

Avis Anderson : 1925 - 2025

We gathered at Mortonhall on 10 September to say our final farewell to Avis Anderson, who reached her 100th year on 26 February this year

Avis was born in Loanhead in 1925, as the eldest child of John & Euphemia McLean. She had a younger sister, Margaret, and a younger brother, Jack, who lived in Loanhead.

When Avis was young she was quite a tomboy, often tearing her dress from climbing trees or coming home in wet clothes because she'd been in the burn in the Bog Wood. But once in Cranston Street in Penicuik, where they lived, they held a mock Gala Day & Avis got to shine as the Gala Queen.

Avis was a very good runner and also very good at the high jump at school sports. Avis left school when she was 14 & worked as a shop assistant in Fell's the Bakers in John Street & then for Simpson's, the Paper Shop in West Street.

In 1942, she joined the Women's Land Army, and, along with Margaret Dixon at Gowkley Moss Farm & many other Land Girls nationwide, Avis found herself driving a tractor.

At the end of the war, there was a Victory Parade through Penicuik. The whole family went out to see to see Avis, dressed in her Land Army uniform. The Land Girls only received formal recognition when Gordon Brown was PM, and Avis received a commemorative medal more than 60 years after the war.

Avis loved Scottish Country Dancing, reading historical novels. She enjoyed music, almost always classical, & went to the opera, the ballet & the theatre,

Avis was a regular at St. Mungo's, very caring person, and member of the choir, when we had one. . She didn't like being the centre of attention at all, but she was nevertheless warm & engaging.

We all have many memories of Avis to remember her by.

Trinity Community Diary

05 October 11.00am	Harvest Sunday - with Callum & Izzy Henderson; Comfort International Church open Saturday 4th 10am-12noon to receive your donations
6, 13, 20, 27 October 7.00pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Details Kathleen Downey 07985 294495
6, 13, 20, 27 October 7.15pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details Sheena Dawe 07810 477597
6, 13, 20, 27 October 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Various homes. Details Ruth Aird rutheaird@outlook.com
6, 13, 20, 27 October 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details from Neil & Joan Cape 674276
7, 14, 21, 28 October 10.00am	Tuesday House Group - Details Mary Darling 01968 660585.
7, 14, 21, 28 October 7.00pm	Tuesday House Group - Various homes. Details Caroline McIntosh 07747 894046
8, 22, 29 October 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Church Hall
7, 28 October 7.00 to 9.00pm	Tuesday Youth Bible Group (TYBG) - Contact Ann 07974 605590 or Andrew 07580 593504
9, 16, 23, 30 October 10am - 12noon	Thursday Coffee and Chat - Church Hall
19 October 7.15pm	Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting. - Church Hall
5 November 10.45am	Friendship Group - 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)



Land Army Avis



Midlothian & the Borders Churches Praise Evening

Bonnyrigg Church

Sunday 5th October

@ 7 p.m.

Come and share together with Christians from around Midlothian & the Borders as we gather for an evening of contemporary worship.

As well as lively praise led by the worship band, we'll take time to focus on scripture,

listening out for what God is saying to us – with prayer ministry offered at the end.

Preacher: Abigail Ramage,
Assistant Youth Minister, Gorebridge



Planned Guests for Heart of the Matter October 2025

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

Date	Guest	
5 Oct	Chris Hoskins Part 2	Photographer based in Edinburgh
12 Oct	Gold 51	A Special from the Archives
19 Oct	Cameron Stout	Winner of Big Brother 2003/BBC Radio Orkney
26 Oct	Cameron Stout Part 2	Winner of Big Brother 2003/BBC Radio Orkney

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

TRINITY COMMUNITY CHURCH

TC News

OCTOBER 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

Try Praying Jazz Night - 27 September Report and photos Jim Paterson



Pentland School of Music Jazz Band

A gathering of eighty plus headed for PNK to hear David Hill talk on the Try Praying initiative, along with musical entertainment provided by the Pentland School of Music Jazz Band, led by Graham. McDonald.

From my perch up on the gallery I had a birds eye view of the performances, starting with the Jazz band opening the evening with Opus 1, a favourite with the jazz band. The Van Morrison Moondance from 1970 followed, before he well known 1954 Erroll Garner 'Misty' filled the North Kirk sanctuary. The Fats Waller 'Ain't Misbehavin' followed. We continued with 'Bye Bye Blackbird', a jazz standard from 1926 with over 500 recorded versions, leading us into the eighties 'Stray Cat Strut'. Completing the first half musical spree we were treated to 'Have I Told You Lately', another eighties classic written by Van Morrison in 1989.

