



OUTREACH

St. James the Less Scottish Episcopal Church, Penicuik



**Raising funds for Africa
25 April**

Issue No 160 June 2010

Intrepid St James walkers in the Borders



St James Choir memorabilia in the Town Hall on 8 June

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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

The Sundays after Pentecost (along with the Sundays following Epiphany) are usually referred to by Roman Catholics as "Ordinary Time" which is the English translation of *Tempus per annum* ("time through the year").

While the Sunday readings may be unconnected to the seasons of Advent, Lent, Easter or Christmas, there is nothing 'ordinary' about these readings. This year (year C) we will be following the dramatic ministry of Elijah in his striving with Ahab and Jezebel in the Historical Books of the Old Testament as well as memorable portions of two of the Major Prophets (Isaiah and Jeremiah) and two Minor Prophets Hosea and Amos. Between the months of June and October we will follow Jesus and his disciples through the Galilee in a weighty portion of Luke's Gospel running from chapter 7 to chapter 23. Ordinary Time (across the three years of the Revised Common Lectionary which is common to most of the Churches around the world), contains the "meat and potatoes" of the Old and New Testament. As is the case in each

issue of Outreach, you have in your hands a list of what we are going to be reading for the next couple of months and the means, therefore, to study Scripture in concert with the Church throughout the world – on your own and with a Bible translation you are most familiar with.

Ordinary Time is just that: Time - time to read at length and time, even, to make a few notes for yourselves.

When we are ordained as Deacons and Priests we are asked by our Bishops to publicly affirm our belief that the Old and New Testaments “contain all things necessary to salvation”. The question is posed in a uniquely “Anglican” fashion which skirts certain issues relating to the inspiration of Holy Scripture – issues which have divided Christians for many hundreds of years. What has clearly been affirmed, however, by every clergy person who has served at St James’ or St Mungo’s is that these stories are more than narratives relating to the lives and times of the people who figure in them. They are not merely “for their time”. They are epics, story cycles, poems, sermons and pronouncements which relate to our lives, our work, our families and our congregations. They are one of the ways in which contemporary Christians find their lives weighed and challenged, inspired and illumined. God talks to us through the witness of Scripture. And so, in this ordinary/extraordinary season it would be worth all our whiles to read ahead.

Father Rob Warren

Ghana Visitor

Father Emmanuel from Saltponds, Cape Coast is visiting the Diocese in the Autumn. He arrives in September and is staying in West Linton for the month before going to Christ Church, Morningside for October. St James is hosting him in November and this is a chance for all of us to share our faith and culture with him.

If you would like to “entertain” him, coffee, lunch, dinner, day out etc. please let either Rob or myself know so that we can make a provisional plan for his stay.

He has been asked what he would especially like to see/do so we await his reply. This is a two way learning and sharing - we may even get African hymns or learn drumming. It is a unique opportunity for us, so please give this serious consideration. (I know of a couple of groups who have “provisionally booked” him.)

Angela Sibley

And congratulations.....

...to Angela who has just been awarded Penicuik's "**Citizen of the Year**" title for 2010. A great and well-deserved honour in recognition of all Angela's hard work for the Penicuik community.

Mr Bill Fernley, Chairman of Penicuik's Community Council, presented Angela with a framed certificate in the Town Hall on Saturday, 22nd May 2010. Bill commended

Angela for her service to the public especially in regard to her work with the Mothers' Union, locally, nationally and internationally, and for her work with the Saughton Prison Creche run by MU until recently. Bill could vouch personally for Angela's work with the Mothers' Union, since he knew of the care MU had provided in connection with



his mother-in-law, who was a member of St James MU until her death. Angela is much involved with St James church, as well as church work in the diocese of Edinburgh.

Bill commended Angela especially for her work with the Broomhill Day Centre. Angela had been one of the founder volunteers of Broomhill Day Centre back in the early 1980s and is currently Chairman of the Board of Trustees, as well as cook and bottle-washer when required. Angela is a volunteer with Meals on Wheels in Penicuik. He also said that Angela's husband, Alan, had been very supportive of all Angela's work, often taking on household chores to allow her to devote time to all these activities.

[Great news, and very well done from all of us at St James! - Ed]

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.

