



OUTREACH

St James the Less Scottish Episcopal Church, Penicuik



... born this happy morning

*Issue No 165
December 2010/January 2011*



“We were lucky enough to briefly visit Salisbury Cathedral in the summer and see the font designed by William Pye and consecrated in 2008 by Rowan Williams” - [see *article on page 17*]

A choir marches on its stomach! – tea break during rehearsal for Evensong



Contents

Groups and Activities	4
Rector's Letter	4
Choir News	6
Congratulations	7
From Stephen McCaulay	8
Alternative Church Christmas Card	9
News of past members	10
Placement	10
Christmas Flowers	10
Flower Festival Calendars	10
When Omega met 'Thomas'	11
Christmas greetings	12
"Penicuik for Africa" Coffee Morning	12
Memorial to Seafarers	13
Rotas	14
Penicuik for Africa's AGM	17
Church Women's Fellowship	18
Mothers' Union News	19
Your prayers are asked for...	20
Events coming soon...	21

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
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

Tony Jordan, the writer of the four part series "The Nativity" which will be broadcast on BBC 2 this Christmas, was being interviewed at the **Churches Media Conference** in Derbyshire last summer about his project. In the interview, he describes wondering, at some point during the writing of the script, why it was that the angels bothered appearing to shepherds out in the fields, at all. Why didn't the heavenly chorus appear to Mary? She could have used the diversion. "She was the one, after all, doing all the work". The shepherds weren't integrally involved in any way with the story. They didn't direct the Wise Men to the manger nor did they serve as lookouts in case Herod's soldiers advanced to Bethlehem. They were simply minding their own business. They were bystanders. While bystanders figure quite prominently in fictitious representations of the Nativity (Amahl the crippled beggar boy or the Little Drummer Boy) the shepherds are part of the canonical Gospel account itself.

Would anything in the story have changed if the evangelist had simply written them out?

As Jordan was trying to come up with some dialogue, beyond the few lines which Luke ascribes to the angels, he came to realize that the shepherds represented the citizens of the earth for whom Christ had come into the world.

They are us.

The Magi were on a mission. Mary and Joseph had a particular rôle in the story. The angels too had their job. It's the shepherds who are the target of God's grace and who represent us, and they represent us precisely because they are taken by surprise.

That's who we are – about our lives, doing our work, taking care of our obligations and making ends meet, living from one day to the next when suddenly we catch wind of something great which is taking place on our behalf and on behalf of other people like us.

We will have occasion to see this birth announced in the coming weeks in different ways. It will be announced through the medium of a children's tableau on a Sunday morning, announced in music painstakingly rehearsed by our choir and musicians at an evening service or sung from memory by voices of mixed quality in the Precinct. We will even be welcoming a certain number of bystanders ourselves – visitors and former members of St James – for whom the Christmas carols and hymns continue to ring a bell and speak about the possibility of Grace and welcome and the friendship of God with humanity.

We cannot possibly know the power of our prayers, our songs, our readings, our sermons and our Christmas worship upon those who will come within our fellowship over the next few weeks. That face which we might see for the very first time in Church or at some community gathering in Penicuik this Christmas is not an "add on" to a service attended by people who "know the drill". It belongs precisely to the person for whom Christ was sent into the world as Saviour and Redeemer. It is a reminder that God has not given up on people.

Father Rob Warren

Choir News

November was a busy month for Choir, with an additional two Sunday evening services. It is always rewarding when weeks of rehearsal in the hall come to fruition during services in Church. Philip Ledger's *Requiem* was particularly well received, and it was great to share the music with so many friends from other churches in an augmented choir and with such a full church. It was lovely to have John Farrant's daughter, Rachel Woods, with us that evening. The following week the choir contributed three pieces from the *Requiem* during an evening service for Remembrance Sunday at Sacred Heart, entitled *Lest we forget*.

Full steam ahead through Advent, and there are many opportunities to participate in singing:

On Saturday 4th December, there is a "Winter Blues" concert with Bryn Haworth in the Craigiefield Hotel at 7.30pm – an entertaining and uplifting evening of Gospel Blues and country rock! This is followed on Sunday 5th December at 7.00pm, St Mungo's Church, Penicuik, by a Carol concert, led by Bryn, with singers from Penicuik churches joining in. See the posters around church for details.

Looking towards Christmas – on Sunday 12th December, we can all enjoy our Young Church Nativity presentation. At the end of that week, on Friday 17th December, choir members will be helping out in the annual Hope for Penicuik Christmas Carol Event in the Town Hall, 7.00pm till around 8.15pm. Carols, music, readings and some surprises – suitable for all ages (hence the early start/finish times) – still with us?

