

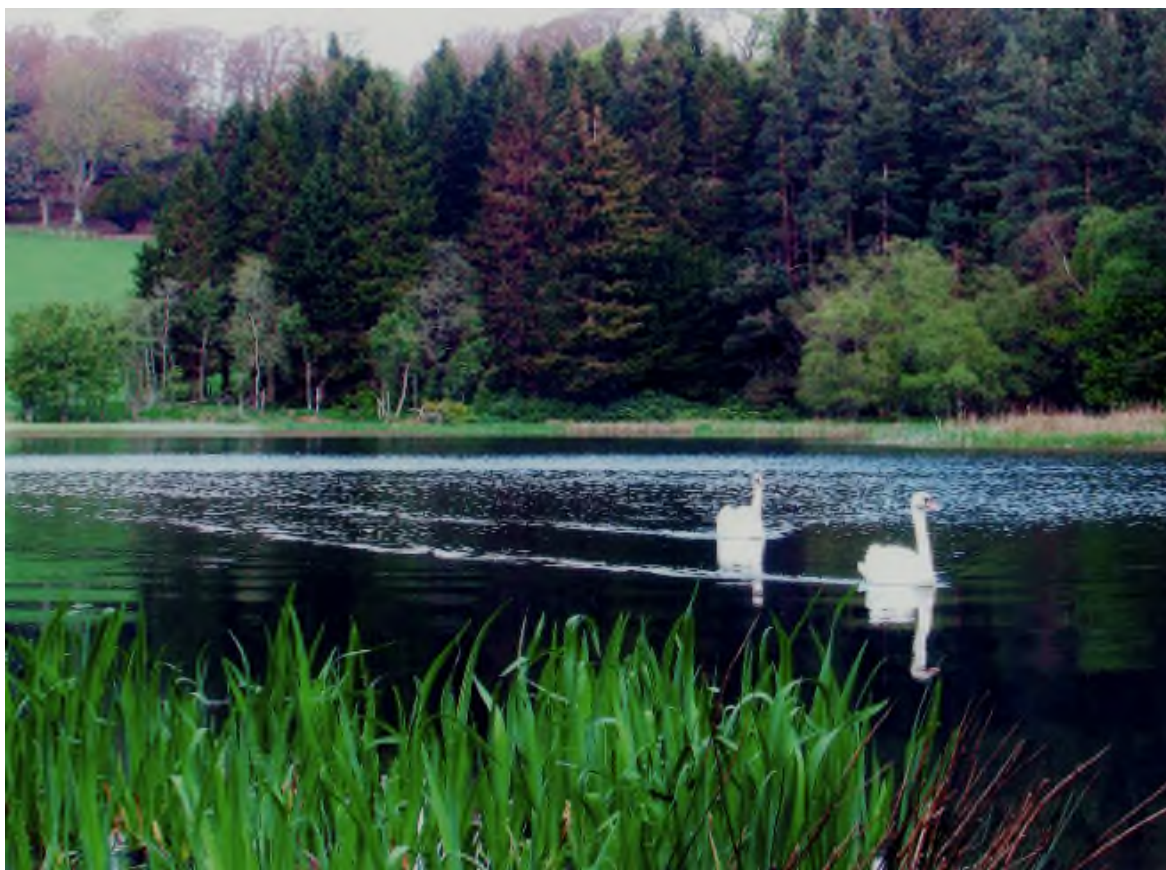
# OUTREACH

St. James the Less Scottish Episcopal Church, Penicuik



**Some younger members enjoy the Littles' hospitality at the annual Choir Barbecue**

**What beautiful local scenery we have....  
The Low Pond at Penicuik House**



**...and a view from the church tower, courtesy of Frank Lindsay!**



## Contents

Service Times .....	3
Groups and Activities .....	4
Rector's Letter .....	4
"Penicuik for Africa (PfA)" .....	5
Report of Vestry business .....	7
Sea Sunday .....	8
Choir News .....	8
Christ in the Books of the Bible .....	9
Mission News .....	10
Thanks! .....	11
July 2007 Rota .....	12
August 2007 Rota .....	13
September 2007 Rota .....	14
From our Wild West Correspondents .....	16
Mothers' Union News .....	16
"Church must reaffirm its role" .....	16
A Hug .....	18
Cornbank Celebrations! .....	18
Helen & Graham Yapp's visit in July .....	19
Financial Matters .....	19
Your prayers are asked for.....	20
Events coming soon.....	20
Parish Register .....	21
Stop press1 – more thanks!.....	21
Stop Press2 – CareVan Soup-maker! .....	21
"Outreach" on the Web! .....	21
Contacts at St James.....	22

## Service Times

Sundays:        8.00 am    Said Communion  
                     11.00 am Choral Communion  
                     Evensong as announced

Thursdays:    11.15 am Informal Said Communion as announced.

