

## Hats, Gloves and Scarves sent with Love



Your church was filled with woollen hats, gloves and scarves, many knitted by members of the St. Mungo's congregation. Others were bought and donated to the display.

All the items will be taken to the Blythswood Trust to fill the boxes that make up the Shoebox Appeal. These will be shipped to countries in eastern Europe to clothe the poor, and provide a small gift to those with little or nothing that will welcome the warmth they provide over the cold winter.

The shipment will reach them in time for Christmas.



A small but welcome gift displaying the outreach of our Christianity, helping those less fortunate than ourselves, providing hope where there is little, perhaps the only gift they receive at Christmas, or all year. Thank you to all who contributed to the display.



**SHOE BOX APPEAL 2017**

## Guild meet Macmillan Nurses

Laura Foreman and Elaine Gordon presented to the Guild on Monday 30 October. An interesting talk on the work of Macmillan Nurses, supporting those managing all types of cancer problems.



They also explained the new initiative to counter so much 'fake news', launched on TV that week, the dial in help line to speak directly to a nurse about any problem being faced. Elaine is also launching a Midlothian fundraising group, more of which in the forthcoming Town Crier.



Earlier in October Vic Ramage presented his work as citizen of the Year, and the Rev Andrew Don spoke to the Guild. Andrew used jigsaws with a piece missing to highlight his theme of 'God missing in our lives'.

Still to come on Monday 13, is Maxine Regan, the Tesco community champion, talking of her work helping vulnerable people, and Scots night on Monday 27th.

Join the Guild meetings and enjoy a great evening.

## Church Register

Removed by Death		
Mrs Barbara Clyde	53 Carlops Crescent	14 October 2017
Admitted by Profession of Faith		
John Archibald	Penicuik	22 October 2017

## Mungo's Diary

5 Nov, 5.15pm	Service at Cowan Court
6 Nov, 7.30pm	Bible Study Group - Church hall
7 Nov, 7.30pm	Kirk Session meeting. Church Hall Committee Room
8 Nov, 7.30pm	Housegroup/Bible Study 21 Mauricewood Bank.
11 Nov, 10.15am	Prayer Request pickup. Meet at 82 Eskhill if you can help
12 Nov, 10.45am	Remembrance Service - <b>Note earlier start time</b>
13 Nov, 7.30pm	Guild - Maxine Regan Community Champion. Church hall
20 Nov, 7.30pm	Bible Study Group - Church hall
22 Nov, 7.30pm	Housegroup/Bible Study 21 Mauricewood Bank.
25 Nov, 9.30am	Penicuik Churches National Day of Prayer. Venue to follow
25 Nov, 10.00am	Christmas Fair - Church Hall 10.00am to 12 noon.
27 Nov, 7.30pm	Scots Night - church hall

## Christmas Fair - Donations

This years Christmas Fair will be on Saturday 25 November.

Any donations for the Christmas Fair gratefully received.

The stalls will be Tombola (includes bottle stall), Bric-a-brac, Books, Christmas items, Home baking, Raffle. Items can be handed in any Sunday.

For more information phone Agnes 672387



## Gift Day - 28 October

This years Gift Day raised an amazing £2852.50, which will bolster our Fabric Account, used to maintain our church in working order. There are often more donations given in the weeks following the Gift Days so that amount could increase.

Thanks to Gift Aid reclaim, a further £1225.50 will bring the total to £4078.

The amount you have donated this year exceeds the previous amounts given on Gift Days over the previous two years.

Thank you to everyone who contributed. Frank Duns *Treasurer*



## Christian Aid Appeal

Janis Hogg, our Christian Aid coordinator, sends a huge Thank You from Christian Aid.

On Oct 8th Street Mungo's donated £174 to the Rohingya refugee crisis. And on Oct 15th a further £77 was given. So we sent off a total of £251 to this appeal.

Many thanks again for your generosity.



## Bible Study Groups

At St. Mungo's we have two opportunities to meet with others to study our Bible.

The Housegroup/Bible Study group meet at 21 Mauricewood Bank twice a month and offer a warm homely setting to discuss aspects of the bible stories.

