

Flower List



Date	Donor	Arranger
5th July	Mrs S Cowan	Jean Walinck & Morag Robertson
12th July	Miss Janet Raeburn	- do -
19th July	Mrs N Chisholm	- do -
26th July	Miss Watt	- do -
2nd Aug	Mrs M Garbutt Mrs Pam Jones	Pam Jones
9th Aug	Mrs M Stewart	Violet Lamont Elma Danks
16th Aug	Mrs F Hutchison	- do -
23rd Aug	Miss D Danks	- do -
30th Aug	Mrs G Scott	Gwen Scott

Church Register

Baptism

June 14th Freya Anna Blathwayt, daughter of Tim and Rosie (Lesso)

Funerals

22nd May John Anderson, Fidra House
11th June Ann Halliday, Priory Wynd
9th June Molly Gourlay, Fidra House

Jesus said 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'

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

Abbey Church News July 2015

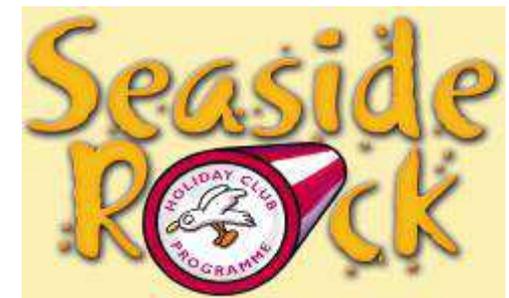
Abbey Church, 116 High Street, North Berwick
Church Office: 01620 892800
abbeychurch@btconnect.com

Minister: Rev. Dr David J Graham, BSc, BD

Pastoral Assistant: Bob Kane

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

Seaside Rock Holiday Club
More information inside....





Dear Friends,

William Barclay told a story about a church where he worshipped. In the congregation there was a lonely old man called Mr Thomas. He had outlived all his friends and hardly anyone knew him. When Mr Thomas died, another person in the church felt there would be no one at the funeral, so he decided to go himself, so at least there would be one person to follow the old man to his last resting place.

When he got there, right enough there was no one else there. The funeral hearse reached the cemetery, but at the gate he saw there was a soldier waiting there - an officer. On his raincoat there were no rank badges. He came to the graveside for the ceremony, then when it was ended he stepped forward and before the open grave gave a salute that was fit for a king. The man walked away from the grave with this soldier, and as they walked, the wind blew the soldier's raincoat open to reveal the shoulder badges of a Brigadier General.

The General said, 'Maybe you're wondering what I'm doing here? Years ago, Mr Thomas was my Sunday School teacher. I was a wild boy and a bit of a trial to him. He never knew what he did for me, but I owe everything I am or will be to Mr Thomas. I had to come to salute him at the end.'

Mr Thomas didn't know what influence his years of Sunday School work would achieve. No-one ever does. Keep sowing the seed. Leave the rest to God.

Your minister,
David

Prayers for July/August



Dear Friends in Christ,

This year is quickly passing by. It seems no time since Christmas, Easter or Mothers' Day ; and all the 'Special Days'. I don't know about you, but I must write 'Special Days' in my diary. If I don't, I may well forget. Let us remember the 'Special Days' as we give thanks throughout the rest of the year.

Heavenly Father, help us remember Christmas, when you came into this world and later, when you rose from the grave. What Joy! So many good things to remember, from birth all through our lives. So let us all, children right through to adulthood, make lots of happy memories, and let us give thanks, as always. Father, please be with us during the summer months. Help us to make the most of them — dry or sunny days. Help us to remember those in hospital, and those caring for them. Help those who work long hours, and don't get enough wages. Bless all, at home or abroad. If we send a little cash each week it will soon build up and we can help in this way. Lord, stay near to those who are lonely. May they know your presence. Please comfort those who are grieving. Keep us all safe, at home or in hospital and grant us patience and a smile to all who care for us. Thank you Lord. Amen

Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)

When the sun brings a smile to your face, share it with others. It will do you good.

Who does what in Abbey?

Our Kirk Session Committees are responsible for these areas of church life. Please feel free to ask the conveners about any matters of interest or concern.