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  
Thursdays : 7.00pm Choir Practice (Junior Choir at 6.45pm)

### **Rector's Letter**



I had occasion this month to participate in a three-day event called the Churches' Media Conference. There were some two hundred participants – a handful of clergy, a dozen or so Communications Officers from Church of England Dioceses – most of the participants were individuals involved in some sort of media initiative – film, television, radio or internet – wherein the Gospel was presented in ways other than the traditional route of hymn or sermon. There's a lot happening out there. A fair number of the participants came from churches with a fair bit of time, energy and money to devote to visual arts and multimedia – churches which have their origins in the Vineyard tradition or at Holy Trinity Brompton. The Evangelical Alliance connection was very much a thread uniting many of the participants. There were, as well, people involved in the BBC's religious programming – not as much the producers of Songs of Praise as those involved in documentaries about Christianity, Islam, or those "larger ethical issues" which have a religious dimension. I chummed around with a former Dominican who is now making documentaries for Channel 4. It was a wonderful conference.

Notwithstanding all the technological changes presently taking place – new equipment, new opportunities, new ways of combining words and images – what was repeated time and time again in the presentations which took place over the three days was the pivotal role of 'the story'. We want to know *what happens in the lives of people like ourselves*. How the story is told is less important. We are hungry for tales of how God appears in the midst of lives like ours – in the experiences of men and women we can recognize. Technology and new media will never be able to replace the proclamation that *God has visited us here and*

now – and has been present in personal history, in our families and in our places of work. We have perceived Him here and there. We have come to know more about Him because of this or that. Such proclamation is just as easily executed in a public place with our voices or with a pencil and a piece of paper. The fact that I may not own a laptop computer matters very little indeed.

*Father Rob Warren*

## **"Penicuik for Africa (PfA)"**

*Contributed by Neville Suttle*

**Sponsored slim** Firstly, our thanks must be extended to all the generous sponsors of our 'Lenten Slim' for fulfilling their obligations and to the slimmers who, hopefully, have managed to retain their slim lines. The combined efforts of North Kirk, ourselves and Jo Vallis' Edinburgh slimmers raised just over £5000 for our ambulance, beyond our wildest expectations!

**Chitambo Ambulance Appeal** This latest contribution takes our Appeal Fund to over £18,000, close enough to the estimated vehicle cost of £20,000 to prompt more detailed plans for purchase, transportation and tax evasion! We have heard enough tales of similar projects getting caught up in cross-border skirmishes with Customs Officials in Africa to know that preparations must be thorough. Discussions are ongoing with Chitambo Hospital to explore the most desirable conversion; upgrading to a mobile clinic sounds good from here but is it really best for Chitambo and would it require additional staff? Elspeth Pentland of the Africa Health Trust (AHT: Lothians Area) has promised to equip the converted vehicle for us. We hope to have more information to give in the next (September) Outreach.

### **Africa Fair**

By any standard, our foray into Edinburgh on May 19<sup>th</sup> must rank as a staggering success. Jo Vallis and Ruth Green (and their families!) were certainly beginning to stagger at the end of a prodigious effort which saw over 30 organisations, with colourful, vibrant displays, squeezed into Old St Paul's Hall, including one from our own MU (see *pictures*). All day long, new visitors arrived and managed to snake their way past the stalls, a captive audience and market for the varied causes being

promoted. To a roll of African Drums by Chief Sulieman Chebe, Sir Tom Farmer opened proceedings with encouraging words for volunteers who 'delivered' and disparaging words for the politicians who didn't! While 'the business' was being done in the hall, upstairs in the church the customary OSP Mass was followed by a concert of African Music -



something for everyone! Performers had to be paid for and the picture shows our leader proving that while one cannot serve God **and** Mammon it's sometimes fun to try! So good was Rob at selling Raffle tickets that nearly everyone I asked had already been nailed. Ruth and her family

slaved away in the kitchen serving snacks and a chicken curry lunch, the ingredients for which were provided free and ready-cooked by Edinburgh's 'Mosque Kitchen', raising £715 for good causes, Moslem as well as our own. At the end of the event, our Buddhist supporter, Tom McCarthy, announced that folk in Edinburgh had been so inspired that they had formed their own group! We may not have raised much money for Africa ourselves, but it was all VERY worthwhile. (See *also picture inside back page!* – Ed)

### ***New treasurer?***

Your treasurer, Graham Smith, had been watching with interest our success at fund-raising and when a leaflet arrived from the church insurers, Ecclesiastical, announcing a competition for fund-raisers, he said 'Why don't you enter?': we have! The conclusion to our entry went as follows:

"Our enterprise [PfA] has crossed barriers of denomination, faith and age and raised the profile of Africa not only in our small town but in the nation's capital. In just 18 months, we have:

- established links with communities in Kenya, South Africa and Zambia, sending each £1000;

- raised 70% of the £26,000 required to provide Chitambo hospital with an ambulance
- collaborated with another charity [AHT] to boost the health support given to Zambia;
- enabled 40 organisations to raise the profile of, and funds for, their work in Africa;
- motivated the city of Edinburgh to form a similar organisation.”



