

### Flower List

#### **December 2014**

Dorothy Kirkpatrick  
& Sadie Young

7th Mrs D Kirkpatrick  
& Mrs M Whytock  
14th Mrs M Burgon  
& Dr J Walinck



#### **January 2015**

Margaret Ann Crawford  
& Jeanette Calloway

4th Mrs S Young  
11th Mrs E Crowe  
& Mrs A McCulloch  
18th The Abbey Home  
25th Mrs S Penman

There are a few vacant dates in 2015 for the Flower List.  
Anyone wishing a flower date please contact Elma Danks or the office.

### Church Register

#### **Funerals**

29.10.14 Eileen White, Priory Wynd  
29.10.14 Anthony Capocci, Lord President Road  
31.10.14 Margaret Gilchrist, Westgate  
07.11.14 Catherine Scott, Fidra House  
07.11.14 Alexander Noble, Dirleton Court  
15.11.14 Raymonde Hutchison, Westgate  
20.11.14 Etta Allan, Clifford Road

*Jesus said 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'*



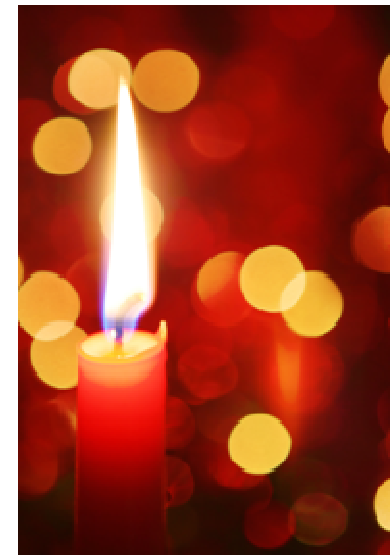
*The picture on the front cover is an image of the  
glass doors of Abbey Church.*

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

**Abbey Church, North Berwick and  
Dirleton Kirk**

***Warmly invite you  
to join us  
this***

***CHRISTMAS***



***Peace on Earth***

Dear Friends

The Christmas adverts have been launched already (I'm writing this mid-November before our printing deadline). There seems to be bigger competition every year by large stores to have the best advert.

This year, one department store has a love story between two penguins (it's certainly seasonal for winter, but are they real or just soft toys?). Another uses Christmas fairies to bring 'magic and sparkle' into the festive season (did you get the clue? But I don't remember fairies in the Christmas story!). A well known pharmacy has a nurse's Christmas (I hope we don't have to buy cold remedies there this winter!).

Some of these ads need more credulity than others, eg does Peter Andre really shop in a discount frozen food shop? And did you know that one of Santa's reindeer was actually called Dobbie?

Perhaps most interestingly, one supermarket uses the famous story of the Christmas Truce in 1914 to sell charity chocolate bars. It's a true story, one I told to the children in church recently (before the advert came out—you heard it here first!) In the midst of the trenches of Flanders, on Christmas Eve 1914 the guns stopped, and men who were enemies exchanged gifts and even played football together. Of course, the truce didn't last long, but for a short time there was hope, and even friendship between former enemies.

This year, the bells may sometimes ring louder than the Christmas bells. But perhaps, as happened a century ago, this year people may also forget their differences and grievances, and experience 'peace on earth to people of God's favour'.

Let's pray that we do.

Your minister

David



lunchtime groups. Pray for the Wednesday group which is full of new Christians after the summer term and also for the smaller Thursday after school discipleship group which meets in St Andrew Blackadder Church. These are the new disciples of Jesus.

Thank you for your support.

*Peter Kimber (Secretary)*



#### **Editor for Abbey Church News**

We are looking for an editor for Abbey Church Newsletter. Other people write the articles and all you require to do is bring the articles together. Please speak to either David Graham or Sally Penman.

**THANK YOU** to everyone involved with this newsletter throughout the year - including those who contribute, those who sort the newsletters into bundles, those who deliver copies - and all who read it. .

If you have any ideas of what you'd like to see in future newsletters, please email or contact the Church Office.

**[www.abbeychurch.org.uk](http://www.abbeychurch.org.uk)**



The new Abbey Church website is now up and running. 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](http://www.abbeychurch.org.uk)" and see our church through new eyes.

