

TC Members, Helen and Bill McCall celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary.



His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Midlothian, Sarah Barron, Bill McCall, Helen McCall, and Midlothian Provost Cllr Debbi McCall.

Trinity Community Church members, Helen and Bill McCall, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on 3rd July 2025.

The diamond anniversary proved to be a special family occasion with their daughter Councillor Debbi McCall, the Provost of Midlothian, paying a visit along with His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Midlothian, Sarah Barron, to present the couple with flowers and a card from King Charles 3rd.

Helen and Bill first met as neighbours in the Inch area of Edinburgh in the 1960's and enjoyed a long engagement while Bill worked in London as a plumber – which included work at 10 Downing Street.

Married in July 1965, Helen's sisters Marjory and Margaret were her bridesmaid and flower girl. Bill's brother Robert was his best man.

Helen and Bill moved to Penicuik in 2004. Both are members of the Kirkhill Bowling Club. While Bill does not play bowls as much now, Helen continues to play in lots of tournaments during the summer.

They are also active members of Trinity Parish Church. Helen makes jams, marmalades, and lemon curds, selling them to raise funds for the church. Helen is also a fund raiser for Leprosy Mission Scotland. Bill is a member of Penicuik Men's Shed and Penicuik Probus.

Helen and Bill are at their happiest when surrounded by their extended family.

Trinity Community Diary

3 August 3.30 to 5.30pm	Messy Church - Church Hall
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 August 7.15pm	Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting. - Church Hall
4, 11, 18, 25, August 7.00pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Details Kathleen Downey 07985 294495
4, 11, 18, 25, August 7.15pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details Sheena Dawe 07810 477597
4, 11, 18, 25, August 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Various homes. Details Ruth Aird rutheaird@outlook.com
4, 11, 18, 25, August 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details from Neil & Joan Cape 674276
5, 12, 19, 26 August 10.00am	Tuesday House Group - Details Mary Darling 01968 660585.
5, 12, 19, 26 August 7.00pm	Tuesday House Group - Various homes. Details Caroline McIntosh 07747 894046
14, 21, 28 August 10am to 12noon	Thursday Coffee and Chat - Church Hall
20 August 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Church Hall
27 August 10.45am	Friendship Group - Church Hall
29 August 7.30pm	Inter church Quiz Night - Church Hall
2 September 7.00 to 9.00pm	Tuesday Youth Bible Group (TYBG) - Contact Ann 07974 605590 or Andrew 07580 593504
7 September 3.30 to 5.30pm	Messy Church - Church Hall

Pastoral Care - Please remember that we are always here for church members and for anyone in the community, and you are welcome to phone (in confidence) at any time for a chat, prayer, or to source other help or to request a visit;
Either: John Urquhart (01968 382116; Margaret Webster (01968 672347 or 07761 096 472) or Wilma Wilson (07719 665505)

WHAT'S ON FOR KIDS IN THE PENICUIK CHURCHES?

We hope your kids have enjoyed this holiday club and had a lot of fun hearing about God and Jesus.
What now?
Here's some information to let you know what the churches in Penicuik offer children and teenagers.

KIDSPACE

Sunday 11am - 12 noon
Trinity Community Church Hall
Kirkhill Road

A dedicated space for children during the church service. Songs, bible story, crafts, and colour in or draw the story, toys for little tots. Space for grown ups if they wish to stay with their children
All welcome!

MESSY CHURCH

Time to be arranged
Trinity Community Church Hall
Kirkhill Road

Crafts, stories, hot meal
For families with primary age children

No charge
Contact: Joan on 674276 or find Messy Church Penicuik on Facebook

TYBG

Tuesday Youth Bible Group
Tuesday evenings in school term-time.
Re-starts Tuesday 2nd September from 7-9 pm.
Age group is 12-17 (S1-S6).
Contact: Ann - 07974605590
Andrew - 07580 593504

YOUNG KIRK

Sunday 11am-12noon
North Kirk
John Street

A dedicated space for children & young people during the church service

SJYC

St James Young Church
Dues to be confirmed
St James-the-Less Church
Brookhill Road

Activities are adapted to suit the ages of the children and young people attending

BOYS BRIGADE

Friday Evenings
6.30- 7.30pm Anchors/Juniors
7.30- 10pm Company/Seniors
North Kirk John Street
Fun, games and much more for boys in P1 - S6
Contact:
4lledinburgh@boys-brigade.org.uk

SU SCRIPTURE UNION

Penicuik High School
Wednesday 1.10pm - 1.40pm
Contact: Caroline - 07507640373
Andrew - 07580 59350
Blonkade High School
Contact: Derek - 07427617428

PENICUIK CHURCHES TOGETHER

Planned Guests for Heart of the Matter August 2025

<https://www.heartofthematter.biz/>

Date	Guest	
3 Aug	Dani Fonseca	City on a Hill South Community Pastor
10 Aug	Alison Stevens	Tutor and Trainer Midlothian
17 Aug	Gold 50	A special from the archives
24 Aug	Rev Dr Fergus Macdonald	Edinburgh
31 Aug	TBA	

