

Rosemary Townsley

We all mourned the passing of Rosemary Townsley, or ‘Rosie’ as most knew her. Her active role in the church life, both at the South Church and latterly in the Trinity Community union. After a long illness Rosie finally met her maker and we said our last farewell on Friday 19 April at her funeral service led by Reverends Bob Kane and John Urquhart.

Bob Kane, who has preached to us many times in Trinity Community and ‘St. Mungo’s’ had known Rosie for some 50 years, led her request to deliver a ‘Tribute’ at her funeral.

The pair had been great friends since Edinburgh University days. They played a lot of squash together, though Rosie seemed to come out the winner most occasions. Rosie was full of fun and banter, something many of those who met her agree, though as Bob noted, it was difficult to know what was going on in her head.

Her kindness came from her love for others. One of her brothers said to Bob "some folk rescued stray animals, she rescued stray

people". She used that talent as part of the Food Facts Friends team helping those in distress in our community.

That care came from her faith, a love of the Lord, which never changed, through illness and loss. Her prayers never got any shorter either, getting so involved talking to her Lord that time slowed down.

Rosie is now pain free, at peace with her Lord.

There will be a Rosie shaped hole in many of our hearts. As time passes pause to remember those special memories of Rosie.



Planned Guests for Heart of the Matter May 2024

5 May	Gold 42 : A special from the archives Stories of Grace from Gracefields Church Part 2 Fish Hoek
12 May	Christian Aid Edition
19 May	Pat Lomax Author/Photographer/Trustee of Dr Graham’s Homes Kalimpong
26 May	Gold 43 - A special from the archives

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.

A Church Service on Black Diamond FM 107.8/100.7 FM every Sunday morning at 8 am.

Acorn Sunday - 19 May

Paul Harringman will speak at the service on the theme ‘My faith isn’t about me’ Genesis 12 and Isaiah 61.
There’s also a video of Susan Wong interviewed by Peter Wood which has gone on the Acorn channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EaWYKqQuPw>



Trinity Community Diary

5, 12, 19, 26 May 7.15pm	Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting. - Church Hall
6, 13, 20, 27 May 7.00pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Small Hall. Details Kathleen Downey 07985 294495
6, 13, 20, 27 May 7.15pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details Sheena Dawe 07810 477597
6, 13, 20, 27 May 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details from Neil & Joan Cape 674276
6, 13, 20, 27 May 7.45pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Various homes. Details Ruth Aird ruthaird@outlook.com
8 May 10.45am	Friendship Hour - Small Hall. (For help with transport, call Margaret 672347
7, 14, 21, 28 May 10.00am	Tuesday House Group - Small Hall. Details Mary Darling 01968 660585
7, 14, 21, 28 May 7.00pm	Tuesday House Group - Various homes. Details Caroline McIntosh 07747 894046
1, 15, 22, 29 May 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Small Hall
9, 16, 23, 30 May 10.00am to 12 noon	Thursday Coffee and Chat - Church Hall
12 May 11.00am	Christian Aid Sunday Service - Church Hall
18 May 10.00am to 12 noon	Christian Aid Coffee Morning - Church Hall
19 May 11.00am	Acorn Sunday with Paul Harringman (Pentecost Holy Communion) - Church Hall
26 May 3.30pm to 5.30pm	Messy Church - Church Hall
28 May 7.00pm to 10.00pm	Songs of Praise Charlotte Chapel Edinburgh. FREE Tickets https://lostintv.com/tv-show?id=1314
1 June 2.00pm to 4.00pm	Guild Afternoon Tea - Church Hall (Tickets £6 from any Guild member)

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)

School Breakfast Club

Joyce Maclean and John Urquhart were involved in discussions recently with staff from Penicuik High School about setting up a Breakfast Club on school premises in the autumn. The school were keen to proceed with this important project, as some students were not able to eat before school, which can seriously affect their ability to engage with the curriculum.



Joyce and John said they would also ask the churches in Penicuik to help provide the required number of volunteers and the churches would explore possible funding sources for the club. A further meeting is set for Tuesday 25 June at 12 noon, and we hope to be joined then by representatives of the Penicuik churches. The project will also be discussed at the meeting of Penicuik Churches Together on Thursday 13 June.

If you interested in helping as a volunteer, or being involved in planning or coordinating this project, or simply finding out more, please contact JCUrquhart@churchofscotland.org.uk.

Thank you from Neil Cape - Session Clerk

Many thanks for your prayers, good wishes and concern following my recent (planned) heart surgery. Special thanks to Janis and Christine for dealing with the Kirk Session Minutes in my absence. I'm told that recovery can take up to 12 weeks, so don't expect to see me at church immediately!

Every blessing, Neil (and Joan)



TC News

MAY 2024

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



We decanted to the church hall this month to allow the pew removal project to start.