Seen on a church notice board:

**WHAT IS MISSING FROM  
CH\_RCH?**



*If young people will not go to church,  
then the Church must go to young people.*



#### North Berwick Christian Youth Trust

John Wenham, in his book "The Easter Enigma" suggests that ten of Jesus' twelve disciples were probably teenagers or in their early twenties at most and when you think about it that is highly likely. We know that Peter had a mother-in-law (which requires a certain maturity) and Matthew was a tax-gatherer and therefore an accountant which requires the probity which we all admire in that profession. Think of the other disciples as teenagers: enthusiastic and lethargic, passionate and bored, idealistic and cynical, brave and panic-stricken by turns. This is the age-group which in other circumstances join Jihadist armies, dance the night away at raves, drink to excess at university, are passionate about sport, music, argument, independence and love. They are the despair and joy of their parents and grandparents.

The great tragedy is that for three generations the Church has not been able to engage the commitment of this age-group. Before adolescence Sunday Schools have maintained their numbers but it became the norm that once children went to High School numbers declined. There have been exceptions to this general rule but this one cause more than all others explains the present weakness of the Church throughout Britain and Europe. It is interesting to see how Jesus engaged their commitment. His appeal was absolute and direct: "Follow me." He called for self denial, the acceptance of suffering and death if required and endurance to the end.

The tragedy is that this same sort of commitment is drawing young men and women to leave the decadent affluence of Britain in order to die as Islamists in the Middle East. The even greater tragedy is that they are deluded.

Please pray for our young people at North Berwick High School. Pray that they will know the commitment and passion of following Jesus Christ wholeheartedly. Please pray also for Shiona who is waiting for an operation - that she will have it done by Christmas and be back to full strength. Please thank God for the 30 young people who come to NBHS

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON AT ABBEY CHURCH AND DIRLETON KIRK

DECEMBER 2014.

### SUNDAY 7th

9.30am Morning Service at Dirleton

10.30am Morning Service at Abbey

3.00pm Short concert. Christmas music by 'Decanter'  
at Dirleton

6.00pm Service for bereaved people - Remembering loved ones



### SUNDAY 14th

9.30am Morning Service at Dirleton

10.30am Morning Service at Abbey

6.00pm Evening Service at Abbey



Celebration of Holy Communion at Abbey Morning Service



### THURSDAY 18th

6.00pm Meet at Church for Carol Singing at Nursing Homes  
and Tigh Mhor

### FRIDAY 19th

7.00pm Christmas songs in aid of Leuchie House.

The Flying Aspidistras and Friends with carols chosen  
by the audience (followed by refreshments)



## SUNDAY 21st CHRISTMAS SUNDAY

9.30am All-age Christmas Service at Dirleton

10.30am All-age Christmas Service at Abbey

6.00pm Evening Service at Abbey



## WEDNESDAY 24th CHRISTMAS EVE

4.30pm Family Service at Abbey

11.30pm Watchnight Candlelit Service in Dirleton

(Coffee in Church Hall from 11pm)

## THURSDAY 25th CHRISTMAS DAY

10.30am Family Service at Abbey (half - hour)



## SUNDAY 28th

9.30am Morning Service at Dirleton

10.30am Morning Service at Abbey

6.00pm Evening Service at Abbey - Communion



*The Minister, Kirk Sessions and Congregations will be  
pleased to welcome you to these services and events*



### Bethany Care Shelter

Bethany Christian Trust will open the Care Shelter this winter from 27 October 2014 to 12 April 2015 to provide a hot meal, overnight accommodation and advice for homeless men and women in Edinburgh.

Last winter there were many nights when over 40 homeless people came to the Care Shelter and similar or more are likely to come in the months ahead.

72 different churches and 849 volunteers were involved last winter. The total direct cost of running the Care Shelter 2014-15 is budgeted to be £143,775 including such costs as project workers salaries, recruitment and training, vehicle costs for transporting rough sleepers to the place of safety, bedding cleaning, laundry and personal survival kits (hats, gloves, scarves, underwear and basic toiletries) for people coming to the shelter between now and next April.

