

Charlie Baxter : 1929 - 2025



We gathered at Mortonhall to say our final goodbye to church member 95 year old Charlie Baxter on Friday 3 October.

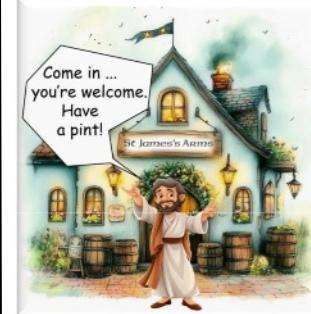
Charlie was fun & sociable, with a real enjoyment of life. He was knowledgeable & well-read. Charlie loved the sea & ships. He was a member of the World Ship Society & had 100's of books & 1,000's of photos of ships. If you showed him a random ship photo, he always knew its name.

He was a lifelong Hibs fan & he'd tell of games he remembered attending in the 1930's or '40's. Another great passion was country & western music. He loved going to country & western clubs every week, as well as to concerts & shows.

Faith was important in his life. He left behind a small collection of books on the Christian life. One of Charlie's books was called *Fear Not!* It gives a Christian perspective on death. It says:

'We see a glimpse of the goodness of God in that the Bible does not deal with death by denial or pretending it is no big deal; instead, His Word prepares us by facing the problem of death head on.'

PUB QUIZ 15th November 7.00pm



PUB QUIZ

15th November, 2025, 7pm
St James the Less Church Hall
£5.00 / advance ticket from Marion Mather or Alan Murray.
Questions about music, history, geography, TV, books etc - some answerable by small people - so bring your children / grandchildren.

Food provided - bring your own bottle.
alanmurray350@gmail.com with any queries

St. James the Less Scottish Episcopal Church is a registered charity SC011288

Rosemary Marwick

Congratulations to Rosemary Marwick on receiving her Guild Long Service Award 50 years.



Presented by Guild convenor Agnes Haggart

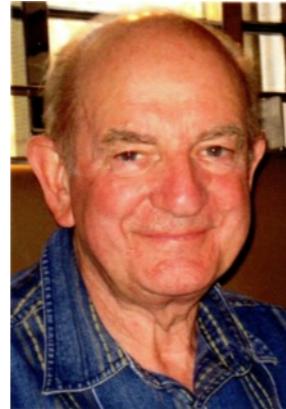
Trinity Community Diary

3, 10, 17, 24 November 7.00pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Details Kathleen Downey 07985 294495
3, 10, 17, 24 November 7.15pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details Sheena Dawe 07810 477597
3, 10, 17, 24 November 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Various homes. Details Ruth Aird rutheaird@outlook.com
3, 10, 17, 24 November 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details from Neil & Joan Cape 674276
4, 11, 18, 25 November 10.00am	Tuesday House Group - Details Mary Darling 01968 660585.
4, 11, 18, 25 November 7.00 to 9.00pm	Tuesday Youth Bible Group (TYBG) - Contact Ann 07974 605590 or Andrew 07580 593504
4, 11, 18, 25 November 7.00pm	Tuesday House Group - Various homes. Details Caroline McIntosh 07747 894046
5 November 10.45am	Friendship Hour - Church Hall. Contact Margaret Webster 07761 096472
6, 13, 20, 27 November 10am - 12noon	Thursday Coffee and Chat - Church Hall
9 November 10.45am	Remembrance Service - Trinity Community Church
12, 19, 26 November 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Church Hall. Contact Bill Webster 07955 234849
16 November 11.00am	Safeguarding Sunday - Service in the Church
29 November 10.00am - 12 noon	Christmas Fair - Church Hall. Hall Open Friday 28 2-4pm to receive donations
30 November 11.00am	Advent Sunday & Communion - Service in the 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)

Jim Paterson : 1938 - 2025 Report by Jim Paterson

Once again we were drawn to Mortonhall Crematorium on Thursday 16 October, this time for the funeral of 87 year old Jim Paterson, husband of Mary Paterson. The service was led by the Rev Bill Irving, a great friend of the Paterson family. As well as a member of our church Jim was a keen Rotary member, always willing to help where he could.



I first met Jim in the early seventies when I moved to Penicuik. We both worked for BT with Jim specialising in the sales side and myself in engineering. In those days he also had the role of Press Release officer.

We were both on call 24*7 and, having the same name, I would occasionally receive calls at home from journalists and editors for comment on a breaking news story. As Jim was not averse to playing practical jokes I was occasionally tempted to wind him up by playing one back on him through the press!

Our careers went their separate ways but we met again in Manchester where he ran the sales teams for Scotland, northern England and Northern Ireland, and I major customer service support in Scotland and north of England.

