 2010
	<b>Easter Day</b>	<b>Low Sunday</b>	<b>Easter 3</b>	<b>Easter 4</b>
<b>11.00am Organist</b>	David	Jennifer	Mike	David
<b>St Mungo's Organists</b>	Jean	David	David	Jean
<b>Sidesmen</b>	Nigel Johnston Andy Longmore	Marchants	Isobel Stenhouse Des Frantom	McGarvas
<b>Bread and wine</b>	Clerks	Barretts	Hindles	Sibleys
<b>1<sup>st</sup> reading</b>	<i>Acts 10:34-43</i> <i>or</i> <i>Isaiah 65:17-25</i>	<i>Acts 5:27-32</i>	<i>Acts 9:1-6,</i> <i>(7-20)</i>	<i>Acts 9:36-43</i>
	Robert Clerk	Richard Phillips	Jean Hindle	Gill Amos
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> reading</b>	<i>1 Corinthians 15:19-26</i> <i>or</i> <i>Acts 10:34-43</i>	<i>Revelation 1:4-8</i>	<i>Revelation 5:11-14</i>	<i>Revelation 7:9-17</i>
	Brigitte Fuge	Ian Fuge	Val McGavin	Marion Mather
<b>Gospel</b>	<i>John 20:1-18</i> <i>or</i> <i>Luke 24:1-12</i>	<i>John 20:19-31</i>	<i>John 21:1-19</i>	<i>John 10:22-30</i>
<b>Prayers</b>	Georgina Phillips	Alan Murray	Elizabeth Clark	David McGavin
<b>Pray for</b>	Clergy Team	Vestry	MU	Young Church Leaders
<b>Server</b>	Val/Martin	Angela/--	Val/Alice	Angela/Stephen
<b>Coffee</b>	Mona Bennett Margaret MacLennan	Katherine Cox Sue Crosfield	Hays Smiths	Margaret Vesco Joyce Black
<b>Flowers</b>	----- Georgina Phillips -----			
<b>Cleaning</b>	Ros Hay Sue Crosfield	-----	Marion Hunter Ruth Frantom	Marion Hunter Ruth Frantom
<b>Welcomers</b>	McGarvas	Nigel Johnston Andy Longmore	Elizabeth Clark	Robert Clerk Andy Longmore
<b>Care Van</b>			*	
<b>Pentland House</b>		*		

(Where an alternative reading is given, the first reading is used unless clergy notify readers otherwise)

## May 2010

	02 - May - 2010	09 - May - 2010	16 - May - 2010	23- May - 2010	30 - May - 2010
	<b>Easter 5</b>	<b>Easter 6</b> J-Tots Birthday	<b>Ascension</b>	<b>Pentecost</b>	<b>Trinity</b>
<b>11.00am Organist</b>	Jean	Jennifer	Mike	David	Mike
<b>St Mungo's Organists</b>	Mike	David	Jean	Mike	David
<b>Sidesmen</b>	Young Church	Catherine Pow Des Frantom	Elizabeth Clark Tom Moffat	Richard Phillips Margaret Coull	Marchants
<b>Bread and wine</b>	Young Church	Johnstons	Dicksons	Clerks	Leavys
<b>1<sup>st</sup> reading</b>	<i>Acts 11:1-18</i>	<i>Acts 16:9-15</i>	<i>Acts 16:16-34</i>	<i>Acts 2:1-21</i> or <i>Genesis 11:1-9</i>	<i>Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31</i>
	Young Church	Mike Hay	Ian MacLennan	Sue Owen	Robert Clerk
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> reading</b>	<i>Revelation 21:1-6</i>	<i>Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5</i>	<i>Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21</i>	<i>Romans 8:14-17</i> or <i>Acts 2:1-21</i>	<i>Romans 5:1-5</i>
	Young Church	Sue Crosfield	Geoff Mather	Andy Longmore	Gillian Little
<b>Gospel</b>	<i>John 13:31-35</i>	<i>John 14:23-29</i> or <i>John 5:1-9</i>	<i>John 17:20-26</i>	<i>John 14:8-17, (25-27)</i>	<i>John 16:12-15</i>
<b>Prayers</b>	Sue Crosfield	Val McGavin	Geoff Mather	Mike Hay	Andy Longmore
<b>Pray for</b>	Pastoral Care Group	Vestry	Young Church	Youth Group	Fabric Team
<b>Server</b>	Angela/ Martin	Val/Stephen	Angela	Val/Martin	Angela/Alice
<b>Coffee</b>	Gillian Little Marion Mather	Marchants	Isobel Stenhouse Jean Wright	Mona Bennett Margaret MacLennan	Kathleen Cox Sue Crosfield
<b>Flowers</b>	----- Karen Marchant -----				
<b>Cleaning</b>	-----	Mona Bennett Sue Owen	Mona Bennett Sue Owen	C&M Leavy	C&M Leavy
<b>Welcomers</b>	McGarvas	Nigel Johnston Elizabeth Clark	Robert Clerk Andy Longmore	McGarvas	Nigel Johnston Elizabeth Clark
<b>Care Van</b>			*		
<b>Pentland House</b>				*	

