



**Abbey Church
and
Dirleton Kirk News
October/November, 2017**

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

All Sunday Morning Worship

at

**9.30 am (until 10.20) Dirleton
Kirk**

**10.30am (Until 11.30) Abbey
Church**

Come along. All welcome.

Abbey Church,

116 High Street, (at Church Road)

North Berwick

Church Office: 01620 892800

abbeychurch@abbeychurch.co.uk

*Office open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
10am until 1pm*

Dirleton Kirk,

Dirleton Kirk, Manse Road,

Dirleton. EH39 5EJ

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Forthcoming Church Services

This Autumn, we'll be looking at a modern version of the '**95 Missional Theses'** which are the marks of the mission of today's church (see the Minister's letter for details).

This series of 5 will have an interlude on 1st October for our Harvest service, and 8th October when we have our annual Guild dedication service. 5th November is an all-age 'shoe box' service, 12th November is our Remembrance Sunday Service with the town organisations parade. And that takes us into December.

Dirleton Kirk

You are warmly invited to Holy Communion
at 9.30 on 15th October



Dear Friends,



On 31st October 1517, Martin Luther nailed a document to the church door in Wittenberg, where he was a priest and Doctor of theology. These became known as the 95 Theses, and it sparked off the European Reformation.

In that document, he took the medieval church to task for what he saw as its corrupt practices.

The impact of this event was widespread and far-reaching. Later, our own John Knox, who had been influenced by John Calvin, brought reform to the church in Scotland.

This Autumn, we'll be looking at a modern version of Luther's treatise, the '*95 Missional Theses*' which are the marks of the mission of today's church. It's broken into 5 easily digestible parts, and these will be our Sunday themes later in September and into October:

Proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
Teach, baptise & nurture new believers
Respond to human need by loving service
Transform unjust structures of society
Safeguard the integrity of creation

At this anniversary, it's a good time to consider what our priorities are as a church for the 21st century and beyond.

Luther could never have imagined how his ideas would change the world. And we can help to change it too, with God's help.

Your friend & Minister,

REGAL

The 2017/18 session of Regal commences on the second Thursday of October at 12 noon in Abbey Church old hall.

Over the past 70 years our railways have undergone several changes from small companies to a nationalised industry and back to a few large companies; during this period the engines have also undergone many changes. Ken Williamson, a self-confessed train buff, will talk to us on "British trains: past and present" on Thursday, 12th October.



A couple of years ago Bill McClure spoke to us about the South African Zulu war. On 9th November Bill will tell us about the subsequent conflict, "The South African Boer War" and its impact on both South Africa and Great Britain.

After the meeting we sit down to a soup and sandwich lunch prepared by the ladies of Abbey Church. Our meetings are open to all ladies and gentlemen of North Berwick and the surrounding villages. Please come along, meet friends and listen to an aspect of life that we know little about.

I know that both Ken's talk on Thursday, 12th October and Bill's talk on Thursday, 9th November will be most interesting to all of us and I look forward to seeing you on these Thursdays at 12 noon.

Ian M Aitken

Blythswood Christmas Shoe Box Appeal 2017

It is hard to believe that the Shoe Box Appeal is upon us already! Last year we were able to send 168 filled boxes to Blythswood, to be distributed to countries in Eastern Europe and Pakistan. By filling the Shoebox with simple gifts you can make someone very happy this Christmas.

We plan to cover the boxes with Christmas paper on **Wednesday 11th October** in the Church Hall, from 2p.m. Any donation of Christmas paper, and also your help on this afternoon, would be appreciated.

The closing date for the collection of filled boxes is Sunday 5th November.

Bethany

Abbey and Dirleton Churches are again supplying meals for homeless people for the Bethany Care Shelter in Edinburgh. We have been given two dates, Sunday 15th October in South Leith Baptist Church and Monday 18th December at the Church of the Sacred Heart. We have still to be allocated another two dates for next year.

In past years we have taken gift bags with new warm socks, hats etc. and toiletries before Christmas and we will be appealing for donations or for cash nearer the time.

Anyone willing to help please see Dorothy Kirkpatrick so that a rota can be made up.

A reminder that there is an induction evening on Tuesday 3rd October at South Leith Baptist Church. It is very useful and informative and certainly worthwhile especially for those who haven't been before and those wanting more information. It would be nice if some could attend and share information.