Graham also noted our plea for help with the burgeoning work of the Treasurer, Richard Vallis, and he will start ‘shadowing’ Richard soon with a view to taking over at the next AGM, if approved. He will no doubt be using some of PfA’s ideas to boost church funds so expect to see the

launch of "Own Brand St James Marmalade” soon!

## ***Report of Vestry business***

*Full minutes of this meeting will be displayed on the notice board following the next meeting of vestry.*

- Matters arising from the meeting of 5th March 2007 including, the arrival of the summer intern, sidesmen's duties with respect to fire and safety issues, follow up to the letter received from Councillor David Fletcher, pastoral links with Cuiken School, rectory guttering, kitchen fundraising, OSCR reports, Quinquennial Review actions, joint vestry barbecue, CHARIS stewardship
- Rector's report including, response to Holy Week and Easter services, Sunday services with small numbers in the congregation
- Treasurer's report including, circulation and analysis of half-yearly reports relating to income and expenditure, kitchen refurbishment, new tables and chairs for hall
- Fabric report including, circulation of list of prioritised projects, new tables for hall, register of key holders, church car park, garage,

- garage door and rectory garden fencing
- AOCB including, Pentecost service, Diocesan Children's day for Pentecost, Rector's holiday dates, joint vestry barbecue with St Mungo's West Linton, Sea Sunday, Scottish Episcopal Church Youth Camp, congregational weekend away, Alpha course, outreach group meeting, PA system, appointment of church Archive Officer, Area Council meeting, white board in hall, Penicuik House Gardens Open Day, Herken fundraising concert.

The meeting ended with prayer.

*Alison Cole*

## **Sea Sunday**

will be celebrated at St James' on Sunday 5 August followed by a Fellowship Lunch in aid of the Mission to Seafarers.

## **Choir News**

As I write, "Music for a Summer Evening" is some way off, and the programme, as usual, is still to some extent shrouded in mystery. But I'm sure that if you're reading this the day after it happened yesterday(?), that it will as usual have been a great success, due largely to David's hard work as Director of the event this year. Many thanks to him, and to all others who contributed their time, skills and energy.

The structure of the concert was in part to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding in 1927 by Sydney Nicholson of the School of English Church Music, later to become the Royal School of Church Music, to which, as you possibly know, St James the Less has been affiliated since 1930 (the certificate is still downstairs in the choir vestry!). We hope to do a bit more over the rest of this year to mark the anniversary – more details later.

It's "happy hols" time now, so the choir will be "off duty" until mid August, but the rota of organists just manages to cover both churches despite some of us being away for chunks of time. Thanks to those who "hold the musical fort" over the summer, particularly our newest recruit Rachel, who has helped out at West Linton on a number of occasions now.



Best wishes to everyone for a really good summer – I'm sure the choir will be delighted to know that choir practices resume on Thursday 23 August!

*Mike Hay*

## ***Christ in the Books of the Bible***

*Contributed by Catherine Pow*

In **Genesis**, *Jesus is the Creator God*; **Exodus**, *He is our Liberating Paschal Lamb*. In **Leviticus**, *He is our Sacrifice for sin*; **Numbers**, *He is our lifted up One*; Deuteronomy, *He is our true prophet*.

In the **Book of Joshua**, *He is the captain of our Salvation*; in the **Book of Judges**, *He is our liberator in repentance*. In **Ruth**, *He is our Kinsman Redeemer*.

In the **First Book of Samuel**, *He is our Prophet*; in the **Second Book of Samuel**, *He is our King as the seed of David*.

In the **First and Second Book of Kings**, *He is our King*.

In the **First Book of the Chronicles**, *He is our Shepherd*; in the **Second Book of the Chronicles**, *He is our Temple*; in the **Book of Ezra**, *He is our Restorer*. In the **Book of Nehemiah**, *He is the Re-BUILDER of our Defence Walls*. In **Esther**, *He is our Judging King*; in the **Book of Job**, *He is our Redeemer*. In **Psalms**, *He is our Most Holy One*; **Proverbs**, *He is our Wisdom & Knowledge*.

In **Ecclesiastes**, *He is our All*. In the **Song of Songs**, *He is the Love of our life*; in the **Book of the Prophet Isaiah**, *He is our Suffering Servant*.

In the **Book of the Prophet Jeremiah**, *He is our Righteous Branch*; **Lamentations**, *He is our Compassion*.

In the **Book of the Prophet Ezekiel**, *He is our total Restoration*.