The Monday evening group meets twice monthly in the church hall to explore and discuss a book of the Bible.



## Prayer diary

The November 17 to February 18 issue of the SU Prayer Diary is now available in the vestibule. Please take one.

The latest SU Newsletter is also available

## After Service Tea and Coffee

After every Sunday service an invitation is extended to everyone to join us in the church hall for a cup of tea or coffee, a bite to eat, and a chat with others in our congregation.

We also have home made Marmalade, and occasionally Lemon Curd to buy as well, all made by the ladies in our congregation.



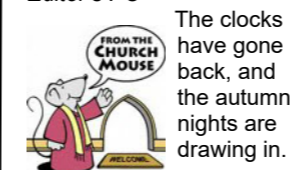
Please join us in the hall next time you are in church



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



The clocks have gone back, and the autumn nights are drawing in. Your church winter season is gearing up to provide both spiritual and practical activities to brighten up the darkest of nights.

Your generosity seems boundless as we report in this issue. Christian Aid send their thanks, the foodbank and foodstore thank you for the produce you donated at Harvest, and our church thanks you for your Gift Day donations to the Fabric Fund.

The hats and gloves you knit and donate reach out across the world to clothe those with little to keep them warm in winter.

Our minister leads our spiritual teaching, with members of our congregation leading additional Bible study and homegroups.

The Guild add interesting visiting speakers to their events, while Sunday School and Messy Church provide practical and spiritual teaching to the young children and youths in our community, while still organising special events like our soon to be announced Nativity Play.

You can join any of these activities. St. Mungo's welcomes everyone.

Hope you enjoy this issue.

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

## Remembrance - 12 November 10.45am



St. Mungo's will once again host the British Legion Remembrance service on Sunday 12 November starting at 10.45am, earlier than normal to ensure we are all in position for the 2 minute silence at 11.00am.

You are warmly invited to join this service, and share with us as we remember all those members of our armed forces and civilians who have sacrificed, or have been maimed, in the defence of our freedom in all conflicts since the Great War.

The Lord Lieutenant of Midlothian, Sir Robert Clerk, will represent Her Majesty the Queen. We will be joined by Air and Army cadets, Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, local organisations and dignitaries who will swell the congregation. The Penicuik Silver Band will provide music to lead us in our praise. The service will be led by the Rev. John Urquhart.

## Harvest Thanksgiving - 8 October

The Harvest Thanksgiving service held on Sunday 8th October saw the church communion table and other tables at the front of the congregation covered with produce, fresh and preserved. The church was open the previous Saturday morning and welcomed a steady stream of members and friends loaded with bags of produce to donate to the display in the church.



The Rev John Urquhart took the harvest service and during the service we joined together saying, God of all faithfulness, whose bountiful love provides your creatures, with fruits of the earth in their season; give us grace to be thankful for your gifts, to use them wisely, and to share our plenty with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

After the service the perishable items were delivered to the Food Facts Friends foodbank to distribute the following day.

The non perishable items were donated to Food Facts Friends Penicuik Foodbank at St. Mungo's, and the North Church foodstore, both which support needy families in our own community, here in Penicuik



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

## From St. Mungo's Manse - Rev John Urquhart

Dear friends,

**November has crept up on us.** The evenings are darker and there's the sound of fireworks screaming through the sky. Drifting leaves are turning from being crackly underfoot to becoming a slimy, slip hazard. We owe our thanks to those who gather them up for us, not least to Betty McMillan, whom I met outside the church gathering up leaves, but also thinking of a way to stop them blowing in from outside. Thank you, Betty.



These aren't the only seasonal markers. In the traditional Christian calendar November takes us from All Saints to St Andrew's Day, and in some years (though not this one) to the start of Advent. Whisper it carefully: our **Christmas Fair** takes place on Sat 25 Nov, from 10 till 12.

**Remembrance Sunday** is on 12 Nov. We'll be joined as usual by the Royal British Legion, a host of organisations and their representatives. The Lord Lieutenant for Midlothian, Sir Robert Clerk, Bt. OBE, will be taking part and our worship will be led by the Penicuik Silver Band.

