

### Flower List

Date	Donor's Name	Flower Arranger
5th April Easter Sunday	Mrs Jean Donald Mrs Mary Graham	Mrs Jean Donald
12th April	Mrs Helen MacKenzie	Mrs Doreen Guy Mrs Pam Jones
19th April	Mrs Pat Scott	Mrs Doreen Guy Mrs Pam Jones
26th April	Mrs Valerie Young Mrs Irene Brodie	Mrs Irene Brodie
3rd May	Mrs Cath Hill Mrs Margaret MacLean	Mrs Margaret MacLean
10th May	Mrs Liz Harrison	Mrs Dorothy Kirkpatrick Mrs Sadie Young
17th May	Mrs Mairi Robertson	Mrs Dorothy Kirkpatrick Mrs Sadie Young
24th May	Mrs Sheila Burgon	Mrs Dorothy Kirkpatrick Mrs Sadie Young
31st May	Miss Isobel Smith	Miss Isobel Smith

### Church Register

#### Funerals

21st February Isabella Armour, Muirfield Home

2nd March Myra Speirs, Dirlerton Avenue

5th March Rose Scott, Pattle Court

20th March Alison Barbour, Lord President Road

Our prayers are also with Sylvia Macaskill whose husband Calum has died. Members of St Baldred's Church, Calum would often attend our evening services in Abbey.

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



## Abbey Church News April 2015

Abbey Church, 116 High Street, North Berwick  
Church Office: 01620 892800  
[abbeychurch@btconnect.com](mailto:abbeychurch@btconnect.com)

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

Sunday Morning Worship at 10.30am.

Sunday Evening Service at 6.00pm  
Come along. All welcome.

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES**  
at 7.30pm,

Full details are shown on page 3  
of the Church News

On **Easter Sunday** we start the day off with our 8am open-air service at the 'Haugh' Car Park (far end of the East Bay), followed by breakfast in Abbey Hall.

Thereafter services are at the usual times of Dirlerton 9.30am, Abbey 10.30am and 6pm

Dear Friends,

This month sees Easter, and also a General Election. Although politics may sometimes evoke a groan from us, we ought to see it as a great opportunity to exercise our democratic rights and freedom. There will be an opportunity to hear the candidates answer questions at a hustings meeting organized by our Association of Churches, on the evening of Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

We recently had a short break in Berlin. Although it's 70 years since the end of the war, you couldn't but be aware of those dreadful days. Despite much renovation and rebuilding in the city, which is still a work in progress, the memorials to those who fought for freedom and many innocent victims of fascism are a stark reminder of the cost of the freedom we enjoy today.

One display, in the preserved shell of a bombed-out Church, mentioned the role which Christians played in opposing the evil and violence of those years. The 'Confessing Church' (as it became known) opposed the supremacy of the state, stating that Christ alone is the head of the Church, in obedience to the Word of God. That confession cost the lives of some of those who signed it, including Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

These events may now seem a long way off. But today's world has many examples of threats to the freedom of worship and of conscience. Christ's Church still has a vital role to play in safeguarding that freedom, and in prophetically opposing anything which stands against it.

The Easter message tells us that 'for freedom, Christ has set us free' (Galatians 5:1). Let's treasure that, safeguard it, and use it for God's glory.

Your minister,  
David

## Wheelchair

There is a lightweight wheelchair in the Church for use by anyone requiring it. Please contact Joyce in the Church Office.

A small donation would be appropriate. Thank you

## Sunday Teas Rota

	Morning	Evening
5th April	Sheila McCubbing Ann Gardner	Janet Raeburn Liz Harrison
12th April	Richard & Ann Bell	Eleanor Main Bob Kane
19th April	Mary Graham Sheila Skinner	Mary Graham Zandra Main
26th April	Liz Harrison Sadie Young	Isobel Smith Nancy Chisholm
3rd May	Morna McClure Eileen McColl	Janet Raeburn Liz Harrison
10th May	Jasmine Reavely Catherine Andrew	John & Rosemary Evans
17th May	Sarah Kerr A N Other	John & Doreen Guy
24th May	Helen Mackenzie Fiona Gibson	Eleanor Main Bob Kane
31st May	Isobel Hardie Dorothy Kirkpatrick	Margaret Ann & Lyle Crawford

## Pastoral Note

If you know someone would like a visit while in hospital, please pass on the ward number to the Minister. Hospitals are not allowed to give out ward numbers, even to ministers! Thank you.

## Prayers for April



Dear Friends in Christ,

How lovely it is to see the beautiful spring flowers! It lifts our hearts to watch them pop through the earth, produce buds and then blossom in full! Let us give thanks.

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for all the beautiful flowers, shrubs and trees - so many we cannot count them! So many we are overwhelmed. Thank you for all your goodness to us, especially for Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour.

Let us always remember the real reason we celebrate Easter. It is not Easter bunnies or the fancy chocolate eggs - it is Jesus - giving his life on the Cross so that all who acknowledge this and ask for forgiveness of our sins shall be saved and go on to be with God for all eternity. Praise his name!