## June 2010

	<b>6 June</b>	<b>13 June</b>	<b>20 June</b>	<b>27 June</b>
	<b>Pentecost 2</b>	<b>Pentecost 3</b>	<b>Pentecost 4</b>	<b>Pentecost 5</b>
<b>11.00am Organist</b>	Jean	Jennifer	David	Mike
<b>St Mungo's Organists</b>	Mike	Jean	Mike	Jean
<b>Sidesmen</b>	Young Church	Elizabeth Clark Nigel Johnston	Andy Longmore Isobel Stenhouse	McGarvas
<b>Bread and wine</b>	Young Church	Leavys	Barretts	Hindles
<b>1<sup>st</sup> reading</b>	<i>1 Kings 17:8-16, (17-24)</i> <b>or</b> <i>1 Kings 17:17-24</i>	<i>1 Kings 21:1-10, (11-14), 15-21a</i> <b>or</b> <i>2 Samuel 11:26-12:10, 13-15</i>	<i>1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a</i> <b>or</b> <i>Isaiah 65:1-9</i>	<i>2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14</i> <b>or</b> <i>1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21</i>
	Young Church	Adrian Marchant	Alan Murray	Joyce Black
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> reading</b>	<i>Galatians 1:11-24</i>	<i>Galatians 2:15-21</i>	<i>Galatians 3:23-29</i>	<i>Galatians 5:1, 13-25</i>
	Young Church	Fay Clerk	Georgina Phillips	Jo Bullough
<b>Gospel</b>	<i>Luke 7:11-17</i>	<i>Luke 7:36-8:3</i>	<i>Luke 8:26-39</i>	<i>Luke 9:51-62</i>
<b>Prayers</b>	Andy Longmore	Alan Murray	Georgina Phillips	Elizabeth Clark
<b>Pray for</b>	Bible Study Groups	Choir	CWF	Early Birds Prayer Groups
<b>Server</b>	Angela/Alice	Val/Stephen	Martin/Angela	Val/Alice
<b>Coffee</b>	Hays Smiths	McGarvas	Margaret Vesco Joyce Black	Isobel Stenhouse Jean Wright
<b>Flowers</b>	----- Nikkie Dickson -----			
<b>Cleaning</b>	Clerks	Clerks	Isobel Stenhouse Gill Amos	Isobel Stenhouse Gill Amos
<b>Welcomers</b>	Robert Clerk Andy Longmore	McGarvas	Nigel Johnston Elizabeth Clark	Robert Clerk Andy Longmore
<b>Care Van</b>			<b>*</b>	
<b>Pentland House</b>				

# **Mothers' Union News**

*MU Scottish web address is: [www.muscotland.org.uk](http://www.muscotland.org.uk) or via St James web page link.*

## **Diamond Anniversaries at St James –**

(Hopefully, there will be 3 more couples celebrating in 2012)

**Congratulations** to Cathie & Alex McIlwhan: Catherine Agnes nee Menzies and Alexander McIlwhan were married on 14th April 1950 at St Paul's and St



George's in York Place Edinburgh. They have 3 sons and a daughter, 4 grandsons, 2 granddaughters and 2 great-grandchildren (1 of each). Cathie is the new treasurer of St James MU and has, for many years, been president of the Churchwomen's Fellowship.

