



Flower List

Date	Donor	Arranger
6th Sept	Mrs A Bell	Ann Bell
13th Sept	Mrs A Stainbank & Mrs E Small	Ann Bell
20th Sept	Mrs Griffiths	Mary Chisholm & Mgt. McLean
27 Sept	Ms Morna McClure	Morna McClure

Creche Duty

Sunday 6th Sept	Mgt. Lawson	Janice Cobb
Sunday 13 Sept	Mandy Vance	Carole Stobie
Sunday 20 Sept	Sadie Young	Sue Paterson
Sunday 27th Sept	Kirsty Baron	Sandra Baron

Church Register

Baptism

June 14th Freya Anna Blathwayt

Funerals

July 8th Catherine Scott, Gilbert Avenue
 July 11th James Lauder, Dirleton Court
 July 13th Colin Mill, Couper Avenue
 July 17th Margaret Hancock, Craigleith Avenue
 July 21st Freda Birrell, Westgate
 July 23rd Alan Burton, Marly Knowe
 August 8th Jean Hutt, Pattle Court
 August 8th Mary Russell, Craigleith Avenue

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 September 2015

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

**Sunday Morning Worship at
10.30am.**

Harvest Thanksgiving Service
27th September at 10.30am

Come along. All welcome.

Dear Friends,

For many years at Harvest we've done something to help others outwith our own congregation. The days of collecting and delivering fruit & vegetables are long gone, for a number of reasons, and we use Harvest as an opportunity to help people in poor parts of our country or world.



This year, our Harvest theme and appeal is for *Toilet Twinning*. This is a TEAR-Fund initiative which provides sanitation for villages in Africa. It allows us to 'twin' our own toilets with latrines in poor communities, to enable people in the poorest nations to have clean water and a proper toilet, and to learn about hygiene. The charity is supported by Christian and celebrity adventurer Bear Grylls.

Something which we take for granted - a safe, hygienic toilet - is unknown to 2½ billion people; that's a third of the world's population! It's staggering to even think about that. The slogan for this is 'flush away poverty'.

Not only are there big health issues involved, but there are also safety concerns, especially for women who can only find somewhere dark or dangerous to go.

There will be more information in church during September, and collecting containers for the appeal will be available. Harvest Sunday is 27th September.

If you'd like to know more, see www.toilettwinning.org

Please remember that we'd also welcome any gifts of small pot-plants to deliver to people who are ill or housebound.

Your minister,

David

September Prayers



Lord God,

Thank You for every good and precious gift—especially Jesus Christ, Your son. We are so grateful that Jesus sacrificed Himself for us. Bless our minister, Rev. Dr David Graham, and our Pastoral Assistant Bob Kane and their loved ones. Bless these men and strengthen them in their work for You.

Bless all in Abbey church—those who faithfully attend, those who cannot because of work (in hospitals, etc.), those who are ill and those who care for them.

Bless the children going back to, or starting, school and bless the Mums and Dads who are seeing them off. Bless the older ones going on to Secondary School, Colleges and University (perhaps leaving home for the first time). Please Father God, keep them safe and guide them along life's way.

We continue to pray for World Peace. What joy this would bring.

Be at the middle of plans being made for all Groups starting up around this time, in Churches and elsewhere. Bless all who volunteer and those who attend.

We ask these things in Jesus precious name. Amen

Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)

May Autumn come gently in, that we may enjoy it.

Alpha Course

The North Berwick Christian Fellowship are running an Alpha course this autumn, starting on Wednesday 10th September at the Glen Golf Club. All are welcome to come along. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Sally Penman.

Bible Society Coffee Morning

The North Berwick branch of the Scottish Bible Society are having their Annual Coffee morning in St Andrew Blackadder Church on Saturday 12th of September at 10am to 12noon.

The Bible Society works to enable all people in the World to have access to the Holy Bible in their own language.

This year we are raising funds for 'Faith by Hearing,' to provide people who cannot read in Ethiopia with Audio Bibles to enable them to hear the word of God.

The usual Coffee, home made scones and pancakes will be available at £2 per head (the best bargain in North Berwick).

All welcome to come along and support this worthwhile cause.

The Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal.

Empty boxes needed.

The ladies (and gentlemen) of the Guild cover the boxes with Christmas paper in early October and although Wilkies kindly save their empty shoeboxes, for our use, extra shoeboxes are always needed.