On Sunday 19th December at 7.00pm – our own Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, followed by mince pies and goodies in the hall afterwards. Why not invite your friends to come along? Over the past few years, we have also offered some "Carols around the piano" prior to the Midnight service, and that tradition will be repeated this Christmas Eve.

As always – from everyone in the choir

♪ We wish you a ♪ merry Christmas and a ♪ Happy New Year ♪

David [details of other seasonal services on page 21]

Congratulations



Our warmest congratulations go to Barney and Marian Hunter who will have been married for 50 years on Christmas Eve this year.

Barney and Marian were married in Leadgate Methodist Chapel in County Durham (now sadly demolished), and afterwards there was baking and cups of tea in the hall for family and friends until 6 o'clock, when the happy couple departed for a brief honeymoon in the Lake District. Christmas Eve was the chosen day because it was the first Saturday they both had a day off work, after getting engaged in the August. They had met in their teens at a

Church youth group and started courting earlier in 1960 when Dad returned from National Service in Hong Kong. For several years they lived down south - Warwick, Coventry and Huddersfield - where Berenice and Tim arrived, before moving to Penicuik in 1967, where they planned to stay for two years. Janine arrived in 1969 and they stayed on in Penicuik, joining St James the Less in 1978.

Contributed by their daughter, Janine. She says: I am attaching a picture of them taken not long after they were married, with their three-wheeler Morgan.

... and to

Alison and Murray Cole who were married in Sheffield at St William of York RC Church at 11am on Saturday 21st December 1985.

[Love and best wishes from us all to both happy couples – Ed]



From Stephen McCaulay ...

[Received via Mike's phone! - I'm half asleep and I'm balancing on a broken chair to type this. Well, off back to bed for an hour or so, more to get warm rather than anything else.]

Morning Mike,

It's 4.30am here. About the only time I can get online. We have one terminal for a few hundred people. I'm afraid the bandwidth won't support them.

Dear All at St James and St Mungo's,

Well, the first month here has gone well. All the boys and girls have settled in very well and are getting on with their jobs. The Battalion are scattered around twenty plus locations and so I am spending my time travelling around each one visiting them. This all takes time. Last week it took me five and a half hours to go forty kilometres (and I wasn't even on the Edinburgh City ringroad!).

Remembrance Day here was very poignant. We gathered at a memorial cross to a Scots Guardsman who had been killed a few feet from that cross earlier this year. The young men and women out here are faced daily with the cost of providing security for the Afghan people and the Western world, and they don't flinch from that cost. They are simply wonderful.

We are about 900 metres above sea level here. The days are still very hot. I am burnt all over, but the nights are freezing. We are all wandering about for half the day in layers of down-filled clothing and then for the other half in tee-shirts, shorts and sandals. Can't complain though, I've heard that you have already had some snow in Penicuik! Christmas is fast approaching. I have my services planned and know where I will be over Christmas and New Year. Before then I have six or seven other places to visit. It all keeps me busy and out of trouble. From all of us here in Afghanistan, wishing you a very peaceful and holy Christmas and a guid New Year when it comes. Stephen.

[... and to you and all your companions - God keep you safe - Ed]

If anyone wishes to contact Stephen: 560562 Rev Stephen McCaulay, HQ COY, 2 SCOTS BG-CF LKG, OP HERRICK 13, BFPO 715 or email: mccaulay@armymail.mod.uk

Quiz answers

1.Lilacs, 2.Canterbury Bells, 3.Bells of Ireland, 4.Clementine, 5.Chinese Lanterns, 6.Lily the Pink, 7.Lavender, 8.Angel Trumpet, 9.Tulips, 10.Mistletoe, 11.Broom, 12.Holly/Ivy, 13.Bluebells, 14.Edelweiss, 15.Rushes, 16.Maple, 17.Buttercup, 18.Daisy, 19.Lily, 20.12. Many thanks to all who bought a quiz sheet to support the Flower Festival. There were many all-correct answers returned; the winning name out of the hat was Carol Kilpatrick from St Mungo's, West Linton.

Alternative Church Christmas Card

Once again, I will be putting up the large Christmas Card on the board in the entrance hall, hoping to have it up for Sunday 13th December. Many thanks for your support over the last few years, with money raised going to World Vision projects.

I hope to update you on last year's project for reconciliation work in Uganda and to tell you about the project for the coming year.

