

**Celebration of Gifts** Report - Jim Paterson Fiona Hutcheson

The Celebration of Gifts weekend on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th April, started with an exhibition in the church hall. Aimed at displaying the range of activities and use of the church hall, as a centre for many community events, allowed visitors to see how members of St. Mungo's were working in our community, to be a centre of spiritual support, spreading the word of God, and also a practical venue.

Visitors were welcomed by displays presented by the church spiritual team, Bible Study and House Group, Pastoral Care, Messy Church, Sunday School, Guild and Church Readers (Bible passage readers).



The more practical side of St. Mungo's activities included, Friendship Circle, Tea/Coffee after the service, Newsletter 'Mungo Messenger', Website, Facebook and Twitter publications. The social committee also create the range of activities for our enjoyment throughout the year. These include Burns Night's, Summer and Christmas Fairs, Christmas Hampers, St. Andrews

Nights, Quiz Nights, and our annual Sponsored Walk which takes us to interesting places around Midlothian. Keeping all this clean and tidy is the role of the cleaners who are essential to keeping our church and hall tidy. They are always on the lookout for more volunteers.

Other teams looking after those in need included the Knitting team, who support Blythswood Trust annual shoebox appeal sending a selection of

hand knitted hats, gloves, scarves and blankets to those in Eastern Europe who are on the poverty line and cold in winter. Food Facts Friends Project, who use the hall, provide food for those in our local community who are often destitute and in need, along with help on who to contact for further assistance.

The Guides, Brownies, and Rainbows displayed their range of activities, whilst Christian Aid, displayed the appeals currently being well supported in our church.

The Treasurer was also on and to explain how all these facilities are financially supported and how much it costs to keep the church running smoothly.

A big thank you from Fiona Hutcheson to everyone who participated in any way in the Celebration of Gifts weekend.

The exhibition and organ recital from Eileen Marchant were well attended and generated a lot of interest, fun and fellowship - St. Mungo's has so much going on and so many people involved in activities and groups.

Thanks to the housegroup / bible study for providing the bread and soup lunch on the Sunday - we should maybe do that sort of thing more often? Thanks to Joan Cape for organising the excellent praise service and a huge thank you to Margot Robertson, Church of Scotland Stewardship Consultant. She was an incredible support and guide, keeping the CoG group on track, generating ideas and discussion and generally caring that the weekend would go well.

The Celebration of Gifts team was Agnes Haggart, Fiona Hutcheson, Gordon McDonald, Helen McCall and Agnes Ovenstone.

**Celebration of Gifts**

SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> April  
in St. Mungo's Church Hall  
**EXHIBITION**  
11 a.m. till 5 p.m.  
Tea, coffee and home baking  
Come along and see the range of activity  
under one roof and perhaps take the  
opportunity to  
become more involved.

SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> April in  
St. Mungo's Church  
**PRaise SERVICE**  
11 a.m.  
**ALL WELCOME**



**Gift Days 27 and 28 May**

Frank Duns Treasurer  
Gift Days are very important for St Mungo's finances. Last year they were very successful in raising funds and I hope that generosity continues.  
Full details about how your donations will be used, will be given out when your Gift Day envelopes are delivered, with your Communion Invites, later this month.



**Sponsored Walk 10 June** - This year, round Dalkeith Country Park.

A healthy and invigorating way to spend a Saturday, and really is good fun – even when the weather lets us down (which isn't often) – and a great way to get to know other members and friends of St Mungo's better. And, of course, it gives an opportunity to persuade family, friends and work colleagues, and St Mungos' 'couch potatoes', to make contributions to St Mungos' funds. An opportunity not to be missed, especially at this time.  
Details and sponsorship forms are available in the Church and Church Hall vestibules or from Ian or Moira Dickson (Tel. 0131 440 2019).