In the **Book of Daniel**, *He is our smiting stone*; **Hosea**, *He is our most Merciful Heart*. In **Joel**, *He is our Restorer*; **Amos**, *He is our Champion*; **Obadiah**, *He is the destroyer of our pride*.

In **Jonah**, *He is our Resurrection*; **Micah**, *He is our peace and joy*; **Nahum**, *He is our stronghold in the day of trouble*.

In **Habakkuk**, *He is our Prayer*, **Zephaniah**; *He is our Lord*, **Haggai**; *He is the desire of all nations*, **Zechariah**; *He is our Righteousness*.

In **Malachi**, *He is the Sun of Righteousness*.

**In the Gospel according to Matthew, He is the King; in Mark, He is the Servant; in Luke, He is the Son of Man; in John, He is the Eternal God.**

**In Acts of the Apostles, He is the Ascended Lord.**

**In the Letter of Paul to the Romans, He is the Justifier; the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians, He is the Lord of Resurrection; the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians, He is our Sufficiency; the Letter of Paul to the Galatians, He is the Redeemer from the law; the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians, He is our All in All; the letter of Paul to the Philippians, He is the supplier of our need.**

**In the Letter of Paul to the Colossians, He is our Head, we are His Body.**

**In the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians; He is our returning Lord; in the Second Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians, He is the one holding back the man of perdition.**

**In the First Letter of Paul to Timothy, He is our Mediator before God; in the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy, He is our Example in the Battle of faith.**

**In the Letter of Paul to Titus, He is our pattern in life.**

**In the Letter of Paul to Philemon, He is our Lord and Master; Hebrews, He is our Intercessor before the Throne.**

**In a Letter of James, He is our pattern in Faith and work; In the First Letter of Peter, He is the Cornerstone of our Faith; in the Second Letter of Peter, He is our Strength on the Day of the Lord; In the First Letter of John, he is Love, Our Life, Our Hope; in the Second Letter of John, He is our Truth; In the Third Letter of John, He is our Way.**

**In a Letter of Jude, He is our Keeper.**

**In the Revelation of John, He is our King of Kings and Lord of Lords.  
(Wow! – Ed)**

## **Mission News**

*Contributed by Frances McLean*

I have been reading the recent news leaflet of the Southern Africa Church Development Trust. It began rather like our Penicuik For Africa, but is circulated around ex Missionaries and ex pats. Begun during the apartheid years it supports much needed projects and supplies snippets of news. Always interesting.

## **Updates on AIDS in South Africa**

The S.A. leadership has pledged to increase the availability of anti-retroviral drugs. The trade unions criticized the government policies, which resulted in drug shortages. The official statistics report a rise in deaths of the most productive sector of the population, those between 30 and 40 years. At a conference of AIDS activists, the Deputy president said that the drugs should be accessible to all and especially to the poor. AIDS education would also be given a higher priority. When Angela and I were visiting Umtata, where the local churches were organising care and education for both sufferers and families, they were experiencing problems obtaining the drugs. So this is good news.

The Trust's main project for this year is for St. Barnabas High School in Lesotho where a tractor is needed. The school is part of the Masiti Anglican Mission complex and has a number of fields for growing crops. (I visited the Mission years ago and I remember watching a borehole being created for much needed water supplies.) Production could be improved by better ploughing. The current method uses the typical angled hoe. I have forgotten its name, but it is used throughout the country and does not dig deeply. It is a problem throughout Africa. The Principal has put forward a business plan, which would also allow ploughing services to be sold to local growers; the income would help with the running and maintenance costs. I think he must be a true businessman! Improved production would reduce the students' food bill as the cost of maize has escalated due to demand caused by the crisis in Zimbabwe. Maize is the staple food.

The Lesotho government has made available a facility for the purchase of reconditioned tractors, but the cost will still be £8,000. Phew! Not as much as the Chitambo ambulance, but still a lot of money! I will let you know how the Trust copes when I receive the next News Letter. And maybe I will tell you about my visit, some years ago, to the Anglican Hospital, high up in the Lesotho Mountains.

## ***Thanks!***

*Emma Dickson writes:*

I should like to thank everyone for sponsoring me in my 5k run for Cancer Research. I completed the run in 29 minutes and raised a total of £240.