Once again this winter Abbey (with Dirleton) will be providing meals for homeless people at the Bethany Care Shelter on five nights in various churches in Edinburgh.

The first is just before Christmas in Abbeyhill Baptist Church and a catering team is already in place for this.

Donations of **NEW** warm socks, hats, gloves, scarves and underwear (handed into the Church Office please before 20 December) would be very much appreciated.



Abbey is catering at four other venues and there will be a meeting in the new year for those wishing to help and to get things organised.

Dates and venues:

Sunday 11 January	London Road Church
Saturday 21 February	Broughton St Mary's Church
Monday 2 March	Community Church, South Clerk Street
Thursday 26 March	St Cuthbert's Parish Church



### Christmas Prayer

Dear Friends in Christ

What a busy time of year! All go!!

Let's never forget to set aside time each day to give thanks to God for every good gift. Let us pray.



Heavenly Father,

At this special time let us remember to thank you for the greatest gift of all—JESUS! Help us to remember to give thanks for all Your gifts to us, and let us use them well. We pray that Jesus will be at the centre of all the Christmas parties and get-togethers held within our church and all our homes.

Let us remember those who are homeless, those who are struggling to provide food for their families, those who are ill at home or in hospital, those who are bereaved and those for whom Christmas and New Year are very lonely times. Help us to share what we have with them—LOVE, HEAT and a warm nourishing MEAL. What a difference we could make!

Lord, bless Dr Graham and Bob Kane and their loved ones. Bless our children and all our congregation at Abbey and Dirleton Churches. Let us worship you while going about our daily tasks.

We remember those who are at war, finding life very difficult.

We pray for peace—worldwide.

Lord, open the eyes, hearts and minds of all the leaders in every country that they would seek peace, if not immediately, then, hopefully, in the coming year.

Thank you. In Jesus' name. Amen

*Betty Hawthorn (Prayer Secretary)*

**May the joy and love of Christmas  
stay in your hearts in the year ahead.**



### 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!



## Abbey Church News Christmas 2014

Abbey Church, 116 High Street, North Berwick

Church Office: 01620 892800

[abbeychurch@btconnect.com](mailto:abbeychurch@btconnect.com)

**Minister: Rev. Dr David J Graham, BSc, BD**  
01620 840878

Pastoral Assistant: Bob Kane 07971 075185

**Sunday Morning Worship at 10.30am.**  
**Sunday Evening Service at 6.00pm**  
**Come along. All welcome.**

**Sunday Evening Worship takes a break  
during January & February,**

**Advent.**  
**What are YOU  
waiting for?**



### Sunday Services

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 are Bible readings used in Church, at Bible Study and House Groups, and for personal devotion.

At the back of the church are printed copies of the readings until the end of February. Please take one if you wish.

A book to accompany this is available (and can be bought for £5).

The weekly readings for the next two months are:

**7<sup>th</sup> Dec. - Promised Land, Promised Time.**

Daniel 7:9-28 Isaiah 40:9-11 Luke 1:67-79

**14<sup>th</sup> Dec. - Women on the Edge.**

Luke 1:39-55 Isaiah 7:14, 9:2-7 Romans 12:1-2

**21<sup>st</sup> Dec. - Keep Herod in Christmas.**

Jeremiah 32:31-35 Micah 5:2-5a. Matthew 1:18-2:15

**24<sup>th</sup> Dec. - [early] Surprising People.**

Psalms 34:1-18. Matthew 1:1-17 Luke 2:8-20

**24<sup>th</sup> Dec. - The Light Has Come (Christmas Eve).**

Isaiah 60:1-3 John 1:1-5; 1:9-10; 3:19-21; 8:12; 9:5; 12:35-36; 12:46

**25<sup>th</sup> Dec. - Sharing Gifts.**

Psalms 117 Matthew 2:1-12 Luke 2:25-32

**28<sup>th</sup> Dec. - Jesus Coming of Age.**

1 Kings 3:1-28 Luke 2:39-3:14; 3:21-22 1 Timothy 4:6-16

**4<sup>th</sup> Jan. - Join the Adventure!**

Isaiah 61:1-4 Luke 4:1-30; 5:1-11 2 Timothy 2:1-9

**11<sup>th</sup> Jan. - Significant and Wonderful.**

2 Samuel 11:26-12:15 John 2:1-12; Mark 1:21-28

**18<sup>th</sup> Jan. - Jesus the Teacher.**

Proverbs 3:1-26 Jeremiah 31:31-34 Mark 4:1-34

**25<sup>th</sup> Jan. - Jesus and the Multitudes.**

Ezekiel 34:1-31; Luke 5:17-32; 18:15-19:9



### **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.



### **ABBAY CHURCH - NORTH BERWICK**

### **BUDGET v ACTUAL AT 30 SEP 2014**

#### **ALL FUNDS (£s)**

	Annual Budget	Budget to 30 Sep	Actual to 30 Sep	Variance
<b>Income</b>				
Open plate donations	12,000	9,000	6,806	(2,194)
Gift aided donations	60,000	45,000	43,789	(1,211)
Tax reclaim	16,000	12,000	12,940	940
Miscellaneous	9,300	6,975	7,067	92
Premises income	8,000	6,000	7,520	1,520
Congregational organisations	2,400	1,800	603	(1,197)
Investment income	1,540	1,155	2,462	1,307
Legacies	62,035	62,035	62,035	0
Direlton	5,300	3,950	3,950	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>176,575</b>	<b>147,915</b>	<b>147,172</b>	<b>(743)</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Church of Scotland payments	53,472	40,228	40,193	35
Pastoral Expenses	10,420	8,265	4,414	3,851
Other Salaries	20,550	15,300	15,892	(592)
Premises costs	23,800	18,098	13,500	4,598
Church Office Expenses	2,650	1,987	1,632	355
Congregational Organisations	3,600	2,700	25	2,675
Investments	70,000	70,000	69,998	2
Miscellaneous	8,440	5,943	5,705	238
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>192,932</b>	<b>162,521</b>	<b>151,359</b>	<b>11,162</b>
<b>Surplus of Income over Expenditure (Deficit)</b>	<b>(16,357)</b>	<b>(14,606)</b>	<b>(4,187)</b>	<b>10,419</b>

## Comments – Abbey Church - 9 Months to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014

### General

The deficit for the six months is £4,187. This is much better than the budget deficit of £14,606. The annual budget included major maintenance projects and the purchase of investments.

### Income

*Open plate donations* - these are below budget and less than the same period in 2013.

*Gift-aid donations* - these are weekly envelope donations (blue envelopes) They are below budget and less than the same period in 2013.

Also included in gift-aid donations are the monthly standing orders which are slightly ahead of budget. Note - If you are tax payer and wish the Abbey to recover some of 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* - this relates mainly to hall rental income. This is above budget as the 2014 budget was reduced as a major user had stopped using the hall last year. Fortunately actual usage is above that anticipated.

*Investment income* - this is above budget as an instalment of interest has been received on the investments with the Church of Scotland.

### Expenditure

*Pastoral expenses* - the positive variance is probably due to timing differences.

*Premises costs* - In the nine months maintenance work was much lower than expected. This is reflected in the savings on budget. Some of the painting of Church windows was carried in August and this work was completed in October This should bring the premises costs more in line with budget. Additionally winter fuel bills will be much higher.

*Miscellaneous expenditure* - this includes the new chairs for the old hall and the first costs relating to the new curtains in the old hall.

If you have any questions please ask.

Stuart Ainslie 29<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### 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

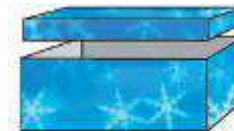
## Blythswood Care Christmas Shoebox Appeal

A huge THANK YOU for the wonderful response from Abbey and friends to the Shoebox Appeal.

163 Boxes were filled at Abbey and Dirleton.

They were collected and taken to Criagmillar Church hall to be checked before being dispatched to Eastern Europe in time for Christmas.

As this is perhaps the only gift the recipients receive it makes our annual effort so worthwhile.



### REGAL

The next meeting of *REGAL* is on Thursday 11 December at 12 noon in Abbey old hall.

David Graham will present 'Christmas Carols in story and song'

After the meeting there will be a soup and sandwich lunch.