Weekly Broadcasting Schedule
Black Diamond FM 107.8: Sunday 9 am. and 7 am. (repeat)
Crystal FM 107.4: Sunday at 11 am., 12 midnight, Sunday, Tuesday 11am.
Alive FM: 107.3: Sunday 12 noon, Tuesday 1 am.
All above on FM and online





HOLIDAY ISSUE

TC News

AUGUST 2025

Newsletter of Penicuik Trinity Community Church

You can read this newsletter at Penicuik Trinity Community Church website <https://www.penicuiktrinitycommunity.church>. To sign up for an eCopy of this newsletter to be sent direct to your inbox each month, saving paper and other resources, just send a request email to penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com

Church mouse

From the mouse of Editor's PC

Welcome to this August 'Holiday issue' of your monthly newsletter.

Many of our contributors are taking their summer holidays. Your editor too had a few days away taking in some of this glorious sunshine, when it appears. God's creation of our world is always spectacular, but the sunshine does put the icing on the cake.



Ann Dunsire has returned from her amazing trek across Africa. Read her story in this issue. Ann also has a full account that she is willing to share, just contact her on 07974 605590 for a copy.

The Inter church Quiz Night. is always a light hearted, often amusing trek across many subjects testing our knowledge to come up with at least plausible answers. Smart Alec, our quiz trophy and the winners prize will be there watching nobody tries to cheat.

Regular church members and contributors to our church community, Helen and Bill McCall celebrated their diamond anniversary, 60 years of marriage.

Jim Paterson
Newsletter Editor
penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com

KidSpace celebrates first anniversary

Launched in July 2024 Kidspace has become a regular feature of our Sunday services where young children can meet separately to take part in stories that are Bible based, educational, creative and interactive. The goal is to teach children what it means to enjoy God's Word and how to apply it.



The team of helpers has grown over this first year leading primary age and under 5's in activities which include stories, games, worksheets, crafts, worship and prayer. If you're thinking Messy Church, then you're on the right track. Kidspace is focused on young visitors while the family adults worship in the main Sunday service.

While families are worshipping in the church the Kidspace team and children, after the All Age Talk, move to the room upstairs in the church which was refurbished to support a variety of new activities, before returning toward the end of the service .

Please pray for the success of this new venture helping children engage with God's word, exploring it and applying it. Always room for volunteers to join the helpers team If you would like to know more speak to Ruth Aird or Joan Cape.

THE QUIZ IS BACK

Interchurch Quiz Night – 29 August



7.30pm in the Trinity Community church hall on Kirkhill Road.

For more information contact Margaret Black 673399.

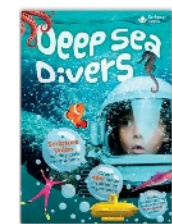
on the night.

There will be light refreshments and entry is free. Come along and enjoy the fun.

Holiday Club - 30 July - 2 August

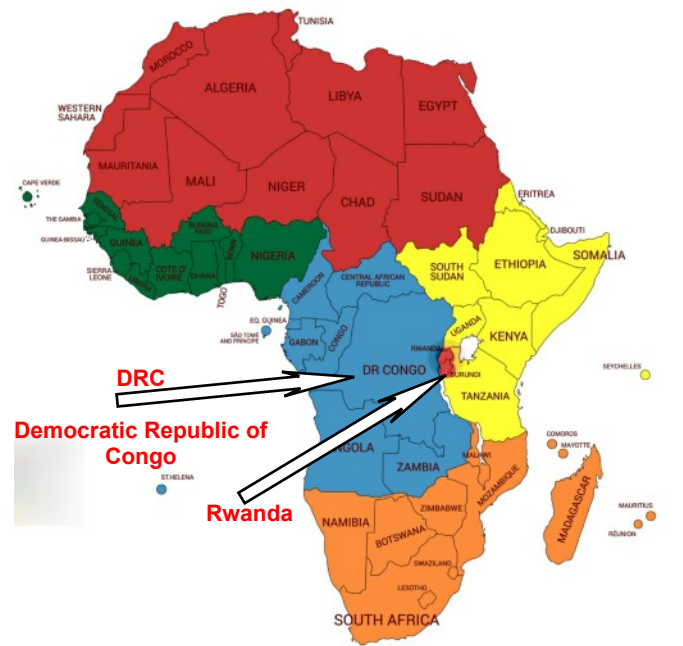
By time you read this the Holiday Club will have reached its conclusion.

This years theme focused on Matthew's Gospel; the birth and baptism of Jesus, Jesus forgiving and healing a man who can't walk, Jesus telling a story about a pearl, Jesus walking on water and more. With an ocean explorer theme, with optional challenges the primary school age kids had a 'whale' of a time at the Deep Sea Divers club! Full story soon.