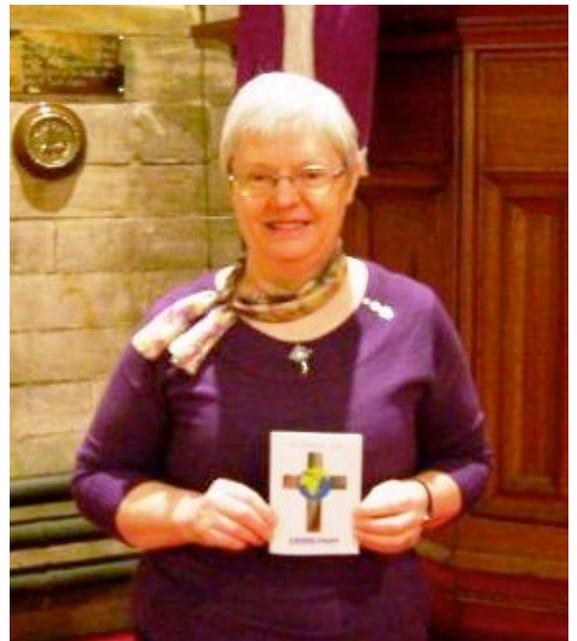
**Congratulations** to Elizabeth, Lady Clerk, who will be 90 years young on April 19th.

## **Branch Programme for April**

14th April- Mary's Meals (last year's Bishop's Lent Appeal), an illustrated talk about the charity by John Halliwell.

28th April- Diocesan Council meeting- 10.15am in Christ Church Centre, Holy Corner.

**Congratulations** also to Gillian Little pictured here after her formal admission as a member of the Mothers' Union.



## **Choir News**

As I prepare the choir news for April we have just concluded our service of Music and Readings for the start of Passiontide. I want to thank Alison, Mike and Ros for their assistance in selecting music for the service. I also want to thank all those who sang, read and led the intercessions. We also thank the members of other churches in Penicuik who yet again augmented our ranks and who have been with us over the past weeks during rehearsals. It did feel that we managed to bring together the music with readings and left time for reflection.

From the picturesque snowscapes of 'last' winter we look forward from Easter to a blossoming spring and music that will lead us through Ascension towards Pentecost. There is such a vast resource of music available and we hope to choose music that will complement our worship at St James. If you have something that is special to you please let me know.



There are two or three suggestions formulating to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our affiliation to the RSCM – watch this space. Since publishing the photographs in the last edition of *Outreach*, James McGarva Esq. has pointed out where he thinks he may have been standing in the picture with Rev Harvey. Jim was about 12 years old at that time. My mother also spotted someone very special so I

have included yet another photograph that illustrates our strong choral tradition. Who can you spot?

Spring will hopefully lead to a wonderful summer – and already I'm thinking of what might be included in MFSE 18. The date, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010. We seem to have a growing number of friends from other churches that are keen to join in again!

The choir's main purpose however is to lead music in our worship Sunday by Sunday. We are always looking for new singers; if you're interested please contact me by email [david.mcgavin@virgin.net](mailto:david.mcgavin@virgin.net) or phone (01968 675614) or just turn up to the church hall at 7.00pm any Thursday during school term time. Everyone is welcome, including children (so long as they are old enough to read), and there are **no auditions!**

Happy Easter! *David*

## ***Choir Exhibition in Town Hall***

On Saturday 8th May there will be an exhibition of St James' Choir memorabilia to mark the 80th Anniversary of the affiliation of the Choir to the School of English Church Music (now the Royal School of Church Music). St James' Choir was the first Scottish choir to be affiliated!