Thank you. *Ros Hay*

King James Bible

Next year marks the 400th anniversary of the Authorised or King James translation of the Bible. Many events and exhibitions are being co-ordinated by the 2011 Trust. The importance of the KJB to the literary, cultural and spiritual life of many nations is widely acknowledged, even by those who are not religious believers. Keep updated on what is planned, and read, amongst other things, about music inspired by biblical texts. Visit the website on: www.2011trust.org

West Linton churches history

West Linton and District Historical Association will be having a talk on "Churches and religion in West Linton" on 18 January 2011. St Andrew's (Church of Scotland) is this year celebrating its 850th anniversary; there have been several other churches in the village over the years. If you are interested, meetings start at 7.30pm in St Andrew's church hall, opposite the Graham Institute. There is a small charge for visitors, and an opportunity for further discussion afterwards over a cup of tea.

News of past members

Some of you might remember the Barrow family from the early 1970s at



St James. Christine was a member of the Vestry from 1971. In the issue of September 2010, there was an article about, and photo of, Christine after her ordination at Ely Cathedral, with Angus and Janet Palmer. Jean has since received a photo of the whole family, taken at the same time, showing left - right: Tim, Christine, Harry and Mark.

Placement

From January until Easter I will be away on placement, although details have not yet been finalized. I will miss you all! *Ruth Green*
[and we you – Ed]

Christmas Flowers

We shall be decorating the church for Christmas on Thursday 23 December 2010 from 10.00am. As always, we shall be delighted to welcome new faces alongside our regular faithful team members. Contributions of seasonal foliage will be gratefully received. Looking forward to seeing you there. *Marion Mather*

Flower Festival Calendars

It's not too late to place an order for copies of the lovely calendars produced from photos of the recent Flower Festival. These cost **£6** each, and would make great Christmas presents. Orders can even be taken into 2011, as printing and delivery are very speedy; please see me. Thanks to all who have already bought some, thereby boosting our funds and having a memento of a very happy event.

Marion Mather

When Omega met 'Thomas'

In our three house group meetings since the last *Outreach*, we have learnt a lot about Thomas' gospel. Unfortunately, the author we are following – Nicolas Perrin – disbelieves nearly everything that has been said about *Thomas*, and can't wait to tell us what SHOULD be said in Part 2 of his book: *Thomas, The Other Gospel!* Despite a thinly disguised campaign to discredit three Thomasine experts – professors all – that Phil Woolas would have been proud of, we have been impressed by the uncanny resemblance of some of the 114 Sayings that comprise *Thomas* (scholars call them 'twins' of the Synoptic equivalent), and by arguments for the early 1st Century origin that some scholars give to the 'twins'. We are using the *Scholars' Translation of Thomas* by Stephen Patterson and Marvin Meyer and it is views expressed in the former's 1993 book, *The Gospel of Thomas and Jesus*, that Perrin takes issue with first. Basically, Patterson thinks that the roughness and randomness of the collection of sayings shouts earliness and points to an oral tradition about Jesus, similar to the one alleged to have been drawn upon by Mark and the rest for their gospels, the oft-quoted but elusive sayings collection called 'Q'. Next under Perrin's critical gaze was Elaine Pagels and her *Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas* (2003) in which she spotlights the similarities between theological streams in John's Gospel and *Thomas*. She suggests that the three references to Thomas in John, none found in the synoptics and all coming at pivotal moments towards the end of Jesus' life, indicated that John may have been provoked to put quill to papyrus by stories that the hyperactive Thomas was leaving in his wake as he 'motored' through Asia, none of which gave any hint of Jesus' resurrection. Lastly, Perrin tried to take apart April DeConick's (2005) book, *Recovering The Gospel of Thomas*, in which she submits the sayings to careful form analysis. By peeling off accretions that successive Thomas followers had inserted when transcribing his sayings collection – like unrolling a giant snowball – April believed she could get back to a 'kernel gospel' which was as early as 30-50 CE. Clearly, the closer in time one gets to Jesus, the greater the authenticity of the 'kernel' sayings that *Thomas* attributes to Jesus. However, the *Thomas Gospel* was branded heretical by the early church, partly because it says nothing about Jesus' crucifixion or resurrection. So what does Perrin make of *Thomas* – what he said then and what he can

say to us today? We can't wait to find out in Part 2 of Perrin and you must be even more patient! *Neville*

[Readers might find these details useful if they wish to obtain any of these titles; don't forget to try your local library to borrow them! – Ed]

PERRIN, Nicholas: Thomas, the Other Gospel; SPCK 2007, £11-99, 978-0281058716

PATTERSON, Stephen J: Gospel of Thomas & Jesus; Polebridge Press, 1992, £17-95, 978-0944344323

PAGELS, Elaine: Beyond Belief: the Secret Gospel of Thomas; Vintage Books, 2004, £13, 978-0375703164

DeCONICK, April: Recovering the Original Gospel of Thomas: a History of the Gospel & its Growth; Cotinuum Internat, 2006, £28.49, 978-0567043320

Christmas greetings ...

from Jennifer and Anthony Edge, who managed to pick up the *Outreach* deadline reminder email in Spain!

