



Abbey Church News

October 2016

Abbey Church,
116 High Street, (at Church Road)
North Berwick
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Minister: Rev. Dr David J Graham, BSc, BD
01620 890800

Pastoral Assistant: Bob Kane

All Sunday Morning Worship at 10.30am.

Sunday 2nd October the Moderator, Russell Barr, will
preach at a special service in St Andrew Blackadder.

Come along. All welcome.

This month, Gregor Penman reflects on attending the National Youth Assembly

Your Minister,
David



Report on the National Youth Assembly

The National Youth Assembly (NYA) is a residential weekend for young people aged 18-25 who have some connection with the Church of Scotland. This usually means either members or regular attendees of the CofS, but young people from other denominations are often invited as special guests; this year we welcomed delegates from the United Reformed Church in England, the Scottish Episcopal Church and also the Free Church of Scotland.

The NYA aims to give young people a say on the direction the CofS is taking, and the state of Christianity in Scotland as a whole. Over the weekend, we discuss and debate on a few chosen topics, and a report is written which is then presented to the *General Assembly (GA)* in May. The report is written by a team including our Moderator, Clerk and 18 Youth Representatives, half of whom accompany the Moderator and Clerk to the GA. The team partakes fully in the procedures of the GA, and the stories that circulate about the week give it an almost legendary status!

It is really difficult to describe how much I get out of the NYA. I have now been 4 times, and I enjoy it more each year. One of the best things for me is the fellowship with other young Christians, especially coming from a small town where we are few and far between! I have met so many people from all across Scotland, and from many different backgrounds, whom I can call friends. It is so encouraging to meet other people with whom you can share experiences of being a young Christian, and it really is inspiring to hear about what goes on in other Churches across the Country.

This may sound all a bit corny to you, and it still does to me sometimes, but I cannot overstate how much the NYA has helped me in my faith. I am so grateful that David told me about it 3 years ago - many young Christians I speak to elsewhere have never even heard of it. If there is one easy thing I can do, it's to spread the word about the NYA, what it does, and why more young Christians should go!

This year, we stayed at Gartmore House near Stirling, which many of you will know. Our topics for discussion were Gender Injustice in Scotland and the World, mental health and the future of ministry in the Church. This last issue was, for me, the most interesting and engaging. We had input from Speakers from the Ministries Council and others, after which the floor was opened to

delegates to make points and respond to others. It was fascinating - I could have sat and listened for hours. To hear other young people like me make such insightful arguments and suggestions has given me hope that the future of Christianity in Scotland is bright.

I have to thank all of you in Abbey Church for supporting me and enabling me to have this experience.

Gregor Penman

Sunday Services

As part of his visit to our Presbytery, on Sunday 2nd October the Moderator, Russell Barr, will preach at a special service in St Andrew Blackadder. You're warmly invited to join this service. The 9.30am service at Dirleton will take place as normal.

The services during the rest of October will be for our Stewardship Month, on the theme of using our talents.

On Thursday 6th October the Revd Simon Metzner will be installed as the new Rector of St Baldred's Episcopal Church. We are delighted that their period of vacancy is over, and warmly welcome Simon, his wife Revd Kate Metzner, and their children to North Berwick. We look forward to sharing in our united services and ecumenical ventures.

Afternoon Teas

Despite some mixed weather, rail strikes and Andy Murray in the final at Wimbledon, we had another successful year for our Summer Teas raising £945 over 5 Sundays. It was decided to give £200 each to North Berwick Day Centre, North Berwick Stroke Club and North Berwick Youth Project and the balance to Abbey Samaritan Fund.

It is a lot of hard work, so many thanks to all who helped in any way with the organisation, setting up, baking, serving, washing up and clearing away tables et. At the end of the day. Also those visitors and locals who came along to support us and enjoy the delicious cakes etc. And meet up with friends.

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 890800 or via the Church Office (892800, open 3 mornings a week or please leave a message). Thank you

Start!

Discovering Christianity
in six small-group sessions



Life!
What's it like?
Some say it's a dream,
others call it a joke.



If you have questions and
are looking for answers,
then why not make a Start!

We'll be using the Start material in midweek studies and House groups. More information in the weekly intimations.



OPERA @ The ABBEY

Embrace the passion of opera

Join first time guests Megan Read and Christine Solander
in a new programme of favourite arias, duets and song

MEGAN READ Soprano

CHRISTINE SOLANDER Mezzo soprano

JOHN MARSHALL Tenor

RICHARD LEWIS Piano

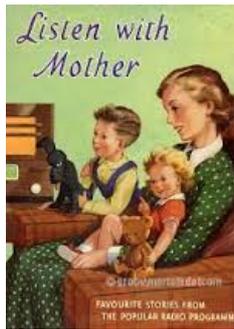
Saturday October 1st 2016 @ 7.30p.m.

