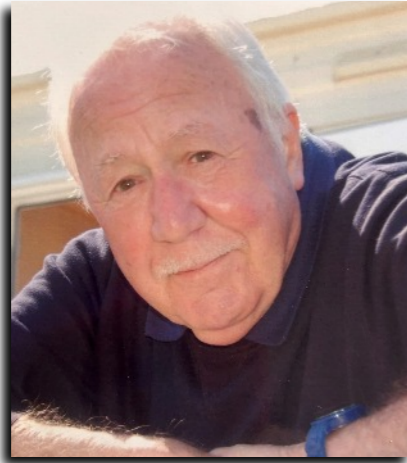


## Norman Wilson

We gathered to say our final farewell to Norman Wilson on Friday 8 November, a father, grandfather and long time elder of St. Mungo's church. Born 28 July 1945, second son of Charles and Jane Wilson, Norman grew up in Leith with his brother Archie, 3 years his senior. Joined the Boys Brigade in his younger years, becoming a drummer in the band.



His career took him into newspaper journalism, though he was also a qualified driving instructor. Joining the Glasgow Herald in 1964 he married in 1966. A great Hearts supporter provided a source of photographs when he became a photographer with the Scotsman. The family moved to Penicuik, first to Mauricewood then Cornbank, where Norman's other passion DIY came in handy, including an extension to the family home in Brockwood Avenue.

Norman's children Alan and June were often called upon to model in some of the photographs which occasionally meant with celebrities of the time, be they rally car champion Andrew Cowan or the cast at the playhouse. Access for Alan and June to backstage was frequent as Norman had the open pass to meet the players. The darkroom at the Scotsman was a regular haunt and the staff at the Scotsman knew the children well. The photography bug rubbed off on Alan who would later take up the profession and can be seen at many civic functions, loaded with cameras around his neck, across the county.

June met up with Jason Home, the pair marrying in 1990. By chance Alan struck up a relationship with Vanessa, Jason's sister, and they married too. Small world! The couples were blessed with children Damon, Abbie, Josh and Callum, who Norman greatly enjoyed as his grandchildren.

After retiring Norman suffered from dementia, a cruel disease. However he bowed out with his popular saying 'see you later alligator'.

## Heart of the Matter December Schedule

1 Dec	Linda Hoskins - Edinburgh Artist
8 Dec	Grace Knight - Educator / Former Head Teacher in Nepal
15 Dec	Rt. Rev Dr. Shaw J Paterson. Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland
22 Dec	Christmas Special
29 Dec	Heartbeats of 2024 Part 1

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

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

## Trinity Community December Diary See front page for Christmas events calendar

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 December 7.15pm	Sunday evening Prayer Meeting - Church Hall
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 December 7.00pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Small Hall. Details Kathleen Downey 07985 294495
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 December 7.15pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details Sheena Dawe 07810 477597
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 December 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details from Neil & Joan Cape 674276
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 December 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Various homes. Details Ruth Aird <a href="mailto:rutheaird@outlook.com">rutheaird@outlook.com</a>
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 December 10.00am	Tuesday House Group - Small Hall. Details Mary Darling 01968 660585.
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 December 7.00pm	Tuesday House Group - Various homes. Details Caroline McIntosh 07747 894046
4 December 10.45am	Friendship Hour - Small Hall [for help with transport call Margaret Webster 672347]
5, 12, 19, 26 December 10.00am to 12 noon	Coffee and Chat - Church Hall
7 December 7.00pm	Penicuik Silver Band Concert - TC Church
9 December	Guild Christmas Lunch - Navaar House Hotel
11, 18 December 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Small Hall
29 December 11.00am	Joint Sunday Service - Penicuik North Kirk

## FFF helping others at Christmas



**Saturday 7, 14, 21 December:**

FFF are calling out for help for a few volunteers from the Penicuik churches to go in during the morning till about 2pm to help serve coffees and light lunches and maybe even sing some carols.

**If you are able to be part of a team on any of these dates please give your name to John or to Joan Cape.**

## Nepal Hospital Appeal



A big "Thank you" to everyone who contributed to the appeal towards the Leprosy Mission's hospital in Anandaban, Nepal (which was catastrophically affected by recent floods)?

Devastating landslides in Nepal have left The Leprosy Mission's Anandaban Hospital in a critical state. The water supply is damaged, and impassable roads are blocking emergency aid

A special offering on 17 November raised **£465.21**, so with the Kirk Session approving a donation of **£150.00** from the Good Causes fund, we will be able to send more than **£600.00**. A great response!

