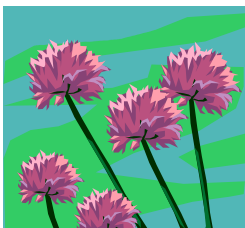


Flower List



October
Sheila McCubbing & Sheila Skinner
5th Mrs I McKay
12th Mrs M Purves
19th Mrs L McLean
26th Mrs J Lunn

November
2nd Mrs S Skinner
9th Mrs M A Crawford
16th Mrs M Gilchrist
23rd Mrs I Hardie
30th Mrs A Gardner & Miss H Wilson

Door Duty

October

5th Mr & Mrs Young, Mrs F Gibson
12th Mr & Mrs R Bell, Mrs Z Main
19th Mr & Mrs A Cobb, Mr D McAdam
26th Mr & Mrs M Brodie, Mr & Mrs J Guy

November

2nd Mr & Mrs W Leslie, Mr S Ainslie
9th Mrs S Burgon, Miss I Smith, Miss L Scott
16th Mrs & Mrs R Nichol, Mrs M Graham, Mr P Spencer
23rd Mr & Mrs B McClure, Mr J Lunn

CHURCH REGISTER

Funerals *we give thanks for the life and service of*
11th September Molly Stott, Fidra Home

Visit our Blog - dirletonabbey.blogspot.com

The picture on the front cover is an image of the glass doors of Abbey Church.

Abbey Church, North Berwick (Church of Scotland)
Scottish Charity No. SC004761—CCL51436



Abbey Church News OCTOBER 2014

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 07971 075185

Everyone is very welcome

Sunday Morning Worship
at 10.30am.

There will be a special service
on 5th October at 10.30 am
to celebrate the
25th Anniversary of the linkage
with Dirleton Kirk.
It includes the celebration of Communion

Our Evening Services
Resume on 5th October at 6.00 pm

Please come and join us

Dear Friends,

I am writing this on Thursday 18th September. This is a historic date for Scotland, the day of the 'IndyRef'.

Right now, we have no idea what the outcome will be. The opinion polls are razor-close. Only time will tell.

The Moderator has suggested that local churches might hold services of reconciliation afterwards (there will be one led by him in St Giles on Sunday). I suggested this to our local Ministers' Fraternal, but the feeling was that it wouldn't be necessary, because we are a mature community who can adapt to whatever the future may hold in an adult way. I hope and pray this is true. Instead, we will focus our prayers (public and private) on our nation and its future.

On holiday last week, we went to a local Church of England. It was a lovely experience, but one thing struck me especially as a word from the Lord. The Vicar was preaching about the Bread of Life (John ch. 6), and the manna in the desert. He said that the people were only wanting two things: food to fill their stomachs, and a leader who would set them free; they were not interested in eternal life. The preacher made no connections with the Scottish debate (in fact, it was never mentioned in the whole service, although he assured me afterwards of their prayers). But it made me wonder - a lot of the discussion in past months has been only about money, and political power. These are important, but they should never blind us to the eternal values in life. Scotland has had a long history of promoting kingdom values in our society, ranging from education to care for the poor to acceptance of others who differ from us. Whatever tomorrow may bring, let's strive to continue in this way.

Your minister,

David



Wheelchair

There is a lightweight wheelchair in the Church for use by anyone requiring it. Please contact Joyce in the Church Office.

A small donation would be appropriate. Thank you

Sunday Teas Rota

	Morning	Evening
5th October	Ann & Richard Bell	Eleanor Main & Bob Kane
12th October	Mary Graham & Sheila Skinner	Margaret Ann & Lyle Crawford
19th October	Eileen McColl & Morna McClure	Isabel Smith & Nancy Chisholm
26th October	Sadie Young & Liz Harrison	Doreen & John Guy
2nd November	Sarah Kerr & tba	Margaret Ann & Lyle Crawford
9th November	Catherine Andrew & Jasmine Reavely	Rosemary & John Evans
16th November	Fiona Gibson & Helen McKenzie	Janet Raeburn & Liz Harrison
23rd November	Dorothy Kirkpatrick & Isobel Hardie	Mary Graham & Zandra Main
30th November	Sheila McCubbing & Ann Gardner	Doreen & John Guy

Pastoral Note

If you know someone would like a visit while in hospital, please pass on the ward number to the Minister. Hospitals are not allowed to give out ward numbers, even to ministers! Thank you.

Prayers for October

Dear Friends in Christ,
We have been blessed with many dry and sunny days - allowing the farmers to gather in their crops. Let's give thanks - let us pray.