Pop-up music for Nimbong School

The final total raised for Nimbong School was £1,664

GUILD SESSION 2017-2018 GO IN LOVE

On Saturday 2nd September around 30 people were privileged to get the flavour of The Annual Guild Gathering in Dundee. This was due to the expertise and time of Richard Bell who enabled us to watch the live streaming in Abbey Sanctuary. There were a few technical problems in Dundee but we nevertheless had a very interesting day and thoroughly enjoyed inspiring talks from Rt Rev Dr Derek Browning and Dr Pam Cairns - both relating to 'Go in Love'.

On **Sunday 8th October** the morning service will concentrate on 'GO IN LOVE' and will include the Annual Guild Dedication. This will lead perfectly into our first meeting on **Tuesday 10th October at 7.30pm** when Rev Dr David Graham will talk further on The Guild's new theme.

The Syllabus for the Session is displayed on the Guild Board in the church corridor and is also on the Abbey Church Website. There are also paper copies on the cabinet at the right of the glass doors as you go out the front door. Please feel free to take one as, although you may not wish to join The Guild, there might be one or two speakers/talks that are of interest to you.

As you know North Berwick Guilds support two Guild Projects each year which you will hear about on 8th October. To help raise funds for them and also to support North Berwick Dementia Friendly, Abbey Guild is having a special fundraiser on **Friday 24th November at 7pm**
£10 tickets for this will be available from 8th October onwards.

ALL WELCOME to all or any of the meetings

ABBAY CHURCH GUILD GUILD WEEK FUNDRAISER



LORAL ART DEMONSTRATION



For Guild projects: MISSION INTERNATIONAL



PROSPECTS: ACCESS TO LIFE



and NB DEMENTIA FRIENDLY



BRINGING LOVE AT CHRIST-

MAS



BY



LILIAS HOSKINS

A NATIONAL FLOWER DEMONSTRATOR



IN ABBAY CHURCH SANCTUARY
FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER at 7pm



TICKETS - £10 (including refreshments)

Healing

The Revd Mike Endicott is returning to East Lothian, this time to Abbey Church, North Berwick. Mike has had many years in the healing ministry and has had many remarkable results and seen many miracles. Mike founded The Well Centre in south Wales as a place of ministry. He spends his life in prayer, ministry, teaching and the encouragement of others throughout the UK and internationally. He passionately believes that Jesus heals today and his remarkable ministry bears the fruit of this.

*Friday 17th November - An open meeting on Healing 7.30pm
Abbey Church, North Berwick - all welcome for anyone who would like to receive prayer for healing*

*Saturday 18th November- Day Conference for those who would like to learn to pray for the sick and the injured 10am - 4pm
Registration from 9am, Bring your own lunch*

For more information contact : Ruth Torrance, Abbey Church

Abbey Church Section



Harvest Flowers

The ladies of Abbey flower team are meeting at 10.00am on Friday 29th September to decorate the Church for Harvest. New helpers would be much appreciated and anyone interested would be very welcome. Please just come along to see what is involved, have a chat and cup of coffee.

Pot Plants for Harvest

Once again we will be distributing pot plants to people in the congregation who can't always manage to Church. Donations of plants brought on Harvest Sunday, 1st October, would be very welcome and much appreciated

Abbey Flower List



Date	Donor's Name	Arranger
1st October	Mrs McClure	Morna McClure
8th October	Mrs I McKay	Sheila McCubbing
15th October	Mrs M Purves	Sheila McCubbing
22nd October	Mrs L McLean	Irene Nichol
29th October	Mrs J Lunn	Kate Campbell
5th November	Jennifer Gilchrist Ms M Dow	Kate Campbell
12th November	Mrs MA Crawford	Margaretann Crawford
19th November	Mrs L Ferry Mrs C Danks	Isobel Hardie
26th November	Mrs I Hardie	Isobel Hardie

Abbey Morning Tea Rota



1st October	Irene Brodie	Catherine Andrew
8th October	Liz Harrison	Sarah Kerr
15th October	Isabel Smith	Sadie Young
22nd October	Morna McClure	Eileen McColl
29th October	Isobel Hardie	Fiona Gibson
5th November	Mary Graham	Dorothy Kirkpatrick
12th Novemebr	Irene Nichol	Sheila McCubbing
19th November	Ann Bell	Richard Bell
26th November	Catherine Andrew	Irene Brodie

Donations of biscuits to accompany the teas and coffees would be appreciated

RECOGNISE ANYONE HERE?



