



**Abbey Church
and
Dirleton Kirk News
June/July 2018**

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

**Sunday Morning Worship
at**

**9.30 am (until 10.20) Dirleton
Kirk**

**10.30am (Until 11.30) Abbey
Church**

Come along. All welcome.

Wednesdays 10am

**Half Hour Prayer Service
Dirleton**



Dear Abbey & Dirleton Friends

I'm typing this just before the General Assembly begins. This year is 50 years since the first women were ordained to the Ministry, and there will be a special Assembly event to mark this. It's fitting that Susan Brown of Dornoch Cathedral will be our fourth woman Moderator. We uphold her in our prayers in this important public role.

Another highlight is the emphasis on youth at this year's Assembly. The Sunday afternoon 'Heart & Soul' event in Princes Street Gardens has a special family theme, and the Saturday evening 'Powerpoint' event aimed at teenagers is a new venture for Assembly week. Our prayers are that these events will touch many lives and reach many young people.

Children and young people are a vital part of the church. It's with that in mind that the Abbey Kirk Session will be appointing someone to work with our children, families and young people. This is not to do it all for us, far less wave a magic wand to bring lots of youngsters into church. But it is to support and facilitate what we're already doing with the young, and hopefully also try some new things.

Please pray for this important new venture, for the person appointed, and that it bears fruit in our church life.

Your Minister,

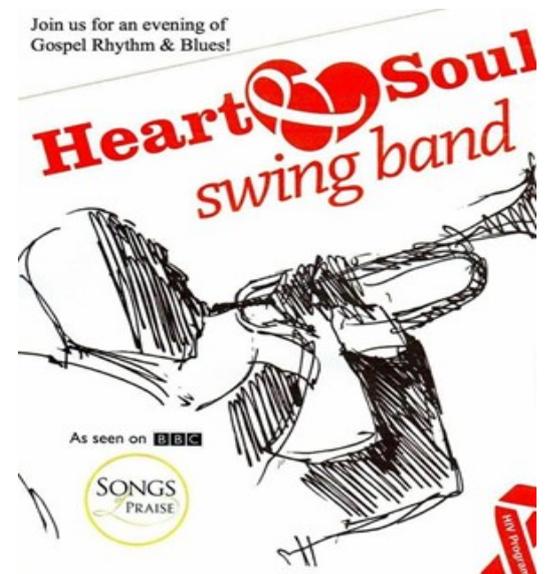
Future services

At the start of **June** we bring to an end our Sunday series on 'Understanding our Faith', which tied in with the themes of the House Group.

Sunday 10th June is Abbey Communion. It will include a dedication of the new premises, and then a soup lunch with donations to Bethany's 'End Homelessness' campaign.

During **July** there will be a sermon series on the book of *Ruth*. Why not read it in advance? It's not too long, only 4 chapters (you'll find it in between the books of Judges and Samuel). This will be a 4-part series (one chapter each week) with the themes of 'Loss and Loyalty', 'Gleaning and Hope', 'Daring to Act' and 'New Life'. On **Sunday 8th July** we're pleased to host the annual **Sea Sunday** service in Abbey, with representatives of local maritime organisations.

Advance Notice - on **Sunday 12th August** at 6pm Abbey hosts the ever-popular **Heart & Soul Swing Band** for a lively jazz-style service to round off the Fringe by the Sea week. Come early to get a seat!



.. after which, the nights will be fair drawing in!

. . **other events of interest** . .

Friday 1st June, a **praise evening** for kids (of all ages!) in St Mary's Haddington at 7pm, organised by Ewen Glen, Presbytery Family & Youth Development Worker. He is also organising '**Fest**', an afternoon & evening of activities, with a meal and worship, for older kids & teens, at Lighthouse Community Hub, Prestonpans on Saturday 16th June from 3pm.

Please speak to the Minister for more information.