“We would like to send our good wishes to all our friends at St James and to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year from Spain. We are enjoying life with the family here, pleasant weather, lovely mountain views and oranges and lemons ripening on the trees everywhere. Thanks to Barney and Marian we are keeping up to date with St James news. With love to you all from Anthony and Jennifer.”

... and from West Wales: “Jean and Frank Lindsay wish all their friends at St James a joyful Christmas and a very happy New Year. With our love, Jean & Frank.

PS Rusty is no longer with us – he has gone to the land of a thousand lampposts in the sky!”

[Greetings to all who will be away from St James over Christmas, and to our friends everywhere – Ed]

“Penicuik for Africa” Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who came to the coffee morning. It was a great success with over £700 raised. The next donation has been sent to Chitambo to buy furniture for the midwifery school. It's not often that we have “standing room only” at St James but this was one such occasion as so many people came to support us on the day. Thank you to everyone who baked and served on all the stalls and worked in the kitchen. A wonderful team effort by everyone! *Val McGavin*

Memorial to Seafarers

This memorial, mentioned in the June 2010 issue of *Outreach*, at the time of our own Sea Sunday, was finally unveiled by HRH Princess Anne on Tuesday 16 November 2010. It commemorates Scottish seafarers who have lost their lives in peacetime and during times of conflict, 6,500 in WWII, as well as the long tradition of nautical education in Leith in which the Training Ship 'Dolphin' played a part.



The Ceremony was preceded by a service in 'The Mariners' Church', South Leith, conducted by the Rev Ian Gilmour and representatives of all churches. Also present were the Lord Provost, members of the Armed Forces, Merchant Navy and young peoples' organisations.

The Memorial stands on The Shore at Leith in front of Malmaison Hotel, previously 'The Seamen's Home', with beautiful bronze figures - great way to educate youngsters about sea transport, especially as 95% of the goods entering the country still come by sea.

Check out the website:

www.merchantnavymemorialtrust.org.uk

Nigel

Rotas

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

	5 Dec	12 Dec	19 Dec	24 Dec	25 Dec	26 Dec
	Advent 2	Advent 3	Advent 4	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Christmas 1
11.00am Organist	David	Jean	Mike	David	David	David
St Mungo's Organists	Jean	David	David	tba	Jean	tba
Sidesmen	Isobel Stenhouse Catherine Pow	McGarvas	Frantoms	McGarvas	Nigel Johnston Alan Sibley	Tom Moffat Richard Phillips
Bread and wine	Leavys	Young Church	Barretts	Clerks	children	Sibleys
1st reading	<i>Isaiah 11:1-10</i>	<i>Isaiah 35:1-10</i>	<i>Isaiah 7:10-16</i>	<i>Isaiah 9:2-7</i>	<i>Isaiah 52:7-10</i>	<i>Isaiah 63:7-9</i>
	Elizabeth Clark	Young Church	Sue Owen	Elizabeth Clark	Margaret Coull	Adrian Marchant
2nd reading	<i>Romans 15:4-13</i>	<i>James 5:7-10</i>	<i>Romans 1:1-7</i>	<i>Titus 2:11-14</i>	<i>Hebrews 1:1-12</i>	<i>Hebrews 2:10-18</i>
	Richard Phillips	Young Church	Brigitte Fuge	Robert Clerk	Glynis Murray	Ian Fuge
Gospel	<i>Matthew 3:1-12</i>	<i>Matthew 11:2-11</i>	<i>Matthew 1:18-25</i>	<i>John 1:1-14</i>	<i>Luke 2:1-20</i>	<i>Matthew 2:13-23</i>
Prayers	Elizabeth Clark	Young Church	Alan Murray	Sue Crosfield	Alan Murray	David McGavin
Pray for	Young Church	MU	Pastoral Care Group	Families	Families	Bible Study Group
Server	Angela	Val/ Stephen	Martin/ Alice	Val/Alice	Angela/ Martin	Martin/Alice
Coffee	Marion Mather Gillian Little	Isobel Stenhouse Jean Wright	Marchants	-----	-----	Mrs Neish and Family
Flowers	----- Advent -----					
Cleaning	C & M Leavy	????????? ?	Sue Owen Gillian Little			Sue Owen Gillian Little
Welcomers	Nigel Johnston	Andy Longmore	McGarvas	tba	Nigel Johnston Elizabeth Clark	Robert Clerk
Care Van			St James			
Pentland House			St James			