The **Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal** also happens. We're grateful to the group who supply knitted items for the shoeboxes which are sorted by teams at my old charge of Craigmillar Park. From there, they are packaged up to go to poor communities in Eastern Europe and Pakistan.

There's a **service and a free conference on Christian healing** at the Abbey Parish Church, North Berwick, on Fri 17 and Sat 18 Nov, with the Rev Mike Endicott from Wales, who leads the Anglican Order of Jacob's Well. It seeks to train or encourage people in Christian healing. Although blind, Mike has a remarkable ministry, with many accounts of miraculous healing. Mike is commended as a wise, judicious and well-balanced exponent of this aspect of ministry. The Rt Rev Dr Rowan Williams says, 'Mike is a wonderfully gifted expositor of what Christian healing means.'

The meeting/service on Fri at 7.30pm is for anyone of any faith persuasion or none, with an opportunity for people to receive prayer if they'd like to. (You'll probably have the chance to experience at least one of the two great biblical symbols of God's presence and the loving power of the Holy Spirit at work in us: the laying on of people's hands and anointing with oil.) The conference on Sat is for those within the Christian community who'd like to learn how to pray for sick and injured people. (There's no charge, though an offering will be taken.) In one of the summary endings to Mark's gospel we read of the laying on of hands as one of the practices Jesus committed to his church and which he himself used (*Luke 4:40*):

...these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name... they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well. (*Mark 16: 17a, 18c*)

In the letter of James, who led the church in Jerusalem, we read: Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make them well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. (*James 5: 14-16*)

We hear of answers to this kind of prayer not only in the New Testament, but also in the writings of the church fathers and as a recurring testimony in Christian history and today. It's also a form of prayer suggested in the Church of Scotland *Book of Common Order*.

We're not claiming that all our prayers will be answered immediately or always in the way we hope for. First, because we still long for the final fulfilment of all that God promises through Jesus in the coming age. (*Romans 8:18-27*) Secondly, because we know that prayer isn't a mechanical means to an end or some kind of magic; it's bringing our needs and requests to God, as we've been told to do (*Philippians 4:6*), trusting in the kindness, wisdom and loving care of our Heavenly Father.

By praying for healing, Christians aren't saying that God doesn't also work through other means, through medical treatment and the natural ways our bodies repair themselves, and through rest, nourishment of body and soul, human sympathy and practical care. God is the God of all creation and his care and provision for us are expressed in many ways.

However, there's sufficient encouragement in scripture, confirmed in many people's experience, to pray in this way. If we're able to listen to each other and take account of each other's requests, how much more will our Heavenly Father do so? (*Matthew 7:10*)

John

## Messy Church - Oil in your Lamp - 29 October



Busy at the craft tables



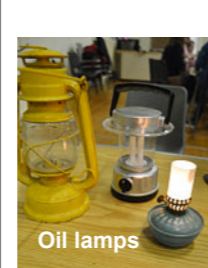
The Messy Church on Sunday 29 October took as the theme, the parable of the foolish and wise virgins, which for our afternoon became the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Our crafts, activities and time of celebration in the church made us think about how ready we are to respond to Jesus when He calls,

The afternoon helped us understand why we need to be prepared for Jesus now – and not putting it off until later!

At first read, this appears to be a really unfair story – why didn't the five wise girls offer to share their lamp oil with the foolish ones? Thankfully, this isn't really a story about Jesus turning us away for being forgetful. It's a story about being prepared.

Weddings are so joyful; we eat good food, we see our friends, we celebrate love and we party the night away. This is nothing compared with the wedding feasts, Jesus would have attended, though. Just look at the wedding in Cana (John 2:1-12). By all accounts, Jewish weddings were a sight to behold - feasting and celebration for days. But imagine that joy lasting forever! That's what we're promised in Jesus.

If we spend our lives in preparation for him, the joy we will inherit is immeasurable and unending.



