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Community Arts Penicuik Newsletter

March 2026

Dear CAP Members and Friends,

We have lots of information here! Firstly, there's some good news from the CAP Board and also news of a very special exhibition later in the year. This is followed by a wee report of February events. Then there are details of upcoming events and exhibitions over the next couple of months, and a brief look at the complete Events and Exhibitions listings to date, so you can "save the dates". Finally, there's our new directory of arts and music related opportunities in Penicuik and surrounding areas. So maybe get yourself a cup of coffee and read on!

Best wishes!

Sue Owen

Current CAP Chair until 11th June 2026

The CAP Board is delighted to let you know that Graham McDonald has agreed to join the Board and take on the Chair's role.

Graham is extremely well known in Penicuik (and beyond) as a virtuoso pianist, piano teacher and piano renovator. He is also leading a team in an initiative to purchase Valleyfield House in Penicuik to develop as an Arts and Music Venue. He is an enthusiastic and energetic visionary, with a huge number of ideas and interesting contacts in music and arts circles. He will be another welcome breath of fresh air in the organisation and an invaluable member of the Board. Graham will take up his new role of Chair after the CAP AGM on Thursday 11th June (see below).

Please don't forget that we're inviting people to step forward to help with organising and running events!

Please contact chair.communityarts@gmail.com if you think you'd enjoy helping in this way.

Finally, if you ever want to refer to old Penicuik Community Arts Association (PCAA) minutes and other **PCAA archive material**, please contact local.studies@midlothian.gov.uk. They were delighted to accept possession of this fascinating local resource comprising four crates of carefully sorted and organised files.

Special Exhibition

In October, we are exhibiting the work of International Artist, Daekon Lee from South Korea. We will look to celebrate this visit with a special opening event at The Storehouse on Sunday 4th October 1pm-3pm, where the artist and his family will be in attendance. The exhibition will run until Friday 30th October.

Sell greetings cards featuring your art work

We would like to invite CAP members who are visual artists to consider selling some greetings cards of their work at The Storehouse. We ask the cards are presented ready-to-sell in a retail setting, ie sealed and priced, with the artist details on the back of each card. There will be a 30% commission fee (15% for CAP, 15% for the Storehouse), so please take that into consideration in your pricing.

Sold cards will be paid for after purchase, or returned to the artist after a four month period. Cards can delivered to the town hall art group, run

by Morag Donkin Saturdays 10am-1pm (except Easter weekend, and also not running 18th April). We recommend using the online service, Art2Card; <https://www.art2card.co.uk/https://www.art2card.co.uk/> for a personal, professional service.

Fabulous February Events

Although it was a very snowy afternoon, a good audience turned up and had a wonderful time at our special Storytelling event "People of the Sea" performed by Ruth Kirkpatrick and Colin Urwin. And later in the month, the Jazz concert from the Amazing Carlops Jazz Band and friends, supported by youngsters from the Pentland School of Music, was almost a sell-out! It was a fabulous evening. Many thanks to everyone who helped at these events.

Coming up

Sunday 22nd March: 3pm - A delicious concert of classical guitar and flute music from the **Bruadar Duo** - young musicians based in Scotland. "Whilst enjoying exploring the core repertoire for flute and guitar, the Duo have a major interest in contemporary music and are committed to performing and promoting the work of Scottish composers. The Duo enjoy engaging with their audiences, sharing insights into the music being performed, and creating an atmosphere of inclusivity. Sharing the music and embracing the effect it can have on communal well-being brings great joy to both performers and audiences alike."

More details below.



SC054024

Bruadar Duo

Chamber
Music
Scotland

"Dream" in Scottish Gaelic

Flute and Classical Guitar

Sun. 22nd March 2026 3pm

St James the Less Church Hall, Broomhill,
Penicuik, EH26 9EE

**Community Arts Penicuik concert series
2025-2026**



Tickets £15/£10 (pay less) available from 1st Feb 2026

Online - www.penicuikarts.org/shop

Or from Pen-y-Coe Press, 7 Bridge St, EH26 8LL

(Tue-Sat 12 noon - 4pm)

Sunday 19th April 7:30pm - An extremely special performance of **"The Gentle Shepherd"** from Opera Caledonia. Over 300 years have passed since the publication of Allan Ramsay's pastoral comedy "The Gentle Shepherd". Through the inclusion of traditional songs and music,

Ramsay adapted his work into a ballad opera, earning it the title of "the first Scottish opera".

Set against the backdrop of the Pentland Hills, "The Gentle Shepherd" tells the story of Patie, a poor but virtuous shepherd, who falls in love with Peggy, a shepherdess.

Enjoy a concert retelling of what became Ramsay's most popular work, performed by Stephanie Stanway (soprano), Christian Schneeberger (tenor) and Derek Clark (harpsichord).

Opera Caledonia is Scotland's newest professional opera company – dedicated to presenting concerts, recitals & events across Scotland; showcasing all that Scotland has to offer as a country and an artistic platform.



OPERA
CALEDONIA

THE Gentle Shepherd

"the first Scottish ballad opera" – Allan Ramsay

a concert retelling with music performed by
Stephanie Stanway • Christian Schneeberger
• Derek Clark •

Sunday 19th April • 7.30pm

Penicuik North Kirk, 95 John Street, EH26 8AG

Tickets £15/£10 (pay less) available from 3rd Feb 2026

Online: www.penicuikarts.org/shop/ and from

Pen-y-Coe Press, 7 Bridge St, EH26 8LL

(Tue-Sat 12 noon-4pm)

www.operacaledonia.co.uk

Chamber
Music
Scotland



SC054024

Do read on for further details of these events and ticket purchase; also for news of future CAP events, news of other upcoming arts related events, and our new directory of Arts & Music opportunities in Penicuik!