January 2011

	2 January	9 January	16 January	23 January	30 January
	Christmas 2	Epiphany 1	Epiphany 2	Epiphany 3	Epiphany 4 Matins?
11.00am Organist	Jean	Jennifer	David	Mike	David
St Mungo's Organists	Mike	Jean	Mike	David	Jean
Sidesmen	Marchants	Margaret Coull Elizabeth Clark	Nigel Johnston Andy Longmore	Isabel Stenhouse Catherine Pow	McGarvas
Bread and wine	Children	Johnstons	Dicksons	Frantoms	-----
1st reading	<i>Jeremiah 31:7-14 or Sirach 24:1-12</i>	<i>Isaiah 42:1-9</i>	<i>Isaiah 49:1-7</i>	<i>Isaiah 9:1-4</i>	<i>Micah 6:1-8</i>
	Geoff Mather	Gill Amos	Sue Crosfield	Glynis Murray	Gillian Little
2nd reading	<i>Ephesians 1:3-14</i>	<i>Acts 10:34-43</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 1:1-9</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 1:10-18</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 1:18-31</i>
	Marion Mather	Val McGavin	Andy Longmore	Alan Murray	Joyce Black
Gospel	<i>John 1:(1-9), 10-18</i>	<i>Matthew 3:13-17</i>	<i>John 1:29-42</i>	<i>Matthew 4:12-23</i>	<i>Matthew 5:1-12</i>
Prayers	Geoff Mather	Val McGavin	Sue Crosfield	Andy Longmore	MATINS?
Pray for	Choir	CWF	Early Birds Prayer Groups	Fabric Team	J Tots
Server	Angela	Val/Stephen	Martin/ Alice	Angela	MATINS?
Coffee	Frantoms	Mona Bennett Margaret MacLennan	Kathleen Cox Sue Crosfield	Hays Smiths	Marchants
Flowers					
Cleaning	Gill Amos Isabel Stenhouse	Gill Amos Isabel Stenhouse	Clerks	?????????????	Ros Hay Sue Owen
Welcomers	Nigel Johnston Elizabeth Clark	McGarvas	Robert Clerk Elizabeth Clark	Nigel Johnston Andy Longmore	Andy Longmore Robert Clerk
Care Van					
Pentland House					St James

February 2011

	6 February	13 February	20 February	27 February
	Epiphany 5	Epiphany 6	Epiphany 7	Epiphany 8
11.00am Organist	Jean	Jennifer	Mike	David
St Mungo's Organists	Mike	Jean	David	Jean
Sidesmen	Young Church	Frantoms	Tom Moffat Richard Phillips	Margaret Coull Elizabeth Clark
Bread and wine	Young Church	Clerks	Leavys	Barretts
1st reading	<i>Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)</i>	<i>Deuteronomy 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20</i>	<i>Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18</i>	<i>Isaiah 49:8-16a</i>
	Young Church	Margaret Coull	Richard Phillips	Elizabeth Clark
2nd reading	<i>1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 3:1-9</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23</i>	<i>1 Corinthians 4:1-5</i>
	Young Church	Fay Clerk	Georgina Phillips	Sue Owen
Gospel	<i>Matthew 5:13-20</i>	<i>Matthew 5:21-37</i>	<i>Matthew 5:38-48</i>	<i>Matthew 6:24-34</i>
Prayers	David McGavin	Alan Murray	Mike Hay	Elizabeth Clark
Pray for	Young Church leaders	Jubilee Scotland	Mauricewood House Group	Clergy Team
Server	Angela	Val/Stephen	Martin/Alice	Angela
Coffee	McGarvas	Margaret Vesco Joyce Black	Isabel Stenhouse Jean Wright	Marchants
Flowers				
Cleaning	????????????? ?	Ros Hay Marian Hunter	Ros Hay Marian Hunter	?????????????
Welcomers	Nigel Johnston	Andy Longmore Elizabeth Clark	McGarvas	Robert Clerk Nigel Johnston
Care Van				
Pentland House				

Salisbury Cathedral font

Travelling north from a holiday in Dorset in July, we had the opportunity to stop briefly at Salisbury Cathedral. It's a beautiful building, and one of its most striking features is the contemporary font. Designed by English sculptor William Pye, it was consecrated in 2008 by the Archbishop of Canterbury, as part of the Cathedral 750th anniversary.