Church Morning Tea Rota

6th Sept	Morna McClure	Eileen McColl
13th Sept	Jasmine Reavely	Catherine Andrew
20th Sept	Helen Mackenzie	Fiona Gibson
27th Sept	Sarah Kerr	

Sunday Services

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

Looking ahead:

September 13th, Abbey communion

September 27th, Harvest (more information in my letter)

October 4th, Guild Dedication at Abbey Sunday service

November 8th Remembrance Sunday with parade of organizations at Abbey. Followed by town war memorial at 12 noon.

Saturday November 21st (3.30pm), switching on the Christmas lights outside Abbey Church

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

Abbey Church - North Berwick
Financial Report - 6 Months to 30 June 2015

ALL FUNDS

	Annual Budget	Budget to 30th Jun	Actual to 30 Jun	Variance
Income				
Offerings	70,000	34,998	33,782	(1,216)
Tax reclaim	16,500	8,250	8,186	(64)
Miscellaneous	9,500	5,002	5,092	90
Premises income	11,000	5,500	3,687	(1,813)
Investment income	4,100	1,800	2,153	353
Legacies	-	-	-	-
Dirleton	<u>6,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	-
Total Income	<u>117,100</u>	<u>58,550</u>	<u>55,900</u>	<u>(2,650)</u>
Expenditure				
Church of Scotland				
Payments	56,577	28,647	28,647	-
Pastoral Expenses	11,950	5,957	4,485	1,490
Other Salaries	22,000	10,999	11,026	(27)
Premises costs	16,672	6,825	7,450	(625)
Church Office Expenses	2,950	1,475	1,578	(103)
Investments	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	<u>6,951</u>	<u>3,103</u>	<u>2,799</u>	<u>304</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>117,100</u>	<u>57,024</u>	<u>55,985</u>	<u>1,039</u>
Deficit for Period			(86)	(1,611)
			=====	=====
Budget Surplus	-	1,526		
	=====	=====		

Prayer by Text

Sometimes we find ourselves with a problem that we want to pray about but find we cannot pray - perhaps because we are too upset. When this happens, it is good to have people who can pray for us. Some of us are fortunate enough to have friends we can turn to in times like this - some of us are not so fortunate! Would you like to pray with others - for others - but simply don't have time to come along to a Prayer Meeting?

We are thinking about setting up a **Text Prayer Circle**.

Here's how it would work -

If you are willing to be part of the Text Prayer Circle -

First, let me know that you would like to join with others to pray for others. You would give your mobile phone number to a coordinator (to be decided). You would then receive texts at various times asking you to pray for someone or something and when you read the text you pray about it.

For anyone who would like to make a request for prayer -

You send a text to the coordinator (to be decided) and give your request for prayer. This would be passed on to the people who have promised to pray.

The Text Prayer Circle would be in addition to the regular prayer groups which meet in Abbey New Hall on Sunday mornings in the New Hall at 10am and every Wednesday at 10am in Dirleton Church Hall to pray for others. Please let our Minister know of any prayer needs.

All prayer requests are and will be treated in the strictest confidence.

If you are interested in being part of this new initiative, please let me know.

Sally Penman

Regal contd.

The full syllabus for the forthcoming year is shown below. I do hope you can come along to our meetings.

2015

8	October	Busy bees have GPS and radar	David Torrance
12	November	Building the WW1 Sopwith plane	John Guy
10	December	Songs and melodies for the Christmas season	Real Eightsome

2016

14	January	Round the world with Scripture Union	Peter Kimber
11	February	Where's our Navy?	Bill Miller
10	March	A talk on the wild side	Sam Ranscombe
9	June	A trip on the Union Canal	Summer Outing

Ian M Aitken

Lammermuir Festival More Music at Abbey Church

As part of the Lammermuir Festival the Kungsbacka Trio will be playing two great Russian piano trios by Arensky and Rachmaninov dedicated to cellist, Karl Davidov and Tchaikovsky respectively. These will be preceded by Arvo Part's tribute to his friend, violinist Oleg Kagan.

Tickets 0131 473 2000

www.lammermuirfestival.co.uk

Comments - Abbey Church -6 Months to 30June2015

General

The deficit for the first 6 months of 2015 is £85 versus a budget surplus of £1,526.

Income

Offerings -Open plate and 'blue envelopes' continue to decline. This is mostly compensated for by the increase in the value 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 is below budget, much of this difference may be recovered in the third quarter.

Expenditure

Premises costs -These are slightly above budget, additionally during summer further maintenance works are planned.

If you have any questions please ask.