PRESBYTERY OF LOTHIAN

ACTIVITY DELIVERED

refresh | FEST

16TH JUNE Lighthouse Community Hub, Prestonpans
3PM-9PM

What is refresh?

refresh a gathering of young people from churches and youth groups around Lothain for a night of celebration, worship and discipleship. Our next event, refresh| FEST, will include outdoor activities such as Zorb Football, Nerf Tag and life size Angry Birds. Followed by an evening of live music, mocktail bar and worship. Tickets cost £3 per person and are on sale via Eventbrite (search for "refresh fest"). Why not bring your youth group/ friends/ yourself. To find out more email eglen@churchofscotland.org.uk and follow our refresh facebook page, [facebook.com/refreshlothian](https://www.facebook.com/refreshlothian).

Where to find it...

Lighthouse Central Church
2 West Loan, Prestonpans, EH32 9NT

See the 'Refresh' Facebook page for details.

2018 Learning Disability Conference Saturday 16th June, St Matthew's Church, Perth. £15 per person, lunch included. Details and online booking at resourcingmission.org.uk. The event will have a celebratory air as we review the suite of resources created by the Learning Disability Working Group over the last few years.

Calling all Teenagers! **Powerpoint** is Scotland's largest intercity church youth event in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen. It unites teenagers from different churches & backgrounds and is a great opportunity for young people to learn about Jesus and unite in worship with their friends. The next event is a national one at Stirling University on 2nd June. More information at powerpointscotland.com or their Facebook page. Autumn events in Edinburgh will be publicised in due course.



A Note of Thanks

We here at the foodbank in Tranent wish to thank you and everyone at Abbey Church North Berwick for your generous donation of 531 kilograms of food during the financial year 2017-2018, this equated to 885 meals.

During this time, we gave out 31,604kg of food feeding 4116 people, 1486 of whom were children.

So once again from all the trustees, staff and volunteers at East Lothian Foodbank thank you. We couldn't do what we do without all your support. You've helped to keep the Foodbank a viable project so we can carry on providing help for people in food crisis in East Lothian.

The East Lothian Foodbank Team.

Year of Young People

June Theme - Volunteers

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Ephesians 4:11-1

Youth Workers Play Vital Role in Church

Gigha Lennox, Children's & Youth Worker at St David's Broomhouse Parish Church writes:

'I believe children's and youth work, whether paid or voluntary is a vital part of the Church today, because children and young people are a vital part of the life of the Church.

A lot of people say they are the future of our Church - while that is one way of putting it, I believe they, along with the rest of our congregations, are the intergenerational present of our church who all grow in faith together.

I feel the quote by Frank Clark is very accurate, in which he said: 'There's nothing that can help you understand your beliefs more than trying to explain them to an inquisitive child'

Action

The first week of June is National Volunteer Week - can you do something special to celebrate?

Give thanks and pray for your volunteers during a special service. Give your volunteers a certificate to recognise their work and contribution.

Show a powerpoint or short video of the youth group's activities throughout the year.

Show photos or videos of all the volunteers involved in your church. Share stories and examples of what volunteers have done.

Find a creative way to thank the youth leaders and workers.

Project idea: Calculate the approximate number of hours people volunteer within your church. Don't forget the many volunteers involved through other groups using church premises.

Do your children and young people have other ideas?

Prayer

Nurturing God,

We pray for all those who work with and support children and young people - for those of all ages who give their time, talents and love to create a place in churches and communities that can be the foundation of growth, confidence and a relationship with you. Amen



Year of Young People

July Theme - Culture

Fan into flame the gift that is in you. Timothy 1:6

Gifts are given for the common good. 1 Cor 12:7

Action

How can you support local youth theatre and music?
What aspect of your local culture can young people celebrate?

How might you get involved with local events?

Can you involve children and young people in music and drama within your services?

Can young people create some artwork for the church building?

Involve young people in planning for church events.

Do your children and young people have other ideas?

Prayer from the young people at Dalmuir Church

Almighty God, through your Holy Spirit you created unity in the midst of diversity;

We acknowledge that human diversity is an expression of your manifold love for your creation;

Enable us to be the architects of understanding, of respect and love; Through the Lord, the ground of all unity, we pray. Amen

Hadley Court Singers Concert
Saturday 16th June at 7.30 p.m.