Worship (Convener: Robert Burgon)

Planning services, participation & developments in worship

Nurture (Convener: David McAdam)

Pastoral care, Christian education, Sunday Club, safeguarding, stewardship, social events & fellowship

Outreach (Convener: Sally Penman)

Local mission, parish contacts, work with young people & families, all publicity

Resources (Convener: Richard Bell)

Stewardship, eco-congregation, property, hall letting, health & safety, church accounts, employees, I.T.

World Church (Convener: Bill McClure)

World church issues, twinning, Fairtrade, Christian Aid, Bible Society, Bethany

Morning Tea Rota

5th July	Eileen McColl	Morna McClure
12th July	Catherine Andrew	Jasmine Reavely
19th July	ANO	Sarah Kerr
26th July	Fiona Gibson	Helen Mackenzie
2nd Aug	Dorothy Kirkpatrick	Isobel Hardie
9th Aug	Sheila McCubbing	Irene Nichol
16th Aug	Richard Bell	Ann Bell
23rd Aug	Mary Graham	Sheila Skinner

Sunday Services

Our summer services explore Ephesians, one of Paul's most profound and uplifting letters.

On 12th July we remember those who 'go down to the sea in ships'.

5 th July	God's purpose
12 th July	<i>Sea Sunday</i>
19 th July	From death to life
26 th July	Together in Christ
2 nd August	Paul's prayers
9 th August	One body, many gifts
16 th August	New way of life
23 rd August	Darkness to light
30 th August	God's armour

Please note these special evening events in Abbey:

Sunday 2nd August at 7pm - the **Swiss Gospel Choir** in a concert of Christian music.

Sunday 16th August at 6pm **Jazz Service** to round off the Fringe by the Sea week. Proceeds to Christian Aid and Becky's Challenge.

Saturday 22nd August at 7.30pm **The Flying Aspidistras** with their unique harmony.

Friday 28th August at 7.30pm **'The Sweet Sorrows'** (Sammie and Kylie Horner) return to Abbey as part of their world tour to bring us another evening of uplifting music and song. There will be a collection at the door for donations.

'Keep right on to the end of the road'

Harry Lauder wrote that song in 1916! For the past year, we've been following Brian McLaren's readings in his book *We Make the Road by Walking*. Using his Bible lectionary readings and his accompanying notes, at Sunday services and in House Groups, we've walked through the Bible.

Thanks for accompanying us on the journey. Maybe we've not come to the end of the road, but just a new beginning?

Evening Services

For many years Abbey has had an evening service, but very few other churches have been able to support an evening service, and it's now rare to find one except in our cities.

We have tried different approaches to maintain the interest and keep our evening services going. I know that they are often valued as a time to reflect, and to explore the Bible at a deeper level in a different atmosphere from the mornings.

As our numbers were falling, in 2012 it was decided to hold evening services in just 6 months of the year, having a break after Christmas and in mid-summer.

Sadly, this approach has not proved effective. Since last year, the average attendance has dropped consistently from over 30 to numbers in the teens. When that happens, we lose something of the atmosphere (though not the fellowship). Almost everyone who came had already been at church in the morning, so it was not meeting that need.

Maybe what was offered was not everyone's cup of tea, and so perhaps I bear some of the responsibility? Yet I have to say that the different themes and styles offered in recent years do not seem to have made much difference to the attendance.

Sitting in the Chapel we could not help but admire and appreciate the many outstanding aspects of the sculpture created some 500 years ago. Looking up we had a wonderful view of the vaulted roof with its elaborate carved stone. Around the main Chapel - the choir - there are 13 pillars which form 12 arches - five arches on each side and two behind the main altar. Each pillar is adorned with a carving that has a biblical reference. Similarly, the windows have carvings; one shows the devil scowling in anger at a kneeling couple who are gazing at an angel holding a cross.

Originally the Chapel was a Catholic collegiate church; however in 1861 it became a Scottish Episcopal Church and is now open for worship every Sunday.