Stuart Ainslie

5 August 2015

Your Finance Team

1	Income—Gift-aid	Phil Spencer
	Income—Hall Rentals	Ronald Ironside
2	Payment of bills	Janice Cobb
3	Accounting—OSCR, periodic accounts and Church of Scotland	Stuart Ainslie

Bethany Care Shelter

The following is an extract of the thank you email sent to All Care Shelter Team Leaders from the Bethany Care Shelter .

'Following the Thank You Family Ceilidh last week I wanted to take further opportunity to write and say **thank you** again for all that you have done in the 2014/15 Care Shelter. This year was our longest ever season and saw 763 different people using the service. Lives have been saved and people who have all met with love have seen new opportunities of hope. On average we Had 39 people attending each evening. You prepared over 8000 meals over the 24 weeks we were open. Thank you for all that you did.....

Proverbs 19:17 *"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done."*

The annual report was attached which contains statistics as well as photos, poems and people's stories.

This is a true story from the report

Jay has been using the Care Shelter on and off for weeks. He arrived at the door tired and more sad than usual. Earlier that day he had been picked up by the police who had run a check on him to see if there were any outstanding warrants. Jay is used to the police checking up on him as his life of chaos can lead him into situations he is less than proud of.

Happy Birthday,' the officer had said to him when the information came back over the radio. 'What?' said Jay. 'It's your birthday son,' explained the officer. Jay couldn't believe it, things had been so crazy recently, one day had blurred into the next and he seemed to spend all his energy surviving. The streets had been particularly cold and his health hadn't been thriving in his addiction. But how could he have forgotten his own birthday? Here he was alone, cold, desperate and only aware of his birthday because the police had picked him up. The weight of the circumstance lay heavy on his heart.

describe the role played by this Christian organisation in bringing the message to people in many distant lands.

At the turn of the last century the British Navy had a fleet of over 200 fighting ships and, at one time, was the largest naval fleet the world. On Thursday, 11th February Bill Miller will answer the question "Where's our Navy?". This and many other questions will be answered by Bill who has spent many hours researching the Royal Navy.

In the run-up to spring it seems appropriate that the East Lothian countryside ranger, Sam Ranscombe, should talk to us about the beautiful countryside we have in our county. Sam will describe the many interesting walks that are around this part of Scotland. She will illustrate her talk with some of the interesting features in East Lothian.

In June we will have a trip on the Union Canal. This trip will start off with lunch in the Ratho Bridge Inn and after this we will join one of the canal barges. It will take us from Ratho Bridge to the Almondell Aqueduct, over the River Almond, where we can admire the views before returning by barge to the Bridge Inn.

After our winter meetings we sit down to a soup and sandwich lunch which has been prepared by the ladies of the church. At the end of lunch a plate is passed round to enable people to make a contribution towards their lunch. Last year we collected over £400 and this money was donated to the North Berwick Day Centre, Inspire (North Berwick Churches youth group), Christian Aid to be used to helping Christians in Syria, and Leuchie. The ladies who prepare lunch very kindly donate their time and the food.

REGAL

From talking to members in our community I know how much pleasure people get from the Regal meetings and thereafter enjoying the soup and sandwich lunch. Hence, as no one else has volunteered to organise meetings I felt it would be a great shame if Regal disappeared and, in the circumstances, I have put on my thinking cap and have prepared the syllabus for another year. However, please do not hesitate to come forward if you would like to take over the running of Regal.

Many of us have gardens and during the summer months we see the bees flying about from flower to flower gathering pollen to make honey. Did you know that a bee will visit up to 100 flowers on each of its trips away from the hive - I certainly didn't. This and many other interesting facts will be included in David Torrance's talk on Thursday, 8th October - "Busy bees have GPS and radar"

John Guy and a number of aeroplane enthusiasts have spent many hours building a full scale flying replica of a World War I Sopwith 1½ Strutter, bi-plane. The group are nearing the end of this mammoth task and they hope to fly the plane later this year. On Thursday, 12th November John will tell us about the challenges that faced the group in undertaking this task.

In the run-up to Christmas we try to provide a Christmassy theme to our meeting. This year The Real Eightsome will sing some Christmas songs and melodies. Interlaced between the songs will be some amusing recitations.

2016 starts off with a trip round the world with Peter Kimber. In his capacity as chief executive of Scripture Union, Peter went round the world visiting many countries. In this talk Peter will

At the door of the Care Shelter he chatted to a staff member he knew well about what had happened. He just needed to let someone know it was his birthday. The staff followed Jay up into the church hall where the beds were laid out to let the other staff know it was Jay's birthday.

