

## Harvest Thanksgiving Service - 6 October



The Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday 6th October.

Food donations can be dropped off at the church hall on Saturday 5th 10.00am to 12 noon, or Sunday morning in church before the service.

## Guild New Season - 7 October



The new Guild season commences on Monday 7 October at 7.30pm in the church hall. The opening guest presentation will be by Forsyth the Butchers, based in Peebles. Find out all about the best cuts for your Sunday roast, and more. All welcome.

Full Guild autumn / winter 2019 Programme out soon

## Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning Saturday 5 October 10am to 12 noon



Come along St. Mungo's church hall on Saturday 5 October for a great cup of tea or coffee, with lots of home baking to tempt you.

Raising funds for this worthwhile charity is something many of us who have used their services appreciate and are very grateful.

## Mungo's Diary

- 2 Oct, 10.45am Friendship Circle, 10.45am at 15 Eskvale Drive. Contact Margaret, 672347.
- 3, 10, 24, 31 Oct, Penicuik Alpha - Church Hall. Includes light lunch 1.00 - 3.00pm
- 5 Oct, 10.00am Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning - Hall
- 6 Oct, 11.00am Harvest Thanksgiving Service - See article above
- 6 Oct, 5.15pm Cowan Court Service - Everyone welcome
- 7 Oct, 7.30pm Guild 'Forsyth Butchers' Church Hall
- 8 Oct, 7.30pm Congregational Board - Hall committee room
- 9 Oct, 7.30pm Installation of New Rector - St James the Less
- 9 Oct, 7.30pm Wednesday Housegroup / Bible Study, at 21 Mauricewood Bank
- 10 Oct, 7.00pm Penicuik Churches Together ecumenical prayer evening in the North Kirk Café area. All Welcome
- 12 Oct, 9.00am Breaking New Ground. Responding to new housing. Penicuik North Kirk, to 12.45pm. See article above
- 14 Oct, 7.30pm Monday Bible Study - church hall. All welcome Contact Joan or Neil 674276 for full details.
- 21 Oct, 7.30pm Guild 'Commodity Night' - Hall committee room
- 22 Oct, 7.30pm Kirk Session meeting. In the church.
- 23 Oct, 7.30pm Housegroup / Bible Study at 21 Mauricewood Bank
- 28 Oct, 7.30pm Monday Bible Study - church hall. All welcome Contact Joan or Neil 674276 for full details.
- 3 Nov, 4.00pm Messy Church - Church Hall to 6.00pm



## An Autumn Recital of Classical Song and Songs from Scotland

organised by

The Rotary Club of Penicuik

on

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

at

St Mungo's Church, Penicuik

Featuring

**Marcus Swietlicki**

Accompanied by

**Michael Barnett**

Marcus, a former pupil of Penicuik High School, is currently studying at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland working towards becoming a professional singer.

Tickets: £8 are available from Rotary Club members or contact 01968 677023

## 'Breaking New Ground' Responding together to New Housing



Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019  
at Penicuik North Kirk

0900-1245  
(Refreshments from 0830)

Organised by Lothian Presbytery  
& Penicuik Churches Together

**All Welcome**

How we can best respond to the needs of the people who are, or are going to be, living in the new houses, particularly those adjacent to Greenlaw Mains & Mauricewood? Peter Woods, will be the main speaker, sharing his experiences of working with large-scale new housing developments. This is a very important meeting for the churches in Penicuik.



# Mungo Messenger

October 2019

monthly newsheet from St. Mungo's Church Penicuik

You can read the extended version of this newsheet, with full length features, and more colour photos at St. Mungo's website [www.stmungos.freeuk.com](http://www.stmungos.freeuk.com)

## Church mouse



From the mouse of Editor's PC

Summer has ended and autumn begun. The new season heralds new activities in your church, all led by a team refreshed after their summer breaks.

As you can see from Mungo's Diary there is a fully packed month, so something for everyone.

Our lead story covers an amazing award from Asda. This will be used to refurbish our church hall to make it suitable not only for our church activities, but also for a wide number of community groups.

Our visitors from the Church of north India received a warm welcome, and extended an invitation to visit them. What an opportunity. If you're interested speak to our minister Rev John Urquhart.

We also welcomed two new members to St. Mungo's during September. If you would like to join our church and be part of a welcoming group of people, then come along any Sunday and speak to Rev John Urquhart. It could be the most rewarding step you will take, coming closer to God.

Guild starts their new season, and the full programme will appear shortly.

Lots happening and more to come as the new season progresses. Join in and take part. You will not regret it.

Enjoy this issue.