After our visit to the Chapel we adjourned to the Original Rosslyn Hotel for a most enjoyable lunch.

Ian M Aitken

Abbey Church Creche Duty

5th July	Margaret Lawson	Janice Cobb
12th July	Mandy Vance	Carol Stobie
19th July	Sadie Young	Sue Paterson
26th July	Kirsty Baron	Sandra Baron
2nd Aug	Norma Goodlad	Dorothy Kirkpatrick
9th Aug	Lorna Robson	Sarah Kerr
16th Aug	Ann Bell	Rose Leslie
23rd Aug	Joan Lunn	Caitriana Spencer
30th Aug	Margaret Lawson	Janice Cobb

Regal's Summer Outing

On Thursday, 11th June, Regal had their summer outing; this year we visited Rosslyn Chapel, Roslin. Our group consisted of 27 Dirleton and Abbey church members and we were blessed with one of the sunniest and warmest days of the year.

Our tour of the Chapel started with a talk on the history of the Chapel commencing at its foundation in 1446 with comments on the various developments up to the present time. Without doubt, the publication of Dan Brown's book, *The Da Vinci Code*, helped put Rosslyn Chapel on the international map. Nowadays, there are visitors to the Chapel from every part of the world.



Some of our group enjoying the sunshine at Rosslyn Chapel

The Worship Committee has been monitoring the services, and now the Kirk Session has decided to cancel our regular Sunday evening services. However, in doing so we also want to make some positive suggestions for the future.

- We will have occasional evening communion services
- The desire for fellowship, deeper Bible teaching and learning will be provided by House Groups and Bible Study
- We are exploring new approaches to discipleship
- There are some other special events planned for Sunday evenings (see elsewhere in the newsletter)

I share the sense of disappointment of those people who have cherished and faithfully supported the evening services. Thank you for your commitment and fellowship over the years. I hope that we can move forward to new things, and if you have ideas of how we can grow our faith and discipleship, please speak up!

Yours,

David

Regal

There is a vacancy for someone to run Regal. If you think that you might be able to help and would like to know more about what is involved please contact Ian Aitken, who has been at the Regal helm for many years. (im.aitken@btinternet.com or telephone 890070).

Christian Aid

The North Berwick & Dirleton Christian Aid committee wishes to thank everyone for their support and assistance at the various events held so far this year. With an allowance for Gift Aid approximately £14,000 was raised for the work of Christian Aid, at the events around Christian Aid Week 2015 along with generous donations collected in the envelopes, cans and Smartie tubes. Participants in the Forth Bridge Walk raised almost £3,500.

Christian Aid Week in 2016 is from 15 to 21 May! We look forward to your continued support.

Jazz Service Sunday 16th August at 6p.m.

A first in Abbey Church, special guests 'UGLY BUG RAGTIME THREE' purveyors of fine vintage jazz from the 20s and 30s, fresh from the Edinburgh Jazz Festival. Jaunty, vintage ragtime jazz form in a worship context, a truly uplifting and unique experience, with clarinet-bass-banjo/guitar trio led by John Burgess and featuring ex-Alex Welsh stalwart, Jim Douglas and the fantastic Andy Sharkey. Service will be led by Rev Dr David Graham and the singing will be led by Rev Joanne Hood.

Free entry. Collection taken for Christian Aid and Becky's Challenge for Children's Hospice Association

Summer Afternoon Teas

Please come along to the Sunday afternoon teas in the new hall this summer in July from 2.30 - 4.00. Enjoy delicious home baking and meet up with friends. A lot of hard work goes into the organising and we need your support. The proceeds this year will go to local and church charities. Look forward to seeing you all. St. Baldred's will again be serving teas during August.

ABBAY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
HIGH STREET AT BEACH ROAD
NORTH BERWICK

SEASIDE ROCK HOLIDAY CLUB ON THE WEST BEACH BEHIND ABBAY CHURCH SUNDAYS AT 10.30 – 11.30am 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th July 2015

All primary school age
children welcome

(Children 4+ welcome with adult)

Lots of fun, stories about Jesus, parachute games,
sandcastle competitions, races
and lots more

