

Outlook
Gullane Parish Church
November 2018



...and at the going down of the sun

You are warmly invited to join us in the
SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
Sunday 25 November 2018
9.45am and 3.00pm
All welcome

Letter from the Minister

As we approach the season of Advent, I have given thought to worship plans for December. Details of services appear elsewhere in this issue. Advent is a distinct season, yet it is very often overshadowed by the focus upon Christmas to come. Within the life of most congregations, Christmas begins to dominate well before its own liturgical season, which only starts on Christmas Day. Most worship leaders wrestle with the very welcome challenge of fitting in a multitude of Christmas events and contributions before schools break and the life of Church organisations winds down for the Christmas holiday.

Perhaps the fact that Advent is so often, “squeezed out” accounts for the paucity of good Advent hymns in most hymnaries. CH4 improved significantly upon CH3 and I have also found that the latest Methodist hymnary, *Singing the Faith*, has some good additions. Two of these are written by Jan Berry, a Minister of the United Reformed Church and I am indebted to her for permission to print words from the hymns here. I also intend that we will sing them in Advent.

The first is *Praise to the God who clears the way*, which is set to the tune *Creator God* by Norman Warren. You can find the tune in CH4, at No. 55. Verse one is as follows:

*Praise to the God who clears the way
Preparing room and space;
For power and pride will lose their sway
As peace comes in their place.*

This opening verse offers us a helpful reminder of the effect of Christ’s coming, in challenging the established order which was based upon pride and the desire for power. The Prince of Peace continues to challenge these things, not only in the established order of today’s world but in our own, individual lives. God longs to help us, in the season of Advent, to clear away the clutter of misplaced attitudes and priorities; to make space for God and his reign.

The second of Jan Berry's hymns which resonates with me is also in *Singing the Faith* and I am setting out the words fully. It is not, *per se*, an Advent hymn but still apposite to the season.

*Deep in the darkness a starlight is gleaming,
calling us out from the safety of home.
God of the questions, the mystery of dreaming,
lighten our journey into the unknown.*

*Out of the darkness the voices are crying,
terror and fear screaming loud in the night.
God of the hurting, of innocence dying,
fire us with anger to struggle for right.*

*Still in the darkness we search for your healing,
hoping for meaning to comfort our fear.
God of the silence, of unspoken feeling,
teach us the wisdom to make your truth clear.*

*On through the darkness we follow your leading,
searching for joy and a refuge to stay.
God of our longing, the bliss we are seeking,
journey with us to the brightness of day.*

This hymn reflects the truth that Christ, the Light of the World, calls us from safety and complacency to go with him, in response to the darkness of our world. The descriptions of that darkness are insightful and accurate and the petition with which the hymn closes gives voice to our hope and our desire as disciples of Jesus.

I wish you and yours every blessing in the coming seasons of Advent and Christmas as well as the new year which follows.

Yours in Christ,
Brian

Both hymns are copyright to Jan Berry and published in *Singing the Faith, Methodist Hymnary*: used with the author's permission.

Communion Sunday 25 November 2018

Celebrations of the Sacrament of Holy Communion will take place in Gullane at **9.45am and 3.00pm**. Please note the change of time for the afternoon service. There will be NO service at 6.30pm. In Aberlady the Sacrament will be celebrated at 11.15am.

~~~~~

## Membership of Aberlady and Gullane Parish Churches

On the afternoon of Sunday 27 January 2019, I will be offering a short talk on Church membership for anyone interested in exploring this possibility. The talk will be given in Gullane Church Centre from 2.30pm until 3.00pm, will relate to both congregations and is open to all.

~~~~~

Liturgical Notes

The liturgical season of Advent begins on Sunday 2nd December and runs until Monday 24th December, while Christmas begins on 25th December and ends on 5th January. Thereafter we enter the season of Epiphany, which lasts until the start of Lent. In 2019, Lent begins on Wednesday 6th March.