# DECEMBER 2024



# TC News

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](mailto:penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com)

## CHRISTMAS AT PENICUIK CHURCHES



## Christmas Services and Activities in Penicuik 2024

**Saturdays on 7 Dec, 14 Dec, 21 Dec - Activities for all – 10am - 2pm - Food Facts Friends, 42 John St**  
 Christmas music, hot drinks, snacks, a special visitor

<b>Tue 10</b>	<i>A Blue Christmas</i> : for those who find the Christmas season challenging or difficult (Refreshments after)	7.30pm	St James the Less (with C of S) (Afterwards: <i>Said Compline</i> )
<b>Sat 14</b>	<i>Carol Singing in the Precinct</i>	10am - noon	Joint Churches
	<i>Welcome Christmas</i> (for all ages) <i>Hope for Penicuik</i> with the Silver Band, carols etc	6.30 - 7.30pm	In Trinity Community Hall (Joint Churches)
<b>Sun 15</b>	<i>Young Kirk Nativity Service</i>	11am	Penicuik North Kirk
	<i>Christingle Service</i> : for the young & young at heart	5pm	St James the Less
<b>Sun 22</b>	<i>Nativity Service</i>	11am	Trinity Community Church
	<i>Christingle Service</i>	11am	Penicuik North Kirk
	<i>Carol Service</i>	6.30pm	Baptist Church
	<i>A Service of Lessons and Carols</i>	7pm	St James the Less
<b>Tue 24</b>	<i>Vigil Mass</i>	6pm	Sacred Heart
	<i>All-age Christmas Eve Gathering</i>	4.30pm	Trinity Community Church
	<i>Christmas Eve Service</i>	6.30pm	Penicuik North Kirk
	<i>Midnight Mass</i>	11.30pm	St James the Less
	<i>Watchnight Service</i> (hot drinks from 11pm)	11.30pm	Trinity Community Church
<b>Wed 25</b>	<i>Welcome the King</i>	10.30am	Penicuik North Kirk
	<i>Holy Communion for Christmas Day</i>	10.30am	St James the Less
	<i>Christmas Morning Celebration</i>	10.30am	Trinity Community Church
	<i>Christmas Morning Mass</i>	11am	Sacred Heart

**These are the special services/events. Sunday services are at normal times unless otherwise stated.**  
 For individual church websites please see the links from: [www.penicuikchurchestogether.org.uk](http://www.penicuikchurchestogether.org.uk)

**May God bless you this Christmas and throughout 2025. From all at the Manse.**

## Messy Christmas at Messy Church

### 'Messy Christmas' - 23 November

Messy Christmas - an afternoon of crafts for families - was held in the hall on Saturday 23rd November, to coincide with the turning on of the Christmas lights in Penicuik.

There was a good turnout of families with young children, who enjoyed decorating balloons, colouring 'stained glass' ornaments, making and decorating Christmas trees from lolly sticks, and taking away story books and 'pop-up' nativity scenes to colour in at home.



We reckon to have had over 50 people through the church hall doors in the course of the afternoon - some back for the third year in a row....and lots of happy faces!

### Messy Church Sunday 24th November

We thought about the promises of Christmas (God's promise to the Jews over many generations, and to Mary; the angels' promise to the shepherds; the promise of the guiding star to the wise men; and God's promises to us as we trust in Jesus).

We also enjoyed making things (like golden angels to stick on a cross, and snowmen made out of giant marshmallows), and a hunt for shiny stars hidden round the hall. There was an exciting 'pass the parcel' game, with lots of layers of wrapping paper to be torn off to reveal shepherds, sheep, wise men, more sheep, a camel (we think), Joseph, more sheep, Mary and a manger, with a baby Jesus right at the centre (as he should be).

These knitted people and creatures are available to see on the window ledges of the hall....see if you can spot them all over the Christmas period.



## Guild - History of Leadburn 4 November - Jenny Ramsay

The speaker on Monday 4 November was Alison MacDonald who spoke about the History of Leadburn and the surrounding area.



After Alison moved into Annsmill she began researching the history of the house and discovered that it had once been a Home for Tired Mothers!

She showed us maps from the past when there was no road from Leadburn to Penicuik but eventually links were made both by road and rail with the Peebles railway opening making connections to the Leadburn Inn which became a hub between road, rail and the mail coach.



Leadburn Inn circa 1938

A branch line also operated via Lamancha and West Linton to Dolphinton. During WW2 a Naval Armaments depot was based along the line, some remnants of huts still visible in the Leadburn Community Woods.