Abbey Church had a very active and popular Drama Group in the 1960s and 1970s which staged annual productions in what is now the Old Hall. In those days, the Hall had a large stage and the seating in the balcony was raked affording excellent views of the stage even from the back row there. The mastermind behind these shows was the late Harry Young who produced them and inspired the casts and crews. The shows were generally staged over three consecutive evenings and it wasn't unusual for "House Full" signs to be required.

Harry Young's widow, Valerie, recently passed a fascinating collection of photos, programmes and transparencies for safe-keeping in the church archives and they mark an important part of the history of our congregation.

Many performers in the later shows can be recognised from these photos and are still in North Berwick (and indeed members of Abbey), including Isabel McKay, Margaret Smith and Margaret Garbutt. However, it hasn't been so easy to name all of the actors and actresses in some of the older photographs.

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Can you help? If you were in North Berwick in the early 1960s and recognise any of those in the photograph. It would be good to build up a complete picture.

Please let the church office or Robert Burgon know. As a starter, the gentleman on the far right is Joe Donaldson who was head of the Maths Department at North Berwick High School and led the Abbey Bible Class. Seated in the middle of the settee are Meta and Colin Currie who played a prominent part in the life of Abbey for decades and lived latterly at Tigh Mhor. Harry Young is fourth from the right in the back row.

Who are the others?

Afternoon Teas

It has been decided to give the proceeds (£1,212) from this year's Afternoon Teas to North Berwick Day Centre, Stepping Out and CrossReach Counselling Centre for children and young families in East Lothian. Thank you again to all who help and support us every year.

Super Sunday Club

Everyone is talking about all the new houses being built and now occupied in and around North Berwick. By all accounts, the restaurants are getting busier by the minute! Wouldn't it be great if Abbey Church could say the same? The Super Sunday Club would love to have lots of the new children coming along - but **what can you do to help?**

It would be great if you would pick up a couple of the leaflets from around the Church and give them to anyone with children who has recently moved to our area. A smiling personal approach is always better....and coupled with prayer..... who knows what may happen!

Hope you will give it a try!

Eileen McColl

Abbey Creche List

1st October	Mgt Lawson	Janice Cobb
8th October	Mgt Lawson	Janice Cobb
15th October	Mandy Vance	Sadie Young
22nd October	Sarah Kerr	Carol Stobie
29th October	Ann Bell	Rose Leslie
5th November	Joan Lunn	Caitraina Spencer
12th November	Mg Lawson	Janice Cobb
19th November	Mandy Vance	Sadie Young
26th November	Sarah Kerr	Carol Stobie

New helpers would be much appreciated. Please contact Dorothy Kirkpatrick .

Dirleton Kirk Section



Dirleton Prayer Service

Wednesdays at 10.00am in the hall

Dirleton Lunch Hub

Meet up for Soup & Cake
Organised by Dirleton Good Neighbours
First Wednesday in each month
Dirleton Kirk Hall 12 noon to 2 p.m.
Cost: £5 Concessions: £4 Children: £2

Session Clerk's notes—September 2017

Mrs Rena Clapperton does not have big feet, but when she stood down as our organist after many years of playing for us, she left some very big shoes for us to fill. Since she came to the decision to stand down as our regular organist, we have been ably served by others who have volunteered their services on an irregular basis—some of them travelling some distance to play for us, others juggling commitments to play at other churches, hurrying to get to us for 9.30, or rushing off afterwards—as rapidly as the Minister—to bring music to another congregation.

Some of those who have played for us since Rena retired have moved away; others have said that owing to their own circumstances they could play for us only infrequently, and could not put themselves forward to be on any kind of rota of regular organists. We are immensely grateful to those who have kept us going.

We have had a couple of expressions of interest in taking on the role of organist full time, but some who have been interested have withdrawn their interest, having reflected on the travelling involved and the extent of the commitment. We continue to advertise, and there are grounds for hope that we may soon identify a full-time organist. But the process has also uncovered new people ready to play on an occasional basis, and we look forward to them being with us soon.