Cruciform in shape, it is designed as a 'brimming bowl' which, according to an excellent leaflet about the font, has 'combined both movement and stillness, with water flowing from its four corners whilst still maintaining a perfectly still surface that reflects the building around it.' It really was something to be seen, and it seemed to have a magnetic effect on the many visitors; you have to touch the water.

Made from green patinated bronze, it measures three metres wide and uses 3000 litres of (re-circulated) water. There has been no permanent font in the nave for over 150 years, the previous 17th Century font having been shipped off to a small church in Australia in 1870.

The words engraved on its curves are from the new baptism and confirmation services and are taken from Isaiah Chapter 43 verses 1 and 2: 'Do not fear for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you. And through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you.'

Janine Hunter Hall

[see photo inside front cover - Ed]

Penicuik for Africa's AGM

'Small but select' best describes the attendance for our annual gathering, but we reached well into double figures and had representatives from the community and two other churches in our midst, plus a significant number of apologies. The year's achievements had been considerable, due largely to the industry and enthusiasm of Jo Vallis, leader of our campaign to re-open Chitambo Midwifery School. You will recall that Jo attended an 'elearning' conference in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, in May and by chance had discussions with prominent government health officials that confirmed their intention to

refurbish the old school buildings at Chitambo. However, they revealed a desire to train general nurses and community health workers rather than midwives to be in keeping with national health plan goals. The AGM agreed to this change of emphasis because all training needs are pressing and Chitambo needs a new school. Jo went on to visit Chitambo and was able to show us pictures of the restoration work which was well under way.

PfA's task would be to furnish the revamped hostel and classroom and Jo returned with a quote of just under £9,000 for the work. The Treasurer reported that our fund-raising had brought in £5,110.76 during the year, significantly boosted by the recent highly acclaimed Coffee Morning which had raised an astonishing £698! Furthermore, there had been NO administrative expenses!! The first batch of fifteen students is due to arrive in January. Their desks and beds are in place and we sanctioned payment of £4,600 or so for that first consignment of furniture. If we can maintain the pace of our fund-raising next year, we should be able to equip the second batch of students when they enrol in January 2012 for their two-year course. Looking to the future, we approved proposals to collaborate with a Dutch IT organisation, Maccha, and a charitable Baptist foundation, Agape Village, who are currently building a large orphanage in Chitambo. Together, we hope to bring Internet access to the new school.

The sales of Traidcraft goods had declined again by about 10% and an appeal was made for volunteers to set up the stall in the hall on Sundays when Ruth and I are away, so that we can keep the till rolling. Our next fund-raising activity would be the customary stall at the Christmas Street Fair on Saturday, 4 December (2-4pm) and we would welcome support behind the counter and in the form of seasonal home-baking. *Neville*

Church Women's Fellowship

The December meeting of CWF was to have been a Supper Outing on 13 December, but is not possible for the restaurant chosen. Therefore, the date will have to be re-arranged at our next meeting on 15 November. Our meeting on 24 January 2011, which will be our celebratory evening, is at Jean Wright's House in Loanburn Avenue.

Cathie McIlwhan

Mothers' Union News

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

Provincial events:

MU Retreat: Tuesday 5 to Thursday 7 April 2011 - £97
To be led by the Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, the Rt Revd Dr Gregor Duncan.

Diocesan events:

Monthly Intercessions: During the winter months (October to March) on the 2nd Monday of the month 12 noon at St Ninian's, 39 Comely Bank, EH4 1AF. St Ninian's church is situated between Waitrose and the Bank of Scotland opposite Flora Stevenson School. Metered street parking nearby or free (2hr limit) at Waitrose when purchase made. Buses: 24, 29, 42, stop outside; 19, 3, 47, at bottom of Orchard Brae; 38 Craigleith Road/Crewe Road South.

Please send requests for prayer to Julia Mason (0131 343 1165) revdjuliamason@btinternet.com or Jennie Ritchie jennieritchie@sky.com

MU Branch:

Syllabus December 2010

8 Dec Advent tea and Carols - details later

Syllabus 2011

12 Jan and 26 Jan - details later.

9 Feb Rector

23 Feb details later

Subscriptions for 2011 will be £15 excluding the branch sub.

This made up of £8 to MSH and £7 to Diocese MU (includes £1 per member insurance)

Margaret Coull

PS from Jean: RIP: On Oct 12 2010, aged 88, Eliza Larkins. Eliza attended the worldwide MU Conference at Swanwick in July 1988 as President of the Maori MU and subsequently came to Penicuik with the group hosted by St James. We extend our sympathy to her family. She is survived by 10 of her family of 14.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study Group

Health problems, hospital and local surgery appointments, for not only us, but for other members of the group, are preventing us from continuing with these meetings. *Jean & Ralph Hindle*

[apologies for this item being omitted from the AGM reports – Ed]

Hymn lines to ponder:

- 1) Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might
- 2) Still he calls, in cares and pleasures, that we may love him more than these
- 3) Build your church, Lord, make us strong, Lord,
- 4) and if I were a billy goat.....,?