Jim enjoyed trips to Australia to visit son Campbell and family in Melbourne, on occasions cruising the north and east coast of the continent. My son lives in Brisbane but Jim and I never managed to bump into each other on the other side of the world.

Jim had a good send off with many BT and Rotary colleagues there, together with members of our church, to say their final farewells.

Planned Guests for Heart of the Matter November 2025



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

Date	Guest	
2 Nov	Rev Jane Howitt	Chaplain Heriot Watt University
9 Nov	Jen Robertson	Children's Resources Manager Scottish Bible Society
16 Nov	David Meldrum	Barnabas Aid
23 Nov	Dr Craig D. Forrest	Pro TV Director/Doc Film Maker/Author
30 Nov	Dr Craig D. Forrest Part 2	Pro TV Director/Doc Film Maker/Author

- 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



TC News

NOVEMBER 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

Harvest Thanksgiving - 5 October : with Izzy and Callum Henderson from Comfort International



Sunday 5 October saw the front of the church covered in foodstuffs, donated by members of the congregation. From tinned foods of all types to fresh produce, apples, oranges, bananas, to vegetables, including onions potatoes and tomatoes. This meant it had to be our harvest thanksgiving service.



Our guest presenters for this service were Callum and Izzy Henderson from Comfort International, the charity whose mission is to help rebuild lives devastated by poverty, genocide and conflict in the nations of the world.



The charity works with partners in Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, South Sudan and Uganda to bring lasting transformation to lives and communities.

We reported in the August issue of TC News church member Ann Dunsire's trip to central Africa with the charity.

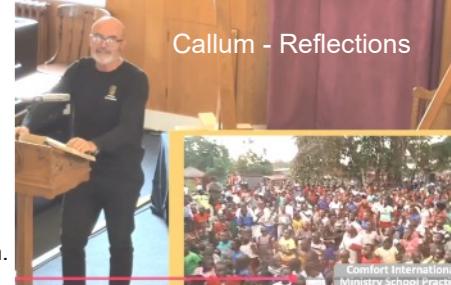
Watch Izzy and Callum's harvest talks at <https://youtu.be/E--7LF41qPc>



Izzy led the All Age Spot in the harvest service, using a quiz to show us the people of Democratic Republic of Congo, how many live there, what languages they speak, capital city, favourite sport, what they export, and the natural features of their country.

Callum led the Reflection talk, describing how Comfort International was formed back in 1999 and subsequent development, relating that to the bible story of Ruth and Boaz.

He explained the work that goes on in the countries above, both transforming lives of the people and children, plus bringing the word of God through pastor training courses across the region. By providing the people with skills the charity enables them to create an economy that will enrich their society to provide future 'harvests' to overcome the famines and poverty that occur throughout the region.



Following the service the congregation were treated to a soup and bread lunch in the church hall, prepared by the team at Trinity Community Church.

The harvest gifts on display in the church were distributed to local families in desperate need around Penicuik.

Hats Gloves and Scarves - 26 October



Visitors to our communion service on Sunday 26 October arrived to see the wonderful display of knitted hats, gloves, scarves and blankets on display in the church hall.



The church had once again collected hundreds of knitted hats, gloves and scarves for the Blythswood Care Christmas appeal. We welcomed bought hats, scarves, gloves etc for adults and children from non-knitters.

Each year church members spend hours knitting items, with others buying to add to the display that is sent to Blythswood Care.

Last year our collection enabled Blythswood to send over 85,000 shoeboxes to eight different countries – Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine.

Since their first Shoe Box Appeal in 1993 Blythswood have sent more than 2.8 million boxes – each one different, each one personal, each one an expression of your care and kindness towards a stranger in need.



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.

At the Sunday morning service on 26 October Margaret Barry thanked everyone who had knitted or donated items bought to add to the collection on display.



Watch the service at <https://youtu.be/NbJV-0wcr6A>

Guild meetings October Reports by Jenny Ramage

Crossreach - Ashley Stanton 6th October

The speaker was Ashley Stanton from Crossreach, the social care arm of the Church of Scotland serving God and providing care.

In the talk we learnt about Finding the Light in every Child, in particular the Daisy Chain service in Glasgow and the Perinatal Mental Health service in Edinburgh.

Daisy Chain is a community based, early intervention project for children under 12 and their families where the team work to improve children's health and wellbeing through play and nurture strengthening family relationships. We watched a video demonstrating a baby's development and how the lack of interaction can massively affect the child's future. Children with disabilities, from deprived backgrounds and facing home challenges can thrive at the centre.