Heavenly Father,
Thank you for the crops that have been safely gathered in. Thank you for the fruits and vegetables, thank you for the harvest gathered from the seas and keep fishermen safe as they bring their catch home in all kinds of weather.

We are blessed with many good gifts Lord, thank you. We remember all who strive to gather little, try to feed themselves and their families. Help us to be generous and share all that we can.

This month we celebrate 25 years of linkage between Dirleton Kirk and Abbey Church. Thank you God that it has been so successful. Bless both congregations, Rev Milton Cashman and the Rev Dr David Graham for enabling it to be so. May we all go forward working together in your name.

Lord, we ask your blessing on all the organisations as they resume after the summer break. May everyone enjoy the fellowship whether it be in the Brownies, the Guild or Regal, let them tell others and bring them too. We pray Christ will be the centre of all goings-on in the churches. Thank you, Father.

Heal all who are ill in body, mind or spirit; strengthen the carers in our midst. Uplift those who are sad or lonely and draw near to those who mourn. Forgive us our sins Lord and please bring peace to this unruly world.

In Jesus precious name

Amen

Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)

Sunday Services

Starting in September, please join us in a year-long journey through the Bible and faith: *'We make the road by walking'*. Alternating between our morning and evening services, there will be Bible readings used in Church, at Bible Study and House Groups, and for personal devotion. The weekly readings for the next two months are:

5th October: Genesis 4:1-17; 6:5-8; 7:1-5; 8:1; 9:7-17; Psalm 51; James 4:1-8

12th October: Genesis 12:1-9; Galatians 3:6-9; Mark 11:15-19

19th October: Genesis 18:9-33; 22:1-14; Micah 6:6-8; Acts 18:19-34

26th October: Genesis 32:22-33:11; 50:15-21; Matthew 25:31-40; Luke 10:25-37

2nd November: Exodus 1:1-14; 3:1-15; John 8:1-11; Galatians 5:1, 13-15

9th November: Exodus 20:1-21; Matthew 22:34-40; Hebrews 10:1-18

16th November: Deuteronomy 7:1-11; Psalm 137:1-9; 149:1-9; Matthew 15:21-39

23rd November: 2 Kings 2:1-15; Psalm 23; Acts 1:1-11

30th November: Isaiah 1:1-2:5; Romans 15:1-13; Matthew 9:10-17

You will be interested to know that the people on duty at the door have copies of the book *'We make the road by walking'* by Brian D. McLaren that accompanies David's sermons—please ask them for a copy (these can be bought for £5).

Session Matters

The Kirk Session met at the beginning of September and we were very glad to hear good news from the various committees.

The Nurture Committee was able to say that the new arrangements for Elder contact seem to be working well; as well as reporting on the provision of study books and readings to help us all delve deeper into the Minister's sermons over the next few months.

The Outreach Committee was happy to see how much the Beach Church had been enjoyed by children during the summer. We will also be looking at how we can involve more people in the services at the Care Homes. By the time you read this the Harvest Thanksgiving service will be over, raising funds for the new school at Nimbong, thanks to the idea from the Worship Committee.

The Resources Committee has overseen the external repainting of the windows and has spear-headed the development of our new website. The Kirk Session was disappointed to hear from the Treasurer that weekly giving is lower than expected this year. We discussed various reasons why this might have happened, but we couldn't come to any conclusion.

As our three-year Stewardship programme comes to the theme of Money this November, we will be looking at ways to re-vitalise our attitude to financial giving.

The new Abbey Church website has been launched, and I encourage you to go online to look at the site. Many thanks to everyone who has been involved! The World Church Committee is looking forward to the Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal and a possible panel for the Diaspora Tapestry to be made in conjunction with our twinned church in Kalimpong.

Sally Penman



Regal

Since its establishment in 1905 Rotary has spread to all parts of the world and is truly an international organisation. It was formed with the *raison d'être* of creating community and fellowship and these two aspects continue to be the foundations of the organisation to this day.

The story of Rotary is reflected in stamps. Indeed, when a country issues a set of stamps commemorating an organisation it reflects the high regard with which that organisation is held.

David's collection of stamps traces Rotary through time and continent; the stamps themselves creating colourful images of this highly respected organisation.

This will be a very interesting and thought provoking meeting and everyone will be made most welcome - ladies and gentlemen. Our regular attendees know that after the meeting we sit down to a soup and sandwich lunch that has been prepared by the ladies of the church.

I look forward to seeing you on Thursday, 9th October at 12 noon.