Hymn lines to ponder:

picked by David McGavin

“What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer”

“Hands that flung stars into space to cruel nails surrendered”

“I am weak, but Thou art mighty, hold me with thy powerful hand”

“Lost in wonder, love and praise”

Choir News

It's June – and it's time to present “Music for a Summer Evening 18” Saturday 12th June at 7.00pm - a potpourri of sacred and secular music to round off the singing year. The first event was devised by Mike in 1993 and included friends from the choir of St Hilda's and St Fillan's Edinburgh and the Penicuik Early Music Group. This year we have friends from most of the other churches in Penicuik singing with us. It has been a great thrill to have them all with us at choir practice over the last few weeks.

Over the past 18 years this event has remained a popular date in the St James' calendar. This year our main theme will focus on the choir's 80th anniversary of affiliation to the Royal School of Church Music and I

hope that the RSCM Secretary for Scotland will be able to be with us. Our invitation is still open to any past members and any potential new members of choir to come and sing the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's 'Messiah' with us on the 12th. So come along and enjoy an evening of music, wine and nibbles. Let's hope the weather plays its part!

Although June sees the end of our regular Thursday night practice, we don't all pack off on holiday at the same time but will continue with our main purpose of leading music Sunday by Sunday, as well as providing an organist rota to St Mungo's, West Linton. I hope that recently you enjoyed the music included in the service on Pentecost and by contrast the band in full swing during the service that celebrated the 10th anniversary of J-Tots (with all the J-Tots adding percussion).

We are always looking for new singers; if you're interested please contact me by email david.mcgavin@virgin.net or phone 01968 675614. Everyone is welcome, including children (so long as they are old enough to read), and there are no auditions.

Happy Birthday J-Tots! - and very happy birthday wishes to Ros!
David

J-Tots' 10th Birthday Celebration

On Sunday 9th May the J-Tots group was delighted to celebrate our 10th birthday with a very special morning service at St James'. Having put the word out on the grapevine we were pleased to welcome around 30 current and former members stretching right back to the early days of the group at the start of the new millennium. The children and their families were welcomed to St James' with the sound of the church bell ringing which added a very special touch. The morning blended a child-friendly service of Holy Communion with favourite elements from J-Tots' worship. It was a joy to hear the whole congregation participating in such J-Tots' classics as "Ding dong goes the bell", "I open my bible and what do I see?" and "Ho, ho, ho hosanna" with great enthusiasm.

The church was decorated with balloons, bunting, J-Tots' artwork and a beautiful tenth birthday floral arrangement made by Ruth Frantom. It was wonderful to have support from Neville, Rob, the vestry, the band,

the choir and our congregation throughout. We were delighted to receive a special birthday message and good wishes from the Bishop. No birthday party would be complete without cake which we shared in the hall afterwards. It was a very happy birthday!

Alison Cole and Cyril the Squirrel [See back cover! - Ed]



Church Women's Fellowship

The date of the next meeting is: 5 July 6.45 for 7pm: meal at Leadburn Inn.

St Margaret's Restorer!

Recently, over a cup of coffee, I had a most interesting discussion with Amanda Bennett, stained glass artist and restorer, who lives in Penicuik and has restored the damaged head of St Margaret in the chancel window.

Amanda grew up in Kendal and went to school there. She attended Kendal Parish Church as a school girl and was fascinated by the windows and this sparked her interest in stained glass. She loved studying the details in the windows, especially of flowers and plants, and loved the colours of light shed by the glass as the sun shone.



She began her art studies in Carlisle, at Cumbria College of Art. She continued her studies at Edinburgh College of Art, first in ceramics and then in stained glass with Douglas Hogg. She graduated in 1992 with a degree in architectural stained glass. Her postgraduate studies were in restoring Medieval glass, working on glass in Wadham College, Oxford, and Windsor Castle. She has learned a great deal from the Medieval artists.

She has worked on restoration projects in Iona Abbey and St Magnus Cathedral, designed a window for the Scottish Parliament and helped make and install a new window in our own St Mary's Cathedral.

We were so lucky to have Amanda here in Penicuik to help us when our window was damaged. She works from a small workshop and kiln next to her house in The Square. She had some fragments of glass to work on from the broken window (*please note – if another window is broken, keep all fragments of glass because they are precious for the restorer*). She was able to piece together broken fragments of glass from the face with tape and use the details for the new design. Only a tiny fragment of the crown was left so Amanda redesigned this herself, in the Arts and Crafts style of the original artist, Charles Eamer Kempe. She started with a piece of pale green glass, painted the detail on to this and fired it in the kiln. It was then fitted into place in the window.