The Mental Health Service helps parents with their own emotional and psychological needs so they are more able to respond to their child's cues and engage in a positive way. This all offers hope for young families through counselling who have faced hardship and challenges in their lives, helping to build confidence.

Ways to support Crossreach were becoming a member, fundraising and praying for services. Ashley also had leaflets, a prayer diary, pens and notebooks available.

Jenny Ramage gave the Vote of Thanks.



Penicuik Heritage Regeneration Project - Rod Lugg 20th October

Rod Lugg from the Penicuik Heritage Regeneration Project, which was set up 6 years ago to regenerate the historic Conservation centre of Penicuik, spoke about how it was setup and implemented.

The scheme was jointly funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Environment Scotland and Midlothian Council with support from Penicuik Development Trust and Penicuik First and other community organisations.

There was a programme of repair and restoration to the buildings and streets in the Conservation Area together with training and community engagement with the history and heritage of Penicuik. Surveys were carried out and work prioritised.

Aims were to improve attractiveness, promote tourism, support and boost local businesses, offer traditional construction skills to young people and working in schools to raise awareness of local history.

Over 6 years and at a cost of £5m the project has repaired and restored 28 historic buildings, improved 20 shopfronts, brought 2 empty buildings back into use, improved public spaces widening and repaving footpaths and completed around 600 community engagements, training and educational initiatives.

There is now a Heritage Trail around the area with information panels starting at the Hearse House in the churchyard for which Rod had a very interesting information leaflet which he distributed to members.

Vote of thanks was given by Ina McLachlan.



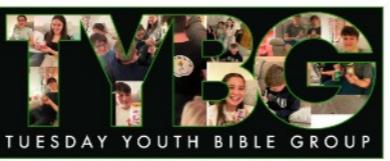
Remembrance Sunday - 9 November 10.45am



With the closure of the Penicuik British Legion there will be no march down Kirkhill to Trinity Community Church.

Organisations will gather in front of the church and enter the church as in past years.

After the service there will be no formal march to the memorial in Montgomery Park, organisations making their way through the precinct.



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).



When was the last time you were invited to something?

You may find it hard to believe but those who have looked into it suggest each of us sees between 6,000 and 10,000 adverts per day. Each of these is an invitation to buy something we don't have, change something for something better or be something that we are not. They all start from the same place that something is missing from our lives. Our materialistic society depends on us repeatedly buying more things or the demand for goods stops which in turn affects jobs and so on. That of course means the things we are encouraged to get are not designed to last forever. This is a very simplistic view because for instance, our bodies are fed by the food we buy whilst our minds are fed by the books we buy. If we just bought them and did nothing with them, they would do us no good. A lot of things in life are essential to live and we cannot do without them. Always though we are invited to consider what more can we have so that our lives will be better.

The question of invitation lies at the heart of our Christian faith. We invite people to come to church with us because we want them to share in the joy of worshipping God. We invite God to heal, accompany, bless and be with people through our prayers. God invites us to be part of his family and in turn invites us to be salt and light in this world, making his Kingdom a reality. Invitation is part of the DNA of faith.

you're invited.

Penicuik Trinity Community Church

Invitation is of course only one side of the equation because with invitation comes either acceptance or refusal. Isaiah 55:1 "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!" is reflected in Matthew 11:28 where Jesus says, "Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest". Yet we have no idea how many actually responded. Invitation is our business, response we leave to the individual and to God.

With that in mind, we are encouraging everyone who attends our churches to invite someone else every week. Is that something you could do?

Likewise, we invite everyone to pray for the people of this world with all the difficulties it contains as well as for situations closer to home.

Pray that God would send His Spirit. One of the most beautiful things about the invitation to be part of God's family is it will not wear out or run out; it is eternal.



Norman Smith, Presbytery Clerk

Norman plans to leave his role as Presbytery Clerk in December to take up the post of Chief Officer in the administration of the Church of Scotland. Please pray for him in this challenging time for the Christian Church.

Kidspace - Zacchaeus Bible Story

A recent Sunday morning Kidspace covered the story of Zacchaeus.



Zacchaeus was a short, wealthy tax collector in Jericho who wanted to see Jesus but couldn't see over the crowd, so he climbed a sycamore tree. Jesus saw him, called him by name, and invited himself to Zacchaeus's house. This encounter led to a transformation in Zacchaeus, who pledged to give half his possessions to the poor and repay anyone he had cheated four times over.



Using Duplo bricks the children built the tree that Zacchaeus climbed.



MIDLOTHIAN TOY APPEAL

Help brighten the Christmas for children in need by donating NEW toys and gifts this Christmas. Kindly bring all donations to the Penicuik Pantry by the end of November. Your kindness makes a difference—thank you!

