

THE OPEN DOOR



*Penicuik North Kirk
Newsletter number 318
July 2010*

Dear Friends

Chris has fallen out with Jane – it's not like they had a major stand up row or anything like that; rather the atmosphere went a bit frosty. She stated her position and refused to move from it, whereas Chris knew for certain she was wrong and, although he might not be a hundred percent sure that his own contribution to the situation was accurate – or even the most helpful – he did his best with the information he had at the time. She just went ahead, interpreted it in her own way, drew her own conclusions and frankly messed things up. Does Chris need counselling or prayer ministry? Well maybe, but not for this, as he's standing his ground and, in any case, Jane is unlikely to respond to anything like that – SatNavs don't really!

Let me fill you in on this a bit. Chris was travelling up to Manchester the other day for a conference they were invited to and so entered the address into 'Jane' (Chris's other woman as his wife calls her). Chris had been to the venue before but thought he'd better check, particularly as he'd forgotten to bring a map! He knew the name of the road but couldn't remember the exact address, but assumed it would be easy to find once he got that far – how wrong can you be! After leading him into the heart of an industrial estate in an area that was completely unrecognisable, Jane proudly announced that he had '*reached his destination*' – clearly a lie! Chris spent the next 30 minutes driving all round the area trying to find anything that he recognised, but without success. Finally, in some desperation, as time was ticking away, he pulled into a side road to collect his thoughts, reset the SatNav and prayed – sadly in that order, Chris reported. When he looked up he was opposite the entrance to the conference venue car park. Chris laughed, God smiled and Jane remained strangely silent!

Thinking about Chris's experience, I realised that many of us tend to do the same thing. We set off in the general right direction, thinking that we'll work it out for ourselves when we get there, and then discover that it's not as easy to find the way, and maybe we should have done some more careful preparation, including praying as a first resort. A few years ago at the end of a day conference, people were asked to write down anonymously the prayer of their heart on a post-it note and fasten it to a prayer wall we had made. Interestingly the vast majority of prayers were asking for guidance and God's direction. I've come to realise over the years that this sort of prayer is far more complex than typing in a postcode and coming up with a route and that God's plan for our lives has more to do with the journey than the destination. I've always found Psalm 32:8 helpful – maybe you will as well: The Lord says: '*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.*'

Your friend and minister



Scripture Union at Cornbank St. James' Primary School

Scripture Union at Cornbank Primary School began in February 2006 with a second group starting up in January 2008. We have been very grateful for the spiritual and the financial support provided by the local churches in Penicuik, particularly groups and individuals within PNK. This helped us with our initial start-up costs and also enabled us to present Bibles to our first faithful Wednesday group, who were with us from Primary 5 through to Primary 7 and who went off to High School in June 2009.

Our second, Monday, group have also been

very faithful and are now in Primary 7 themselves. They too are going to be given Bibles and daily study notes, and we pray that they will link into local church activities as they leave Cornbank, since there is no SU at Penicuik High School at the moment.

The Monday group is staffed by Sarah Cowper and Linda Smith of South Church and the Wednesday group is still staffed by myself along with Pat Duncan together with Alison Herd and Ian Cathcart, also of South Church. We still use a mixture of story-telling, drama, games and craft to encourage the children to find out, not just ABOUT God and Jesus, but to think about knowing them personally for themselves.

We all feel very privileged to be doing this work in God's name and would very much appreciate your continued prayers for the children and adults who are involved.

Many thanks.

Fiona Charleson

Help Required

The Broomhill Day Centre URGENTLY requires volunteers to drive their minibuses to cover holiday periods. Couriers are also needed.