**Church Register**

Removed by Death		
Mrs Christina MacKay	Drummond Grange Care Home	22 April 2017

**Mungo's Diary**

- 8 May, 7.30pm Bible Study Group. Church Hall
- 10 May, 7.30pm Wednesday Housegroup. Meets at 21 Mauricewood Bank.
- 14 May 12.15pm Christian Aid, bread and soup lunch. South Church Hall.
- 22 May 7.30pm Quiz Night - Church Hall. See article in this issue
- 24 May, 7.30pm Wednesday Housegroup. Meets at 21 Mauricewood Bank.
- 27 May, 10.00am Gift Day. Church open 10.00am to 12 noon.
- 28 May, 11.00am Holy Communion service in the church
- 28 May, 4.00pm Messy Church. Church Hall to 6.00pm
- 31 May, 7.30pm Wednesday Housegroup. Meets at 21 Mauricewood Bank.
- 3 June, 10.15am Prayer Request Uplift. Meet at 82 Eskhill
- 7 June, 10.45am Friendship Circle. 13 St. James View
- 10 June, 9.50am Sponsored Walk. Meet in front of church.
- 17 June, 10.00am Summer Fair - church hall and garden if sunny. To 12 noon

**St Mungo's Quiz night**

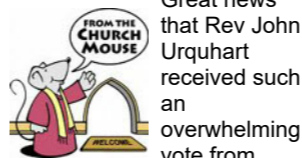
**Monday 22nd May, 7.30pm**  
**St Mungo's Church Hall**

**Mungo Messenger**  
monthly newsheet from St. Mungo's Church Penicuik  
Penicuik: St. Mungo's Parish Church (Church of Scotland). Scottish Charity No SC005838

You can sign up to the "e" version of this newsheet, which will be delivered to your email each month, saving paper and other resources. Use "eSignup" on St. Mungo's website [www.stmungos.freeuk.com](http://www.stmungos.freeuk.com).

**Church mouse**

From the mouse of Editor's PC



Great news that Rev John Urquhart received such an overwhelming vote from members on Sunday 30th April. We look forward to Presbytery giving their blessing and John joining us to take the lead role in our church.

Our Celebration of Gifts day and the supporting Praise Service on Palm Sunday displayed just what your church is involved in and what it is capable of, given your talents and time to make it happen.

The Easter week services gave us lots to think about and your church was particularly active.

Thanks to Joyce Hunter for inviting her grandson Tom Mullins to present a concert with his friends on Sunday 23rd. Amazing talent that we will hear lots more of in the future. You saw them here first. Full story and their songs on the website.

Rev Andrew Don ended up in jail when he joined Messy Church. He willingly was shackled and locked behind bars to illustrate the story on forgiveness.



Christian Aid Week 14-20 May 2017

If you can help Christian Aid collection please contact Janis Hogg.

Jim Paterson  
Newsletter Editor  
[stmungos@freeuk.com](mailto:stmungos@freeuk.com)

**New Minister voted a success - Sunday 30 April**

The Rev John Urquhart receives overwhelming vote to be our next minister.

The Rev John Urquhart received a vote of 101 for and only 1 against being our next minister at St. Mungo's, after the service on Sunday April 30th.

Our Interim Moderator Yvonne Atkins introduced John to us and detailed the procedure we would follow after the service, with all St. Mungo's members present casting their vote either for or against accepting John to be our new minister.

John opened with a call to worship that had us all involved with the responses.

His time with the children was really for us all in the congregation. He took us on a journey, and what we would need for that journey.

In our backpack we would need map, so we could plan our route and know where we were, some water, sunscreen to protect us from the burning suns rays, and a waterproof in case a shower came by. John had also brought an umbrella to keep off the rain. Last but not least, a walking pole, to support us on our journey. When we journey with God we have His support at all times and should rejoice that He will always look after us.



John with his backpack

John used the readings from Peter and Luke, read by Christine Jackson and Sandy Robertson, taking the role of Cleopas on the journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus with a friend, after the crucifixion and resurrection. He started as Jesus walked up to and spoke to them. Neither recognised Jesus and were baffled that this stranger knew nothing of what had happened in Jerusalem.