Until 1st May 2026

Elena Coventry's Exhibition

The CAP Exhibition Space at the Storehouse, 22 High St, Penicuik EH26 8HW.

Visitors to Elena's opening event very much admired her beautiful and striking artwork, and some pieces have already sold. The exhibition can be viewed throughout March and April.

Events and Exhibitions Listing

Sunday 22nd March 2026 3pm

Bruadar Duo - Flute and Classical Guitar - Classical repertoire with own arrangements, including music by Scottish composers. St James the Less Church Hall, Broomhill, EH26 9EE. £15/£10. Tickets are on sale now at Pen-y-Coe Press (Tue-Sat 12-4pm) and online (<https://www.penicuikarts.org/shop/>)

Sunday 19th April 7:30pm

Opera Caledonia - The Gentle Shepherd - Musicians from a world class opera company sing a story set in the Pentland Hills: the text is from local poet and playwright Allan Ramsay (1686 - 1758) and the music is from traditional Scottish repertoire. Penicuik North Kirk, 95 John Street, EH26 8AG. £15/£10. Tickets are on sale now at Pen-y-Coe Press (Tue-Sat 12-4pm) and online (<https://www.penicuikarts.org/shop/>)

May - June 2026

CAP Exhibition in the Storehouse - Amanda Airey. Free

Sunday 10th May 2026 3pm

JKL Duo - Whistle, flute, bodhran, classical guitar, electric guitar

A musical banquet! A lighthearted mix of Celtic, Jazz, and Latin music; and a genre-crossing journey from Bach to Morricone.

St James the Less Church Hall, Broomhill Road, EH26 9EE. £15/£10

[Thursday 11th June 7:30pm](#)

Community Arts Penicuik AGM

St James the Less Church Hall, Broomhill Road, EH26 9EE

[July - August 2026](#)

CAP Exhibition in the Storehouse - AnneMarie Grant. Free

[Saturday 29th August - Sunday 6th September](#)

PENFEST 2026 - save the dates.

[Sunday 4th October 1pm-3pm](#)

International artist Daekon Lee's Opening Event in the Storehouse.

Directory of local arts-related opportunities

Penicuik Folk Club - meets at Shottstown Miners Club in Penicuik - encourages people to sing or play to others round the table. Some concerts. Very informal and friendly. Contact alanmurray350@gmail.com

Nitten Folk Club - at The Dean Tavern. 80 Main St, Newtongrange, Dalkeith EH22 4NA - also encourages people to sing or play to others round the table. Lots of concerts too. More details <https://nittenfolk.com/> Contact nittenfolk@gmail.com

Scots Music Group - offers classes, workshops, ceilidhs and more. Meets at various locations in Edinburgh. See <https://www.scotsmusic.org/#info>

Early Music Forum of Scotland - for anyone who loves music from about 400 years ago and more! (from early baroque backwards...). Meets at various locations in Edinburgh and beyond. Contact events@emfscotland.org.uk

Penicuik Community Choir - speaks (or rather sings!) for itself - there's a contact form here <https://penicuikcommunitychoir.co.uk/contact-query-form/>

CAP Yarn Group - a friendly group which meets on a Wednesday morning in Penicuik to socialise while making progress on their knitting, crochet, embroidery etc projects. Contact chair.communityarts@gmail.com in the first instance.

CAP Music Group - another friendly group which meets on a Saturday twice a month (alternating mornings and afternoons) in Penicuik to make music together. For any instrument which lends itself to traditional style music - at an "intermediate" level or above. Contact chair.communityarts@gmail.com in the first instance.

Morag Donkin's Art Group - meets on a Saturday morning in Penicuik. Please contact Morag via Facebook: [please click here](#) (just close the log-in window to see the info if you don't have a Facebook account).

Jan Miller's Art for All Classes - run at Penicuik Town Hall. Phone Community Learning 01968664114

Sandra Vick's art classes - Sandra isn't running classes at present, but keep an eye on her website - [please click here](#)

Gillian Westland's art classes - run at the Glencourse Centre and Penicuik venues. Please contact Gillian via Facebook: [please click here](#) (just close the log-in window to see the info if you don't have a Facebook account)

Pentland School of Music - in Penicuik, offering one to one instrument lessons. Please contact the school via Facebook: [please click here](#) (just close the log-in window to see the info if you don't have a Facebook account)

Penicuik Photography Club - meets in the Town Hall, Penicuik, Midlothian- for anyone interested in the art of Photography and all its mediums. The members range from complete beginners to seasoned and advanced photographers. info@penicuikphotographyclub.org

Penicuik U3A groups - the local U3A runs several arts and music related groups. For information, please contact their secretary via their webform - [please click here.](#)

North Esk Sessions - a weekly acoustic music session held in Penicuik, Midlothian. Join them on Wednesdays 8pm, at The Old

Crown Inn. The session is open to all, regardless of age, experience or genre of music. Come along and join the fun!

Carlops Village Hall - host a range of events. <https://carlops.net/>

Eastgate Theatre, Peebles - run a full programme of concerts, films, festivals and other performances. <https://eastgatearts.com/>

PLEASE LET ME KNOW OF OTHER ARTS OR MUSIC RELATED OPPORTUNITIES IN THE LOCAL AREA! HOPEFULLY WE CAN COMPILE A DIRECTORY TOGETHER...

Community Arts Penicuik

2 Friarton Gardens, Penicuik, EH26
9HG, Penicuik
United Kingdom



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