



Abbey Church News

July, August 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

**All Sunday Morning Worship at
10.30am.**

Come along. All welcome.

Dear friends,

By the time you read this, the European Referendum will be well and truly over. It's been described as the most important decision our country will make in a generation.



Sometimes we may feel that we suffer from 'referendum burnout' with the seemingly endless programmes, interviews and panel debates. But these have raised many vital issues about the future of our nation, such as the health service, pensions, tax, public spending, and immigration. All these issues - and others too - make us ask what sort of country we really want to be.

That's a very good question, isn't it? What kind of society, or world, do we hope for? Recent news has headlined mass gun murders in the USA, but there have also been dreadful stories of murder and child abuse here in our own native land, and the continuing tragedy of Syria, refugees, and other horrors.

In Scotland, we've long had a reputation for being a welcoming, tolerant and inclusive society. I believe that our Christian heritage is one of the main reasons for this. But it also makes me wonder which direction we will take as the influence of the Christian faith wanes in the public sphere, at home and in Europe, the home of the Reformation.

Jeremiah ch. 29 is often quoted as a message of hope in difficult days. Perhaps verse 7 is a word for us at this time in our nation: *'seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have taken you. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper'*.

Your Minister,

David

Sunday Services

During the summer, our services will be based on Second Corinthians, with themes including 'forgiveness', 'consolation', 'generosity' and 'reconciliation'.

On Sunday 10th July, we will celebrate 'Sea Sunday', and welcome representatives of the Merchant Navy, RNLI, and other maritime organisations.

Super Sunday Club

The Super Sunday Club will not meet over the summer school holidays but you may see some of our young people helping out with the welcome on the doors. They would be delighted if you would stop for a chat with them. For those of you on door duty, we hope you will appreciate the extra help and use it as an opportunity to get to know each other.

The Swing Band Service- Sunday
14 August 2016 at 6.00 - 7.00pm



After the great success of last year's Jazz Service where £1,800 was raised for charity, the Church of Scotland's amazing **HEART AND SOUL SWING BAND** will lead our worship for an uplifting and very enjoyable Service. Once again, this is part of the Fringe by the Sea programme and a great attendance is expected, so come early!

The Rev Robin Hill from Longniddry Parish Church will lead the worship and all money raised will go towards the Church of Scotland HIV programme.

Newsletter Deadline

Please submit any articles/information for the September issue by Tuesday 16th August

Christian Aid Week 2016

We are part of the Group of churches in North Berwick (including Dirleton) who come together to raise funds for the Christian Aid annual appeal.

This year the appeal was for Bangladesh to help households overcome the terrible problems they suffer every year with the flooding which occurs at the time of the Monsoons.

This year we welcomed Caroline Vevers from St Andrew Blackadder as the new Chairman of the group, taking over from Barbara Clarke who had served as Chairman for many years.

The programme of Events including, Coffee Mornings, Street Collections and Quizzes continued with great success, due mainly to the contributions that so many Church members gave over the week.

A total of over £11k was raised which, although less than last year, was still very commendable. The Dirleton coffee morning raised over £500 and our contribution to the Smartie Tubes collection (including Dirleton) was nearly £600.

The figures from the National picture are not yet available but it has been clear from previous years that our contributions are well above the national average for our population

Thanks to all who helped and gave of their time and thanks to everyone who filled and returned their collection envelopes.

The money raised will go a long way to helping alleviate the poverty caused by the Flooding in Bangladesh in coming years as well as helping in places like Syria with so much hardship and difficulties caused by the Refugee crisis.

Bill McClure
June 2016

EMMS International Public Exhibition: Health & Hope

EMMS International celebrates its 175th anniversary this year. It was the first medical mission in the western hemisphere and is Edinburgh's oldest international healthcare charity.