Your prayers are asked for...

Please pray for all those known and unknown to you who through sickness, need, bereavement or any other trouble are in need of God's comfort and support.

Pray for Florence Petrie, Mae Mann, Elizabeth Black, Ruby Graham, John Ford, Irene Hair and Eric Marchant. Also for Kathryn Topham's aunt and uncle, Paddy and Geoff, in Hull who are still going through a difficult time. Pray for Julia Clerk's continuing recovery in New Zealand, and all her family. Continue to pray for the ongoing recovery of Jim McGarva, Alan and Glynis Murray, and Bill Little. Pray for the family of Karen Marchant's mother, Ruth Haig, as they mourn their loss, and all who have lost family and friends. Please continue to pray for baby Rory McGavin, for Lauren and her baby Charlotte. Pray for Jean and Ralph and their family; pray for all those suffering from depression.

Pray for the loss of life in the mining disaster in New Zealand, and for their families. 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 those who staff the Bethany Trust Care Van as they minister to the homeless on the streets of Edinburgh, and for the homeless themselves. Pray for all affected by adverse winter weather.

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. Pray for peoples 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, and from our own congregation. We hold them close to our hearts especially at this Christmas season.

(The Prayer Request book is to be found either 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...

December 2010

Sun 5 Dec	11.00 am Bishop's visit 7.00pm Carol concert led by Bryn Haworth (St Mungo's, Penicuik)
Sun 12 Dec	11.00am Children's Nativity Presentation
Fri 17 Dec	7.00pm "Hope for Penicuik" Carols, Town Hall,
Sun 19 Dec	4.00pm Nine Lessons & Carols, St Mungo's, WL 7.00pm Nine Lessons & Carols, St James
Fri 24 Dec	3.00pm Children's Christmas Presentation, St Mungo's, West Linton
Fri 24 Dec	11.30pm Midnight Christmas Eucharist, St James
Christmas Day	11.00am Family Eucharist

January 2011

Thurs 6 Jan	6.30pm Epiphany Dessert Party, St James
Wed 12 Jan	7.30pm Vestry

Outreach can also be viewed on the St James website:

<http://www.stjamespenicuik.co.uk> The February 2011 edition will be published on Sunday 6 February. Information about events, and contributions, should be with the Editor, Georgina Phillips 01968 661039, Merlewood, The Loan, West Linton, EH46 7HE, phillg13@toucansurf.com by Wednesday 26 January at the latest. If sent by email, please also copy to Mike Hay, mike@hayfamily.co.uk

Contacts at St James

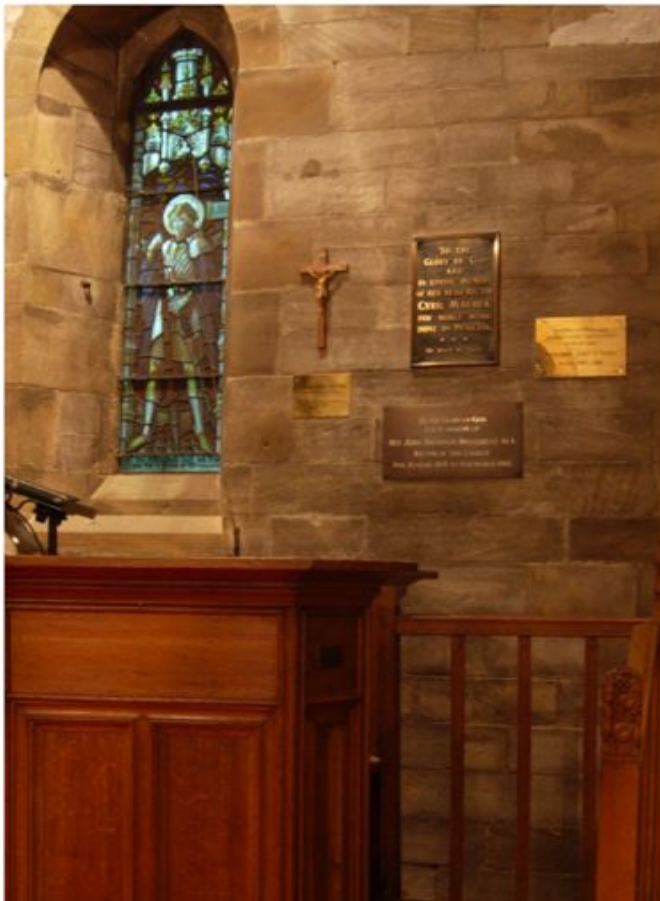
All numbers 01968.. unless otherwise shown.