Hadley Court Singers are returning to Abbey Church for their Summer Concert on 16th June.

Do come along to hear them singing Mozart's Ave Verum Corpus, Faure's Cantique, Franck's Panis Angelicus and other choral favourites. Also in the programme is John Rutter's Requiem with its beautiful and moving Pie Jesu.

Tickets will be available at the door



Young People and Families Worker - Abbey Church

The Kirk Session of Abbey Church has agreed to appoint a Young People and Families Worker for an initial period of 12 months. The purpose of the position is to work with the Minister and existing groups to provide increased opportunities for families within the life of Abbey Church and to extend outreach to families in the community, helping to provide them with an understanding of Christian values and build faith, with particular emphasis on working with children, young people and families in North Berwick.

The position is for 12 hours a week.

For a full job description please contact the Church Office.

Applications are welcome by 2 June and interviews will be held before 9th June, for a start date at the beginning of July.



ABBEY GUILD OUTLOOK

As we look forward to the Autumn session and the beginning of a new three year Strategy "One Journey, Many Roads" and the first Theme, "Seeking the Way", we can also look back for 75 years since the Abbey Womens' Guild was registered. Several of our members will remember the Golden anniversary in 1993, so we felt we should celebrate that we are now the Guild and happy to welcome our men to join us. Our dedication service will be on Sunday, 7th October, 75 years and two days after the date of inauguration of our Guild, followed by a Soup and Pudding lunch at 12 o'clock in the lower hall to which you are invited.



The Summer Outing will be to Greenlaw in the Borders to visit the New Palace Organ Theatre Heritage Centre where Larry McGuire, the last organist to play regularly in a Scottish Cinema or Theatre now entertains with music, memories and perhaps a sing-a-long. We shall leave North Berwick at mid day to enjoy the drive to the Borders for a 2pm start. After the performance, an afternoon tea will be served before the return journey. As we will travel by car, please give your name to Linda Scott or Eleanor Main and say if you will be willing to drive.

Each year we join with St. Andrew Blackadder Guild to support two projects, Abbey's choice this year will be the Boys' Brigade project, but more of that later.....

REGAL

Have you had a guided tour of the Scottish Parliament and do you know the story of its creation? More importantly, have you met your MSP, Mr Iain Gray?

Wednesday, 27th of June will be our opportunity to have a personal tour of the building and see behind the scenes. On that day, Regal members and friends will be visiting the Scottish Parliament and we are going to be shown round personally by Mr Gray. This will give us a wonderful opportunity to see the building and hear how it functions.



Our tour will conclude in Queensberry House when Mr Gray has set aside 30 minutes to tell us some of the more fascinating aspects of the building's origins. After that we are free to enter the Debating Chamber and listen to MSPs questions to a Minister. At this time, I don't know which Minister will be responding although it will not be the first Minister as she does

this on Thursdays.

Our visit commences at 12:30 pm and will be Regal's summer outing; I'm sure it will be a most interesting day for all of us. Further, it will give us an opportunity to speak to Mr Gray and seek answers to our questions.

If you'd like to attend please let me know either by telephone

(01620 890070) or by email at im.aitken@btinternet.com. We are being allowed to bring 15 visitors so it will be on a first-come first-served basis.

Ian M Aitken

Plastic milk carton tops



Thank you for everyone who has been collecting these for charity. Unfortunately we can't take any more in the meantime. We will let you know if this changes.

Bethany

In October we had a meeting with Abbey and Dirleton volunteers before the start of the Bethany Care Shelter Session for 2017-2018. It was very useful with some new people and new ideas. The menu varied this time with each team deciding what to cook. We catered four times with an average of 40 People attending.

It was such a severe winter and certainly worthwhile and rewarding doing this for homeless people in need. Thanks to everyone who helped and to Anderson the Butcher who once again kindly donated mince. Thank you also to everyone who donated money, so we have a healthy balance in the bank for next year.

