

Ann Dunsire Africa Trip July 2025

Ann Dunsire is heading off on a trip to Rwanda/DRC with the Comfort International charity, who her son-in-law Chris works for as their Creative Manager. She will be going with Chris and a team of 14 from 7-21 July. If you'd like to follow along with what the team are doing, please feel free to follow the charity on their Facebook and/or Instagram sites for the latest updates, as they'll be giving out all the official information.



We've been asked to pack a trowel and gloves as we'll be helping with bricklaying of the Comfort Transformation Centre, which is a huge Centre the charity are currently building for street children in Rwanda. Just heard we've also to help with building a new house for a widow with 4 children as her current one is too old to be repaired.

The charity currently has a fundraising appeal for the Transformation Centre and anyone who'd like to host a Potato & Pudding party to raise part of the remaining £27,000 needed for the

Wanted: Community researcher for mapping provision for children and families in Penicuik

The aim is to find out, through personal interaction, what is being done for our target group (children and families) and what gaps there are in provision (and when they occur) with results presented in a report.



Some experience of this kind of project is desirable; but the ability to plan and work diligently and produce a coherent report is necessary.

The timescale for this is 2 to 3 months, starting as soon as practicable.

We want to recruit a person to help develop a record of what we know already, (including schools, social work, and similar agencies, but also, informal groups, local food pantries, advice and information services, uniformed organisations, toddlers' groups and churches).

An honorarium of £1,000 will be available for the person to undertake this short-term research.

More information is available from:

John Urquhart
Parish Minister, Penicuik Trinity Community Church

Trinity Community Diary

6 July 3.30 to 5.30pm	Messy Church - Church Hall
6, 13, 20, 27 July 7.15pm	Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting. - Church Hall
7, 14, 21, 28, July 7.00pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Details Kathleen Downey 07985 294495
7, 14, 21, 28, July 7.15pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details Sheena Dawe 07810 477597
7, 14, 21, 28, July 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Various homes. Details Ruth Aird rutheaird@outlook.com
Summer break	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. on summer break. Returns August
Summer break	Tuesday Youth Bible Group (TYBG) - on summer break. Returns Tuesday 2 September
8, 15, 22, 29 July 10.00am	Tuesday House Group - Details Mary Darling 01968 660585.
8, 15, 22, 29 July 7.00pm	Tuesday House Group - Various homes. Details Caroline McIntosh 07747 894046
Summer break	Wednesday Bible Study Group - on summer break. Returns 20 August
Summer break	Thursday Coffee and Chat - on summer break. Returns Thursday 14 August
29 July - 1 August 10.00am - 12 noon	Holiday Club: Deep Sea Divers - Church Hall. Details Agnes Haggart or Ruth Aird
Summer break	Friendship Group - on summer break. Returns Thursday 27 August

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)

Centre, is welcome to think about that. Maybe we could do a church lunch to help!

The trip will also involve many other things, including crafts & games with children, helping to cook and serve food, engaging the children through Bible stories and participating in Rwandan traditional dances and Scottish dances, teaching the alphabet and counting and working with the Comfort Babies (nursery children).

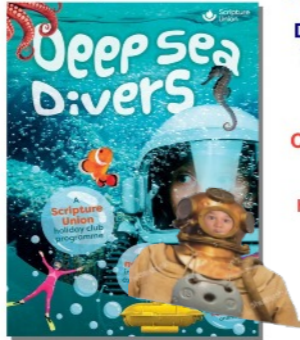
We'll have two Sundays there so have been told that their church services can last many hours, with different choirs singing & dancing before the actual service even starts, so kind of different to a CofS service!!

Rwanda will be from 7-15 July, then DRC from 16-21st but not all the team will go to DRC, just some. I'm still awaiting an update as to whether I can go there or not as I have Yellow Fever Exemption so unclear whether that will be accepted.

Would appreciate prayers during this trip as it's all come about very unexpectedly but I've had such clear direction that this is the right thing to do, and am looking forward to all its challenges!

Just glad that I'll have my son-in-law and all the team with me!