£12/under 16's free

Regal - October Meeting

Although television first started around London in 1936 it was only the Queen's Coronation in 1953 that brought it to most of the UK mainland. However, some parts of the country did not receive it for many more years. Can you remember what life was like before television? How did children amuse themselves in these distant days? Has television made much difference to the way in which we behave? Has it made much difference to our knowledge of the world?

Alistair MacNeill hails from the island of Tiree and it was many years before television reached the Scottish Islands. Consequently, Alistair is going to provide us with an amusing talk on "Wireless in my Life" with reminiscences of how he and his family spent their evenings.



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 hear about life without television.

I look forward to seeing you on Thursday, 13th October at 12 noon.

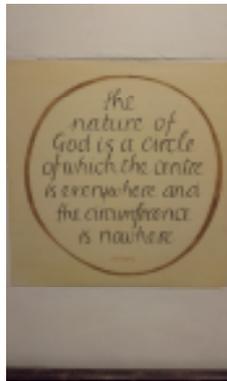
Ian M Aitken

Abbey Church Morning Tea Rota

2nd Oct	Sheila McCubbing	Irene Nichol
9th Oct	Richard Bell	Ann Bell
16th Oct	Liz Harrison	Sadie Young
23rd Oct	Morna McClure	Eileen McColl
30th Oct	Isabel Smith	Catherine Andrew



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



We are reminded that God's presence has no bounds by this little message which is painted on the wall inside Migvie Church, Aberdeenshire. *The Church was recently restored, using local artists and tradesmen, by Philip Astor of Tillypronie 'To the glory of God and dedicated to the memory of his father and mother.'* (worth a visit)

We all see God in different places—perhaps struck by the beauty of a view, a flower, a butterfly or a smile. His presence takes many shapes.

One example is outlined in the following excerpts from a poem, telling of the despair and then gratitude of a homeless man:-

The Night Winter Shelter by James Lamb

They walk along the lonely street
Every now and then stop to rest their feet
Hair all matted and fingernails black
And carrying their life upon their back
That shop doorway looks good or that sheltered bench
To get out of the rain, before they get drenched
God love them these people have nowhere to go
Hoping for help but no one wants to know.....
.....It wasn't easy to see coz it wasn't that bright
But as they drew nearer,
The light became clearer
The illumination was a place
To stay for the night.
Greeted with a smile and a hot cup of tea
Friendly people said, come with me
And led them to a place where they could rest.....
.....this was a place of harmony
Generous, caring, considerate and kind
A place they could leave their horrid day behind.....
.....So thank you, night shelter,
For the service you run
Helping the homeless
All the good you have done
Your pure human kindness is a joy to behold
For taking less fortunates in from the cold

Abbey Church
Prayer for October



Dear Friends in Christ,

I thought I'd share this prayer with you. Let's go-

Loving Lord,

So often we try and do things in our own strength and forget that our competence comes from You.

Often we are tired and afraid, dubious of our own worth and looking in all the wrong places for hope and for comfort, but as we lift our eyes to You again, we realise all our hope is in You. That You are capable of all things—beyond our imagining- and we can be confident in your presence and in your provision for our lives.

You are true to all Your promises, and we can always trust in You.

Thank you that, however turbulent our circumstances may be, they cannot change your character, nor alter your unfailing love.

We praise You because You are our faithful redeemer. Help us hold on to You and never forget what you have done for us.

In your precious name we pray. Amen

Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)

May all connected with Abbey Church and Dirleton Kirk remember this prayer.

Super Sunday Club

The Super Sunday Club boys and girls were busy during September painting the Harvest House. They all really enjoyed it and were pleased to think they were helping raise money to build real houses for the people in Nepal who lost their homes in the earthquake last year. We hope that the brightly painted house brightened up your day. Two year old Lily Rose painted the chimney all by herself and the other children - Charlie, Rory, Jamie, Mia, Amelia, Romi, Rebecca and Anna had great fun mixing colours and chatting as they painted. If you haven't filled a "brick" with money yet.....it's never too late to donate!

Church Register

Funerals

15 th August	Beatrice Tocher, Fidra House
6 th August	Della Hamilton (Hawick)
14 th September	Max Howden, Astley House
20 th September	Betty Adamson, Melbourne Road

Jesus said 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'

Flower List

Date	Donor	Arranger
2nd Oct	Mrs I McKay	Sheila McCubbing Sheila Skinner
9th Oct	Mrs M Purves	- do -
16th Oct	Mrs L McLean	- do -
23rd Oct	Mrs J Lunn	- do -
30th Oct	Mrs S Skinner	Sheila Skinner
	Jennifer Gilchrist	Kate Campbell



Creche Duty

2nd Oct	Joan Lunn	Catriana Spencer
9th Oct	Mgt Lawson	Janice Cobb
16th Oct	Mandy Vance	Dorothy Kirkpatrick
23 Oct	Sadie Young	Sue Paterson
30th Oct	Norma Goodland	Carol Stobie

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And Twitter:DirletonAbbey



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