Heart and Soul Swing Band



Back by popular demand, the Heart & Soul Swing Band brings its foot-tapping mix of Gospel Rhythm & Blues to Abbey Church. Vocalist Joanne Hood is joined by a 20-strong big band intent on too much fun for a Sunday night. Come along, sing along, swing along on this, the coolest evening of hot Gospel. Admission is free with an offering to benefit the Church of Scotland HIV Programme. (Come early for a good seat!)

North Berwick and District Association of Churches 2017-18

2017

Holy Week services were well attended.

The Community Award was presented to Janet Anderson.

The Lent group had been run by Margaret McSorley.

Christian Aid Week 14th—20th May.

May 25th Election hustings were held in Abbey Church.

August 13th Fringe by the Sea Jazz Concert

October 15th St Mary's, Whitekirk held it's 100th Anniversary Service, followed by Whitekirk to North Berwick pilgrimage.

In December The Abbey and St Baldreds held an advent course.

2018

January 21 The Christian Fellowship led the service for the week of prayer for Christian Unity in Abbey Church.

March 2 St Andrew Blackadder and St Aidans held services for World Day of Prayer.

ABBHEY CHURCH - NORTH BERWICK
BUDGET v ACTUAL AT 31 MAR 2018

ALL FUNDS

| Income (All Funds) | Annual Budget | Budget to 31 Mar | Actual to 31Mar | Variance |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Offerings | 73,000 | 18,246 | 17,330 | (916) |
| Tax reclaim | 18,000 | 4,500 | 4,185 | (315) |
| Miscellaneous | 10,300 | 2,579 | 1,614 | (965) |
| Premises income | 16,000 | 4,000 | 5,344 | 1,344 |
| Investment income | 5,775 | 512 | 387 | (125) |
| Legacies | 10,000 | 10,000 | 11,000 | 1,000 |
| Dirleton | 6,000 | 1,500 | 1,500 | - |
| Total Income | 139,075 | 41,337 | 41,360 | 23 |

Expenditure (All Funds)

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Church of Scotland pay-ments | 55,216 | 13,635 | 13,635 | - |
| Pastoral Expenses | 9,000 | 2,249 | 2,898 | (649) |
| Other Salaries | 25,500 | 6,375 | 5,577 | 798 |
| Premises costs | 22,672 | 4,930 | 5,331 | (401) |
| Church Office Expenses | 2,800 | 700 | 996 | (296) |
| Investments | - | - | - | - |
| New Building | 18,822 | 18,822 | 54,295 | (35,473) |
| Miscellaneous | 5,065 | 503 | 62 | 441 |
| Total Expenditure | 139,075 | 47,214 | 82,794 | (35,580) |

Budget for year 2018

-

Budget for three months

(5,877)

Deficit for three months

(41,434)

negative variance

(35,557)

Comments - Abbey Church (All Funds) - quarter to 31 March 2018

General

The deficit for the quarter was £5,877 this mainly relates to the further expenditure on the Seminar Room of £54,295.

Income

Offerings - These are ahead of budget and ahead of the amount received last year. Included in the offerings line is regular gift days, these are shown in the figure of £17,330.

(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 the office or ask Phil for one.)

Premises income is £5,344 is well ahead of budget this relates to the late receipt of payments relating to 2017.

Expenditure

Church Office expenses are within budget; a new photocopier was taken on lease in this quarter.

The new building project has been completed at a further expense of £54,295. This amount covers both the seminar room and the refit of the Old Hall. The final bills were received in April 2018.

If you have any questions please ask.

Stuart Ainslie

Your Finance Team

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



Little Nippers

Our Little Nippers Baby and Toddler Group is growing from strength to strength! The move to the big hall has been a great success as it provides a bigger space for the wee ones to play and have a snack, and the mums, dads and grandparents to have a chat and a coffee. We are still developing the fantastic new creche into our "Baby Nippers" room which means we can offer a quieter room for mums and dads with younger babies who might not yet appreciate the lively atmosphere in the hall. Everyone has been very impressed with our new facilities so far!

This group is proving to be a hit with many families and great new friendships are being made along the way - old and young!