Holiday Club - 29 July to 1 August 10am to 1.30pm



Deep Sea Divers is the theme for this years Holiday Club held in TCC Hall

For primary age children

Cost: £3 per day or £10 for all 4 days

To book your childs place go to <https://form.jotform.com/250844701845358>

To give financially please contact Agnes Haggart or Ruth Aird.

Planned Guests for Heart of the Matter July 2025

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



Date	Guest	
6 July	Peter Greig	National Prayer Breakfast for Scotland 24-7 Prayer
13 July	Dr Berhane Asmelash	Eritrea's Unlikely Revolutionary
20 July	Martyn Link	The Business Connection
27 July	Gold 50	A Special From The Archives

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



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

Annual Congregational Meeting - 15 June Session Clerk: Neil Cape

The Annual Congregational Meeting (held this year on Sunday 15th June) looks backward to the previous calendar year, and forward to the second half of the current year and beyond. It gives space to ask – what did we do well, or not so well? How were our hopes realised? Is this year going as well as we thought?

It's good to take time to look back 6 months to the end of 2024, remembering where we have been as a congregation, and how what we did then has affected our life as a congregation now. The most obvious change is the completion of the project to remove the central pews, and replace them with a level floor, with carpet and chairs. It turned out to be a lot more complicated than we thought, as I'm sure you're well aware, and our thanks go especially to Gordon MacDonald for master-minding all the twists and turns of the building work.

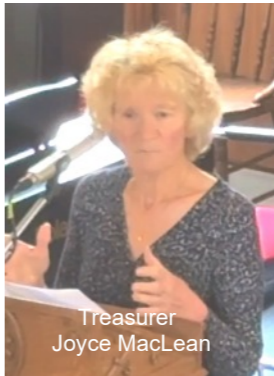


On top of that was the legal requirement to make safe the Bell Tower in the graveyard, which we had thought was part of the graveyard, and owned by Midlothian Council. Fortunately, the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland permitted us to spend the money required to fix the walls and roof (still to be completed); at least we had funds from the sale of Howgate and Penicuik South buildings – funds which can only be spent on building repairs, although that may change in future.



Although on paper our congregation appears to have very generous 'reserves', these cannot be generally used for the day-to-day running costs of the congregation. In the first half of 2025 our income (from members' giving, hall rentals, fund-raising and interest on investments) pretty well matched our regular expenditure (contributions to the Church of Scotland to pay ministers' salaries and related costs, gas and electricity for the church and halls, routine maintenance of all our buildings, the Council Tax on the manse, insurances, photocopying....).

However, the projected expenditure for the second half of this year significantly exceeds our projected income, as explained by the Treasurer, so we all need to review our giving to the church if we are to 'pay our way', let alone embark on new projects like the proposed Breakfast Club at the High School.



Apart from buildings and finances, and the proposed Breakfast Club, we can rejoice in the ongoing young people's group (Tuesday Youth Bible Group), and the provision of activities



for children on a Sunday morning (Kidspace) which started in 2024 and is continuing, but needs extra helpers.

Please pray and think about your contribution to the work of the congregation, not just in terms of money, but also in terms of your talents and time. There are always jobs to be done, not all of which need particular expertise, but just enthusiasm and a willingness to be involved more deeply in our congregation's plans and ongoing work to build Christ's kingdom here in Penicuik.

The SU Holiday Club (29 July to 4 August) is the latest in a long line of summer holiday clubs, as a joint venture with other Penicuik Churches under Scripture Union's leadership – please pray that youngsters will be signed up in good time, and that the target of 30 children will be achieved – so that the good news of Jesus' love can be spread to families who may be unaware of just how wonderful that is.

Prayer is something that everyone can be involved in, and is more important than all our money, time and talents, because we need God's guidance and involvement in all our activities if they are to fulfil his purposes – and it's something we can all do. Please set aside time in the coming days, weeks and months to try praying.....and if you need help with that you could use the 'Try Praying' booklet, then pass it on to someone else. You could use our monthly Prayer Bulletin to inform yourselves about what is going on, where help and specific prayer are needed, so that we can realise the vision of the video shown at the Annual Meeting – of a church growing, reaching all ages, and bringing Christ's love to our community. If you missed this, or want to see it again, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBkhgo5QDkw>.