The face and crown of St Margaret have a wonderful luminous 3D quality, standing out from the flat plate of glass. From my position, sitting in the choir, I have an amazing view of the window of the 4

Scottish saints and am able to admire Amanda's beautiful restoration of St Margaret. Thank you, Amanda!

We are so fortunate in St James to have such superb stained glass windows, mostly designed by Charles Eamer Kempe. Because of a bad stammer he was unable to fulfil his desire to become a priest and devoted his life to decorating churches. What lasting beauty he created. His 'signature' is a small wheatsheaf, visible in two of the windows.

Ros

Broomhill Day Centre

Many , many thanks to all who supported the Broomhill Day Centre car-boot sale which was an amazing success raising £1,000 and gaining two new volunteers.

We have the first of our Coffee morning outings in May and another one later in the year. We will also have day outings stopping off for lunch after a scenic ride.

Angela

For Sale

St James the Less polo shirt. Adult Large. Navy blue with embroidered Church logo. Brand new - never worn. £10 ono.

See Marion Mather or call 678081

Merchant Navy Memorial Trust

With our Sea Sunday scheduled for 4 July it is probably an appropriate time to remind ourselves of the enormous debt we owe Merchant Seamen, who, during both World Wars, gave their lives in huge numbers and in the most horrific circumstances - well over 40,000 in WWII - to keep our country from the brink of starvation.

Over the past 18 months a group known as the Merchant Navy Memorial Trust has been in the process of raising money to have a monument erected to Scottish seamen, including fishermen, who have lost their lives at sea in peacetime and in war.

This memorial will be placed on the Shore at Leith in front of what is now the Malmaison Hotel but was built as the Seamen's Home, and will



be unveiled by Princess Anne sometime in November. Information regarding the memorial can be found on the website:
<http://www.merchantnavymemorialtrust.org.uk>

Please pass this information on to anyone you know who might have an interest in the sea.

Nigel Johnston

Penicuik House Garden Open ...

Penicuik House will open its gardens on **Sunday 6th June 2010** from **2pm-5pm**. Admission £5 to include homemade tea in the House. There will also be a plant stall, as well as homemade chutneys, herb oils and vinegars. 20% of the proceeds to St James Church. All offers of help will be gratefully received!

Thank you,
Faye Clerk

....and more Gardens Open

....and If you fancy a trip out to West Linton on a Sunday afternoon, a reminder that on **Sunday 13 June 2010**, a selection of gardens will be open under the Scotland's Gardens Scheme from **2-5pm**. There will be

seven gardens with a wide range of spring flowering plants and shrubs including a vegetable garden, rhododendrons, azaleas, meconopsis, alliums and other interesting plants. Entry £5 (includes all gardens), with homemade teas in St Andrew's Church Hall.

To think about...

Contributed by Marion Mather

Below is a wonderful poem **Audrey Hepburn** wrote when asked to share her 'beauty tips.' It was read at her funeral years later.

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.. For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people. For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry. For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through it once a day. For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone. People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed, and redeemed; never throw out anyone. Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of each of your arms. As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands; one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.

Margaret 'Pearl' Adams (1913-2010) - last of the class

Pearl died around midnight on Grand National Day (April 10th) in her 97th year, marking the end of an era for St. James, she having been the last surviving member from the 'class of 1920' who attended the church's 'tin school' (*pictured below*). Sensing a 'landmark occasion', several members of the choir came to swell the singing at Mortonhall. Pearl's 'Big Race' had begun in Glencorse barracks in 1913 where she was also baptised. She never knew her father because he was Penicuik's first casualty of WW1 in 1914, a first hurdle to be negotiated. When Pearl walked up 'English Lane' to school she would have seen ploughing, sowing and harvesting in progress in the field which then adjoined the church.

Rev. Cyril Mayhew prepared Pearl for confirmation. Her mother re-married a Cobley and Pearl eventually acquired two half-brothers, Willie & Eric, the latter surviving her. Pearl renewed her military connections in



1942 by marrying Tommy Adams in St Mungo's Manse, possibly a hurried arrangement before Tommy went to the front. For her part in the war effort, Pearl helped to make electrical components, first in Glasgow then in London, each move a significant hurdle to be overcome. When peace was declared, Pearl followed Tommy

into the capricious Licence Trade and they occupied a long list of 'hostelries', ending up at the Crown Inn, Penicuik, in the 1960s. Any hopes of a settled life were dashed when Tommy died suddenly in 1969, leaving Pearl devastated: it was as if horse and rider had fallen at the halfway stage, she left to continue life's course rider-less.