The exhibition will be on view from 10.00 am - 2.00 pm; please do come and learn more about the choir's long history! Coffee and cakes are served.

If anyone has material they would like included please see David McGavin or Ros Hay.

## ***Finding God in the War***

Jason is a teenager serving in Afghanistan, the son of my friend Sue. She received this e-mail from him after his friend died from an IED (Improvised Explosive Device) on Feb 25<sup>th</sup>. He was hurt, shocked and extremely angry especially at God. He said "If there is a God when I see him, he will get a good kicking from me".

After much prayer, Sue replied "Well, if there is also a devil and that's who needs a good kicking, the evil in our society, we need justice and goodness to prevail, then we win". She got no reply to this and did not really expect one.

Then she got the following (EOD are the bomb disposal team and

107mm rocket is a large explosive).

*“If there is a God he must have \*\*\*\* himself the other day when I threatened to give hm a kicking and actually decided to do something for a change. Quite possibly the jackets (!) thing in the world happened today while I was in the radio room, a new primary school opened today in some Afghan village, and as all the kids were going in for the start of school a girl stood on a land mine and blew her leg off. So everyman and his dog near enough the whole squadron (he is RAF), went out, when they got down there with EOD, EOD did their thing with the mine and realized it was connected to a 107mm rocket by det cord, so the mine was meant to set the 107mm off which would of made a world of pain for the kids. But for some unknown reason it did not go off, in the end EOD worked it out that somehow when the mine blew it broke the det cord there not sure how it just did. But EOD still had to blow the rocket on place, so they did, after they blew it the discovered another 107mm rocket inside the school grounds so had to blow that one in place, so they did, after that they discovered a barrel of home made explosives which had to be blown in the place, by the end of all this there had been enough explosives to kill every child inside the and to flatten the whole school, but as the det cord didn't go off on the first mine luckily none of the went off and no-one got killed, but he Taliban are laying bombs in schools to kill there own kids it was beyond shocking and actually made me eel a bit sick, how are you meant to beat and enemy who thinks its ok to kill their own kids? But for some unknown reason the det cord broke and none of the bombs went off so if there is a god he saved about 50 children's lives today. Yes there is a god and you have to believe.”*

LATER one of his friends wrote on Face Book and said “When ur back on R&R we will get together and both give God a good kicking. Jason replied “nah, hes redeemed himself this week hes not that bad.”

**Please pray for our troops and for the children in Afghanistan.**

*Submitted by Angela Sibley [The email has not been edited at all - Ed]*

## **Diocesan Synod**

This was held in St Paul's and St George's this year where we were able to see and use their refurbishment. The church was set up in “cafe” style with round tables and seating 8 to a table. This made discussion easy as we could hear each other easily.

After the opening service held in the original, and beautiful, chancel the Bishop announced that Revd John Armes (St John's Princes Street) and Revd Malcolm Round (Balerno) have been made Canons. We then started with "The Church has no Future", not an encouraging subject!

We were asked to think of mission – who is it for? by? With? And what community will it form? Is our perception of our area true? Or are we blinkered? What is our priority? What type of community do we live in? Residential? Rented property? Students? Young families? Single parents? Elderly?

What is the Council's local plan? Can we manage any outreach to the community? Do we have the people numbers? Expertise?

There is a "Fresh Expressions" course which could help? All this involves a lot of thinking and planning and TIME.

One church said they had used lots of **prayer and waited**. They spent time enjoying the services and getting to know each other better.

**Stewardship** is more than money; we need to include skills.

In 2008, the average giving was £10.00 per person: 11 congregations gave more and 18 gave £5 or less. We were encouraged to give generously, not out of our "left over money" (our group recognised that young families are often stretched with family commitments, the elderly have low pensions and cannot, with the best will in the world, give more than they do). Perhaps we should consider a Stewardship campaign. It may be that we need to drop some things and take up new ones.