Services in Advent

Sunday 2 December

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 9.45am | Morning Worship | Gullane |
| 11.15am | Morning Worship | Aberlady |
| 3.00pm | Advent Family Crafts | Gullane Church Centre |
| 6.30pm | Advent Arts – Worship with Holy Communion | Aberlady Kirk Stables |

Sunday 9 December

| | | |
|---------|-----------------|----------|
| 9.45am | Morning Worship | Gullane |
| 11.15am | Morning Worship | Aberlady |

Sunday 16 December

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------|
| 9.45am | Family Nativity Service | Gullane |
| 11.15am | Family Nativity Service | Aberlady |
| 6.30pm | Service of Lessons and Carols | Aberlady |

Sunday 23 December

| | | |
|---------|-----------------|----------|
| 9.45am | Morning Worship | Gullane |
| 11.15am | Morning Worship | Aberlady |

Monday 24 December

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------|
| 6..30pm | Christmas Eve Family Service | Aberlady |
| 11.15pm | Service of Lessons and Carols | Aberlady |
| 11.15pm | Service of Lessons and Carols | Gullane |



Christmas Services

Tuesday 25 December

10.30am United Family Service Gullane
Children are invited to bring one of their gifts to show.

Sunday 30 December

9.45am A service of readings, carols and reflections
Gullane

11.15am A service of readings, carols and reflections
Aberlady



United Services:

The Kirk Sessions have agreed upon a schedule of United Services as follows. These will all be held at **10.30am** and there will be no other morning services on these days.

Sunday 6 January 2019 Epiphany United Family Service
Aberlady

Sunday 3 March 2019 Transfiguration United Family Service
Gullane

Sunday 5 May 2019 Easter 3 United Family Service
Aberlady

Ian Black

On 31 August 2018, Ian Black retired from his role as Beadle of Gullane Parish Church, a position which he held for over 35 years. Ian continues to serve as a member of the Kirk Session.

On Sunday 23 September, during morning worship, the congregation expressed grateful appreciation of Ian's service. Keith Anderson (Session Clerk) spoke warmly of Ian's dedication and commitment and he was presented with a Long Service Certificate, signed by the Moderator of the General Assembly, an engraved decanter and matching glasses (along with something to put in it!) and a cheque.



NB: There was also cake!

Scott Burton

Scott's time as Probationer Assistant came to an end on 31 August 2019, following 15 months as part of our congregations. A very enjoyable social evening was held in Aberlady Community Hall on that evening, attended by Scott, Gill, members of the wider family and a large representation from the congregations. On Sunday 2 September, a United Service was held at Aberlady Church. On each occasion, tributes were paid to Scott and presentations made. Scott has since written to us to express his deep appreciation of his time



here and of all that was done to mark the completion of his training. Currently, Scott is acting as locum minister at Kiltarlity and Kirkhill, west of Inverness. He has been invited to preach for the vacant charge of Brightons (near Falkirk) and will do so on Sunday 18 November 2018. If all goes well, then his Ordination and Induction is likely to occur in January 2019.