Pearl began moving in ever-decreasing circles, taking a job in Alexander's Electrical shop in The Square, about the shortest possible distance from her home in West St. to a place of employment. She found comfort in the Thursday communions at nearby St James. One of her few regular visitors was bachelor brother Willie, who enjoyed lunches and teas prepared by experienced hands. Both liked to worship

in peace and quiet, Willie always being found on the back pew at Evensong; love of solitude seemed to run in the Adams' genes. Other visitors found it difficult to make contact, those from St James hindered perhaps by the coincident need to distribute new 'Free Will' Offering Envelopes!

In the 1990's, Pearl's world shrunk further when she entered sheltered housing in Baldwin Court, remaining there for 14 years. Her determination not to burden anyone was exemplified when she fell during the night and would not pull the Alarm Cord until daybreak! Falls became so regular that Pearl had to be moved to Highbank Nursing Home, Dalkeith. It must have felt like the infamous 'Canal Turn' which brings down so many tiring horses as they make for the 'National' finish. She did not settle, despite regular visits from Frances McLean, whose death greatly saddened her. The next we knew, Pearl had broken her hip in a major fall and was not expected to survive. Against all odds and after prolonged rehabilitation, she made it to Springfield Bank Nursing Home, Bonnyrigg. Now almost completely bedridden and unhappy, staff tried to rally her on Grand National Day by taking her to lunch with other residents and then to watch the race unfold on TV. A local sweepstake added to the excitement but Pearl may have hated every minute and been unaware of the eventual winner, ironically called 'Don't Push It'. It was all too much and she died peacefully that night, so often a challenge to all who tried to care for her.

Neville

LINKS afternoon

There will be a LINKS meeting at St James on June 26th from 1.00pm - 4.00pm. This is an opportunity to hear about the work of the Overseas group in the Scottish Episcopal Church. Do try to come and hear what is being done for us/by us in the world.

Angela

Christian Aid Week

The Christian Aid Lunch at St James raised £445 (plus Gift Aid) and the Christian Aid Collections £634.

Well done and many thanks for your support!

Geoff Mather

Rotas

June 2010 ((Where an alternative reading is given, the first reading is used unless clergy notify readers otherwise))

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

July 2010

	4 July	11 July	18 July	25 July
	Pentecost 6	Pentecost 7	Pentecost 8	Pentecost 9
11.00am Organist	Jean	Jennifer	David	Mike
St Mungo's Organists	David	David	Jean	David
Sidesmen	Catherine Pow Des Frantom	Elizabeth Clark Tom Moffat	Richard Phillips Margaret Coull	Adrian & Karen Marchant
Bread and wine	Young Church	Sibleys	Johnstons	Dicksons
1st reading	<i>2 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>
	Elizabeth Clark	Brigitte Fuge	Adrian Marchant	Val McGavin
2nd reading	<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>
	Richard Phillips	Ian Fuge	Mike Hay	Gill Amos
Gospel	<i>Luke 10:1-11, 16-20</i>	<i>Luke 10:25-37</i>	<i>Luke 10:38-42</i>	<i>Luke 11:1-13</i>
Prayers	Geoff Mather	David McGavin	Val McGavin	Sue Crosfield
Pray for	J Tots	Fabric Team	Jubilee Scotland	Mauricewood House Group
Server	Angela/Steven	Val/	Martin/Alice	Angela/
Coffee	Gillian Little Marion Mather	Frantoms	Mona Bennett Margaret MacLennan	Elizabeth Clark Robert Clerk
Flowers	-----Joan Douglas -----			
Cleaning	Ros Hay Sue Crosfield	Ros Hay Sue Crosfield	???????????????	Marian Hunter Ruth Frantom
Welcomers	Nigel Johnston	McGarvas	Robert Clerk Elizabeth Clark	Andy Longmore Nigel Johnston
Care Van			*	
Pentland House	*			

