

Flower List

Date	Donor	Arranger
6th March	Mrs Cobb	Clare Aitken Irene Nichol
13th March	Mrs Pam Jones	- do -
20th March	Mrs C Aitken	- do -
27th March	Mrs Alison Bell Mrs Mary Graham	Alison Bell



Creche Duty

6th March	Mgt Lawson	Janet Cobb
13th March	Mandy Vance	Carol Stobie
20th March	Sadie Young	Sue Paterson
27th March	Kirsty Baron	Sandra Baron

Church Register

Funerals

2nd December: Margaret Henderson, Gullane
27th January: Christopher Michael Davies, Moffat Place
17th February: Edward Douglas, Abbey Home (Foreshot Terrace)
16th February: Dorothy Robinson, Fidra House (East Linton)
16th February: Joyce Strachan Melville, Fidra House
17th February: Campbell McBride, Lochbridge Road

Jesus said 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'

Newsletter Deadline

Please submit any articles/information for the April issue by Tuesday 15th March

Abbey Church, North Berwick (Church of Scotland)
Scottish Charity No. SCO 04761—CCL51436



Abbey Church News

March 2016

Abbey Church, 116 High Street, North Berwick
Church Office: 01620 892800
abbeychurch@btconnect.com

Minister: Rev. Dr David J Graham, BSc, BD
01620 840878
Pastoral Assistant: Bob Kane

Easter Services



Palm Sunday 20th March. All-age morning service

Holy Week (all at 7.30pm):

Monday 21st St Baldred's Episcopal Church
Tuesday 22nd North Berwick Christian Fellowship
(in St Andrew Blackadder)
Wednesday 23rd Our Lady Star of the Sea
(Stations of the Cross)
Thursday 24th Joint Communion, Abbey Church
Good Friday 25th Abbey Church

Easter Sunday 27th March.

8am open-air service at Haugh Car Park, East Bay
(then breakfast in Abbey Hall).

**All Sunday Morning Worship at 10.30am.
Come along. All welcome.**

Dear Friends,



Easter is earlier this year. In fact it's one of the earliest dates it can fall. This year it's March 27th, and the earliest possible date is March 22nd. Don't ask me why; it has something to do with what T.S. Eliot once called 'complicated long-division sums'.

The Archbishop of Canterbury recently suggested that all churches should agree on the date of Easter, and have it as a fixed date like Christmas. His suggestion was not just about the calendar, but a much deeper issue of Christian unity. How can we claim to be one universal church when we don't even celebrate the Resurrection together?

Yet many of the things which separate us as Christians are being healed. For example, the Pope and the Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church recently signed an agreement which healed a schism between their churches going back almost a thousand years. In a joint declaration they also urged the world to protect Christians from persecution in the Middle East.

Perhaps this is one of the key issues in unity; that we agree on what is important in our worship, our prayers, and our mission in the world.

It may be inconvenient or even confusing to us when Easter moves around and we're trying to organize our holidays. But that's a small matter compared to the meaning and message of Easter of forgiveness and new life, and of justice & peace in the world. Let's celebrate these things this Easter and every day of the year!

Your minister,

David

Regal- March Meeting

How very fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful part of Scotland. Not only has North Berwick been described as the Biarritz of the North, but it is also on a stunning coastline, and surrounded by delightful countryside. We should make time to discover and enjoy the many aspects of the country-side around us as John Muir did many years ago.

March Prayer



Dear Friends in Christ,

Wow! Hasn't our weather been changeable? From John o 'Groats to Lands' End we've had lovely blue skies, sleet, snow, gales, calm seas—The lot! We've been blessed and brought safely home. Like on the Road Home' Jesus is with us all the way! Let us pray.

Heavenly Father,

We owe You a massive 'Thank You' for keeping us safe, and being there whenever others knew they wanted to 'hold on' during dangerous days. We are all truly glad to be able to turn to You whenever and wherever we are. We ask You to draw near to all who need You. Bless them Lord, together with those who are still seeking You.

Bless all who are ill—in hospitals, homes or at home. Bless all who care for them day and night. We pray the disputes throughout the NHS will be sorted with a fair deal—soon.

Bless Dr Graham and Mr Bob Kane and their loved ones, and all involved with Abbey and Dirleton Churches. Thank you Lord.

