



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. **[Note - NO meeting 7 or 14 April. School Hols]**
Contact Ann or Andrew Dunsire for further details
(07974 605590 / 07580 593504).



TC News

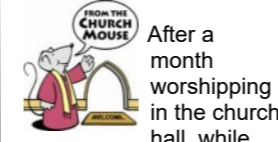
APRIL 2026

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



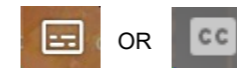
After a month worshipping in the church hall, while the main sanctuary was being rewired, it is great to be back. With new bright lights we will be able to see more clearly, even from the back seats.

Our retiring collection for Comfort International to provide help and assistance for their **Rubaya Landslide Appeal raised £301.**



Did you Know?

On our YouTube Sunday service recordings you can enable subtitles by clicking the icon in the bottom right hand corner of the picture, either



(CC = closed captions, another name for subtitles).

All the speakers voices will have subtitles, ideal if watching in a noisy location.

Hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter

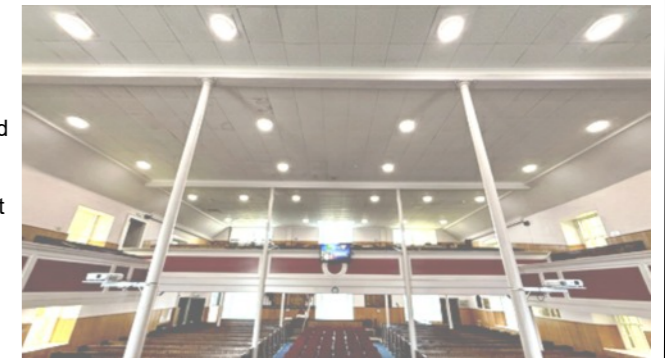
Jim Paterson
 Newsletter Editor
penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com

New Light at Trinity Community Church Report by Jim Paterson

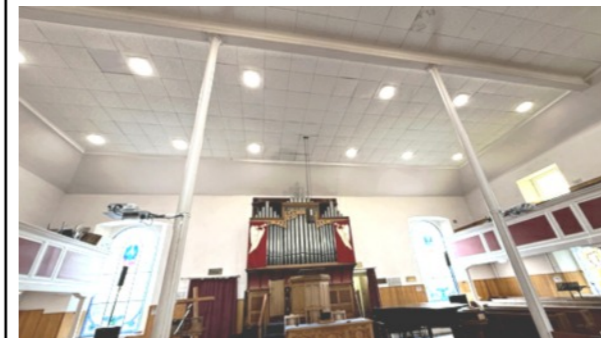


The next phase of our church refurbishment programme was completed at the end of March.

Following the pew removal and heating pipework repair and heating upgrade we focused on the lighting and power outlets in the sanctuary. A team from Bonnyrigg Electrical Services have been busy during March completely rewiring the church building, replacing the existing ageing cabling and taking the opportunity to increase the number of 13 amp outlets across the church building. Steven was in charge of the team and soon they were up above the ceiling to replace the light fittings and wiring. They also removed a selection of pigeons and other animal infestations that had been trapped up there for some time.



The result as you can see from the above night time photo (ignore the skip which will be uplifted soon) turns our sanctuary from night into day. You can now see through the stained glass windows with the gallery balconies in clear view. The new floodlights under the portico also make the outside a feature of the building.



Some 12 additional 13A outlets will reduce the need for extension cables for both the cleaners vacuum and the audio visual area running the sound and projection. The use of modern LED lighting will also reduce the running costs, providing more light for less cost.

We hope you enjoy this latest improvement to the church and invite you to come and experience our warm and welcoming pastoral team in the refurbished sanctuary.

Bible Teaching Day for Women

Saturday 18 April 2026
 10:00am - 5:00pm
 Grange Manor Hotel
 Glensburgh, Grangemouth FK3 8XJ

£40.00 day rate plus £22.00 for dinner

Speakers: Rhona Black, Helensburgh
 Wendy Bathgate & Daisy Belton, SU Scotland

For more information please contact
riseupscotland@yahoo.com
 or call 01324 410046 (answer machine)

Our Bible teacher, Rhona Black, had an accident recently, and is therefore unable to join us. We are disappointed but our main priority is Rhona's recovery, and we know she is in the Lord's healing hands.



We're delighted that she has committed to coming next year, God willing - 17 April 2027 for your diaries!