The Centre operates Monday to Friday. The morning run is between 9.45am and 11.15am and the afternoon is between 2.30pm and 3.45pm. Drivers will be offered Midas training. For more information please contact Diane Allan at Broomhill on 678109. This is an excellent outreach opportunity for us here in the North Kirk to help the older members of our community

Marjorie Bissett

The Leprosy Mission

The Leprosy Mission's Pancake Day on

5th June proved to be a great success, with over £1100 raised. As a committee we are delighted but we gladly acknowledge the debt we owe to all those who helped in any way, either by coming along or by donating items for the stalls. A special thanks to those who gave their time on the day by helping to man the stalls. We are also grateful for the continuing support of the North Kirk family and we hope to see as many of you as possible at our next fundraiser, a Coffee Morning in Baldwin Court on Saturday, 11th September, 10am to 12 noon. Please put the date in your diary.

Roberta Mackenzie

The Boys' Brigade

The Anchor Boys, Junior Section and Company Section joined together on Friday 7th May for our Annual Display, at which our Chief Guest was Jonathan Humphrey, trainee minister.

At the end of the Display, the boys received their badges and prizes for the session. Caleb Cuthbert, Cameron McNeill, Will McFarlane, Scott Richardson, Liam Stevens, Jack Sutherland and Dylan Wight received the Junior Section's highest award, the Gold Badge. In the Company Section, L/Cpl. Liam Hudson was presented with the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Cpl. Russell Lewis received the Queen's Badge. This is the Brigade's highest award and was gained after two years' hard work.

A collection taken during the Display evening raised £125 for Bethany Christian Trust.

Our annual weekend camp took place at the Scottish Headquarters of The Boys' Brigade, Carronvale House, from Friday 14th to Sunday 16th May. Seven boys from Company Section and seven Juniors joined forces with

roughly equal numbers from the 1st Dalgety Bay Company for a weekend of sporting activities which ranged from basketball and badminton to putting, not forgetting football - especially for Mr Christie! The weather was very kind to us and allowed us a whole afternoon at a local park where the boys ran themselves ragged - football again. All this was interspersed with quieter activities such as quizzes, craft, a treasure hunt and a marathon round robin session of board games. Sunday worship was based around an episode from 'The Simpsons' television programme with very interesting contributions from the Company Section boys and enthusiastic singing from the Juniors. The highlight for the boys was probably the laser tig which was played in the grounds of the house after dark. The highlight for the officers was the excellent behaviour of the boys which went a long way towards making it a most enjoyable and relaxed weekend for all.

On Sunday 23rd May, Pte. Callum Smith represented the Company in the Guard of Honour for the Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland at St. Giles' Cathedral.

The Company will resume activities again in September and details will be given in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Thank You

My wife and I would like to say thank you for the kind gift I received upon stepping down as Acting Captain. As a youngster, The Boys' Brigade developed my interest in the Scottish countryside and so I used part of the collection to buy a framed picture of An Teallach (the mountain on top of which I proposed to my wife!). This picture now hangs above our fireplace. The collection has also enabled us to support our favourite

charities. I don't intend to disappear from the Boys' Brigade completely, but hope to retain some involvement in the Company. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the very generous gift.

Alan Anderson

Penicuik 2011 Calendar

Price £6 - 50% of profits to *Lets Get Krafti*. You can see the calendar and order form on the Café noticeboard.

Morris Conlan, tel. 01968 675194

The PNK Friendship Group

This Group which meets in the back hall at 1.30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month is now on holiday until 12th October.

Molly Kerr, tel. 01968 673126

PNK Art and Craft Fellowship

Now on holiday for the summer. Restarts 3rd September

Robert Ramsay, tel. 01968 674448

PNK Ramblers

Next walk on 24th July - see poster on back hall and Café noticeboards.

EMMS International - Appeal For Bedsheets And Pillow Cases

The Ekwendeni Hospital, Malawi, currently needs donations of bedsheets and pillowcases. If you have any used or new ones to spare please contact me. Also we are still collecting children's clothing and new pants for teenage girls.

Many thanks.

Karen Thom, tel. 01968 670693.