David Hill then took the mic to tell us about how Try Praying booklet has become the global phenomenon that it now is. Reminiscing his mixed, not always successful musical past, he moved on to his more entrepreneurial period, where most of his ideas, mercifully as David quipped, failed to see the light of day. Until about 15 years ago.

The 'light bulb' idea occurred to write a prayer guide for people that were not religious, and don't do church. A rather strange thought for David as he hates prayer guides, losing the will to live. However, persisting he created and printed the first Try Praying guide. Later, he took an early copy to a designer for help to update the booklet for wider use. The feedback from meeting users of the booklet, from people of different backgrounds was, as David put it 'surprising!' One reader from South Africa was so impacted that she felt the booklet was so powerful that it should be available to all nations!

Watch David's talk https://youtu.be/W_-7LlrFaa8



David Hill

Now Try Praying has grown to 13 editions, with over a million copies printed, used by 1000 churches in the UK, spread to 13 countries, including America, Australia, New Zealand, France, Germany, soon Ukraine to name a few, taking David completely by surprise. David told us of people feeling 'connected' to God by reading the booklet then seeing the Try Praying banner on a church and on the back of a bus. The bus campaign returns 54% brand awareness, when advertisers see success if their campaigns return 5% awareness!

David ended by commending Try Praying to the audience to use for a week and note the effect.

Returning after the break the jazz band opened with 'Libertango', a composition by tango composer and bandoneon player Astor Piazzolla, recorded and published in 1974. A piece for flute 'Baroque and Blue' by Claude Bolling, a French jazz pianist, composer, and conductor in 1975, followed with another favourite, Glen Miller 'Pennsylvania 6-5000'. Blue Moon came next with Say a Little Prayer and Moon River. The closing numbers were Dream a Little Dream, Legrand and the Brazilian bossa nova and jazz song 'Girl from Ipanema'.

As an Encore the band played one of their latest numbers, not heard publicly before 'A Night in Tunisia' by American trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie in 1942.

A great night hearing the power of prayer and how Try Praying can help, plus amazing music from the Penicuik School of Music. Jazz



Ruth Aird trip to Romania - 18 September Report by Ruth Aird



Setting up the field clinic

Ruth Aird took part in setting up a clinic as part of her recent mission to Romania.



Thank you to everyone who supported the mission to Romania. The reading glasses and medicines were well received by the 120 people that turned up to the clinic.



The Mayor of the district also attended and was very impressed by the way in which the team set up the field clinic .

Vision night – Wednesday 29 October 7.30 to 9.00pm



Together, we hope for a society where no family feels alone, and every child has a home where they can flourish.

Please join us for an evening as we gather together from different churches across the city to hear from church leaders, carers and social work. Together, we will prayerfully seek God's heart for Edinburgh and the surrounding areas, in order that we can see children and families flourish.

Who is invited...?

- Church leaders and team
- Befriending volunteers
- Adopters, foster carers, supported lodgings hosts
- Social workers and third sector workers
- Anyone that is interested in getting involved!

caitlinfrew@safefamilies.uk

Hats Gloves and Scarves - 26 October

This year we are once again collecting knitted hats, gloves and scarves for the Blythwood Care Christmas appeal. We welcome bought hats, scarves, gloves etc for adults and children from non-knitters. **Items can be handed in any Sunday morning**



Filled with small, practical items such as toiletries, stationery, and clothing, the individually-wrapped boxes have been distributed in schools, hospitals, orphanages and care homes, and to households in very low income communities.

Many have gone to people affected by the war in Ukraine

Margaret Barry and Christine Jackson will be in the church on **Saturday 25 October from 10.00am till mid-day** if anyone wants to hand anything in. **Or drop them off at church any Sunday until then.**

Please help those this winter who are suffering often in extreme situations



Knitting wool available.

Ask Christine or Margaret if you need some

Guild meetings September Reports by Jenny Ramage

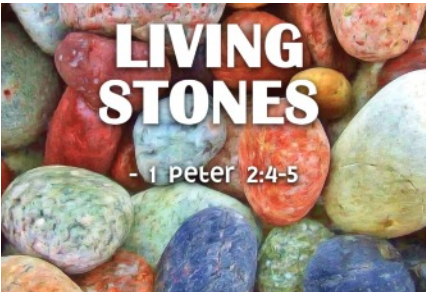
Living Stones - Rev John Urquhart 1st September

Speaking to the Guild today was our own Minister Reverend John Urquhart and he began with a word association game to make sure we were awake! First word was Car which members came up with quite a number of linked words, next was Buildings leading to many of these including library, hospital, temple and leading on to the church. This led on to discussion of the foundation and cornerstone of the church where we rely on Jesus and being connected to the Guild theme from 2024 Sure Foundations.