Ian M Aitken

Your next Abbey News

Abbey Newsletters are issued on the last Sunday of October. Articles need to be submitted a fortnight before the publication date. (Issue date of 26 October)

Consequently I would appreciate all articles by 12 October to

im.aitken@btinternet.com

Thank you.

Regal's Summer Outing

This photograph was taken at the Museum of Flight where members of Regal spent a most enjoyable morning.



Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal

The enclosed leaflet gives details about the Christmas Shoe Box appeal, with suggested items for inclusion in each box.

We welcome volunteers to help cover the boxes with Christmas paper on Tuesday, 14th October at 10.00 am in the Church hall. I would appreciate if filled boxes could be returned no later than the first Sunday in November.

Bel Hardie

East Lothian Foodbank

It is most unfortunate that there are families in East Lothian who depend upon the Foodbank. Regrettably, the cost of living has been increasing for the last few years while, at the same time, pay and salary increases have not kept pace. Consequently families are finding it more and more difficult to meet their weekly and monthly budget. Then, a person can so easily be made unemployed and, in the circumstances, they have absolutely no money to pay for the essentials of life; hence our East Lothian Foodbank is fulfilling a very necessary purpose. by providing 3/4 days emergency food supplies.

You will be interested to know that in the past month there were 1778 kg of food distributed and this was given as food parcels to 127 families which represent 246 individuals of which there were 94 children.

Many thanks to the people in both Dirleton and Abbey who regularly donate food which is transported to the Foodbank. At present the main items required are tinned fish, meat and tomatoes, fruit juice, long life milk, UHT milk and sugar.

Bill McClure

Evening Services

Our evening services are resuming on Sunday,
5th October 6.00pm.



Meeting for Prayer Sundays at 10.00am

On Sunday mornings prior to Morning Worship, there is a short gathering for prayer in Abbey New Hall—from 10.00 am to 10.15 am. Please come along. All welcome

Christian Aid

The Christian Aid committee again wishes to thank everyone for their support and assistance at the various events held so far this year. As previously advised almost £13,000 was raised for the work of Christian Aid, at the events around Christian Aid Week 2014 along with generous donations collected in the envelopes, cans and Smartie tubes. Participants in the Forth Bridge Walk raised almost £3,000 with special thanks to St Andrew Blackadder YF, David and Eileen McColl of Abbey Church and Rosemary Chisholm of St Baldred's.

At the beginning of Christian Aid Week the committee met with Mary Mulligan, Churches Development Officer with Christian Aid, and she confirmed our thinking that it is necessary to think of the future of Christian Aid with a view to widening the appeal among all generations.

With that in mind the committee was delighted that, just before Christian Aid Week, Caroline Vevers joined the committee and will take over as Chair as of now and towards 2015. Barbara will continue as Secretary for one more year and also, along with Liz Harrison of Abbey act as Treasurer since they are the two signatories for the bank account and some of you will know the trials involved when changing that!

Liz and Ian Craigie and Barbara will continue to lead and organise the Malawi Project and the Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 24th January 2015 in the Hope Rooms.

Christian Aid Week in 2015 is from 10 to 16 May!
We look forward to your continued support.

Bill McClure, David McColl (Abbey)
Liz Keddie (Dirleton)
Caroline Vevers, Barbara Clark, Liz Craigie, Mary Duncan, Jennifer Laing, Gertrude Macfarlane (St Andrew Blackadder)
Shelley Birch Liz Traill, Jean Coley (St Baldred's)

Abbey Guild



Abbey Guild will be starting their autumn session in October.

Everyone is very welcome to join the Guild - it is open to everyone - men and women. At the first meeting on Tuesday, 7th October at 7:30 pm Dr David Graham will talk on "A World to Serve - How to Share".

Thereafter, the next meeting on Tuesday, 21st October at 2:30 pm will be a combined meeting at St Andrew Blackadder when we will hear about "Comfort Rwanda" - one of the projects we are supporting this year.

We are looking for very much to welcoming all our members and new members.

Janet Raeburn

Abbey Church Website

The new Abbey Church website is now up and running; so please visit it at "www.abbeychurch.org.uk". Why not put it into your favourites bar and it will always be available?

There is a tremendous variety of information available on the new website starting with a calendar which is always shown on the first page. There are sections dealing with items which are of interest to all of us such as our rich history, details of our five committees and the newsletter; last but by no means least, there are lists of the various rotas, such as door duty, tea duty etc. So visit it at "www.abbeychurch.org.uk" and see our church through new eyes.