We ask for healing for all those who are ill - in hospitals or at home, strengthen those who care for them. Draw near to those going through difficult times - provide the help they need, help those who feel lonely - may they realise you are always with them. Comfort those who have lost loved ones - may they turn to you in their grief and be uplifted.

Bless our minister, Dr Graham and Mr Bob Kane. Help them in all that they do in your name. Bless their families and all in our congregation - young and young at heart. We remember those who are unable to come to church through illness or frailty. Bless those whose work causes them to work away from home, bind their families together with cords of love that cannot be broken. Where there are wars, O Lord, we pray for peace throughout the world.  
Thank you Amen.

*Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)*

May God go with us as we spring into spring.

## Sunday Services

Holy week services are as follows (all at 7.30pm):

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March:** St Adrian's Gullane (with presentation of Churches' Community Award)

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March:** Dirleton Kirk

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April:** Our Lady Star of the Sea

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April:** St Andrew Blackadder joint communion

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April:** Abbey Good Friday service

On **Easter Sunday** we start the day with our 8am open-air service at the 'Haugh' Car Park (far end of the East Bay), followed by breakfast in Abbey Hall, then services at the usual times of Dirleton 9.30, Abbey 10.30 and 6pm

Our **Sunday morning services** consider some of Jesus' teaching. The evening services are part of a year-long journey through the Bible and faith: *'We make the road by walking'*. There are also related Bible readings for House Groups and personal devotion.

## April Services

	Morning	Evening
<b>5th April Easter Sunday</b>	<b>He is Risen!</b>	<b>The Uprising Begins</b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Great Commission</b> (World Church Sunday)	<b>Fellowship</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Peter's Vision</b> (Sacrament of Baptism)	<b>Discipleship</b>
<b>26th April</b>	<b>Paul's Mission</b>	<b>Worship</b>

## World Church Gift Day

Sunday, 12th April has been designated as "World Church Gift Day". Within your magazine there is a slip indicating the four charities which the Kirk Session has agreed to support this year.

**Inspire Youth Trust** is the local youth organisation that was started to advance Christian religion among the young in the North Berwick area.

**CrossReach** is the social care arm of the Church of Scotland and carries out much good work with the needy and the elderly.

**Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society** is a Christian charity which works with partners in India, Malawi and Nepal to improve health.

**Kalimpong Twinning Fund** gives assistance to the work of the McFarlane Memorial Church in Kalimpong.

Naturally, if you feel there is another organisation to which you would prefer your gift to go, please indicated it on the slip.

## New member

We welcome Julie Loporto as a member of Abbey, from Palmerston Place Church (via Malta!), with her husband Roberto and girls Mia and Amelia.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to our friend and sometime preacher **Professor Todd Still**, who has been appointed Dean of Truett Seminary at Baylor University in Texas.

Truett/Baylor is a leading university for ministry training and research. We send you every blessing to you and Caroline in this new challenge!

## Many Thanks

Many thanks to Jean Matthews, who has generously given a **grand piano** to Abbey. It's a lovely instrument, and we hope it can be made good use of in occasional services, as well as at concerts or other musical events in the Church.

## Super Sunday Club

The Super Sunday Club is proving very popular with the children who come along.

We have a full team of excellent leaders and are using Scripture Union material which provides a good base for each week's activities. The newly acquired parachute is proving very popular! Our aim is to teach the children some of the Bible stories while having fun through games.

Unfortunately, the number of children coming along continues to be very low and we hope and pray that some of our Church families will come back .....and maybe even bring their friends!

A warm welcome awaits old friends and new!

The Super Sunday Club meets every Sunday at 10.30 am in the Old Hall during school terms.

*Mary Graham & Eileen McColl*

## Annual Stated Meeting

On Sunday, 22nd March Abbey Church held its annual stated meeting which was chaired by our minister, Rev. Dr. David Graham.

David welcome everybody and said that we are required to produce an annual report and accounts to indicate to the wider community our activities that take place within the town.

On an ecumenical level we support McFarlane Memorial Church and its pastorate in Kalimpong, India both spiritually and financially. In addition we support the work of Blythswood Christian Trust, Bethany Christian Trust, The Vine Trust and Inspire which is the local youth organisation which aims to bring Christ to our youngsters.

Stuart Ainslie, our treasurer, took us through the accounts and indicated that our finances are in a healthy state primarily due to a very generous gift from Mrs Muir's legacy.

David concluded the meeting by mentioning and thanking some of our members who carry out a considerable amount of work for Abbey.

## Abbey Library

A small library of Christian books is now open for borrowing. It's in the Old Hall at Abbey Church (you can't miss it, on the back wall).

Please just jot down what you borrow in the notebook there. There are no fines, and no time limit; just return them when you've finished with them.

## Christian Aid Forth Bridge Cross Sponsored Walk

Saturday 25 April is the date of this year's Bridge Cross for Christian Aid. It would be great to have a group going from Abbey Church to help raise loads of money for a great cause. If you would like to come along, please drop me an email or give me a 'phone - [mail@davidmccoll.plus.com](mailto:mail@davidmccoll.plus.com) . I will be delighted to give you further details. I can't promise that it will be a hot sunny day but I can promise an afternoon of good chat and an experience you will never forget! Look forward to hearing from you.