After lunch we looked at **Mission and Ministry**. There is a five year plan and leaflets will explain this. It will look at Congregational development, resources, and consultants (1 lay and 1 clergy) can be invited to help congregations look at their future direction.

We need to offer friendship to all who come and be a "loving" congregation.

**International** links continue. There is a new Bishop in Dunedin (N.Z), which is an historic link, there is a link with Cape Coast and we are exploring a link with Finland. The formal Connor link has ended but there are still informal links between congregations. Several youth leaders from Scotland are going to the Youth Camp in Cape Coast. Father Emmanuel is due to arrive in Edinburgh in September for 3 months. He will spend time at St Mungo's (West Linton), here at St James, and at Christ Church, Morningside. Plans are to be discussed

soon as to what he would like to see and do, and what we can offer to show him and include him in. More information to follow.

**Eco diocese** was discussed. Are we using the most energy efficient boilers for heating the church and Rectory? What is our 5 year plan? Could we use this as a way into Peace and Justice issues? We should learn more about the Porvo agreement. We should look at training for Lay Ministry: what should be included?

All in all, a lot of questions for us to think about. *Angela*

## ***Keep Penicuik Tidy***

As part of the Keep Scotland Tidy campaign [www.keeptscotlandtidy.org](http://www.keeptscotlandtidy.org) which will run throughout April, Penicuik & District Community Council have arranged 3 litter picks. Penicuik residents are again asked to turn out in numbers. It is your opportunity to make Penicuik a nicer place to live. Safety gloves and litter pickers provided (and there may even be a wee refreshment).

The first litter pick will be held on Saturday 10 April (Cuiken Glen) at 9.30am. Meet in the car park at the YMCA Queensway. The second at Lowrie's Den on Saturday 17 April 9.30am (new car park at the entrance to Penicuik Estate) and the last at Beeslack Woods on Saturday 24 April (meet in Tesco car park 9.30am). For more information, please email Chris Leavy [chris.leavy1@btinternet.com](mailto:chris.leavy1@btinternet.com) or phone 01968 677181.

## ***Financial Matters***

It seems quite some time since I last contributed a financial report to Outreach - something inevitably seem to distract me as successive deadlines approached and were then missed and all the good intentions went out the window!!

Well we are almost half-way through the financial year so in the next Outreach I shall be able to give a short six-monthly report, but in the meantime can summarise the principal highlights and lowlights of the year so far, as follows:

- In January the Rector's annual salary increased by £220, but more significantly contributions to the SEC Pension fund increased from £5629 to £7842.

- This underlines the urgent need to increase income from giving in line with the 12% recommended and agreed at the AGM in December.
- We have just changed our gas supplier from nPower to Scottish Gas which hopefully should reduce our heating costs.
- To counter the abysmal rate of interest offered on our HBOS Savings Account (formerly referred to as a 'high-interest' account, ho ho), I have opened a 7-day account with Scottish Widows bank.
- Feedback from the Quinquennial Review team suggests that the necessary outlay on the fabric will not be major, and, along with the Chancel Steps handrails, will be met from the existing Fabric Fund.
- Outreach subscriptions are now due. Last year we grossed £582 from a total of 150 copies per issue, which suggests there is room for improvement! So please use the enclosed envelope.

### **Collections (£)**

	Dec	Jan	Feb
Cash	419	97	133
Gift Aided cash	105	20	54
Envelopes	638	923	746
Direct giving	<u>1645</u>	<u>1545</u>	<u>1645</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2807</b>	<b>2585</b>	<b>2578</b>

### **Special Collections**

Chitambo Midwifery	390
Haiti Earthquake Appeal	320
Kilbrandon Fund	185
Mothers' Union Overseas	180
World Vision	205

### **Charitable Giving**

Erskine	90
Haiti Earthquake Appeal	300
<i>Graham Smith</i>	

## ***Penicuik Churches Shopping Service***

A reminder that the shopping service has now been in operation for over a year and is serving a small number of clients in Penicuik who are unable to go for their own shopping. We also have a small band of willing helpers who carry out the shopping, without whom the service could not operate.