Jim Paterson  
Newsletter Editor  
stmungos@freeuk.com

## St. Mungo's Church Hall receives Asda grant to upgrade facilities.



LtoR: Frances Davies, Fabiano Furlan, Brian Boyle, Gordon MacDonald, Rev John Urquhart

The Rev John Urquhart, and Gordon MacDonald from St. Mungo's church Penicuik receive £9947 cheque from Asda senior director Brian Boyle, Straiton store manager Frances Davies, and Asda Community Champion Fabiano Furlan at the Asda Straiton Loanhead store on Friday 13 September.

St. Mungo's church hall, a centre for many local community organisations, is being refurbished and refreshed thanks to a Significant Impact Grant awarded from Asda. The refurbishment will see the hall completely redecorated, the wooden floor stripped, sanded and re-varnished. This latest project follows on from recent upgrades to the kitchen, toilets, Audio Visual systems, and hall roof to provide an all round, up to date facility, for the many local community organisations looking for a venue to hold their activities.

Gordon MacDonald reported, 'Many community organisations are looking for affordable venues to hold their activities and this award from Asda enables St. Mungo's church hall to be upgraded to provide a welcoming and well equipped facility that will meet the needs of all users'.

Brian Boyle on behalf of Asda Foundation, based in Leeds, said 'the Asda Local Impact Fund supports smaller local initiatives that help your community, bringing people together, supporting events which will benefit the wider community, or supporting local groups with events/initiatives which will have an impact locally. This award we judged met all the criteria of the fund and we look forward to seeing the improvements reported by Gordon'.

**Work starts on Monday 14 October and will take three weeks to complete. During this time the hall will be out of use, with the after Sunday church service refreshments being offered inside the church.**

We expect to be back in the refurbished hall on Monday 4 November, in time for the new community activities starting.

## Penicuik Alpha - 3, 10, 24, & 31 October



The new Alpha event started on Thursday 26 September, and continues each Thursday afternoon (1-3pm). Includes a light lunch.

See dates above, i.e. 3, 10, 24, and 31 October

You can join the group at anytime.

For full details contact:

**Bill Webster**  
(07955 234849)

### Got questions about life?

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.

Penicuik Alpha will be in St Mungo's Church Hall at the bottom of Kirkhill Road on Thursdays from 1-3pm  
• Starts on 26th September and runs for 8 weeks  
• For further information call 07955234849



## From the Manse

Dear friends

Just a word about two special services that are coming up:



On Sun 6 Oct we plan to have our Harvest Thanksgiving. We will be using material from Christian Aid, on the biblical story of King Ahab and Naboth's vineyard and the work of SAAL, a Christian Aid partner in India.

One in five people in India are Dalits, who are regarded as outcasts. Members of this community, and women in particular, do not have rights to secure a sustainable, independent future for themselves. They rarely own land, but often work long hours doing menial jobs in fields belonging to others. Not only is it back-breaking work, but it also exposes them to dangerous agricultural chemicals. This is a situation that Christian Aid partner SAAL is determined to change.

The oppression and abuse of the marginalised does not go unnoticed by God. In 1 Kings 21, Elijah is sent to speak truth to power and pronounce judgement on Ahab and his household for their actions.

On Sun 3 Nov we will have a guest speaker, Pete Cuthbertson, from CrossReach: the social care arm of the Church of Scotland. The aim is to let us know more about the exciting, life-changing, differences being made in people's lives, and how we can be part of it. We will also be presenting our octopuses, knitted for Crossreach. Calamari Shanarri, the wellbeing octopus, has eight arms (or legs). Each arm stands for one of eight well-being indicators (the Shanarri part of the name) – Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, and Included.



John

## PCT Prayer Meeting - 12 October @7pm



The Penicuik Churches Together Penicuik-wide prayer meetings will continue on 12th October, starting at 7.00pm in the North Kirk Hall.

This is all part of a growing recognition that in our town we may have a number of different congregations, but there is only one Church of Jesus Christ, and that God wants us to recognise that in the way we do things for Him.

All welcome to join these prayer meetings

## Church of North India visits St. Mungo's -22 September Report by Jim Paterson



For the morning service on Sunday 22 September we were joined by Dr Miku Foning and the Rev Nirwan Subba from the Eastern Himalaya Diocese of the Church of North India.

St. Mungo's is 'twinning' with the church in Saontalpur. John introduced our visitors and asked Miku to tell us about the Diocese during the informal time.

Miku opened by offering the greetings of both himself and Rev Nirwan Subba from the diocese of the Eastern Himalayas, Church of North India. Today it takes some 20 hours by plane, back then we were told it took 6 weeks by clipper from Liverpool to Calcutta, plus another couple of days to reach Kalimpong.