For this year, we are so thankful to Ruth Aird (Penicuik) for stepping in at short notice along with Charmaine McMeekin who will talk about her father Eric Lomax, The Railway Man.

SATURDAY 11TH APRIL

TRINITY COMMUNITY CHURCH HALL
 4 KIRKHILL RD, PENICUIK,
 EH26 8JX

10AM - 12PM

£4 ENTRY, INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS

STALLS, TOMBOLA, HOME BAKING AND DAFFODILS!



Planned Guests for Heart of the Matter April 2026

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

Date	Guest	
5 April	Easter Day Gold 53	A special broadcast
12 April	Tim Bell	Retired Sea Chaplain
19 April	Alfred Suhakar Ling	World Vision India
26 April	Sarah Mallon	Supporter Engagement Officer Mary's Meals

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 Diary

5, 12, 19, 26 April 7.15pm	Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting. - Church Hall
2 February 2.00pm	Guild - Project Bear Necessities, Build My Church Bulgaria; Cathy Reece/ Christina Ross
6, 13, 20, 27 April 7.00pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Small Hall. Details Kathleen Downey 07985 294495
6, 13, 20, 27 April 7.15pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details Sheena Dawe 07810 477597
6, 13, 20, 27 April 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details from Neil & Joan Cape 674276
6, 13, 20, 27 April 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Various homes. Details Ruth Aird rutheaird@outlook.com
7, 14, 21, 28 April 10.00am	Tuesday House Group - Small Hall. Details Mary Darling 01968 660585.
7, 14, 21, 28 April 7.00pm	Tuesday House Group - Various homes. Details Caroline McIntosh 07747 894046
8, 15, 22, 29 April 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - (Meeting Room)
21, 28 April 7.00pm to 9.00pm	Tuesday Youth Bible Group. Details Ann or Andrew Dunsire 07974 605590, 07580 593504
19 April 2.30 - 4.30pm	The animated film telling the story of Jesus Christ (Trinity Community Church Hall)
06 May 10.45am	Friendship Hour in the Church Hall (Meeting Room)

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)

Long Service Certificates - Sunday 22 March



At the conclusion of our service on Sunday 22nd March the Rev John Urquhart presented long service certificates to four of our longest serving Elders.

The longest serving of the group went to Ian Dickson who was ordained in 1974. Ian has offered his advice and guidance on many of the activities carried out by our church, both as St. Mungo's and following union with South Kirk under the new name Trinity Community Church. He also served as church Treasurer ensuring that our funds were well looked after both investments and getting the best value for money when purchasing items to keep the church and organisations in good order. In presenting his certificate our minister noted that he would have been 8 years old when Ian was ordained!

Bill Webster was ordained in 1975. Bill has long been involved in our church prayer activities, leading prayer gatherings and meetings. His monthly Prayer Prompts have long been a feature of the monthly newsletter reaching all members, and available to visitors of our church.

David Hogg has been an Elder since 1981, and also presbytery reader since 1987. David has led many of our services and preached in many of the kirks around Midlothian. During one of his services shortly after the Russian invasion of Ukraine he led us through the Lord's Prayer speaking Ukraine (East Slavic). Though David is a fluent Russian speaker, he found Ukrainian a challenge to get his head around.

Gordon MacDonald ordained as Elder in 1980 and retired December 2025. He held the role of Fabric Conventor for 45 years, leading many projects in church & hall, including several upgrades to the heating and roofs of both the church sanctuary and Hall. Decoration, painting, and the St. Kentigern bell tower restoration also fell under his wing to maintain. A trained architect, he was also Presbytery Conventor some 36 years advising other church property conventors across Midlothian. Gordon remains in a consultant role with his many tasks now spread across a number of Elders.



In addition to a long service certificate Gordon received a card, signed by many of his colleagues in our church and a trophy made from roof slate and a church pew, items that he often got involved with during his time at the 'helm'.

Beetle Drive- 20 March Report by Jim Paterson



Members from churches across Penicuik turned out for the TC Beetle Drive on Friday 20 March.

Each table hosted a team of four, with each team consisting of two partners. The 'Beetle has 12 parts, 1 body, 6 legs, 1 head, 2 eyes, and 2 antennae or feelers, giving a maximum score of 12 for a complete beetle. To start you must roll a 6 on the dice to obtain a body. Without a body you can't attach a head, legs etc. If one partner rolls a 6 both members win a body.



The winning pair of players move on to the next team, but their partnership splits into another pairing, so you met everyone by the end of the evening.