Ann Dunsire - My Trek across Central Africa

Report & pictures from Ann Dunsire



community came together and we made a huge line, some of our team making the mud by trampling it with their feet, before big lumps of it were passed along, to end up in brick shaped moulds, to then dry out for a few days. After working on this for several hours, we all came together to share music, testimonies and information about the project. We were then treated to trays of the most fabulous pineapple I've ever had in my life! Was amazing as we were all so hot and hungry by that point!



Many thanks to all who supported me in prayer and encouragement during my recent trip to Rwanda and DRC, I'm so incredibly grateful to you, as all of the very specific prayer requests I had were positively answered.



Comfort International is the most incredible charity, supporting all the different projects in such practical, helpful ways, and it was an absolute privilege to be on this trip. All the initial fears I had about many things completely disappeared once I was there. Right up until the moment of reaching the border in DRC, I still

didn't know whether I would be admitted, due to my yellow fever exemption, so was definitely travelling in faith, but passed through without any problems, there being no-one in the Yellow Fever checkpoint and no-one stopped us going into the building where we then had to sign out of Rwanda and into DRC.



making 150 mud bricks (6,000 required though!)

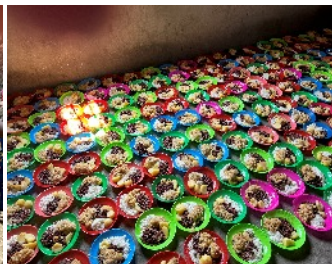
The whole trip was the most amazing experience ever, from beginning to end. The warmth and kindness of all the people we met was overwhelming.

Worked with an absolutely brilliant team of 14, the oldest being 78 and the youngest just 14. Many, many heartbreaking moments but also many moments of total joy, being able to help in so many projects. One of my absolute favourite days was helping make 150 mud bricks (6,000 required though!) in a pineapple field. The whole

On one of the days we travelled to a fairly remote village where we were helping with the building of a new house for one of the genocide widows who was looking after her two young grandchildren but whose current 'house' was just a dilapidated shack.



Such a moving moment as she wouldn't even let us all put our bags down until she had laid down a bamboo mat for them. We were flattening the ground in front of the new house to be built and were soon joined by many, many children, again forming a line and passing big rocks along, they're all so strong and innovative, one tiny girl putting her croc (shoe!) on her head as a cushion so she could pile more rocks on!



We attended many different projects and heard lots of heartbreaking stories about what had happened to people during the genocide, so many people having lost all their family members. It's hard to even fathom how they can move on from that, but the sense of community and the way people care about each other is such a healing part of their journey. On one of the days when we went to a group of genocide survivors, there were many more people than we had anticipated. We had bought 80 donuts and 40 rolls and about



100 bananas, so people could have either a donut or roll. We wondered how on earth we were going to feed all these people and started to give the food out, praying it would somehow stretch! It did and we even had 4 rolls left over! Gave those to the closest group of 4 boys I could see as, having 4 grandsons, I know boys are always hungry!

Moving into DRC was a very different experience, as the abject poverty became much worse and much more visible.



We visited the hospital which had been looted & ransacked earlier this year, as the team had been asked to open a new maternity part, and heard how very difficult it was for the staff to keep going, due to the constant sense of danger, and the complete lack of resources.



Visiting the schools, it was so hard to see the desperate state they were in, without even a concrete floor, as those were too expensive, so just massive rocks on the ground, barely any roofs and broken benches and tables.

Teachers have to check for snakes before every lesson as if any child gets bitten, they have to get taken to hospital, which then costs the school money. The completely dedicated teachers receive no salary as there is no money to pay them. Comfort International have wonderful sponsorship schemes, so some of the teachers are sponsored, which makes a massive difference to them.



The very hardest day was the one where we went to an orphanage where, as well as the 27 orphans resident, around 400 other



starving children were there, who only receive food twice a week. It was abject chaos as we tried to feed all of them with a simple meal of rice, beans & potatoes, there really wasn't any organised way to do it, so that was the most heartbreaking day, especially when the food ran out and we still had many children to feed. We were able to share the team's lunch as much as we could among them, although it definitely wasn't enough to fill them up.

I will never forget the most powerful worship I've ever experienced in my life at every single project we were in, most especially with the Children of Liberty (ex child soldiers) who had formed a choir.



Their singing was so beautiful and incredibly moving. Given what these young people have had to endure and been made to do, it was just amazing to hear them worship God in the way they did. Similarly, with the Street Kids Rescue Project where 46 children had been rescued from the rubbish dump and whose lives have been completely turned around by the Project.



Rubbish dump street kids before and after

Very last day in Congo & we're now back in Rwanda before heading to the airport late tonight for the first leg of the journey.



I had so many fears about this trip, all of which disappeared once being here & cried so much as we left the Congolese church this morning as the whole experience, particularly in Congo, has just been incredible. Beauty in such brokenness, astonishing. Arrived for church at 9 and left at 12.30 to drive back to Rwanda, though service would still be ongoing for ages after that!

There's so much more to say about this two week experience, but not enough space or time here to share it. Hopefully, there will be an opportunity to share more at some point but for now, if anyone would like to know more about the many different ways of being involved, check out the Comfort International website.'

<https://comfortinternational.org/>