Next was a reading from Peter 1 ch 2 v 4 which says that we as living stones are used to build a spiritual temple of people and offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. We were then asked about what the requirements were for the priesthood (the other living stones) some of which were being born a male member of the tribe of Levi and a descendant of Aaron.

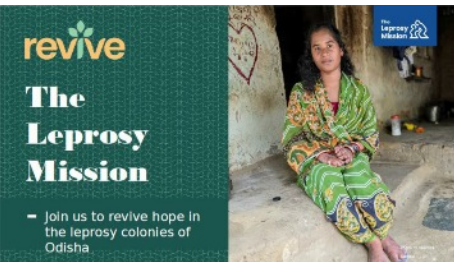
The spiritual sacrifices spoken of included our praise to God, doing good to others and sharing what you have. So it is us, the people who are Christ's Church – the living stones who build His house and are His ambassadors on Earth.

Convenor Agnes Haggart gave the Vote of Thanks



Leprosy Mission - Steve McLeish 15th September

Our speaker today was Steven McLeish from the Leprosy Mission which started 150 years ago. He began by asking us questions about what we knew about Leprosy from which we learned that leprosy is caused by a bacteria and spread by moisture droplets in the air and not by touch.



There are 200,000 cases diagnosed every year worldwide, one every 2 minutes. However there has been a cure available since 1982 and 95% of people have a natural immunity. Despite this Leprosy still carries stigma and discrimination against sufferers and is prevalent in the poorest communities where there is a lack of

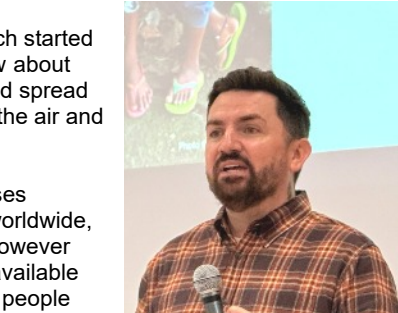
sanitation, poor nutrition and living conditions.

We watched a video, the moving story about Anjali a young girl who contracted Leprosy losing feeling in her hands leading to traumatic injury and disability. She was treated badly by her grandfather who abandoned her in a Leprosy colony. The colonies are very basic often with no running water or toilets and even when cured people can be left severely disabled due to the effects on their bodies.

Leprosy Mission is working to improve conditions and also to educate communities to treat and prevent the condition in the future.

Steven said that apart from donations it is important to use prayer to help the work being done. He then read a poem he had written called At 85 which looked at the future with hope.

Sandra Knox did the Vote of Thanks



Week of Prayer for the World

Thursday 9 to Wednesday 15 October at Penicuik North Kirk

Book a 1 hour slot (or 2!) and come and pray for the world

For more information and to book, contact Ruth Aird
rutheaird@outlook.com
07906 632499



From the Session Clerk



The Kirk Session met on 9th September, and we caught up with news from the summer break. Much of this has already been reported in TC News, for example, the appointment of Arma Sallau to conduct research on the needs and opportunities for work with young people and families in Penicuik, in a joint project with Penicuik North Kirk.

We were asked to ask you all (please) not to congregate in the church lobby when you arrive in the building, but to move into the sanctuary area and have your chat there! We're aware that the lobby is quite small, but we can't do much about that...and are thinking about options for making space inside the church.

As you will have seen, the work on the bell tower has progressed, albeit slowly, with the roof now complete; the next stage is to take down the scaffolding, fitting metal mesh in the window spaces to keep the pigeons out. We're hopeful that the 'blue box' will be removed from the front of the church fairly soon, so that there's no question of whether the church is in fact open.



The next necessary job in the church is a complete rewiring, but that will happen next year.

You may also have seen the new windows at the front of the church hall; work on

replacing the cupboards in the hall will start soon. If you've been in the hall recently you'll also have noticed that the new boiler is installed and working.



In the run-up to Christmas we're going to be looking at the Church Roll, following instructions from Presbytery about how we manage our Membership Roll. As part of this exercise we'll be reviewing how we manage pastoral care of our members.

The Kirk Session normally meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, except over the summer. If you need to contact me, you can phone 674276, or email me at tccsessionclerk@gmail.com, and if you'd like to be added to my weekly email list with a reminder of when and where the Sunday service is being held, just let me know.

Neil Cape (Session Clerk)



TYBG (Tuesday Youth Bible Group) meets each Tuesday evening in school term-time between 7-9 pm.

Anyone between the ages of 11-17 interested in attending is most welcome to come along. We are currently following Youth for Christ material. The group is very informal and always includes food/drinks and time for people to chat and get to know each other better.

Contact Ann or Andrew Dunsire for further details (07974 605590 / 07580 593504).