This appears to have opened the proverbial ‘can of worms’ with new challenges facing us at every turn. These would have come to bite us soon, so better to be in control than faced with a major failure when we least expected it!



May will see the annual Christian Aid week activities. Janis Hogg our organiser is working closely with Jim Black at PNK to publicise the Penicuik Churches Together activities.



The Summer Fair did very well, with Margaret Black and her team taking the lead and rising to the challenge of organising the event.

FFF are starting a community meal on a Tuesday, so no one should go without food.

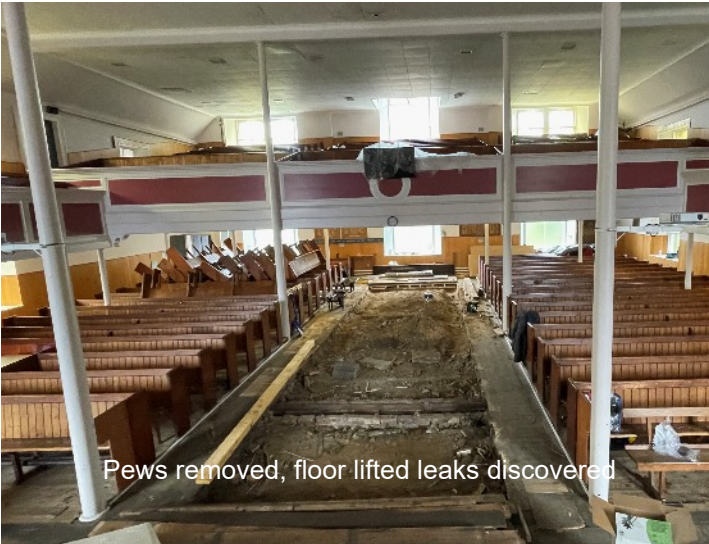
Jim Paterson
Newsletter Editor

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New look for Church Sanctuary

While we are worshipping in the church hall, much work is being expended in the church. What started as remove the pews in the middle aisle, level the floor and fit new carpet tiles followed by the tables and chairs, uncovered other hidden issues below the floor.

Removal of the pews was straight forward, allowing access to the existing floor. Fortunately there are no heating pipes above floor level as in both the left and right side pew aisles. Removal of the floor boards uncovered an unusual heating pipe crossing midway under the central aisle, which on inspection was leaking in several places. The heating pipes are some 150 years old, so wear and tear should be expected, but replacement sections are neither off the shelf or simple to install.



Pews removed, floor lifted leaks discovered

The more we looked the more leaks were found, causing more floor boards to be lifted, in some cases the original stone floors, going back to the 19th and 18th centuries. We are fortunate to have contractors that have the knowledge and skills to work on such old style heating and pipe systems.

The central pew aisle has been dug out as there were little or no foundations. This uncovered other foundation walls, suspected to be from the old schoolhouse that stood on the site during the days when St. Kentigern was the parish church. Will we find evidence of mosaic flooring from a Roman villa I quipped to the contractor. Hopefully not, as that would call in the archaeologists and immediately stop our project.

Meanwhile, outside the rainwater guttering and downpipes, similar to the heating pipes, being made of cast iron, are showing signs of distress, many having cracked, and now leaking. These appear to date from the fifties and sixties. These will be replaced and the suspected blocked ground drainage cleared.



Pipes under stone floor

Finally the toilet soil pipe was blocked resulting in the flush water backing up into the vestibule area. The wonders of technology in the shape of a camera threaded down a front rainwater downpipe from the roof found the cause, paper towels compacted in an unknown hidden buried manhole just outside the current front door.

Our property convenor Gordon MacDonald has been busy creating drawings of where all the heating and other water pipes in the building are routed, there being no records from the original installers.

Finally, there are other pipe networks under the sanctuary floor, water and gas. The latter, no longer used, provided the feed to gas lights which once lit our church. No doubt the latest technology at the time.

Will there be more surprises to uncover? I'm sure there will be, but as long as we have the skills to repair and replace we can extend the life of our building, currently 253 years old, well into the 21st century.



Gas lighting pipe under floor

MESSY CHURCH, April 28th – What can we learn from Peter?

Joan Cape

We first meet Peter when Jesus calls him to be his disciple: leave your fishing nets and follow me, says Jesus. And Peter does! Just like that. His life becomes quite different as he learns what following Jesus means. You can read about this in Matthew 4, 18/19. And if you read through any of the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John you'll find out more about Peter. He had to learn to trust Jesus. He also had to learn how powerful Jesus is, and how he can empower us if we put our trust in him. He learns the importance of obedience, and he learns too how easily we can let Jesus down – and how readily Jesus forgives those who are truly sorry.