To mark this, an extensive public exhibition 'Health & Hope' will be on display at **Edinburgh Central Library, 2-25 August, which is free to attend.**

Thank You from Liz Trail

Dear Rev David and all members,

On behalf of the Girls' School at Muyebe in South West Uganda, I write to thank you all for so warmly supporting us over the years. Most recently, you have paid for the costs of printing our annual newsletter, the "Agandi?", which shows how the School is developing. The Water Project to which you generously contributed is now finished and benefitting many people. We had hoped that Bishop George Katwesigye and his wife would visit us this year but sadly the plans had to be postponed. I hope he will come next year and visit your Church. May blessings abound!

Love from Liz Trail

Trussell Trust

Congratulations to the Trussell Trust who run the Foodbanks as they have received two accolades at the Charity Awards ceremony; a category award for Care and Welfare and the Overall Winner.;

Hospital Visits

The Minister is happy to visit church members who are in hospital. For reasons of confidentiality, any request for a visit should please come from the person themselves, a close family member or next of kin. Please also pass on the ward number, as this is not available to Ministers. This information can be given directly to the Minister (840878), or via the Church Office (892800, open 3 mornings a week or please leave a message).

Thank you

Abbey Church Morning Tea Rota

3rd July	Morna McClure	Eileen McColl
10th July	Jasmine Reavely	Catherine Andrew
17th July	Isobel Hardie	Fiona Gibson
24th July	Sarah Kerr	Isabel Smith
31st July	Mary Graham	Dorothy Kirkpatrick
7th August	Irene Nichol	Sheila McCubbing
14th August	Ann Bell	Richard Bell



Donations of biscuits would be much appreciated

Summer Afternoon Teas

Please come along to the Sunday Afternoon Teas in the new hall this summer in July from 2.30–4.30. Enjoy delicious home baking and meet up with friends. A lot of hard work goes into the organising and we still need some help and your support, The proceeds will go to local and church charities.

St. Baldred's will again be serving teas in August.

Wheelchair

Should anyone require the occasional use of a wheelchair there is one in the church which can be borrowed.

Praying Across North Berwick in July



Dear Friends in Christ,

This is meant to be Summer. Mind you when you read the papers or listen to the News we really should be very grateful for what we have! Let's pray.

Lord Jesus,

We thank You for the peace in this country and pray it will last. We ask You to bring peace to all those countries who are at war. We pray that the children will come to know what it is like to have freedom to play outdoors, joyfully. We thank You for the fresh food and clean water we enjoy. Forgive us Father when we take these for granted. Thank You too for all the medical help we're given. We pray that more men and women find courage from You to go and help where it is needed.

Let us enjoy our summer holidays, whether it's here or abroad. May these times help us take away all the stress and strain our work brings. Help us make time to enjoy our families' and friends' company. Heal those who are ill, strengthen those caring for them. Uplift the downhearted and comfort all who mourn.

Bless our minister, Dr Graham and also Mr Bob Kane and their families. Thank You. Amen

Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)

Flower List



Date	Donor	Arranger
3rd July	Mrs S Cowan	Morag Robertson Katriona Hendry Nancy Chisholm
10th July	Miss J Raeburn	- do -
17th July	Mrs N Chisholm	- do -
24th July	Miss Watt	- do -
31st July	Jennifer Gilchrist	Elma Danks
7th August	Mrs M Stewart	Violet Lamont, Elma Danks
14th August	Mrs Fiona Hutchison	- do -
21st August	Miss D Danks	- do -
28th August	Mrs G Scott	Gwen Scott

Creche Duty

3rd July	Sadie Young	Sue Paterson
10th July	Norma Goodlad	Carol Stobie
17th July	Lorna Robson	Sarah Kerr
24th July	Ann Bell	Rose Leslie
31st July	Joan Lunn	Caitriana Spencer
7th August	Mgt. Lawson	Janice Cobb

Church Register

Funerals

31 st May	Bert Dick, Lady Jane Gardens
4 th June	Margaret Burgon, Sainthill Court
18 th June	Athol Mackenzie, Abbey Court

Jesus said 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'

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