...and more cake!

~~~~~

### A Reading List

Over his recent months among us, Scott quite often talked about books he was reading and which he found particularly helpful. Here are some which he mentioned. All the books are available in Kindle, as well as print, editions

- Tim Keller - Prayer
- Power, Mulder and Griffin - Growing Young
- Brother Andrew - God's Smuggler
- Rowan Williams - Being Disciples
- Peter Scazzero - Emotionally Healthy Spirituality

and pictures:

- Eva's Call - Ripon College Cuddesdon
- The Hospitality of Abraham (or the Trinity) by Andrei Rublev

## Sunday Club

Since the summer the Sunday Club have been thinking about Bible stories Jesus told about children. The Church of Scotland has been promoting the 'Year of the Young Person' initiative and we wanted to do our bit. We learned about Jesus feeding the 5000, Jesus helping Jairus' daughter, Jesus in the Temple and most recently when Jesus said, 'let the little children come to me'. We have heard the stories, played games and completed crafts. We have had busy Sunday mornings in Sunday Club.

We enjoyed a Harvest Family Craft Afternoon on the 7th October. Lots of families came along (appropriately many straight from the Apple Day in the Village Hall) to join in with crafts, worship and refreshments all with an autumnal theme. Many thanks to everyone who helped with bird feeders, flowers, sun catchers, leaf and pinecone crafts and yummy food.

We are looking forward to the coming weeks when we will commemorate Remembrance, have a birthday party with The Guild and start thinking about our Nativity and Christmas. It's always a busy and exciting time and we would be delighted to see any families who might like to join us at this time of year when the weather is too cold for other Sunday morning activities.

Our creche is still available for under 3-year olds, every Sunday morning during the morning service. Staffed by our PVG'd volunteers we happily welcome the wee ones allowing the rest of the family to enjoy the service or Sunday Club.

For more information see the Church website or Facebook page.

[www.aberlady-gullaneparishchurches.org.uk](http://www.aberlady-gullaneparishchurches.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/AberladyAndGullaneChurchForChildren](https://www.facebook.com/AberladyAndGullaneChurchForChildren)

Rachel Wallace

## **CHOIRS**

**The Sunday Choirs** form the main focus of Church Choir input, and their contribution to both Church Services is widely appreciated. We meet on **Fridays at 5pm** in the Stables, Aberlady, and on **Sundays at 9am** in Gullane Church Centre.

Hymns and introits for Sunday Services are rehearsed and this is a special time for those of us involved as such, because we value the opportunity to prepare hearts and minds, as well as voices, for the worship ahead. It is a great privilege and pleasure for us to help lead worship in this way.

We are greatly blessed with wonderful support for our **Church Community Choirs - the Joint Choir and Children's Choirs**. Most weeks, a hundred people come to Gullane Church Centre to sing together.

The Joint Choir meets on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm, Primary 1 Choir on Tuesdays, 3-3.30pm and P2-7 Choir on Thursdays, 3.30-4.30pm.

The Joint Choir is preparing for the Lessons and Carols Service on 16th December at 6.30pm, this year in Aberlady Parish Church, and also for a Memorial Concert in Gullane Church for Jess Mackie, over the weekend of 11th/12th May, 2019, in support of Jess' Fund for the provision of Music Therapy at the Sick Children's Hospital, Edinburgh.



The Primary 1 Choir is a wonderfully sweet and enthusiastic group of beginner singers, showing much promise. A lively performance in song, craft and movement, about the life cycle of the butterfly, charmed all present on a

Tuesday afternoon in early October. Caterpillar snacks and butterfly cakes were a big hit too!

Primary 2-7 Choir is preparing music for the Joint Service on 4th November, Amazing Grace, as well as learning Christmas songs, and songs telling the story of Daniel's exciting adventures, for a musical production in March.

So many willing, loyal helpers, interested visitors, and supportive parents make this work such a joy and pleasure. Those who come along to sing each week and make the music happen are the stars.

All these rehearsals are in Gullane Church Centre.

If you love singing and would like to join in any of the Choir activities you will be most welcome.

Please contact Janet Anderson for information.



#### Harvest Appeals

Warm thanks to all who supported the 2018 Harvest Appeals, both with contributions to the Food Bank and via the Christian Aid envelopes



## ***The Guild***

“Whose we are and Whom we serve”

Gullane Guild started the new winter session with a delicious lunch at Craigiellaw on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Twenty five people were present and we all enjoyed the occasion.

On Monday 17 September, the Church elders and friends invited the Guild to a tea party. This was much appreciated and we all had a lovely time

Our first official meeting of the season, on the topic of *The Unexpected Journey*, was on 22 October and led by our minister, Brian Hilsley. As part of the programme we were tested on our knowledge of geography and also the streets and roads of our own village. We were surprised at how little we knew. It was a very good session and we learned a thing or two.