Thank You

I wish to say thank you to everyone who came along to my open door to join in the company and all this to celebrate my 90th birthday. As well as coming from the local area, you also

4		7				9		3
	8	9		2		1	5	
2			5		6			9
		3				6		
8			3		9			1
	2	4		9		3	1	
6		5				8		4

Sudoku No 27. Solution on page 6

came from Florida, New Zealand, Cyprus, Canada and Germany. The lovely flowers, gifts and musical cards - a never to be forgotten day.

To all my friends from the North Kirk family, Glencorse Church, St James the Less and also from Dunfermline. To all who helped with the table decoration and our friend who gave us such lovely photographs, the list is endless. I thank each and everyone of you

May Donnelly

Thank You

Thank you for all the beautiful flowers I received after my second knee operation. I am down to one stick now and hopefully on the road to getting back to normal

Yours sincerely
Shirley Hartley

The Lighter Side

Say a Prayer

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Johnny received

his plate, he started eating right away.

'Johnny, please wait until we say our prayer,' said his mother. 'I don't need too,' the boy replied. 'Of course you do,' his mother insisted. 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.' 'That's at our house,' Johnny explained. 'But this is Grandma's house, and she knows how to cook!'

Unanswered Prayer

The preacher's 5 year old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day she asked him why. 'Well, honey,' he began, proud that his daughter was so observant of his messages, 'I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon.' 'So, how come He doesn't?' she asked.

Being Thankful

A Rabbi said to a precocious 6 year old boy, 'your mother says your prayers for you each night? That's very commendable. What does she say?' The little boy replied, 'thank God he's in bed!'

Time to Pray

A pastor asked a little boy if he said his prayers every night. 'Yes, sir' the boy replied. 'And do you say them in the morning too?' the pastor asked. 'No sir,' the boy replied. 'I ain't scared in the daytime.'

The Lord Is My Shepherd

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorise one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn it. Little Rick was excited about the task, but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After a great deal of practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation,

2	7	5	3	9	4	8	6	1
4	9	8	2	1	7	5	3	9
9	1	3	5	9	8	4	2	7
1	4	2	6	7	3	9	5	8
5	8	9	1	4	2	3	7	9
9	3	7	6	8	5	1	4	2
7	5	1	4	2	9	6	8	3
3	2	9	8	5	1	7	9	4
8	9	4	7	3	9	2	5	1

Answer to Sudoku 27

Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, ‘the Lord is my Shepherd, and that is all I need to know.’

Worship at the North Kirk

From September to June our morning worship services begin at 11am and in July and August at 10am.

Communion is normally celebrated on the second Sunday of every month.

Our evening worship services begin at 7pm except on the second Sunday of every month when, at 7.30pm, we host *Tribal Generation*, a youth-friendly worship event.

There is a short ‘*Start the Week*’ service every Monday at 11.45am.

Our 2010 SummertimeOut Services begin on 4th July and run through to 29th August and start at 10am

Service leaders:

4th July Fiona Charleson
11th July Jock Stein

18th July Jonathan Fraser
25th July John Fraser
1st August John Fraser
8th August John Fraser
15th August John Fraser
22nd August Fiona Charleson
29th August John Fraser

News Of The North Kirk Family And Parish

BAPTISMS

“Parents, don’t be hard on your children. Raise them properly. Teach them and instruct them about the Lord.” Paul’s letter to the Ephesian Christians chapter 6, verse 4

6th June Andrew John Black, son of Jane and David Black, 5 Eskvale View

FUNERALS

“Death is destroyed! Victory is complete! Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!” Paul’s first letter to the Corinthian Christians chapter 15, verses 54 and 57.

14th May Lily Campbell, 25 Loanburn Avenue

19th May Ann Dale, 138 John Street

11th June Anne Forsyth, 19 Cuiken Avenue

Next Newsletter

Copy for the next newsletter should be with the editor on or before 15th August for publication on 5th September. Copy can be sent as a Microsoft Word attachment to rbr44@tiscali.co.uk or hard copy (preferably typescript) can be handed to the editor

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www.pnk.org.uk