In the course of our Treasure Hunt we found a variety of things which reminded us of Peter's life and witness – things which Rae (Hunter) used later to illustrate the story in the celebration. A sheep, some fish, a set of keys, and a rock were just four of the hidden treasures. It was a big thing for Peter to leave his fishing nets and go to catch men instead – as we made various types of fish, and paper boats, we talked of how hard it can be to give up the things which matter to us, as well as thinking of the things which scare us, just as Peter was scared when the disciples' boat was in a storm.

Trying to catch as many balls as possible from the water in our "pond" let us talk about what it means to be "fishers of men", while a set of fun challenges got us thinking about how hard it can be to do the things we are asked to do. How long can you stand on one leg?



Jesus told Peter to "feed my sheep". Throwing balls into the mouths of some hungry looking sheep proved to be great fun and gave an opportunity to talk about who the sheep are. The game is still in the hall if you'd like to try! Turning bananas, brambles and biscuits into sheep gave another opportunity to talk about this, while making sheep headbands let us all turn ourselves into sheep for a while.

The celebration began with singing, and then picked up on the things we had talked about previously, using the items from the treasure hunt as illustrations. We finished with a game of "Follow my leader": it was quite amazing to see a troupe of almost silent "mice" creeping in for tea as the last part of this!

Pizza and salad were enjoyed by all, followed by assorted cakes courtesy of the church fair, with a little extra baked by one of our helpers. We welcomed one new family, and were glad to have a good number of familiar faces around too.



Peter has such a lot to teach us: he's so enthusiastic, even impetuous, and even though he often gets things wrong, he turns into one of Jesus' greatest disciples. We won't all do the exciting things Peter did – but we can all do our best to listen to what God wants us to do, and try to do them as we seek to be disciples too.

Next Messy Church - Sunday 26 May; TCC Church Hall 3.30 to 5.30pm

***Volunteers Wanted* 17,18,19 May**

Mildlothian Pantry, at FFF Well-being Hub, is doing a food drive at Asda Straiton on 17th 18th 19th of May

We are looking for volunteers to help interact and encourage shoppers to donate food items to the FFF Community Pantry from 11am - 5pm

If you would be interested in helping us - please get in touch as it would be highly appreciated. Contact

Food Facts Friends 42 John Street. 01968 675417



Christian Aid Week - 12 to 18 May



Poverty pushed Aline to the brink of survival. She was abused, homeless and hungry. But Aline pushed back harder. Driven by hope, faith and the love of her children, Aline was able to fight against the inhumanity of poverty and build herself a new life. **Read Aline's story**

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week/alines-story>

Christian Aid week runs from 12 to 18 May this year.

Watch out for events that will support the poorest in our world.

Coffee mornings

Penicuik North Kirk (11 May)

Penicuik Trinity Community Church (18 May);

Lunch at **St James the Less** in early June.

Also there will be a **Duck race in Montgomery Park on 9 June at 2.00 pm**. Grand prizes! Get your ticket. Support your Duck! The Ducks are in training already!



Christian Aid Grand Duck Race

2 pm on 9 June in Montgomery Park in the burn opposite the North Kirk in support of Christian Aid.

Christian Aid Coffee Morning PTCC church hall on Saturday 18th May 10am - 12 noon



Please come and enjoy coffee (or tea) and home baking.

Stalls...fun....and a blether !

All to help Christian Aid in their work with poorer countries all over the world. Hope to see you there !

Summer Fair - Saturday 26th May



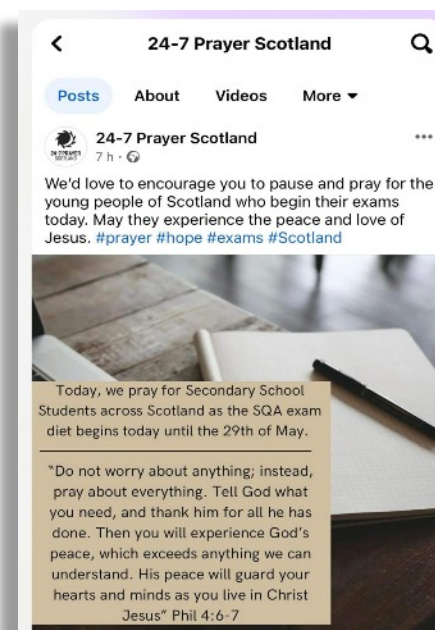
April may seem a little early for 'summer', but the Guild found the usual Saturday dates in June already filled with other activities across Penicuik.



Margaret Black took the organising lead, arranging tables for the fair and people to serve at the tables, offering treats to visiting 'customers', and the catering team for the tea and home baking.

Though the 'footfall' as they say in retail was less than hoped for, Margaret was able to report to the Sunday service congregation some £590 collected for church funds. By end of our service that had topped the £600 mark!

Well done to all who contributed items for the Fair, helped set it up and made it happen on the Saturday.



Tickets available from any Guild member, and every Sunday morning at church