On Sunday 18 November there is a special celebration with tea and games in honour of the 130<sup>th</sup> year of the existence of the Guild association.

So, as usual, the Guild is in good heart, but always ready to welcome new members; our speakers are interesting and tea and cakes are always served,

Angeniet Black





## East Lothian Foodbank

Here's a look at what has been happening over the last few months at the Foodbank in East Lothian. Sadly, as I write this it's not quite the end of October, so I can't give you those numbers.

In July 178 3-day emergency food parcels were given out, that's 4,670kg of food. But only 2,247kg of food was donated to the Foodbank = empty shelves.

In August 220 3-day emergency food parcels were given out, that was 4,049kg of food. But only 2,951kg of food was donated = even emptier shelves, I have never seen such a shortage. So many families in particular, struggling having had school holidays and children to kit out for the new term.

September saw 153 3-day emergency food parcels delivered, that was 2,808kg of food. Thankfully in September Tesco hosted a collection at their East Lothian stores and 4,784kg of food was collected there. A total of 8,208kg of food was donated in September meaning the shelves in the Foodbank were at last filling up again.



Then throughout October there have been many Church Harvest collections which will have helped again to fill the shelves. Gullane Parish Church Harvest appeal donated 80.5kg. Many thanks to everyone. Our collection box is always in the foyer of the Church, please keep giving. In the meantime the Foodbank is supporting other initiatives. For example, it helps Freshstart provide starter packs for

homeless people. It provides 'Red Boxes' for local schools to help combat 'period poverty'.

For more information visit [www.eastlothian.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.eastlothian.foodbank.org.uk) or follow them on Facebook.

Rachel Wallace

## Aberlady News

### ***Stained Glass***

The Kirk Session has been pleased to accept a generous gift of a stained-glass cross and is consulting as to how best this can be displayed in the Church. Separately, Mr Ian Lees has also been commissioned by Scottish Churches Trust to photograph the existing stained-glass windows and to compile a catalogue of them. He has kindly given us his notes and a CD with all of his photographs. Mr Lees also photographed the round window on the west elevation at Gullane Church. A copy of his photo appears in the 2017/2018 Annual Report of SCT.



### Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) takes place annually on 27 January with a chosen theme for each year. For 2019 that theme is **Torn from Home**, prompting reflection on how the enforced loss of a safe place to call 'home' is part of the trauma faced by anyone experiencing persecution and genocide, what happens when individuals, families and communities are driven out of, or wrenched from, their homes, alongside the continuing difficulties survivors face as they try to find and build new homes when the genocide is over.

HMD 2019 will include marking the 25th anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda, reflecting on the impact on members of that community and the experiences before, during and after their persecution. As a means of escaping certain death, some found alternative places to call home in less than ideal conditions, whilst others have had to make the place they were confined to into a home.

After the genocide ended, many survivors did not have a recognisable home to return to. This theme also allows for consideration on how we can support those escaping persecution today and those who may be looking to make a new home in our own communities

# COMMUNITY LINKS

## Christmas Concerts

### Hadley Court Singers

Wednesday 5th December at 7.30pm  
Holy Trinity Church Haddington..  
Sunday 9th December at 7.30 pm  
St Baldred's Church North Berwick

Tickets £10



### Garleton Singers

Sunday 9th December 2018 at 6.30pm St Mary's Parish  
Church, Haddington

§ § § § § § §

## Gullane Flower Club

Thurs 6 Dec Christmas Supper and Demonstration  
by Val Guest  
at Craigiellaw, 6pm for 6.30pm

Thurs 7 Feb Members' Night and AGM

Thurs 7 March Kate Russell  
Out of the Attic; Quail Competition;  
'Teacup Arrangement'

Regular meetings are at the Mallard Hotel at 7.30pm

## **Gullane and Dirleton History Society**

Wednesdays – Gullane Village Hall

Thursdays – Dirleton Church Hall

- Thurs 6 Dec Dunbar Battery - Alasdair Swan  
Wed 9 Jan History and Story Telling – Tim Porteus  
Thurs 31 Jan Postwar rationing in East Lothian -  
James Herring  
Wed 20 Feb New light on Roman silver/Traprain treasure -  
Fraser Hunter



## **Whatton Lodge**

Over the summer months it is not unusual to bump into visitors to Whatton Lodge, many of whom are very much up for a chat. Mostly they have been coming for many years and love their stay here, with the only downside perhaps being the climb up Hill Road.

The house itself dates from around 1910. It was designed by the architect James B Dunn for the Edinburgh surgeon Sir Harold Stiles and built of Rattlebags stone. Following Sir Harold's death in 1946 his daughter, Mrs Rome, offered the house to mineworkers at a very reasonable price (reported to be £28,000). It was then run by CISWO (Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation) and used originally as a convalescent home for Lothian miners but, more recently, providing retired miners and their wives and widows with summer holiday accommodation, At the start deductions of 2d per week were made from the paypackets of 11,000 miners to pay for the running of the home, Notably the facility remained open during the 1984