*(Well done, Emma – Ed!)*

# July 2007 Rota

	1-Jul-2007	8-Jul-2007	15-Jul-2007	22-Jul-2007	29-Jul-07
	Trinity 4	Trinity 5	Trinity 6	Trinity 7	Trinity 8
<b>11.00am Organist</b>	Jean	Jennifer	Mike	David	David
<b>St Mungo's Organist</b>	Mike	Jean	David	Jean	Jean
<b>Sidesmen</b>	MacLennans	Nigel Johnston/ Andy Longmore	Isobel Stenhouse/ Des Frantom	Mc Garvas	Elizabeth Clark/ Alan
<b>Bread and Wine</b>	Young Church	Johnstons	Hindles	Johnstons	Matins
<b>1st Reading</b>	<i>II Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 or I kings 19:15-16, 19-21</i>	<i>II Kings 5:1-14 or Isaiah 66:10-14</i>	<i>Amos 7:7-17 or Deuteronomy 30:9-14</i>	<i>Amos 8:1-12 or Genesis 18:1-10a</i>	<i>Hosea 1:2-10 or Genesis 18:20-32</i>
	Ian Fuge	Geoff Mather	Jean Hindle	Val McGavin	Marion McCluskey
<b>2nd Reading</b>	<i>Galatians 5:1, 13-25</i>	<i>Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16</i>	<i>Colossians 1:1-14</i>	<i>Colossians 1:15-28</i>	<i>Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)</i>
	Mike Hay	Val McGavin	Gillian Amos	Sue Crosfield	Andy Longmore
<b>Gospel</b>	<i>Luke 9:51-62</i>	<i>Luke 10:1-11, 16-20</i>	<i>Luke 10:25-37</i>	<i>Luke 10:38-42</i>	-----
<b>Prayers</b>	Geoff Mather	Sue Crosfield	Mike Hay	Andy Longmore	-----
<b>Pray for</b>	Bible Study Group	Choir	Church Women's Fellowship	Early Birds Prayer Group	-----
<b>Server</b>	Angela Sibley/ Steven	Val McGavin/ Alice	Angela Sibley/Sara	Angela Sibley/Emma	-----
<b>Coffee</b>	Frantoms	Mona Bennett/ Margaret	Kathleen Cox/ Sue Crosfield	Hays/ Graham Smith	McGarvas
<b>Flowers</b>	Ruth Frantom				
<b>Cleaning</b>	Jeannifer Edge/ Moira Rendall	Jeannifer Edge/ Moira Rendall	Mona Bennett/ Ruth Green	Mona Bennett/ Ruth Green	Clerks
<b>Welcomers</b>	Nigel Johnston/ Robert Clerk	McGarvas	Mae Mann/ Elizabeth Clark	Carol Hodgkin/ Andy Longmore	Nigel Johnston/ Robert Clerk
<b>Care Van</b>			*		
<b>Pentland House</b>		*			

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

# August 2007 Rota

	5-Aug-2007	12-Aug-2007	19-Aug-2007	26-Aug-2007
	Trinity 9	Trinity 10	Trinity 11	Trinity 12
<b>11.00am Organist</b>	Jean	Jennifer	Mike	David
<b>St Mungo's Organist</b>	David	Jean	David	Mike
<b>Sidesmen</b>	Maclennans	Margaret Coull/ Nigel Johnston	Andy Longmore/ Isobel Stenhouse	McGarvas
<b>Bread and Wine</b>	Young Church	Dicksons	Clerks	Leavys
<b>1st Reading</b>	<i>Hosea 11:1-11 or Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23</i>	<i>Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 or Genesis 15:1-6</i>	<i>Isaiah 5:1-7 or Jeremiah 23:23-29</i>	<i>Jeremiah 1:4-10 or Isaiah 58:9b-14</i>
	Gillian Amos	Joyce Black	Robert Clerk	Goergina Phillips
<b>2nd Reading</b>	<i>Colossians 3:1-11</i>	<i>Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16</i>	<i>Hebrews 11:29-12:2</i>	<i>Hebrews 12:18-29</i>
	Alan Murray	Margaret Coull	Faye Clerk	Ruth Green
<b>Gospel</b>	<i>Luke 12: 13-21</i>	<i>Luke 12:32-40</i>	<i>Luke 12:49-56</i>	<i>Luke 13:10-17</i>
<b>Prayers</b>	Alan Murray	Georgina Phillips	Elizabeth Clark	Ruth Green
<b>Pray for</b>	Fabric Team	J Tots	Junior Choir	Mauricewood House Group
<b>Server</b>	Angela/Andrew	Angela/Steven	Angela/Alice	Val/Emma
<b>Coffee</b>	Isobel Stenhouse/ Jean Wright	Gillian Little/ Marion McCluskey	Robert Clerk/Elizabeth	Mrs Neish & Family
<b>Flowers</b>	Gill Amos			
<b>Cleaning</b>	Isobel Stenhouse/ Gillian Amos	Ros Hay/ Sue Crosfield	Ros Hay/ Sue Crosfield	Marion Hunter/ Margaret Vesco
<b>Welcomers</b>	McGarvas	Mae Mann/ Elizabeth Clark	Carol Hodgkin/ Andy Longmore	Nigel Johnston/ Robert Clerk
<b>Care Van</b>			*	
<b>Pentland House</b>			*	