August 2010

	1 August	8 August	15 August	22 August	29 August
	Pentecost 10	Pentecost 12	Pentecost 13	Pentecost 14	Pentecost 15
11.00am Organist	Jean	Jennifer	David	Mike	David
St Mungo's Organists	David	David	Jean	David	Jean
Sidesmen	Margaret Coull Andy Longmore	Isobel Stenhouse Catherine Pow	McGarvas	Des Frantom Elizabeth Clark	Tom Moffat Richard Phillips
Bread and wine	Children	Clerks	Leavys	Barrets	Sibleys
1st reading	<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>	<i>Jeremiah 2:4-13 or Sirach 10:12-18</i>
	Geoff Mather	Elizabeth Clark	Gillian Little	Joyce Black	Margaret Coull
2nd reading	<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>	<i>Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16</i>
	Marion Mather	Andy Longmore	Alan Murray	Glynis Murray	Fay Clerk
Gospel	<i>Luke 12:13-21</i>	<i>Luke 12:32-40</i>	<i>Luke 12:49-56</i>	<i>Luke 13:10-17</i>	<i>Luke 14:1, 7-14</i>
Prayers	Andy Longmore	Alan Murray	Mike Hay	Elizabeth Clark	David McGavin
Pray for	Clergy Team	Vestry	Mothers' Union	Young Church Leaders	Pastoral Care Team
Server	Angela	Martin/ Stephen	Angela	Val/Alice	Val/Martin
Coffee	Mrs Neish & Family	Frantoms	Mona Bennett Margaret MacLennan	Kathleen Cox Sue Crosfield	Hays Smiths
Flowers	----- Ruth Frantom -----				
Cleaning	Marian Hunter Ruth Frantom	??????????	C & M Leavy	C & M Leavy	?????????/
Welcomers	Elizabeth Clark	McGarvas	Nigel Johnston	Robert Clerk	Andy Longmore
Care Van			St James		
Pentland House			St James		

Mothers' Union News

MU Scottish web address is: <http://www.muscotland.org.uk> or via St James web page link.

Branch News:

On 19 May eight members visited Emmaus House. Rev Andrew Bain, who was MU Chaplain several years ago (*after Philip Crosfield - our first Chaplain*), told us of the work they do in the house and conducted a communion service in the chapel (described as the sauna) in the garden of the house. A delicious soup, bread and cheese lunch was served by Andrew and John Penman. The plastic tablecloth provoked a discussion. It was covered with flowers and bible texts, which could have provided several hours of discussion. Teas and coffees were served in beakers, some with the Emmaus House logo, others with the logo and view of Edinburgh. Members were able to buy some beakers and expressed their appreciation of the hospitality enjoyed.

23 June Lunch Outing to Whitmuir Farm Organic restaurant
22 Sept Opening meeting of autumn session

Central News:

General Meeting Thursday 24 June 2010 in the Guild Hall Preston

Diocese:

28 June 10.30am - 3pm MU Quiet Day at Christ Church Centre, Morningside - to be led by the MU Chaplain, Rev Jennifer Edie.
27 Sept Monday Diocesan Council.

Penicuik for Africa

Belated thanks to all 36 who supported the lunch in person, to those who supported 'from a distance' and those who rolled up their sleeves to provide sustenance (*see picture inside back cover*). Special thanks must go to the two Ruths who supplied and served the delicious soups. Together we added more than £433 to the fund for refurbishing Chitambo Midwifery School. As you should know, rebuilding is in progress and by the time you read this, Jo Vallis will have inspected the progress in person. She may also have set up a local bank account with £3500, to be overseen by two trusted friends - Kim Farmer and Jay Chilishe - in Lusaka, according to the wishes of those at the business

meeting that followed the lunch. Thus we should be able to quickly and economically respond to particular needs as the hostel and classrooms are fitted out, and top up the account as our ongoing fund-raising permits. In the next Outreach we will describe what Jo found in Chitambo by way of flesh on the bones of our bold initiative.

Neville

Mary's Meals

Assistance from members of the congregation would be appreciated for the Fellowship Lunch on 27 June in aid of 'Mary's Meals'. This is an international charity involved in feeding children in areas where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education. £9 can feed a child for a year. The low administrative costs of 3% mean that 97% of all donations is actually used for this purpose. John Helliwell, representative of Mary's Meals, has offered to come to tell those who attend more about the charity

Margaret Coull

Omega-where are you?