*David McColl*

### Pastoral Evening

On Thursday, 16 April at 7.30 pm in Abbey Old Hall **Carol Wicker** (North Berwick Day Centre) and **Sue Northropp** (Dementia Friendly North Berwick) will lead an evening on caring for people with dementia.

Everyone is welcome, whether you are a carer, relative, elder or just interested in this very important subject.

### North Berwick Hustings

We are all aware that there will be a General Election in early May. In line with past elections, North Berwick is hosting its own Hustings at which all five candidates will be present. The meeting will take place on Thursday, 23 April at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm. The meeting will be chaired by Laurence Twaddle.

### Creche Duty

5th April	Kirsty & Sandra Baron
12th April	Norma Goodland & Dorothy Kirkpatrick
19th April	Lorna Robson & Sarah Kerr
26th April	Ann Bell & Rose Leslie

*If young people will not come to church then the Church must go to young people*



Dear Friends

March 2015

We are very thankful that Shiona is now back at school and firing on (nearly) all cylinders. Good numbers of boys are coming to Youth Alpha at lunchtimes and we are looking at different activities that will match their enthusiasms. While Shiona will be co-producing the school play, this does not appeal to the current batch of boys, whose interests, not surprisingly, lie with football and rugby. We are in discussion with someone who would, we hope, provide this sort of activity on Friday after school.

Friday afternoon is also the time when we want to provide training in music-making and the development of a worship group, but so far all our efforts have not found a suitable person to do this work. It is clear that young people who are not from church-going families do not want to come to churches as they now know them. There are many reasons for this, not least a climate in the media which regularly portrays church as something for a minority of elderly people. Consequently, we want to help young Christians find ways of expressing their faith in more contemporary kinds of worship.

The Trustees have restructured the way they work under the Chairmanship of Tommy Nelson. When Inspire was set up nearly ten years ago, we were able to attract financial support from various bodies which gave three-year grants to set up the work on the understanding that we would thereafter become self-supporting. That initial funding plus some local support has enabled us to keep going until now, but we now need significant new contributions to continue.

Finally, I have told the Trustees that I propose to retire from the Trust on 30 June this year to make way for new, young people to take over what has been begun. The need for outreach to young people has never been greater.

With warmest regards

Peter Kimber

Secretary

North Berwick Christian Youth Trust: Scottish Charity No. SCO 37664

<b>ALL FUNDS</b>			
	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>Actual to 31 Dec</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Offerings	72,000	73,790	1,790
Tax reclaim	16,000	16,572	572
Miscellaneous	11,700	6,731	(4,969)
Premises income	8,000	10,183	2,183
Investment income	1,540	4,141	2,601
Legacies	62,035	63,180	1,145
Dirleton	5,300	5,450	150
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>176,575</b>	<b>180,047</b>	<b>3,472</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Church of Scotland payments	53,472	53,436	36
Pastoral Expenses	10,420	5,270	5,150
Other Salaries	20,550	21,330	(780)
Premises costs	23,800	24,016	(216)
Church Office Expenses	2,650	2,169	481
Investments	70,000	69,998	2
Mission Donations to Third Parties	3,600	11,618	(8,018)
Miscellaneous	8,440	2,680	5,760
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>192,932</b>	<b>190,517</b>	<b>2,415</b>
<b>Surplus of Expenditure over Income</b>	<b>(16,357)</b>	<b>(10,470)</b>	<b>5,887</b>

**Comments – Abbey Church – Year to 31 December 2014****General**

Copies of the full Annual Report are available to all members of the congregation. Copies are available either at the back of the Church or from the Church Office.

The main point to note about the 2014 Accounts is the receipt of the second instalment of Mrs Muir's legacy. These amounts were then invested into the Church of Scotland Trust Growth Fund. As our accounts are based on a receipts and payments basis this investment shows as "expenditure".

The deficit for the 2014 year is £10,470. This is much better than the budget deficit of £16,357. The annual budget included major maintenance projects and the purchase of investments.

**Income**

Offerings – Overall these were above budget. Open plate and 'blue envelopes' continue to decline year upon year. This is compensated for by the increased use of standing orders.

(Note - If you are tax payer and wish the Abbey to recover the tax paid by yourself please would you pick up a gift-aid form from Joyce in the office or ask Phil for one.)

Premises income – this relates mainly to hall rental income. This is above budget as the 2014 budget was reduced as a major user had stopped using the hall last year. Fortunately actual usage is above that anticipated.

Investment income – this is above budget as two instalments of interest have been received on the investments with the Church of Scotland.

**Expenditure**

Premises costs – This includes the new chairs for the old hall and the new curtains in the old hall. The outside paintwork was also painted.

If you have any questions please ask.

Stuart Ainslie  
14 March 2015

Your Finance Team  
Income—Gift-Aid  
Income—Hall Rentals  
Payment of Bill  
Accounting—OSCR, Periodic Accounts etc

Phil Spencer  
Ronald Ironside  
Janice Cobb  
Stuart Ainslie