# September 2007 Rota

	2-Sep-2007	9-Sep-2007	16-Sep-2007	23-Sep-2007	30-Sep-2007
	Trinity 13	Trinity 14	Trinity 15	Trinity 16	Trinity 17
<b>11.00am Organist</b>	Jean	Jennifer	Mike	David	Mike
<b>St Mungo's Organist</b>	David	Jean	David	Mike	David
<b>Sidesmen</b>	Young Church	Angela Sibley/ Des Frantom	Elizabeth Clark/ Margaret Coull	Maclennans	Andy Longmore/
<b>Bread and Wine</b>	Young Church	Barretts	Sibleys	Hindles	-----
<b>1st Reading</b>	Jeremiah 2:4-13 <i>or</i> Sirach 10:12-18	Jeremiah 18:1-11 <i>or</i> Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 <i>or</i> Exodus 32:7-14	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 <i>or</i> Amos 8:4-7	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 <i>or</i> Amos 6:1a, 4-7
	Young Church	Jo Bullough	Brigitte Fuge	Mike Hay	Jean Hindle
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Philemon 1-21	I Timothy 1:12-17	I Timothy 2:1-7	I Timothy 6:6-19
	Young Church	Elizabeth Clark	Ian Fuge	Val McGavin	Ian Macleannan
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 14:1, 7-14	Luke 14:25-33	Luke 15:1-10	Luke 16:1-13	-----
<b>Prayers</b>	Young Church	Val McGavin	Val McGavin	Geoff Mather	-----
<b>Pray for</b>	Mothers Union	Pastoral Care Group	Vestry	Young Church	-----
<b>Server</b>	Val Charlotte	Val/ Sara	Val/ Steven	Angela/Alice	-----
<b>Coffee</b>	Frantoms	Mona Bennett/ Margaret	Kathleen Cox/ Sue Crosfield	Hays/ G Smith	Margaret Vesco/ Joyce Black
<b>Flowers</b>	Ros Hay				
<b>Cleaning</b>	Marion Hunter/ Margaret Vesco	Helen Topple/ Ruth Frantom	Helen Topple/ Ruth Frantom	C & M Leavys	C & M Leavys
<b>Welcomers</b>	McGarvas	Mae Mann/ Elizabeth Clark	Carol Hodgkin/ Andy	Nigel Johnston/ Robert Clerk	McGarvas
<b>Care Van</b>			*		
<b>Pentland House</b>					*

# More from the past....

courtesy of Frank Lindsay again (see below)!



**ST JAMES-THE-LESS.**  
 CIRCA 1890.  
 Points of interest:- Bell in small tower; Tin school; South Church; Old Rectory; (bottom left); Bank house; Remothorn Road; Mill chimney; Pebbles Road cottages; Front garden of 'Van Remonh' (bottom right).

## ***From our Wild West Correspondents***

*Frank and Jean Lindsay write:*

“Thank you to all our friends in St James for the very warm welcome in April. We were delighted to share with you the Eucharist Service and the wonderful fellowship lunch in aid of AIDS. It was great to see you all again and we felt very much part of the St James family.

Yours with love

Jean, Frank and Rusty”

*Frank also kindly provided some answers to the questions posed regarding the two photographs of St James included in Outreach No 136, as follows:*

“ Photo of Broomhill Road (the lane). This was taken about 1939 by the son of Eleanor and Geoff Taverner who lived at 15 Broomhill Road. He was killed in the RAF during the war, I believe. The house was bought by Gordon Young and sold when he left in 2000? Note the ‘tin school’ to the right of the church and the gate across the lane above the car park entrance. The Taverners moved to Norfolk – he was an editor with The Scotsman.” Frank also included some other photos of old Penicuik including an annotated one of St James dated c. 1890 (above) which he got from Dave Dyble’s father. It contains an excellent view of the ‘tin school’ and even has the Fuges’ house in the background.

## ***Mothers' Union News***

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

Details of 2007-8 activities will be in the next "Outreach"

## ***"Church must reaffirm its role"***

*Contributed by Mike Hay.*

*At the end of this year's General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the following leader was published by "The Scotsman". Interesting how it echoes some of the sentiments of a leader from "The Times", published in the last edition of "Outreach". Are these the first signs of a move away from materialism?*



IF CHRISTIANITY is centrally a religion of renewal then there should be no such thing as a humdrum church, or a routine meeting of the Church of Scotland General Assembly. This could be said to be all the more so in an age when the secular and the temporal have come to sweep all before them at a huge cost to Western cultural life.

This week's meeting of the General Assembly has been prosaic in the main. This impressively democratic body proceeds majestically to work its way through an agenda of the high-minded and mundane, like some huge but intricate timepiece pulled out of antiquity. As with many organisations, it finds it relatively easy to pronounce on political matters not within its direct control, but grows more hesitant and uncomfortably tongue-tied on matters closer to home.