The story unfolds as the conversation continued, and how the deliverer everyone hoped for was also God's servant who suffered for our wrong doing. John continued with a story of Justin, the pagan. Following his search to be a philosopher, and his discovery

of God.

His inspiring sermon was followed by his vision of the future for St. Mungo's, taking our congregation on an exciting journey.

The vote was taken after John preached the service, and after the result announcement the members present signed the Call which will be returned to Presbytery.

If you are a member and missed the service, vote and Call, you can still sign the Call either on Sat and Sunday 6&7 and 13&14 May in the Church, or ask your Elder for a mandate to sign which will add to the number of members signing the Call for John to be our next minister.

The Call will go before Presbytery end of June to be sustained.

A new chapter in the life of St. Mungo's church is about to commence.

**Pastoral Care** - If you would like to help with visits, or request a visit, please contact Margaret 672347.



John welcomes us all

## Easter at St. Mungo's *Report by Jim Paterson*

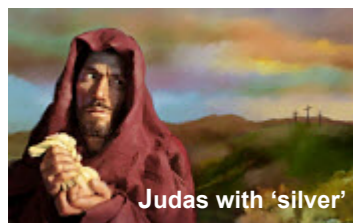
Easter week started with a Celebration of Gifts Praise Service on Palm Sunday 9 April.

Led by Joan Cape with music provided by Graham McDonald on piano, Caroline Toms on Guitar and vocals, and Neil Cape on bass guitar. The service covered the use of our gifts from God and how we can use them. Joan interviewed a number of members to find out how they used their 'gifts'. The readings reflected how God wants us to use our gifts and talents in His name. A great selection of uplifting hymns were sung.



Caroline Toms, Graham McDonald, Neil Cape

Following Palm Sunday, we continued the Easter Week on Monday 10th with the Rev Ian Cathcart leading the congregation at St. Mungo's. With members from all the other churches in Penicuik joining our own members Ian explored 'What type of Christian am I?' in his sermon. With each member of the congregation equipped with a piece of 'silver', and with support from Rev Ruth Halley, Rev Lynsay Downs and Rev Hugh Davidson, Ian used the extremes of Judas and Mary, both Christians, but at opposite ends of the spectrum, to show how we can journey toward the adoration that Mary reflected.



Judas with 'silver'

The Good Friday service on the 14 April looked at St. Luke's account of our Lord's crucifixion. Through sermon reflection and song we reflected on that death. God commends His love to us, that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Hugh's sermon compared the Rev Sydney Chambers, the fictional vicar of Granchester in Cambridgeshire, an amateur sleuth, penned by author James Runcie, the son of Robert Runcie the late Archbishop of Canterbury in the 1980's, and how his 'who done it' stories are supposed to improve our memories, to solve the mystery.

What of the mysteries of God? Can they ever be solved? Why did Jesus die the death that He did? This is the mystery that confronts us every Good Friday. Hugh explored the variety of solutions put forward over time, before drawing his conclusion.

Easter Sunday started early for the Penicuik Churches. Some 20 members of the churches in Penicuik met at 5.30am beside St. Kentigern church ruin, behind St. Mungo's church, wrapped up well against the 4 degree temperature.



Rev Ruth Halley leads our Praise

The Rev Ruth Halley called us to worship, before we sang Hymn 782 'Lord of Life we come to you.' The reading from Mark 15: 33-47 described the death and burial of Jesus on Good Friday. A short prayer was said before the group proceeded in silent prayer to Broomhill, to greet the sunrise, signalling the resurrection..

We reached the top of the hill just as the sun was beginning its ascent into the sky. The reading for Mark 16: 1-20 described the resurrection of Jesus, our reason for gathering here on this new day.

We followed a short Easter prayer and Hymn, before Ruth then led an Easter Litany, a prayer and the benediction. Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia.