We give thanks that on both Women's World Day of Prayer on 4th and International Women's Day on the 8th of March, we focus on Cuba and women's care worldwide. We praise you Lord for World Water Day. We think about those who don't have clean, healthy water—and realise how grateful we are—We just turn on a tap!! We remember all who are still cleaning up after the dreadful floods. Thank You God for every gift we gladly accept from You.

We ask these things in Jesus' Name. Amen

Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)

We will soon be in March—watching/smelling all the beautiful flowers and shrubs. Let us appreciate them.

Morning Tea Rota



6th March	Liz Harrison Sadie Young
13th March	Morna Mclure Eileen McColl
20th March	Jasmine Reavely Catherine Andrew
27th March	Isobel Hardie Fiona Gibson

More volunteers to help with the morning coffees after church would be very welcome.

Wanted Knitted Baby Clothes for Uganda

Knitted Baby garments for Rugarama Hospital in Kabale, Uganda, continue to be gratefully received by Dr Mateeka and his staff.

These are posted out when sufficient are accumulated for a 2Kgm package for posting. If there are enough, 2 packages are made up.

I would like to **sincerely** thank the ladies in both Abbey and St Andrew Blackadder Churches, and those ladies in Dirleton Court, for their labour of love, to produce these lovely little garments.

Thank you also to those who have generously contributed to the cost of postage over these past 10 years. I am most grateful.

(I started sending out knitted garments after I returned from my first visit to Rugarama Hospital in 2006. How time flies!)

Because the water in which the garments are washed is not 'clean' to our standard, bright colours are much appreciated.

Thank you so much for your ongoing work.

Margaret Ann Crawford

On



Thursday, 10th March Sam Ranscombe, the Countryside Ranger with East Lothian Council, will give us a presentation 'A talk on the wild side'. Sam organises hikes for the younger generation and gentle walks for the less nimble. She will tell us about activities such as rock-pooling, hill walking and geological explorations.

Our meetings are open to all people of North Berwick and the surrounding villages. After the meeting we sit down to a soup and sandwich lunch prepared by the ladies of Abbey Church.

I look forward to seeing you on Thursday, 10th March at 12 noon.

Ian M Aitken



Church

Flowers

Calling all existing and budding flower arrangers
Please come and join us on Wednesday 2 March at 10.00am in Abbey old hall for coffee and a chat about flowers and this year's rota. Anyone who would like to be involved in any way (arranging, donating or delivering flowers) would be most welcome.

Eco-Congregation Scotland

On 4th April at 7.30pm in Peebles Old Parish Church the Esk and Tweed network is hosting a talk from a representative of Amisfield Walled Garden (Haddington). Invitations to this event will be sent out at the beginning of March.

PILGRIMAGE to GREECE in the Steps of St Paul

(Philippi, Thessalonica, Delphi, Athens, Corinth)
27th September - 6th October

If interested, please contact the Minister this month

Abbey Newsletter Distributors

Many thanks to the team of Distributors who deliver the Newsletter to our homes.

They need two additional members for the team. If you can spare a little time please contact Liz Harrison or the Church Office.

Street Pastors



'The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.'

Major factors in Jeni Storey's decision to become a Street Pastor were, the memory of the above saying by Edward Burke and the feeling that if someone had spoken to, and reasoned with, the London rioters in the summer of 2011 violence may have been

avoided.

At the joint Guild meeting of Abbey and St Andrew Blackadder Jeni explained that the street pastors come from 20 different churches in Edinburgh. She described how they stock up with everything from first aid kits to flip flops and venture out late at night into areas where the police have told them trouble is to be expected. Examples of some of those whom they had helped were; getting medical assistance for a young man who had been attacked; seeing that a girl from abroad who could not find her way home was delivered safely to her hostel; praying with and for a man who was about to return to Afghanistan and for a boy who was worried about his student debts and was desperate to find employment.

They hope to have more volunteers joining them to help patrol the streets of Edinburgh on Friday and Saturday nights. Although we, in North Berwick, are probably too far away to become volunteers in Edinburgh, it is a most worthwhile charity to support.

Abbey Guild

March

Tuesday 1st at 2.30p.m. at St Andrew Blackadder.

This is a joint meeting when we will hear about Leuchie House from Mairi O'Keefe MBE.

Friday 4th at 3p.m. At Abbey Church

World Day of Prayer Service

Tuesday 15th at 2.30p.m.

After our AGM, Bill Miller will give us an illustrated talk on our theme, 'Go in Peace'.