It has said 'No' to nuclear weapons, and 'Yes' to troops out of Iraq. It has chosen to be less emphatic in its condemnation of the dictatorship in Zimbabwe for fear of the adverse consequences for churches in that country. And it has shelved for another day the issue of gay relationships.

There is much important work that the Assembly undertakes, quietly and conscientiously, that does not attract publicity. But the challenge it faces grows ever more daunting: how, with a relentless decline of its membership, it can undertake the work that has been gifted to it. The question is not what a Christian Church should do in this world, but where can it begin in an era that has seen an unprecedented decline in family life, the spread of drug and alcohol addiction, and the ascendancy of a culture of miserabilism and cynicism when there has never been more material affluence nor the role of the state as welfare dispensary so massively developed.

Much of the crisis in western culture, its vulnerability to further corrosion and its susceptibility to other faiths, can be laid firmly at the denial of the centrality of the spiritual in the daily life of the West.

It is a corrosion that has struck right across society and which accounts for the deep unhappiness and lack of self worth with which millions are afflicted. That is what makes the work of those offering the opportunity of renewal all the more imperative. And it is a corrosion that has struck deep within the Christian Church itself and in the dismal secularisation

of its concerns. We all want to see a better life and to see good being done, but it is spiritual renewal that is the necessary catalyst. That is why it is at the heart of the Church. It is not some therapeutic extra, but the driver of a wiser behaviour. It is this reaffirmation of the central importance of renewal that the General Assembly and the broader Church now most needs to address.

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## ***A Hug***

*Contributed by Catherine Pow*

There's just no doubt about it,  
We scarcely could survive without.  
A hug delights and warms and charms,  
It may be why God gave us arms.

Hugs are great for fathers and mothers,  
Sweet for sisters, even brothers,  
And chances are some favourite aunts  
Love them more than potted plants.

Kittens crave them, puppies love them,  
Heads of State are not above them.  
A hug can break the language barrier,  
And make the dullest day seem merrier.

No need to fret about the store of 'em,  
The more you give,  
The more there are of 'em,  
So stretch those arms without delay,  
And give someone a hug today.

## ***Cornbank Celebrations!***

In 2008 Cornbank St James Primary School will celebrate 40 years in the present building. We are planning some celebrations: these are still in the early stages of organisation but we are putting out feelers already!

We would like to include an exhibition of photos and memorabilia, and maybe a publication of some kind. If there is anyone in the St James family who would be willing to lend material relating to the school's recent or earlier history, particularly before it moved to Cornbank, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Photos and documents can always be scanned and returned if you would not care to lend originals for display. If you have memories to share, please contact: *Georgina Phillips*

## ***Helen & Graham Yapp's visit in July***

A reminder to those who remember the Yapps and are available on Tuesday 10th July to contact me so that we can decide on a venue for the lunch/picnic. *Jean Hindle*

## ***Financial Matters***

### **Kitchen Appeal**

You may recall that in April Outreach I wrote that we were launching an appeal to raise £3300 to repay the money we had borrowed from the Fabric Fund to pay for the kitchen refurbishment. However, as you are no doubt aware, things invariably move slowly at St James, but I can now advise that the appeal is under way at last. Dedicated white envelopes marked 'Kitchen Appeal' are available at the back of the church – please use them. If you are a UK taxpayer please fill in the details on the front so we can increase the value of your gift. The good news is that we have already raised over £2000 through fund raising and donations as will be evident from Kathryn Topham's poster in the hall – so keep the money rolling in and we should soon crack the target.

<b>Collections(£)</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>
Cash	247	239
Gift aid Cash	10	17
Envelopes	974	710
Direct Giving	<u>1290</u>	<u>1490</u>
Total	2521	2456

### **Special Collection May**

AIDS appeal 240

*Graham Smith*

## ***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, remembering in particular:

Betty and Arthur White, John and Joy Ford, June Virtue, Don Mackenzie, Mae Mann, Sarah (aged 8 with Crohn's disease), Elizabeth Black, Marguerite Hay, Ruby Graham, Ralph, Eiliah, Cliff, Lorna Coleman, Eleanor Jack and Margaret Paton. Please pray for Georgina and family following the death of her aunt, the Cole Family and for the family and friends of Hayley in their grief. Also for the family of Madeline McCann praying that she might speedily be reunited with them.

Pray for continued progress towards peace and reconciliation between Lebanon and Israel and for the people of Gaza. For those suffering as a result of natural disasters and from famine and drought. 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 the peoples of countries torn apart by conflict and civil war remembering especially Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan. 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 the work of Penicuik in Africa, remembering especially Rev Charles Makonde and those working to combat the ravages of AIDS in Mombasa and other African countries.