The Easter Sunday morning continued with the 11.00am service led by Rev Hugh Davidson. He started with the reasons for our Easter celebration, life over death, good over evil, love over hate, hope over despair, rejoicing in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. Christ is risen, risen indeed. Alleluia!

Bill Webster read from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 15: verses 35-50, where Paul talks of the difference between earthly bodies and heavenly bodies, mortality and immortality, weakness and strength, using Adam to illustrate the difference between our earthly and heavenly bodies.

Margaret Webster continued with St. John chapter 20 verses 1-18, where John relates Mary Magdalene discovering the stone rolled back, and the Lord taken from the tomb, the disciples investigation, and Mary later meeting the angels, and seeing her Lord.

Hugh explored the readings starting with Paul's letter to the Corinthians where Paul describes the resurrection and Jesus as a new creation, and as the last Adam. How a crucified carpenter became a life giving spirit with a capacity to create us anew, and how to understand it. We concluded with the celebration of Holy Communion, before closing with 'Thine be the Glory'.

Interim Moderator - Rev Yvonne Atkins email YAtkins@churchofscotland.org.uk

## Tom Mullins Entertains - Sunday 23 April *Report - Jim Paterson*

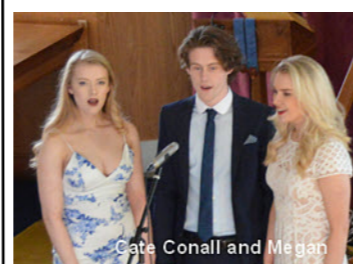
Joyce Hunters' grandson Tom Mullins arrived at St. Mungo's church on Sunday 23rd April with a group of his friends to entertain us with a wide range of popular music from our favourite musical. More than 70 people were enthralled with the performances of these young talented singers.

Tom was joined by friends Cate Anderson, Conall Ross, Megan Gardiner, Ben Collins, and Meg Laird-Drummond.

The first Act opened with Tom and Megan leading the group singing 'Seasons of Love' from the musical 1993 rock musical RENT, loosely based on Puccini's opera La Bohème.

Tom graduated from The MGA Academy of Performing Arts, having received an HND in Musical Theatre after three years of training. He was Heavily involved in the Edinburgh Fringe, both performance-wise and creatively, including performing in the Edinburgh production of 'Spring Awakening'.

Megan Gardiner fell in love with musical theatre at the age of 13, and is now a 3rd year Musical theatre student at the MGA Academy of Performing Arts in Edinburgh, training for a full-time musical theatre qualification.



Cate Conall and Megan

Conall continued with 'Younger than Springtime', from the 1949 Rodgers and Hammerstein musical South Pacific. Conall has played on larger stages such as Perth Concert Hall; whilst also completing formal Musical Theatre training.

Cate then took to the stage to sing 'I Feel Pretty', for the 1957 musical West side story. Cate is now an HND Musical Theatre student at the MGA Academy of Performing Arts in Edinburgh.

Meg followed with "Journey to the Past", a song from the 1997 20th Century Fox animated feature film, Anastasia. Ben Collins then took centre stage for 'Out There', a song from the 1996 Disney animated film The Hunchback of Notre Dame. We continued with 'Corner of the Sky' from the 1972 musical Pippin, before Cate returned to sing 'Don't Rain on my Parade' from the 1964 musical Funny Girl.

As we headed for the end of the first act Meg introduced us to the first Phantom of the Opera songs 'Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again', which was followed by the group closing with the well known signature overture from Phantom.

After the interlude break the group returned for Act 2, starting with Meg singing 'I'm a Star' written by Scott Alan. This was followed by 'The Streets of Dublin', from the musical The man of no importance, with music by Stephen Flaherty.

Conall took us back to West side Story with 'Maria', who is the leading female character in the film and theatrical version of West Side Story.



Meg changed the pace with 'As long as he needs me'. from the musical Oliver. Meg will be playing Nancy in this years Fringe presentation by Captivate Theatre at the new Gilded Balloon in Rose Street, at the Rose Theatre.