If you know of anyone who has difficulty with shopping and you are unable to help, please contact Jim Cowper, Tel 673538.

If you would like to help us with this service please also contact Jim Cowper, who is happy to give more details of how you can help.

## ***Your prayers are asked for.....***

Please pray for all those known and unknown to you who through sickness, need, bereavement or any other trouble are in need of God's comfort and support.

Pray for Florence Petrie, Mae Mann, Elizabeth Black, Ruby Graham, John Ford, Irene Hair, Jim McGarva, Ruth Haig, Eric Marchant, Bob Horne (Georgina's cousin), Mairi (Ian Fuge's sister) awaiting ongoing treatment. Pray for the family of Pat Early. Also for Kathryn Topham's aunt and uncle, Paddy and Geoff, in Hull who are still going through a difficult time. Give thanks for the continuing recovery of Alan Murray Jean Lindsay and Richard Phillips. Pray for the family of Charlotte McAulay's brother, Chris, as they mourn his death.

Pray for the people and nation of Haiti; for those who died and those who mourn their loss; for the volunteers seeking to bring aid; for the leaders who must strive to rebuild their country after such devastation. Pray for those continuing to suffer as a result of previous natural disasters. Pray for the victims of the flash floods in Madeira.

Pray for continued progress towards peace and reconciliation; for the work of Penicuik for Africa. Pray for the release of all who are enslaved, for those held captive unfairly or illegally and for the work of Amnesty International. Pray for those suffering under corrupt and uncaring political regimes, remembering especially the people of Zimbabwe. Pray for people of countries torn apart by conflict and civil war. Remember also the British troops and the families of those overseas or about to go overseas, particularly those based at Glencorse Barracks.

For those who staff the Bethany Trust Care Van as they minister to the homeless on the streets of Edinburgh, and for the homeless themselves. For all who have suffered in any way during the recent severe cold weather. *(The Prayer Request book is either to be found in the chapel or on the altar, waiting to be used. Please do make use of it*

*by adding your concerns and prayers. The requests are prayed for on other days as well as on Sundays. Also let the clergy know the progress of the person held in prayer. The list is updated every two to three months. Thank you!)*

## **Events coming soon...**

### **April 2010**

Saturdays 10,17,24 Apr: "Keep Penicuik Tidy" Litter Pick - see article  
Wednesdays 7,14,21,28 Apr: Omega Group at 44 St James Gardens  
Sat 10 April 10.00-12.00 Daffodil Tea in St Mungo's Hall  
(Penicuik)  
Wed 14 April 7.30pm Vestry  
Sun 25 April 12.30 Penicuik for Africa Fellowship Lunch

### **May 2010**

Sat 8 May 10.00am - 2.00pm Choir Exhibition in Town Hall  
Sun 9 May 11.00 J-Tots 10th Birthday Service

### **June 2010**

Sun 6 Jun Open afternoon at Penicuik House  
Fri 11 Jun Pot-luck supper to celebrate 25th anniversary of the  
Rector's ordination  
Sat 12 Jun Music for a Summer Evening

### **August 2010**

27/28 August 2010 Congregational Weekend at St Drostan's (tbc)

### **October 2010**

Sat/Sun 2-3 October Flower Festival in St James - **much help needed** ;  
*please note in diaries now!*

**Outreach** can also be viewed on the St James website: <http://www.stjamespenicuik.co.uk> **The May 2010 edition will be published on Sunday 2 May. Information about events, and contributions, should be with the Editor, Georgina Phillips 661039, Merlewood, The Loan, West Linton, EH46 7HE, [phillg13@toucansurf.com](mailto:phillg13@toucansurf.com), by Wednesday 21 April at the latest. If sent by email, please copy to Mike Hay, [mike@hayfamily.co.uk](mailto:mike@hayfamily.co.uk).**

# Contacts at St James

All numbers 01968.. unless otherwise shown.