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

Tue 10 July	Helen and Graham Yapp's visit
Sun 5 August	Sea Sunday and Fellowship Lunch
Sun 26 August	"Startup Sunday"
Sun 2 Sept	Church Picnic at Penicuik House, courtesy of the Clerk family

# ***Parish Register***

## **Baptisms**

27th May 2007 (Pentecost) Luke Rehman, Peter Corrigan,  
Murray Corrigan

## **Funeral**

29<sup>th</sup> May 2007 Hayley Porwol, aged 33

## **Wedding**

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2007 Alan Hamilton Gray and Suzanne Claire Alderson

## ***Stop press1 – more thanks!***

Mike and David would like to thank most sincerely all those who helped celebrate their long-service on 16 June, and especially to those who organised a splendid evening and to those who contributed food. We were both completely surprised and overwhelmed by so many kind and appreciative comments! Thank you all!

## ***Stop Press2 – CareVan Soup-maker!***

The CareVan team is in **urgent** need of someone to take on the monthly task of making soup for the Edinburgh homeless. If you feel that you could do this, even on an occasional basis, please contact Barney Hunter (673387) as soon as possible.

## ***"Outreach" on the Web!***

The current edition of the magazine, and previous editions, can now be viewed on the Web. Go to <http://www.stjamespenicuik.co.uk/> and click on the appropriate link at the top of the page.

***The next edition of "Outreach" will be published on Sunday 2 September. Information about events, and contributions should be with the Editor, Graham Smith 673012, 1 Caplaw Way, EH26 9JE, [caplaw@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:caplaw@hotmail.co.uk), by Wednesday 22 August at the latest. If sending by email, please copy to Mike Hay, [mike@hayfamily.co.uk](mailto:mike@hayfamily.co.uk)***

# Contacts at St James

		Phone	Email
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	Revd Frances McLean	675029	frances.mclean@surefish.co.uk
	Revd Dr Neville Suttle	673819	suttle_hints@hotmail.com
<b><u>Vestry: Secretary</u></b>	Nigel Johnston <i>17 Broomhill Road EH26 9EE</i>	674321	drnjohn17@aol.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Graham Smith	673012	caplaw@hotmail.co.uk
<b>Minutes Secretary</b>	Alison Cole	672400	alisonmariecole@btinternet.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
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<b>Alt Lay Representative</b>	Alison Cole	672400	alisonmariecole@btinternet.com
<b>Elected Members:</b>	Des Frantom	678084	lynerlady@aol.com
	Barney Hunter	673387	Bernardmarian.Hunter@tesco.net
	Ruth Green	672146	liverdiet@hotmail.com
	Andy Longmore	677823	andy.longmore@btinternet.com
	Jo Bullough	675549	josephinebullough@hotmail.com
<b>Co-opted Members:</b>			
<b>Fabric Team Leader</b>	Geoff Mather	678081	geoff.mather@midlothian.gov.uk
<b>Social Coordinator</b>	Alan Murray	678610	alan.murray@ee.ed.ac.uk
<b><u>Ministry Team Leaders &amp; Other Officers</u></b>			
<b>Child Protection</b>	Nigel Johnston	674321	drnjohn17@aol.com
<b>Choirmaster</b>	Mike Hay	675761	mike@hayfamily.co.uk
<b>CWF</b>	Joyce Jones	674187	
<b>Flowers</b>	Marion McCluskey	678081	marion.mccluskey@tiscali.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>	Joyce Black	674983	joyce.black1@tesco.net
<b>Organists</b>	David McGavin	675614	david.mcgavin@virgin.net
	Jennifer Edge	673234	jmedge@sagainternet.co.uk
	Jean Hindle	674591	jean@jrhindle.co.uk
<b>Pastoral Visits</b>	Angela Sibley	674211	angelasibley@tiscali.co.uk
<b>Books/magazines</b>	Moirra Johnston	674321	moirajjohnston@aol.com
<b>Prayer &amp; Alpha Courses</b>	Faye Clerk	679777	rclerk@penhouse.demon.co.uk
<b>Rotas</b>	Angela Sibley	674211	angelasibley@tiscali.co.uk
<b>Sacristan</b>	Ros Hay	675761	ros@hayfamily.co.uk
<b>Stewardship Envelopes</b>	Jean Hindle	674591	jean@jrhindle.co.uk
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	Gill Amos	673395	gill.amos@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk
<b>Youth Group</b>	Paul Murray 0131 477 2188		p.r.murray@ed.ac.uk

## **Proud parents and grandparents!**

On May 12, Neville baptised Theresa and David's second baby, Robert William Marwick, at St Devenick's Church in Aberdeen, again using water from the river Jordan, as for the other three grandchildren. Robert was a very special Christmas Eve present to the whole family, especially his brother Peter.



**Cheerful participants at the Africa Fair in May – wonder what's in the Rector's cup?**





**...and more Barbecue photos!**