		Phone	Email
<u>Rector</u>	Revd Robert Warren	672862	rector_penicuik@yahoo.co.uk
	<i>23 Broomhill Road, Penicuik EH26 9EE</i>		
<u>Clergy Team</u>	Revd Dr Tony Bramley	675240	tbramley44@sky.com
	Canon Philip Crosfield	676607	sue.crosfield@btinternet.com
	Revd Dr Neville Suttle	673819	suttle_hints@hotmail.com
	Revd Stephen McCaulay	672976	562mccau@armymail.mod.uk
<u>Vestry: Secretary</u>	Nigel Johnston	674321	drnjohn17@aol.com
	<i>17 Broomhill Road EH26 9EE</i>		
<u>Treasurer</u>	Graham Smith	673012	caplaw@hotmail.co.uk
<u>Minutes Secretary</u>			
<u>Rector's Warden</u>	David McGavin	675614	david.mcgavin@virgin.net
<u>People's Warden</u>	Robert Clerk	679777	rclerk@penhouse.demon.co.uk
<u>Lay Representative</u>	Angela Sibley	674211	angelasibley@talktalk.net
<u>Alt Lay Rep</u>	Richard Phillips	661039	rphillips52@toucansurf.com
<u>Elected Members:</u>	Nikki Dickson		alannicky@tiscali.co.uk
	Gill Amos	673395	gill.amos@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk
	Adrian Marchant	677477	marchantade@yahoo.com
	Geoff Mather	678081	geoff.mather@midlothian.gov.uk
	Ishbel Proctor	677437	iproctor52@sky.com
<u>Co-opted Member:</u>	Andy Longmore	677823	andy.longmore@btinternet.com
<u>Fabric Team Leader</u>	Geoff Mather	678081	geoff.mather@midlothian.gov.uk
<u>Social Coordinator</u>	Alan Murray	678610	alan@amroth350.wanadoo.co.uk
<u>Child Protection</u>	Nigel Johnston	674321	drnjohn17@aol.com
<u>Choirmaster</u>	David McGavin	675614	david.mcgavin@virgin.net
<u>CWF</u>	Joyce Jones	674187	
<u>Flowers</u>	Marion Mather	678081	marion.mather@btinternet.com
<u>House Group</u>	David & Val McGavin	675614	david.mcgavin@virgin.net
<u>Hall bookings</u>	Val McGavin	675614	val.mcgavin@virgin.net
<u>J-Tots</u>	Alison Cole	672400	alisonmaricole@btinternet.com
<u>Mothers' Union</u>	Margaret Coull	675223	margcoul@hotmail.co.uk
<u>Organists</u>	Mike Hay	675761	mike@hayfamily.co.uk
	Jennifer Edge	673234	jenniferedge@talktalk.net
	Jean Hindle	674591	jean@jrhindle.co.uk
<u>Pastoral Visits</u>	Angela Sibley	674211	angelasibley@talktalk.net
<u>Books/magazines</u>	Moirra Johnston	674321	moirajohnston@aol.com
<u>Prayer/Alpha Courses</u>	Faye Clerk	679777	faye.clerk@googlemail.com
<u>Rotas</u>	Angela Sibley	674211	angelasibley@talktalk.net
<u>Sacristan</u>	Ros Hay	675761	ros@hayfamily.co.uk
<u>Stewardship</u>	Richard Phillips	661039	rphillips52@toucansurf.com
<u>Envelopes</u>			
<u>Young Church</u>	Alison Cole	672400	alisonmaricole@btinternet.com
	Gill Amos	673395	gill.amos@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk
<u>Youth Group</u>	Adam Bullough	675549	adambullough@o2.co.uk

The memorial plaques to John Farrant and Frances McLean were dedicated on Sunday 7 November 2010, in a special Evensong for All Souls.

The plaques are sited on the wall beside the pulpit. Do take time to have a look if you have not already.

[Thanks to Ian Fuge for taking the photos under difficult conditions – Ed]





Star prize in the raffle? – Bill Little did a roaring trade at the PfA Coffee Morning. We all wish you a speedy recovery after your hospital stay

Two proud great-grandmothers, Irene Hair and Nan McGavin, with baby Rory McGavin at the PfA Coffee Morning



Gillian Little on her 60th birthday, seen here at a recent MU meeting