		Phone	Email
<b>Rector</b>	Revd Robert Warren	672862	rector_penicuik@yahoo.co.uk
	<i>23 Broomhill Road, Penicuik EH26 9EE</i>		
<b>Clergy Team</b>	Revd Dr Tony Bramley	675240	tbramley@staffmail.ed.ac.uk
	Canon Philip Crosfield	676607	sue.crosfield@btinternet.com
	Revd Dr Neville Suttle	673819	suttle_hints@hotmail.com
	Revd Stephen McCaulay	672976	562mccau@armymail.mod.uk
<b>Vestry: Secretary</b>	Nigel Johnston	674321	drnjohn17@aol.com
	<i>17 Broomhill Road EH26 9EE</i>		
<b>Treasurer</b>	Graham Smith	673012	caplaw@hotmail.co.uk
<b>Minutes Secretary</b>	Georgina Phillips	661039	phillg13@toucansurf.com
<b>Rector's Warden</b>	David McGavin	675614	david.mcgavin@virgin.net
<b>People's Warden</b>	Robert Clerk	679777	rclerk@penhouse.demon.co.uk
<b>Lay Representative</b>	Angela Sibley	674211	angelasibley@talktalk.net
<b>Alt Lay Rep</b>	Richard Phillips	661039	rphillips52@toucansurf.com
<b>Elected Members:</b>	Nikki Dickson		alannicky@tiscali.co.uk
	Gill Amos	673395	gill.amos@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk
	Adrian Marchant	677477	marchantade@yahoo.com
	Geoff Mather	678081	geoff.mather@midlothian.gov.uk
	Ishbel Proctor	677437	iproctor52@sky.com
<b>Co-opted Member:</b>	Andy Longmore	677823	andy.longmore@btinternet.com
<b>Fabric Team Leader</b>	Geoff Mather	678081	geoff.mather@midlothian.gov.uk
<b>Social Coordinator</b>	Alan Murray	678610	alan@amroth350.wanadoo.co.uk
<b>Child Protection</b>	Nigel Johnston	674321	drnjohn17@aol.com
<b>Choirmaster</b>	David McGavin	675614	david.mcgavin@virgin.net
<b>CWF</b>	Joyce Jones	674187	
<b>Flowers</b>	Marion Mather	678081	marion.mccluskey@tiscali.co.uk
<b>House Group</b>	David & Val McGavin	675614	david.mcgavin@virgin.net
	Jean & Ralph Hindle	674591	jean@jrhindle.co.uk
<b>Hall bookings</b>	Val McGavin	675614	val.mcgavin@virgin.net
<b>J-Tots</b>	Alison Cole	672400	alisonmariecole@btinternet.com
<b>Mothers' Union</b>	Margaret Coull	675223	margcoul@hotmail.co.uk
<b>Organists</b>	Mike Hay	675761	mike@hayfamily.co.uk
	Jennifer Edge	673234	jenniferedge@talktalk.net
	Jean Hindle	674591	jean@jrhindle.co.uk
<b>Pastoral Visits</b>	Angela Sibley	674211	angelasibley@talktalk.net
<b>Books/magazines</b>	Moira Johnston	674321	moirajohnston@aol.com
<b>Prayer/Alpha Courses</b>	Faye Clerk	679777	rclerk@penhouse.demon.co.uk
<b>Rotas</b>	Angela Sibley	674211	angelasibley@talktalk.net
<b>Sacristan</b>	Ros Hay	675761	ros@hayfamily.co.uk
<b>Stewardship</b>	Richard Phillips	661039	rphillips52@toucansurf.com
<b>Envelopes</b>			
<b>Young Church</b>	Alison Cole	672400	alisonmariecole@btinternet.com
	Gill Amos	673395	gill.amos@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk
<b>Youth Group</b>	Adam Bullough	675549	adambullough@o2.co.uk

**A clergyman doing something useful (only joking, Colin)!**



**... and the man at the top!**

**With love from Young Church on  
Mothering Sunday!**



**St Drostan's Church and Rectory - Congregational Weekend planned  
for August ...**