We finished our Post-Easter course after squeezing in an extra meeting on the eve of the election. 'Wisdom' had figured strongly in Marcus Borg's analysis of the 'Pre-Easter Jesus'* so we looked for that kind of wisdom in the various manifestos but could only find fragments in what the Green Party had to offer. In Borg's chapter on 'Jesus and Politics', compassion for society dominated His approach. Looking at the various manifestos through the lens of compassion, we were surprised to find the Christian Party's policies 'compassion-lite'. Comparing the social policies of the major parties, all three looked set to increase the demand for compassion in our communities through large cuts in expenditure. Could this lead to a 'Decade of the Really Useful Church'?

We considered how we might become (and be seen to become) more compassionate. Regular briefing meetings of the 'Pastoral Care' group in the Peace Chapel, immediately after morning worship and centred upon a returned 'Prayer Needs' folder, were suggested. A 'Community Page' in Outreach could feature compassionate activities involving church members or facilities (e.g. Broomhill Day Centre and Childbirth

Trust). Collaboration in works of compassion might be promoted by a diary of forthcoming 'compassionate events' in Penicuik. The impact of council expenditure cuts on compassionate services, such as 'Day Care' and 'Help in The Home', could be monitored with the help of the churches' rep. on Midlothian Council, Paul Hayes.

The final chapter of 'Meeting Jesus Again For The First Time'* took us through what Borg calls the 'three Macro Stories' of the Old Testament, the Exodus, the Exile and the Priestly Story . Each story was recalled to shape the image of the 'Pre-Easter Jesus', launched in the Gospels, and the image of the 'Post-Easter Jesus', launched by the Early Church via the Creeds. Like booster rockets used to launch a satellite, they may have clung on too long and now limit the reach of Jesus in the 21st Century. The thought of letting go of a few cherished tenets furrowed some brows but the primary objective of the group is to enable our church to attract new members and there was general agreement that there are perhaps too many hoops for seekers to jump through. Following the success of the J-Tots service, we will be looking at fresh ideas and material for involving children in worship, during our hols.

But did we meet Jesus again as Borg's title had suggested we might? On the whole the answer was "No" for we 'activists' but the book is really meant for the jaded and disillusioned. Furthermore, some were reading the book for a second time! Nevertheless, we were refreshed and saw ways of possibly refreshing St James. We will reconvene in the autumn to study Borg's more recent (2003) book, 'The Heart of Christianity'. As a practical exercise we will try to devise a 'seeker-friendly' service for possible use on a 'fifth Sunday'. The hope would be that the whole congregation would participate by bringing a friend (or stranger?!). Why not join the group for some more refreshment?!

Neville

* If anyone would like to play 'catch up', I have a 'mint' copy, price £8.

Glencorse Old Kirk ...

We recently had the opportunity to visit Glencorse Old Kirk with the History Group of U3A. Despite living here for over 30 years, we didn't even know it existed, let alone where it was. Shame on us! We had a most interesting visit, and learned a lot of the history.

Glencorse was a joint parish with Penicuik until 1611, when it achieved separate status. The original church building had been St Katherine-in-the-Hopes, now submerged beneath the water of Glencorse Reservoir. Glencorse Kirk was built in 1647, on a knoll between Loganbank and Glencorse House. It suffered several disasters, and was damaged by fire several times before being rebuilt in 1669. Further renovation in 1811 unearthed the old font, which was later transferred to the “new” church in 1885 – the present day Glencorse Kirk.

The old building lay in ruins, until, in the 1980’s, the present owners, the McCaig family, started a major programme of renovation. The work was finally completed in 2002 in time for their daughter’s wedding – the first in over a hundred years. Today, although no longer a church, it is used regularly for weddings.

Only the external walls remained when restoration began. It is now a sympathetically restored building, a simple interior with a magnificent new wooden roof. On the outer walls, at the top of the stairs to the lairds’ lofts, can be seen crests of important families. There is a small gatehouse, possibly used to keep watch over the graves. The graveyard was reclaimed, and contains many interesting tombstones.



Robert Louis Stevenson was extremely fond of Glencorse, describing it as “the finest place on earth”. He visited often, in the days when it would not have been obscured by trees as now. It is thought that he was inspired to write *St Ives*, a story of an escaped French Napoleonic POW, after seeing in the graveyard the inscription ICI REPOSE CHARLES COTTIER DE DUNKERQUE MORT LE 8 JANVIER 1807.