Amazingly, earlier that day, another one of the staff had seen a birthday cake and for some reason had thought to himself, 'I think someone would like a bit of cake'.

The room was full and Jay was just sitting down to a big plate of curry that the volunteers from the church had made for the guests that night, when his ears pricked up to someone starting to sing Happy Birthday. His head turned to see lit candles (the staff had discovered in a kitchen drawer) stuck in a decorated chocolate cake. His jaw fell open as he took in a sharp breath. Quickly everyone in the room realised what was happening and joined in singing and smiling round at each other, some not even sure yet whose birthday it was. The cake was placed before Jay to a round of applause and people calling out Happy Birthday' from all round the room. Jay blew out the candles, looked up and said 'Thank you'. He kept saying thank you over and over as the evening went on. He actually seemed different and wanted to chat to the staff about his future and options for moving on. Even though Jay had forgotten about his own birthday, God hadn't, and God wanted to celebrate with him. He threw a party for Jay in the Care Shelter.

The next morning Jay got back in touch with his mother and she was pleased to welcome him back home... From there he quickly moved himself with his new found motivation in a detox programme in his local hospital before moving into Dochas, where the staff had referred him, to begin the journey of the rest of his life free from drugs.

If you would like a copy of the full report please send your request by email to ka.campbell@tiscali.co.uk

Down Memory Lane

John Guy has taken a nostalgic look at an Abbey Church weekend away to Gartmore in 2007. He remembers the comfort of Gartmore, the fun of a treasure hunt, the talk about the Luss Trust given by Bob Seaward, Royal Navy (ret) and the session given by Bill and Alison who asked challenging and searching questions on understanding and commitment to God's work. He also remembers the sail on Loch Katrine in the steamship, Walter Scott, which still had its original engine '- for the aficionados - a triple expansion marine engine with a coal burning boiler'. He has been building a model of that design of engine for over thirty years. Lastly, he remembers the Sunday morning service for all ages and the parting of the ways 'having enjoyed good fellowship and making many friends'.

Although there were no *weekends away* this summer there were many occasions, in addition to the Sunday services, which provided the opportunity for fellowship and friendship.

Sunday Afternoon Teas were served once again during July by Abbey and in August by St Baldred's Church in the New Hall. The proceeds will go to charity.

Seaside Rock Holiday Club

Eileen McColl writes

'Seaside Rock was a big success!,

If you have heard about the small number of children who came along to the holiday club, only 11 or 12 in total, you may be surprised at the last sentence.

Here is why it is written. The children who came along had a brilliant time. The leaders gave of their time willingly and organised games, Bible stories, singing, dancing, biscuits, sand play and craft. The sun shone three weeks out of four. Abbey members organised brilliant publicity, paid for treats and above all prayed. God's love was very much in evidence - what more could we ask for? So yes.....Seaside Rock was a big success! Thank you to everyone who helped in any way.'

The Barbecue

Mary and David hosted a magnificent barbecue for the congregation at the manse. Despite a dismal weather forecast and a showery morning, the sun shone all afternoon. The food was great, thanks to the numerous chefs, and the conversation was scintillating!! Many thanks from us all.

Music at Abbey Church

The Swiss Gospel Choir joined us on 2nd August, and sang three gospel songs at the morning service. This delightful group of young people then performed a very lively concert in the evening.

Fringe by the Sea

Duo Lensky delighted their audience with their programme 'Liberation', playing music by Moretti, Sibelius and Mozart. They also performed an encore of Scottish Folk Tunes.

Newtongrange Silver Band produced everything from a tear jerking rendition of Elgar's Nimrod to an amazing version of 'Ticket to ride' (Beatles) with sounds of steam, motion and toots.

Ali Afleck & Dick Lee Quintet The award winning reedsman Lee and his Swingtet presented music from the Golden Age of Jazz.

The About Turn Theatre Company took time away from the Edinburgh Fringe to give us a concert performance of Gluck's Orpheus and Eurydice. This lovely music, with Lucilla Graham in the leading role of Orpheus, was beautifully sung by all the cast.

The Jazz Service with the Ugly Bug Ragtime Three was an amazing experience. These very experienced musicians thrilled us all with Trad Jazz at its best. We were reminded that the Psalmists said we should praise the Lord loudly with music and the congregation did just that, singing with great gusto.

'Sing to Him a new song; play skilfully on the strings, with loud shouts' (Psalm 33).

Just over £1,800 was raised for Christian Aid and Becky's Challenge.

There are many forms of Worship.

And for the future at Abbey Church - turn to the next page