While it was an arduous journey just to reach the diocese area, the missionaries had to put up with diseases like malaria, with some dying from these infections.

The main role of the missionaries was evangelism, preaching the Gospel with the intention of spreading the message and teachings of Jesus Christ. But when they reached the area they found that the children had no education, so they started building schools. Even today there are many schools operating that were built in those early times, and Miku himself was taught by missionaries, whom he met on a previous visit to Scotland. Similarly there was no healthcare, so they started building dispensaries. In one village the original dispensary building still stands, after 150 years, though no longer in use. Hospitals followed, with many nurses and doctors coming from Scotland. Today their legacy continues with hospitals and schools formed by those early missionaries still standing and operating, now with local teachers, nurses and doctors.



Back in the year 2000 the Rev Mark Wilson worked in the southern part of the diocese on the plains for some 25 to 30 years, where it can reach 45 to 50 degrees Centigrade, then returned to Scotland. On his return he realised there was no longer any contact between the Church of Scotland and the diocese of the Eastern Himalayas. The twinning project was created as a solution to this situation, re-establishing this lost link.

Miku told us of his experiences that the impact of the Church of Scotland missionaries has had on his life. We heard how the twinning programme grew, involving Lothian Presbytery churches and the diocese of North India. Miku continues as the twinning co-ordinator in his diocese, working with Lothian Presbytery. Today there are 16 churches twinned with churches in the Kalimpong district, with another 2 looking to twin soon. Janis Hogg is the St. Mungo's twinning correspondent, working with the church in Saontalpur. Miku told us about the people, mainly agricultural farmers, hunters, fishers, and the facilities in Saontalpur.

Finally Miku offered an invitation to the congregation to visit the diocese, which is bordered by Tibet and China to the north, Nepal to the west, Bhutan to the east, and Bangladesh to the south. Some 10 languages are spoken across the diocese. Miku also offered to be your tour guide to show you the beauty of the region.

Miku closed his talk with a prayer for us all. To listen to Miku's talk during the service go to [www.stmungos.freeuk.com](http://www.stmungos.freeuk.com)

**Pastoral Care** The Pastoral visiting team can be called on at any time (Margaret 672347)

## Messy Church - 1 September 2019 Report by Jim Paterson



We started the new season of Messy Church with Messy Sports, with games for all the family in the church hall and garden. The families and children enjoyed a range of 'sports' activities and challenges, followed by a great BBQ.

We had hoped to have the 'sports' day in the playing fields, but a combination of soggy underfoot and forecast of rain (which fortunately did not occur), prompted a change of venue to the church hall and garden.

A range of activities, both inside and outside the hall kept the children busy

### Challenges

**High Score** - With 6 balls, try and throw them into the top scoring boxes. Looked easier than it was.

**Bean Bags into the Ring** - This time 6 bean bags had to be thrown into the hula hoops.

**Ball through the hoops** - A variation of the bean bags into the Hula hoops. This time the balls had to be thrown through all the hoops 6 times, with top score winning.

**Bean Can tower** - How high could a stack of bean tins reach. This would be a test of balance and nerve. The observant noted that the tins were different sizes and diameters, with some having different shaped bases. Putting the big ones at the base and interlocking matching bases helped. Many reached five or six, some more than ten. The winner managed 13 in total.

**Hockey Slalom** - A slalom course of cones had to be raced through with hockey stick and ball in the quickest time, without missing a turn.

**Water Dribbling** - This one was outside in the garden. Moving water from a bucket using a paper cup and filling a bottle at the other end. Running the course fast ran the risk of spillage, as did trying to pour the contents quickly into the bottle. Those that took it fast but steady and concentrated on pouring into the bottle were the most successful.

**Swingball** - The all time family favourite Swingball is just as funny today as it was



Story time

back in the time when mums, dads, granny and granddad used to play it.

**Celebration Time** - Joan got us all together for our story time where we were told that we are all stars in the eyes of Jesus and God. We all have talents that make us helpful to others that we meet. We finished the story singing the song 'You are a star'.

**Chocolate Time** - Before we headed for the barbecue we played one more game, this time with a bar of chocolate as the prize. In two teams each rolled a dice until someone rolled a six. Dressing in hat scarf and gloves they then had to cut a piece from the bar of chocolate using only a mealtime knife and fork! This old favourite proved fun for the children.

**BBQ Time** - With the burgers, beef, chicken, or veggie ready and sausages too we piled into our BBQ. with a salad garnish and juice to wash it down, we enjoyed a great meal to finish off our day of 'sports'.