The Leadburn Inn was run by 5 generations of the Thomson family but in 2005 after a devastating accident the building was destroyed by fire. Nearby was the Wellington school which operated

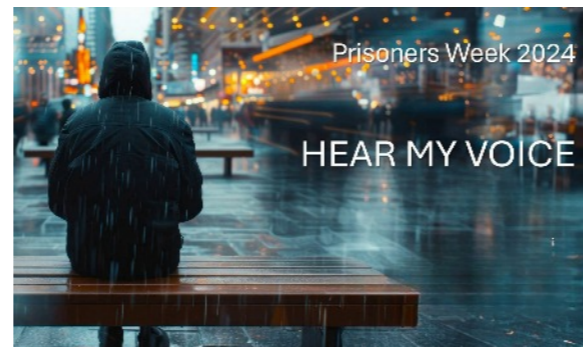
from 1860 - 2014 in various capacities from Reformatory, Approved school, List D and residential. The residents were taught skills and trades like shoe/boot making, woodwork, farming and horticulture.

The Home for Tired Mothers at Annsmill was opened in 1884 by Emma M Stirling a formidable lady who became involved in helping young homeless children, giving shelter from cruelty and founding a children's aid society which became the SSPCC.



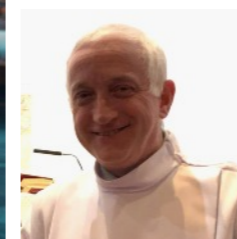
Leadburn station 1864

## Guild - Prison Chaplaincy - 17 November Christine Jackson



Prisoners Week 2024

HEAR MY VOICE



Tom McEvoy Deacon at the Sacred Heart Church Penicuik spoke about his work as a Prison Chaplain at HMP Edinburgh, employed by the Scottish Prison Service. Tom advised us that it was in fact Prisoners Week 2024 from 17th to 23rd November and led us in the Prisoners Week Prayer.

Tom went on to give an extremely interesting talk on his duties as part of the Prison Chaplaincy Team. Tom certainly opened the eyes of everyone when he explained his duties and the problems faced by Prisoners and Staff. Tom then answered questions by members. Our service on 24 November took Prisoner Week as the theme.

You can watch this service <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j9ekJeckF-0>

**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)

## From the Kirk Session Report by Neil Cape

Over the past few months we've been busy planning new outreach ideas.



The Breakfast Club at the High School should start in the new year, manned by volunteers from across the Penicuik churches, to provide



breakfasts for youngsters who may arrive at school hungry. We're also looking into the possibility of employing someone to collect and collate information about existing provision for families, children and young people in the town; we need help to identify areas where we might start, or help to start, a new venture, or support an existing venture. The dates for next year's Holiday Club (for primary age children) are now fixed - 29 July to 1 August (inclusive).

The main news is that we are now back in the church building - with carpets and comfortable chairs - although there are still pews to sit on if you prefer! Many thanks to all the workmen and volunteers who have made this possible.



New chairs comfort for visitors

We've also had to invest in new projectors and speakers, as the old ones had given up after 13 years of use. You will have noticed that the scaffolding on the Bell Tower is still there - all the masonry work is now complete - just the roof to be dealt with.



We're also setting up a 'pastoral care group', to make sure that we look after one another well - if you already have a designated contact person (elder, visitor or house group leader) there will be no change at present; the new team will need to have formal safeguarding training and certificates, as some already have.

Of course, all this costs money - so thank you to all who have supported the various fund-raising ventures over the year (whether as volunteers or just by coming), and our continuing thanks to those who give regularly, every week or month, to the work of the church. But to start new outreach work, and keep our buildings repaired and warm, will require expenditure...so please think about increasing your giving to match the rise in inflation, particularly if you've not reviewed it recently. And a big thank you to all who have contributed generously to the various appeals we have had to help people in need across the world, whether through Christian Aid, the Leprosy Mission, or the many other causes that you support individually.



If you're interested in the details of what goes on at Kirk Session meetings, I hope to have the agreed Minutes of our meetings available by the end of the year in a folder at the back of the church, for you to consult. You can always ask me if you have any questions...but I may not have an immediate answer!

Wishing you every blessing over the Christmas period - details of all the church services and events in Penicuik are in this newsletter - why not try something new this year?

Neil Cape (674276, [tccsessionclerk@gmail.com](mailto:tccsessionclerk@gmail.com))

**Coffee Morning**  
Penicuik North Kirk  
Saturday 7 December  
10am to 12noon  
£3.

Good Morning COFFEE

**origin christmas special**  
an evening of Christmas favourites with the Origin Scotland band, choir and orchestra.  
Sat 7th Dec 7.30pm  
Usher Hall, Edinburgh  
Sun 8th Dec 7.30pm  
Findlay Church, Clarendon Pl, Glasgow G20 7PZ  
Tickets from [originscotland.org](http://originscotland.org) or call 0131 541 0117

**St James the Less Penicuik**  
invites you all to a  
**Christmas Coffee Morning**  
10am-12noon  
SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER 2024

**St James the Less Church Hall**  
23 Broomhill Road EH26 9EE  
£4

stalls to tempt you include:  
home baking gift stall tombola hamper raffle

in aid of St James the Less funds  
St James the Less is a charity registered in Scotland SCO 11288