The Monty Python 2005 musical comedy Spamalot, was the source of our next song, 'The Song that Goes Like This'. We returned to music composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber. 'Till I Hear you Sing', from Love Never Dies. Based on the book is by Lloyd Webber and Ben Elton.

We were heading for the end of our evening, which would not be complete without a song or two from the musical Les Miserables, starting with 'A Heart Full of Love', followed by 'One Day More', 'I dreamed a dream' before the shows most famous song 'Bring Him Home'.

A fantastic evening from a group with outstanding musical talent that together provided a well balanced production for our audience.

**£350 was donated by the audience, going towards the upkeep of the church.**

Joyce would like to thanks all those who came along to support Tom and his friends.



## The Unforgiving Servant: Messy Church - 30 April

*Story and pictures - Jim Paterson*

We took the parable of the king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.' But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 'You wicked servant,' said the master to the servant, 'I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be thrown into jail until he should pay back all he owed.

The crafts were based on prison cells and bars, and how forgiveness can be really hard.

A **Pencil holder** is not only useful, this one using ribbon and tape to hold it together. Just like life, when we fall out with friends or even family, and we need to forgive others to fix the relationship. God's love is like the tape/ribbon we used: it holds us (and our friendships) together.



Shredding

**Broken Biscuits** not only was good to eat, but when we broken it reminded us how much it hurts to fall out with a friend, and to make up again, if we can. If we love one another like God loves us, we can mend the broken friendship.

Outside in the garden we had **Floating boats**, putting marbles one by one to see how long it takes before they capsized. We talked about how the servant borrowed more and more money. He couldn't pay it back, and in the end his greed got him into trouble. We need to know when to stop before we get into deep water (trouble)!

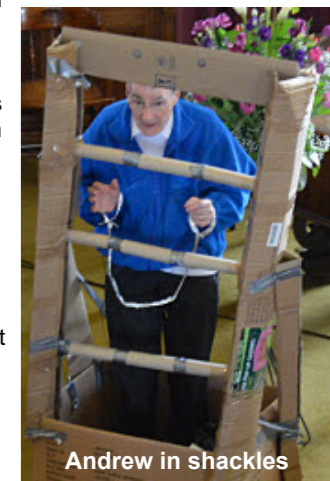
Our **Obstacle course** in the garden saw the children race round pulling a bag. David Hogg kept the time. At the end each returned without the bag. How much quicker they were. We talked about how good it feels to unburden ourselves from baggage - to pay what we owe/ take our fair punishment or to forgive someone for a wrong done.

The **small prison cell** used straws as bars, and every prisoner ends up in shackles. Ours were made of tinfoil, which Andrew would later wear in his prison cell. For the younger children we used paper chains made up as shackles. We talked about how terrible it would have been for the servant to be thrown into jail with his arms and legs in shackles.

The big one of the day had to be the **JUNK** prison cell. Our **large prison cell** was fully kitted out with bars, and would be the home for Andrew Don who would play the unforgiving servant in the church at celebration time.

Our time in the church for the celebration talked about the parable of the unforgiving servant and what forgiveness means. Sheila Anderson led the story with Andrew playing the part of the unforgiving servant, explaining how God offers forgiveness for all those who repent.

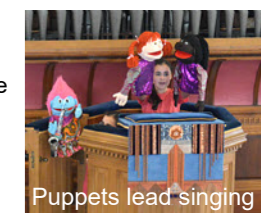
The children wrote something down that they had done that they wished they hadn't and would like forgiven for. Sheila produced a paper shredder that they could shred their note, while explaining how God can take our sins away. The celebration also featured the puppets and song to explain the meaning of forgiveness.



Andrew in shackles



David Hogg times the obstacle race



Puppets lead singing

**The next Messy Church will be on Sunday May 28, same place 4.00 to 6.00pm.**