I wish you a relaxing and peaceful summer....if you are away from home, why not visit a local church where you are (the language doesn't matter – remember what happened at Pentecost!), and discover that God's word does indeed cover the Earth. See the full meeting at <https://youtu.be/D3aaGWmfzzM>

Renew 26

A café style space where it's ok
not to be ok

Update from Caroline Toms

It was a sad day on Thursday 26 June as Renew 26 hosts & guests gathered at the Glencorse centre for the last time.

At our recent AGM it was decided this is the right time to close renew at the Glencorse venue. A few factors have prompted this decision. A new cafe is opening there in early July being run by a lovely couple as a business & this would impact our private space. Sheila Anderson, who moved to Stirling, has decided it is time for her to stop making regular visits to Glencorse & focus on setting up a Renew Wellbeing centre in her local community but will still remain a local link for East Central Scotland. Myself, Caroline is also stepping back from Renew 26. We had discussed running the Thursday renew at a different venue in Penicuik but there was no-one available to lead it at present.

The space has welcomed many different people over the last 4 years & helped them during low periods of their lives, through joining in with hobbies & games, the prayer time & just sitting & being.

Thank you to everyone who has been involved & for helping make it the warm welcoming space that is the essence of Renew Wellbeing. Thank you also to everyone who has supported us financially, through prayer and by bringing guests along. We thank God for all the blessings He has poured out throughout our time at Glencorse.

Sheila recently attended a webinar for Glasgow presbytery where it was mentioned there is a growing interest in Renew Wellbeing across Glasgow, Fife & Perth presbyteries. It is good to know that Renew at Glencorse was the pioneer for this.

Renew 26 will still continue at PNK back cafe every Friday from 10 to 12 led by Eunice Astles with help from Ann Dalgleish, Jackie Wilson & Linda Smith. There are many regular guests attending & they would welcome any new people.

If anyone feels they would like to get involved, more help would be appreciated. It would be best to go on a Friday to experience how it runs.

Please continue to pray for Renew 26.

Christian Aid Week Raises Funds

Coordinator Janis Hogg

The annual Duck Race, organised by PNK in the Cuiken Burn that runs through Montgomery Park was the finale event of the Christian Aid week. Fortunately the earlier dry hot spell had broken allowing the almost bone dry burn to fill, so avoiding a potential 'duck waddle race' along the river bed!

Janis Hogg reported at the 8 June service a total of **£505 raised from the Grand Coffee Morning** on



Saturday 24 May, and **over £900 from the church collection**, mostly from the famous Janis Bucket.....

A big thank you to all who donated and contributed to this event, a lifeline to many struggling communities across the world.



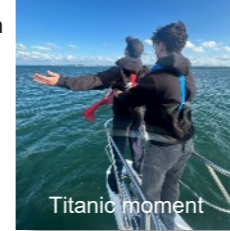
TYBG (Tuesday Youth Bible Group) Go Forth - 17 June : Ann Dunsire



TYBG has now stopped for the summer break and will resume on Tuesday 2nd September. We wish all our young people a brilliant holiday in all the different things they'll be doing and look forward to seeing them again in September. Wishing Lucy & Rosea all the very best as they start university.'

'On Tuesday 17th June we had fabulous weather to take our youth group out on a boat trip. A friend of ours has a son who is a marine engineer at Port Edgar, South Queensferry, and he offered to take our youth group out on a boat trip under the Forth Bridges on a luxury launch he gets to use on behalf of a client. Seven of our group were able to manage along, as well as our six leaders and Kirsty, mum of three of our young people.

Everyone had the best time enjoying the trip, seeing all the sights, the wildlife and amazingly close-up views from under the bridges.



Titanic moment



Why should we review our giving?

John Urquhart

Our income has gone down slightly, perhaps mainly because of people's dying or moving away. At this year's annual meeting of the church, we asked people to review their giving. Ideally, we would like all Christians to do this annually, but we tend to put this off to another time, because we are busy, so this is a reminder for those who were there and for those who had to be somewhere else.