There was also what RLS called the “pathetic” memorial; a copy is in the new Kirk, the original in process of restoration by the McCaigs. This

was a hand-carved inscription on a wooden-framed slate to a seven-month baby. Look, too, for the “draperied” and “squint” stones.

We were fortunate to have this opportunity. The building is in private ownership and not open to the public, except by arrangement.

Georgina Phillips

Treats for Troops

A reminder about the boxes at the back of the Church. For those not sure of what to put in here are some suggestions: pot noodles, crisps, biscuits (not chocolate for obvious reasons but I have heard it causes great hilarity when it is attempted to separate the melted choc.), toiletries as usual, magazines, sweets and anything you think might cheer the girls and boys up. These gifts are greatly appreciated by those who receive them and are a small reminder that they are remembered by us all. Remember them in your prayers and also their families.

Margaret Coull

Choir exhibition

David McGavin and Ros Hay had a great idea for an exhibition celebrating the Choir’s eighty years affiliation to the Royal School of Church Music. This was to be part of the weekly Open House sessions hosted by Penicuik Community Development Trust in the Town Hall. The morning of Saturday 8 May 2010 saw much flurry and scurry as David, Ros, Richard and Georgina assembled the display. Ros and Margaret Coull, (St James’ Archivist), had trawled the church archives, resulting in an amazing amount of printed matter and photographs. Added to these were many old photos from the McGavin family archive!

As there was too much material to be shown then, it is hoped that this can be developed into a comprehensive history of the music at St James. Margaret had found a fascinating item reporting an Episcopalian choir singing at the funeral of the three miners from St James who died in the Mauricewood Pit disaster in 1889: Thomas Adams, William Urquhart and John Fraser (uncle to Isaac Palmer).

The background music was a compilation of pieces sung by the choir over the years. A montage of photos showing the diverse life of St James was projected on to the wall and attracted much attention. Everyone loves to see old photos and these prompted memories and discussion. We managed to identify a few more faces in the photos, but still have a lot of gaps. Ian Fuge had brought along the processional cross and was an impressive presence in choir robes, along with a robed Ros and Richard!



It was a busy morning, with lots of people to talk to. Thanks to everyone who helped and visited the exhibition. Penicuik Library will be showing part of the collection in their foyer later in the year; watch out for the date, and if you missed seeing it earlier, do go along then.

This is an ongoing project which relies on the collective memory of folk at St James and in the wider community. If you have any material relating to any aspect of St James' history, Margaret Coull would be delighted to hear from you. Remember, you do not need to part with original documents or photos – these can be scanned and the copies added to the archive. We appreciate your continuing support.

David

How about a concert?

Sacra Musica Transatlantica - Josquin to Palestrina: a concert with two choirs

Rutgers University Collegium Musicum, director: Andrew Kirkman
and

Edinburgh University Renaissance Singers, directors: Noel O'Regan and David Seers

Sunday 6th June 7.45pm at the Canongate Kirk, Royal Mile, Edinburgh
Admission available on the door of £7 (concessions: £4)

The programme will include music from the Medici Codex of 1518 with works by Festa, Josquin, Mouton and Palestrina.

Kathryn Topham (publicity secretary, EURS)

Climb Kilimanjaro 2010

for the Mothers' Union

In June, four members of staff at Mary Sumner House, the headquarters of the Mothers' Union, are going to climb Kilimanjaro to raise funds for the Overseas Fund which has been severely hit by the financial crises.

Work in some of the poorest countries of the world has been shelved; projects already running will continue, but not be expanded to other areas, e.g. the Literacy programme in sub Saharan Africa.

The Development Officers, previously called MU Workers, have had their travel grants cut by two thirds!! Some already walk up to three days to visit isolated villages not always on dusty, rutted roads, but on jungle tracks some of which wind round or over the mountains! They encourage worship, Bible study and Prayer groups, teach good basic hygiene and encourage family life. They also help start income generating projects for the village. This is **not** only to mothers' Union members or Christians, but to the **whole village** regardless of faith. These girls are not climbers, but they see the escalating need for our work to continue and expand and want to help.

During the next weeks, we will have a Donation form if you wish to support this venture. Remember, we are tasked by Jesus to help our neighbour and His answer to "Who is my neighbour?"

With our thanks.

Angela

Daffodils quiz ...