The 'drive' consisted of 12 rounds, taking just over an hour to complete, such was the hilarity and laughter in the hall.

Refreshments followed, with tea or coffee and home baked cakes and scones.

Helen McCall won the top score prize, A fantastic fun way to meet friends, old and new.

Transforming Valleyfield House into a Performing Arts Centre



Valleyfield House is one of Penicuik's most significant historic buildings, but locals are warning it is now at risk of being lost to private ownership, which would remove any opportunity for it to serve a long-term public or community purpose.

As a response, a team of passionate musicians have launched a new community charity, **Valleyfield Arts**, to ensure the building is protected, restored and transformed into a vibrant performing arts centre and community hub to serve the people of Penicuik and the surrounding areas.

Founded by the Head of Pentland School of Music, Graham McDonald, Valleyfield Arts is aiming to raise £1million to purchase and restore Valleyfield House. This funding aims to support acquisition costs, legal and professional fees, and the initial restoration required to make the building safe, flexible and fit for multi-disciplinary performing arts use. Fundraising will combine major grants, philanthropic support and community fundraising, with early public support playing a crucial role in demonstrating to funders that there is clear local backing.

Valleyfield Arts is calling on local residents, artists, performers, families, supporters of heritage and the performing arts, and anyone with a connection to Penicuik to get involved by donating, sharing the campaign and helping to build visible support for the project.

Further information about the charity campaign, details of the proposed transformation and ways to donate can be found at www.valleyfieldarts.com.

Guild - Dalkeith Palace - 2nd March Report by Jenny Ramage

The speaker Charlotte Rostek told us about Dalkeith Palace, regarded as one of Scotland's grandest early classical houses. There was originally a castle and palace on the site owned by the Earls of Morton in the 16th century and acquired by Francis 2nd Earl of Buccleuch in 1642.



It was Anna 1st Duchess of Buccleuch who appointed architect James Smith to design the new palace which took 10 years to build and was completed in 1711. It was a very opulent building with a lot of marble, oak panelling, parquet flooring, very thick walls and large windows. There was also a huge collection of art with pictures covering the walls.

Many eminent people have visited the Palace including Bonnie Prince Charlie, George IV and Queen Victoria. The Palace was used as the Buccleuch family residence up to World War 1.



During Second World War, Polish troops of the 3rd Flanders Rifle Brigade, part of the 1st Polish Armoured Division, were quartered on the third floor of Dalkeith Palace from 1942 onwards. Graffiti drawn by these troops is still visible on the third floor wallpaper of the Palace.

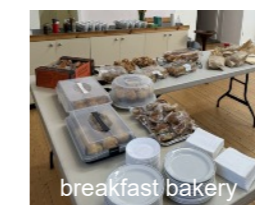


In the 1970s and early 1980s, Dalkeith Palace was used as a research and development office by the computer firm International Computers Ltd. (ICL), who leased the Palace until 1983.

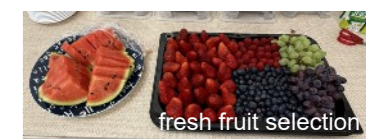
The University of Wisconsin used the building for some 40 years until 2020 as an overseas education centre but Dalkeith Palace is now owned by the Buccleuch Living Heritage Trust and plans are made to develop it as a centre for arts and culture. Currently they hold exhibitions, concerts and do tours and group visits.

Prayer Breakfast - Saturday 28th March - Report by Ann Dunsire.

Many thanks to all who came along to the prayer breakfast on 28th March. It was really encouraging to see so many folks take the time out of their day to enjoy breakfast together, then pray with one another for all the children's and young peoples' work in the Penicuik churches.



Very grateful to Gemma Morton, SU Regional Worker for East Lothian & Midlothian, coming along to speak at the start and share encouraging testimonies of three young people at a recent SU weekend away, two of whom had come to faith through school SU groups and one after being adopted into a Christian family.



Gemma Morton

We also heard from Katy McDonald, member of TYBG who shared her summer plans of leadership with SU Magnitude and children's work at the Keswick Convention before she starts university in September.

Caroline Toms and Andrew Dunsire provided the music for the praise songs we sang between the presentations.



Katy McDonald

We plan to have our next Prayer Breakfast on Saturday 26th September - save the date!



FREE ENTRY

Snacks available on arrival

Further information from

Ruth Aird -

ruthaird@outlook.com

Trinity Community Church Hall
Sunday 19 April 2.30 - 4.30
Suitable for children 5-11 years

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.