We are always on the lookout for any willing helpers who would be able to offer an occasional hour to help out with the teas and coffees. Please do let me know if you can help in any way.

Little Nippers is on every Thursday during term time 10am - 11.30am.

Julie Loporto



Teens Group

Our teens group now has a name!! We have settled on the name "RISE" as we thought this name was very relevant to the teens that come along. A great time was had by all at our last meeting where hot dogs were the order of the day followed by a lively game of volleyball and a music sing-a-long quiz. We have 12 girls who come along regularly so far and it always proves to be a happy, uplifting evening for all who come! If you have any teens in your family who would like to join us at our next meet-up please let me know.

Julie Loporto



Rise above it
Rise to the occasion
Rise above conflict
Rise above your circumstances
Rise up and fight
Rise up with courage

Prayer—June/July

Dear friends in Christ

As I write this, the sun is shining and I am feeling good—hope you are too! May we be blessed by many sunny days ahead. Whatever the weather—enjoy it.

Let's pray.

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the sunny days and rainy days that allow the crops to grow and the flowers to flourish. Let us always praise your holy name. Thank you for the measure of health given to each one of us. Thanks you for all working for the NHS and private care, helping people get better and easing those in pain.

Help those who struggle daily trying to find work or a home or feed their families. Thank you Lord that we have enough to enjoy life and have more leftover to help those in need. Sometimes what we give is like a drop in the ocean—but every little helps. Bless all who contributed to Christian Aid Week, may all monies be put to good use.

Bless all who are at war, wherever they may be. Please bring peace to all the leaders of the world and to all who are caught up in these dreadful situations. Thank You. Please keep us safe during the holiday months, especially the children, no matter where they may be.

We ask you to strengthen and encourage Dr Graham and our Pastor Bob Kane, and their loved ones. Also all the congregations of Abbey Church and Dirleton Kirk.

Heal those who are sick, at home or in hospitals, care for the carers, uplift all who are low in spirit and draw near to those who mourn.

Amen

Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)

Whatever lies ahead, may we always thank God for being with us.

The Dirleton Kirk Flower Festival

Saturday 9th June and Sunday 10th. June open 11am - 4pm.

Most locals don't realise that Dirleton Church is blessed with no less than 18 talented flower arrangers who ensure that there are always flowers for Sunday services throughout the year.

This is the year that this talented crew will show their skills during a two day festival of flowers in the Kirk over the same weekend as the "Open Gardens" in the village. The theme of this years festival is "Joseph's Coat of Many Colours" which should provide a vibrant, colourful display.

Visit the Kirk with friends to see the Flowers; families and dogs most welcome.



Church Register

Baptism

25.3.18 Daisy Jane Pugh

Funerals

27.3.18 Bill Guy

19.4.18 Dennis Baron

19.4.18 Ella Gray

24.4.18 Maisie Preston

10.5.18 Pat Turner

18.5.18 James Reid

24.5.18 Rena Clapperton

Weddings

28.4.18 Adam Phillips and Gillian Ingram

5.5.18 Robin Stevenson and Kirsty Johnstone

26.5.18 Rupert Smith and Elizabeth Holt

Pastoral Visits

The Minister and Pastoral Assistant are happy to visit church members who are ill, either at home or in hospital. If in hospital, please also pass on the ward number, as this is not available to Ministers. This information should be given to the Minister (890800) or via the Church Office (892800). Thank you.

Abbey Church,
116 High Street, (at Church Road)
North Berwick

Church Office: 01620 892800

abbeychurch@abbeychurch.co.uk

*Office open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
10am until 1pm*

Newsletters

The next newsletter will cover August and September 2018. The deadline for submitting articles is Tuesday 17th July 2018. Please send to Abbey Church Office.

If you would prefer to have your copy of the Abbey Church and Dirleton Kirk newsletter emailed to you please inform your district Elder or the Abbey Church

Abbeychurch.org.uk

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And Twitter:DirletonAbbey



Abbey Church, North Berwick (Church of Scotland)

Scottish Charity No. SCO 04761—CCL51436