Thanks to all who bought, and returned, a copy of our quiz. Here are the answers:

1. William Wordsworth 2. rose 3. Wales 4. Beatles 5. flower 6. Tour de France 7. St David 1st March 8. China 9. Lent Lily 10. oak 11. Alien 12. Paul Gascoigne 13. Marie Curie 14. Jonquil 15. Narcissus

Several all-correct entries were received; the first out of the hat was: Ruth and Des Frantom, who receive a small seasonal prize.

Congratulations!

Georgina

Christian magicians and clowns

Throughout my teens, I went to Scripture Union camps every summer. There was almost always a magician among the staff — several of them Church of England ministers. Christian magic has been around a long time, before the FCM started. Indeed, magical demonstrations such as the ‘decollation of John Baptist’ were included in mediæval mystery plays. In 1951, York revived these, and they continue to be performed in several towns.

Holy Fools UK is an organisation of Christians from all denominations. The majority perform as holy fools (clowns) in churches and church events nationwide and they adopt their own clown names. The aim of Holy Fools is to explore how clowning, miming, puppetry, dance, storytelling and allied arts can be used in ministry and worship and to enable their practitioners to develop their skills.

Richard Phillips

[Material for the article below is adapted from an article by Toby Travis.]

“Jesus (and his followers) used many illustrations in his teaching. These were mostly verbal. In our times, other forms of illustration have become possible, including ‘magic’. We can find at least two meanings for the word magic in the dictionary. First we find: ‘The art of producing effects by what are claimed to be SUPERHUMAN or SUPERNATURAL means by occult powers’. Even a brief study of the Scriptures will clearly show what is given in this definition is forbidden by God. A second definition is: ‘The art of applying NATURAL means, whose operation is secret, to produce a surprising effect’.

This defines what entertainers (called magicians or illusionists) do today. A careful study of every original Hebrew or Greek word in the Bible that has been translated wizard, sorcerer, etc. can only be defined by the first definition. It is important for Christians to recognise at the outset of this discussion that the Bible does not categorically condemn magicians. The supernatural should not be used to explain everything beyond a person's understanding.

(Georgina's cousin), and Mairi (Ian Fuge's sister) as she faces the next stage of her treatment.

Also for Kathryn Topham's aunt and uncle, Paddy and Geoff, in Hull who are still going through a difficult time. Continue to pray for the continuing recovery of Alan Murray. Pray for the families and friends of Robert Blair and Sally Mclean, as they mourn their loss. Pray also for Karen Marchant and family. Pray for the family and friends of Pearl Adams, who died at the age of 96, St James' oldest member. Give thanks for the success of Jim McGarva's hip operation, and pray for his continued speedy recovery. Pray for Lauren, experiencing a very difficult pregnancy.

Pray for all who are victims of natural disasters throughout the world; for the helpless and the helpers as they seek to rebuild their lives. Pray that aid reaches those for whom it is intended.

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.

Pray for all members of the new Parliament at Westminster; for the Government that they may seek not personal glory but the common good.

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.

(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...

June 2010

Wed 2 June Vestry 7.30pm
Sun 6 June 2-5pm Open afternoon at Penicuik House
7.45pm EURS Concert: Canongate Kirk, Royal Mile, Edinburgh
Sat 12 June 7.00pm Music for a Summer Evening
Sun 13 June 2-5pm Gardens Open in West Linton
Sat 26 June 1-4pm Links meeting in Church Hall
Sun 27 June Fellowship lunch in aid of "Mary's Meals"

July 2010

Sun 4 July Sea Sunday
Tue 6 July Vestry 7.30pm

August 2010

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

October 2010

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

Outreach subscriptions...

If you receive "Outreach" regularly and haven't yet contributed for this year, please do contribute, either in the church offering plate, or directly to the Treasurer, Graham Smith, 1 Caplaw Way, Penicuik, EH26 9JE. £10 is the suggested annual amount.

Outreach can also be viewed on the St James website: <http://www.stjamespenicuik.co.uk> **The July/August 2010 double edition will be published on Sunday 4 July. Information about events, and contributions, should be with the Editor, Georgina Phillips 661039, Merlewood, The Loan, West Linton, EH46 7HE, phillg13@toucansurf.com, by Wednesday 23 June at the latest. If sent by email, please copy to Mike Hay, mike@hayfamily.co.uk.**

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The interior of Glencorse Old Kirk (see article by Georgina)

Thanks for the lunch, ladies!



**J-Tots is 10!
Many congratulations!**