On 8 January John Guy will talk on 'New Zealand'

All meetings are open to gentlemen and ladies, just come along.



## Recycle—recycle—recycle—STAMPS!



With the Christmas post only a few days away, it's a good time to remember that used postage stamps can be recycled.

This year, the focus of the stamp appeal is Dorcas, a brand new Refuge House for Women Victims of Domestic Violence and their children in Milotopos, northern Greece run by the Greek Evangelical Church

(GEC). The GEC responded to requests from women seeking refuge from violent partners by buying a house in 2012, which they fully renovated. The house will provide a safe haven for women who have suffered domestic violence and their children.

A gentle reminder that only stamps which have at least  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch border all round are recyclable. There is a box for stamps at the back of Abbey church or hand them in to Joyce at the church office.

**Dirleton Post Office** will be open on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9.00am to 1.00pm

## Abbey Guild

**Tuesday 2 December. Carols for Christmas at 2.30pm**

As we look forward to Christmas, we begin with a *Carols & Readings* afternoon, followed by mince pies and shortbread.



**16 December.** The Glen Golf Club is the venue for this year's Christmas lunch (cost £17) Make sure your name is on the list. Transport can be arranged. Please let Joyce in the office know.

**2015**

**6 January at 2.30pm** *Science and Faith* - Dr Murdo Macdonald

**20 January at 2.30pm** *Scottish / Carribean Historical Connections*—  
Professor G Palmer

Everyone is very welcome to all or any of the Guild Meetings.

## Award for Volunteers

The North Berwick and District Association of Churches is seeking nominations for the annual award that is made to individuals or organisations that carry out voluntary work in Aberlady, Gullane, North Berwick, Dirleton, Athelstaneford and surrounding areas.

The Association recognises the huge difference volunteers make to our community and the award goes some way to thanking them and acknowledging the time and effort they have made to helping others. So if you think you know someone or an organisation that deserves an award for their voluntary work please contact Michael Black by the end of December at [m.w.black@btinternet.com](mailto:m.w.black@btinternet.com) or ☎ 01620 842835.

You do not need to be a member of a Church to make a nomination or receive the award.

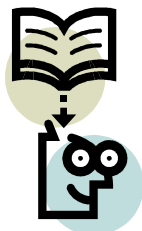
## Christmas Book for 8-11year olds.

Looking for a stocking-filler?

Then why not browse "The Eagle" by Vicki Gibson on Amazon.co.uk. and read the preview there?

The story is in the genre of "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe".

It is published in paperback / kindle, and priced at £9.73/£3.08. ISBN- 10: 1496990668



## Scottish Diaspora Tapestry

Many of you may have seen The Great Scottish Tapestry and also the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry, both recently displayed in and around Edinburgh.



I visited the Diaspora tapestry when it was shown in St. Mary's Cathedral and my eye was drawn to a panel depicting the work of Mary Scott in Gantok, Sikkim. As you may know, St Andrew Blackadder Church is twinned with the church in Gantok, in the same way that Dirleton Kirk and Abbey Church are twinned with Kalimpong.

This made me think that maybe we should be doing something about a panel about the Scottish influence in and around Kalimpong. I contacted the organisers (based at Cockenzie House) who were keen on the idea as long as we could complete the project by March 2015.

After discussion with Miku Foning, and gaining the agreement of the folks in Kalimpong, I have set the ball in motion, giving the artist at Cockenzie House a number of images from which he is going to sketch an appropriate design. Once all this is done, and we are happy with the result, they will issue us with the canvas and all the coloured wools we will need to complete the tapestry.

So.....watch this space for progress reports.....and of course the finished article will be shown in both churches before we return it to be displayed as part of the Scottish Diaspora Story.

*Doreen Guy*

## TEA AND COFFEE -AND BISCUITS



Many thanks to everyone involved in providing tea and coffee etc., after morning and evening services. The supply of biscuits is running low. Your extra biscuits and/or donations would be much appreciated.

CONCERT OF CHORAL MUSIC  
by *Decanter* in Dirleton Kirk  
Sunday 7 December at 3.00pm  
Tea & mince pies served afterwards