Thanks are also due to the Ministers who have stood in for David who has been on leave. Rev. Tom Gordon preached on the subject of 'stuff', having introduced the topic by addressing the children on the topic of an invisible and intangible box, which he deposited on the floor in front of the congregation, and from which he extracted equally invisible and intangible things - making the point that these are, nevertheless, real. Rev. Christine Clark came to us and led us in worship from the perspective of her recent work in chaplaincy at the Borders General Hospital and elsewhere - including chaplaincy for the Spartans Ladies Football team. She talked about children's stories and drew from one character the need to be FROG: Fully Reliant on God - and how the lessons that

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we learn from participating in sport can be applied to our spiritual lives. She asked all of us about our achievements in sports and games, and who would have guessed that Dirleton's congregation had hit quite so many holes in one? If there were to be an inter-parish golf tournament we would surely stroll it.

I didn't hear any of the sermons which our visiting Ministers preached, owing to being on duty with the Sunday School. Margaret McPhail organises the Sunday Club's rota, and had the excellent idea of starting the new 'term'- after the end of the school summer holidays - with a meeting, at which the kids talked about what they would like to do on Sundays. Which meeting threw up enough ideas to keep us going for a couple of years! The first project has been to make a film out of the Easter play which the children put on- some time after Easter, in fact, owing to the calendar.

It is always refreshing and challenging to hear the truths of scripture put in new ways, by new voices, or from new perspectives: and I have found this to be doubly true of the experience of working with the Sunday School. Who could have imagined ever looking at the events of the Resurrection from the point of view of the stone which was rolled away from the front of the tomb? Yet that is the idea which Bethany came up with, and the Stone has taken centre stage in our play. While important, the Stone has not perhaps previously been seen as a character in itself - for who ever heard of a talking stone? But as Jesus said, when ordered by the Pharisees to rebuke his disciples, *...if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.* Luke 19.40. And the rest of the kids have picked up this novel idea, and developed it with characteristic enthusiasm and energy. Thanks to Margaret, Hayley, Jean and all others who help out in any way with Sunday School, and thanks to all those who attend, for helping us look at familiar things in new ways.

K.D.S.

Abbey Church/Dirleton Kirk
Prayers for October/November



Dear Friends in Christ,

Can hardly believe most of this year has gone—Autumn is here!
Maybe it's just me getting old, Let's pray.

Heavenly Father,

We give thanks for all the many gifts you have given us—especially that of your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to show our gratitude by sharing with others. Lord, at this time of year many pleas for help come with the rest of the mail. Help us to make the right choice who we should support as so many folk are in dire straits.

Bless our Minister and our Pastoral Assistant and their loved ones. May we be aware of the vast amount of work they do in your name. Bless all young, and young at heart, who belong to our Churches. Many of the activities will be starting up once again. We pray for the leaders and children and grown-ups who go along, May they all gain from attending and feel uplifted. We remember our friends who would love to join in, but are too ill or frail. Bless them and those who care for them.

As we approach the time when we celebrate Christ's birth, help us to realise the importance and real meaning of Christmas. Help us choose cards and gifts portraying this. Show us how we can use this time to share love with all whom we meet.

As always God we pray for peace—worldwide. Open the hearts and minds of world leaders that they will put hatred behind them and focus on Peace. Thank You.

We ask you to be close to those who are housebound or lonely, and comfort all who mourn. May the coming months grant us good health and allow us to go out and about, appreciating the beauty all around us. Thank you Lord. In Jesus' precious name. Amen. *Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)*

May you and yours enjoy the autumn days.

Church Register
('A' denotes Abbey, 'D' denotes Dirleton)

Baptism

13th August Lilah Grace Russell Martin (D)

Weddings

1st July James Johnstone and Rebecca McConnell (D)
8th July Elliot Hawkins and Emma Wither (D)
15th July Stephen Biggart and Caroline Pringle (D)
29th July Adam Kinsella and Ashling Bolt (D)
19th August Todd Mills and Sophie Harris (D)
26th August Wallace Wilson and Katie Durrant (D)

Pastoral Visits

The Minister and Pastoral Assistant are happy to visit church members who are in ill, either at home or in hospital. If in hospital, please also pass on the ward number, as this is not available to Ministers. This information should be given to the Minister or via the Church Office (892800). Thank you.

Newsletters

The next newsletter, a joint one for Abbey Church and Dirleton Kirk, will cover December and January. The deadline for the next issue is Tuesday 14th November. Please send articles to the office. Thank you.

Abbeychurch.org.uk
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And Twitter:DirletonAbbey



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