To be honest, I find this tends to make people a bit uncomfortable and I share in that discomfort, but that doesn't mean I shouldn't speak about it.



The Bible does speak about money -- quite frequently -- more than many ministers speak about it! The New Testament commends Christian generosity: it doesn't set down rigid rules for how much we should give, though the whole Bible is full of examples of measures of generous giving in response to God's generous love.

Let me reassure you that I don't know (and I don't want to know) how much you are giving individually or as families. (Only those who need to know do.) I know incomes can vary considerably within one congregation of Christians, so we are not expecting you to all give the same, and I know that times are tight for some, but I'm

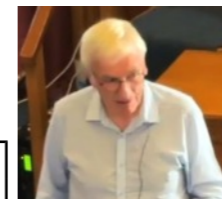
also told that the church often depends on the generosity of the few.

Midlothian Churches Praise Night - Sunday 1st June



Hosted at Penicuik Trinity Community Church and led by musicians Rev Keith Mack (St. John's & Kings Park) - guitar & vocals, Craig Speedie - bass guitar, Rev Graham Astles (PNK) - drums, Rev Mark Nicholas (Gorebridge) - guitar, Rona Coombe - vocals and Calum Tait - piano. The guest speaker was Colin Sinclair who preached a sermon based on Mark 4 and 5 at the half way point of the evening.

Musician's leader Keith Mack welcomed visitors opening the evening with a prayer before leading the praise.



Colin Sinclair

First Half	Sermon	Second Half
1. Blessed be Your name 2. Goodness of God 3. Living Hope 4. The Splendour of the King	presented by Colin Sinclair Based on Mark 4 and 5	5. A Thousand Hallelujahs 6. Amazing Grace (my chains are gone) 7. Holy Forever 8. Bless the Lord (10000 Reasons)

The Rev Gaham Duffin (Loanhead) closed the praise service in prayer, thanking all who had taken part and the audience.

You can view the live video of the evening at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JBUEIURwWE>

Summer Fayre – Saturday 28 June



A cloudy start to the day soon turned to blue skies and sunshine, for the annual Summer Fayre, raising funds for your church.

This year we had a range of stalls with the Brownies, who use our hall for their regular weekly gatherings, sporting a stall with a range of goodies to tempt those browsing the tables. The Brownies were also offering hand painting, a variation on face painting but more discreet.

Home baking in abundance was available, both for the refreshments tea / coffee, and on the to-buy stall, with scones, brownies, and everything chocolate. My favourites are the tea loafs and fruit loaf, this time Spicy Apple. There were also jars of home made Seville Marmalade and chutneys. Ina was on hand to guide visitors around the stall.

The bottle stall is always a favourite and at 3 tickets a £1 offered the chance of winning one, as long as your ticket ended in a 5. One of mine did, to win a super bottle of Chardonnay, so that was the evening dinner accompaniment taken care of. Joyce Hunter and Lorna ensured there was fair play and no cheating! Margaret Barry was the lucky winner of the prized Scotch Whisky.

Gardeners found plants and other accessories, with Neil Cape on hand, whilst Joan Cape was on the stall with a wide selection of board games and jigsaws. The 'Brownies' craft table with Brown Owl Ann, had soft toy 'scottie' dogs in almost every tartan, with other toys spread across the display, helping to raise funds for a Brownies summer outing.

Books and CD's were offered for a donation, some good titles lurking in their too.



Tombola also had a selection of prizes on offer including a soft toy fox! Jean Lennie and Linda McKay were selling the tickets, with the little fox won by one of the Brownies, how appropriate!

Marion Mather presented a colourful selection of gift bags, each with a selection of items to eat, wear and in some cases play. I bought one and smiled at the contents, while using the free space to pop in my home baking.

The refreshments, provided by Christine Jackson, Margaret Barry & Maureen, offered the opportunity to chat with others over a cup of your favourite morning beverage, with a selection of cakes to stop the drink being too wet!

At the Sunday service organiser Margaret Black thanked all who helped setup, baked, and donated to the event, and those who came along to enjoy the morning. She reported a total of - **£787 raised for church funds.**