Oil lamps

**Oil Lamps** - A jar was decorated, and a piece of string taped to the top, sticking up like a wick. Oil could be placed in the jar. We did not light the wick, but talked about how an oil lamp works: why the wick needs to be trimmed; how the oil burns away, so extra is needed. What do you think the oil in Jesus' parable represents, and why couldn't the bridesmaids share it?

**Splat the Rat** - This was a fun activity. We waited for the rat to emerge from the rat run, the pipe. We talked about patience, being prepared and waiting.



Splat the Rat

**Edible Candles** - My favourite is usually something you can eat later. We used marshmallows to make a candle, by threading them onto a stick, then using icing to make a flame on the top. We stuck the completed candle on a slice of jam rolypoly as a base. We talked about how Jesus takes away the darkness and fills it with his shining light.

**Playing with Torches** - Using a variety of torches, and a pile of batteries, some of which did not work/fit, the children to get the torches to work, by replacing batteries, winding up torches etc. We talked about being ready/prepared, having what you need.

**Tin Lights** - Continuing with our lamps and light theme, children hit nails through tins, using a clothes peg to hold the nail. Neil Cape provided the help and safety on this one. A battery operated night light was dropped into each one to make the final lantern. We talked about how Jesus light shines in the darkness.



Neil on Tin Lights



Helping tell the celebration story

**Prayer Station** - A feature of all our Messy Church afternoons. A map of the world, with pictures and information about where our natural resources are running out, and lists of endangered animals and plants, encouraged everyone to pray for the world. Do we unknowingly help to destroy the world? What do we already do to help?



**Memory Game** - Bill Webster setup a table covered in playing cards face down. The children took turns to turn over two cards. If they have a pair, they keep them; if not, turn them face down again, and then it's someone else's turn. We talked about concentrating on the job in hand, rather than getting distracted.

At the **celebration time** in the church, Sheila Anderson introduced the puppets who performed 'This Little Light of Mine' followed by Joan Cape reading the parable of the 'Ten Bridesmaids', using helpers from the audience to act out the parts.

After our prayer we watched, sang and danced along to a video of 'This Little Light of mine' performed by dancing light bulbs.

Back over in the church hall we enjoyed a hearty meal of Shepherds Pie followed by Apple Pie and custard, or chocolate cake.

**The next Messy Church will be on Sunday November 26th 4.00 to 6.00pm**

## Silent Auction - 22 September Report by Agnes Ovenstone

The number of donations was amazing so the auction started with a bang. We had everything from crystal to beautiful blankets with all you could think of in between. We even had a bread maker.



ST MUNGO'S CHURCH HALL  
FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER  
7.30PM



What about that?

Everyone was given a number as they arrived so that no one knew who they were bidding against. You had to keep going back to check that your bid on your chosen item was still the latest. There were a number of items which had multiple bids so there was quite a bit of milling around these.

Have a good look at the pictures - can you find the spelling mistake! Answer later.



When the final five minutes was called there was a rush to try and make sure yours was the final bid. It certainly was not a SILENT auction then as everyone stood poised waiting for the final whistle. Most people managed to get what they wanted but there were a few disappointments.



My new friend

It was a really successful night and we had a lot of fun. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way. **The final total raised was £385.50.** Answer to question - KNFIE

# Healing...

...at North Berwick

At Abbey Parish Church,  
North Berwick, East Lothian EH39 4HE

## Public Meeting

with prayers for those who wish for it.

Friday 17th November 2017 7.30pm

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## Day Conference

For those who wish to learn to pray for the sick and injured

Saturday 18th November 2017 10am until 4pm

Registration from 9am ~ bring your own lunch  
no charge ~ an offering will be taken.

**Special guest: Mike Endicott**  
Anglican minister - author - international speaker  
and founder of The Well Centre, South Wales

Mike passionately believes Jesus heals today  
- his remarkable ministry bears the fruit of this.

"Mike Endicott is a wonderfully gifted expositor of what  
Christian healing means" - Dr Rowan Williams,  
former Archbishop of Canterbury

Hosted by Abbey Church, North Berwick  
Scottish Charity No.SC004761