miners' strike with support from coal industry funds and help from East Lothian Council.

At its height some 600 people a year came to Whatton Lodge from Midlothian, East Lothian and Edinburgh, looked after by eight members of staff. In recent years this has been nearer 200.

There have been ups and downs over the decades including a long 3-year fight to keep the home open with reprieve achieved in 1991 following an outcry from both the miners and the village with Dr David Whiteford prominent in the campaign. The struggle for survival continued into this century but the security of the facility was reaffirmed in 2004 with a new trust set up in 2006 to guarantee its future and bring a 15-year campaign to a close.

These days it is open for the summer months for stays of ten days with full board provided free of charge. With the closure of Lothian pits and later the withdrawal of funding by Midlothian Council, fundraising is now required to support the facility.

In 2012 an open week was held and in July 2014 Whatton Lodge celebrated 65 years of care.

Nowadays there are other diversifications: in 2009 the house provided the setting for the film *A very grim faerie tale*; in 2011 ground was made available for allotments and the first wedding was held there.



*It's a familiar story but it can't be repeated too often; we are always interested to hear of items and events to add to the variety that goes to make up the magazine. Please always keep it in mind .Ed*

## *Kishmul and other Heroes*

My name is Susan Law and I have volunteered with Muirfield Riding Therapy (formerly Muirfield Riding for the Disabled) for over 20 years. During this time I have been privileged to work with some amazing riders and very dedicated volunteers. But I would like to share with you this story about one of our ponies.

Kishmul came to West Fenton aged 5 from a breeder in Perthshire. And what a handsome Oatmeal Dun Highland he was when he came barging off the lorry!

I started at MRT not long after Kishmul arrived and it was love at first sight.....well, for me at least. I was already a committed Highland enthusiast, but Kish reminded me on a regular basis that Highlands, like many native breeds, can be stubborn and strong willed.

Yet the temperament he had proved ideal for our work; generally unfazed by wriggling, vocal children and accepting of the odd positions our therapists and riders can adopt. These solid beasts, with a leg at each corner, are very stoical. In addition, his short coupling, typical to the breed, gave him a strong back and he had the ideal conformation for back-riding. For those not familiar with back-riding, this is carried out only by physiotherapists with support from fully trained MRT volunteers and involves the therapist sitting on the pony with the child in front of her. This is used for children who have little or no head control. It is a fairly pressurised situation for the pony. The children who benefit from it are very vulnerable, so the equine used and the team around him develop a bond. It is very important that the physiotherapist can trust the pony so that she can focus all of her attention on the little person she is working with.

Over the years I worked with Kishmul in many situations: from the "over hill and down dale treks" that Gill (Morrison) would take our Riders on, where danger lay in every tempting blade of grass we came across; to outings to the Jack Kane Centre, giving pony rides on KIDS OUT days, with fire engines

screaming around us; to Musselburgh Racecourse where he was NOT last in his one furlong race.

We were a team, he and I. I think he recognised that I could be just as stubborn and strong-willed as him! But it was in his role as MRT's first back-riding pony that our best hours were spent together. His innate sense that he was carrying fragile cargo seemed to bring out the very best in this pony. In the calm atmosphere of a one to one rider situation we could simply work quietly together, anticipating and responding to the slightest movement that the physio made or instruction she gave.

Admittedly, I don't think there are many of our long-term volunteers that Kishmul has not carted to grass, or avoided when catching, or showed his displeasure to when saddling! He was no pushover and taught many of us that equines deserve respect, especially equines who work as therapy ponies. They have a rider, of course, and a leader giving them conflicting signals. Their body space is crowded, which can be stressful for a flight animal.

Many have come and gone, breaking our hearts as they go, but those who stay have a tough job. They are handled by many different people with different views on handling horses. What other way can they tell us when they are being girthed too tightly or bitted too harshly than with swishing tail or flattened ears? Thankfully, MRT Volunteers now-a-days are all trained in a mindful way of horse handling, but older ponies have long memories of past unpleasant experiences.

And so, in his later years, Kishmul did not suffer fools (as he saw us!) gladly. He trusted few and scared many. But if he trusted you, the effort to gain his trust was repaid a hundred-fold.

Thanks to those who saw through his grumpiness and appreciated the amazing pony who worked for MRT for 20 odd years, giving hundreds of children and adults the chance to benefit from riding therapy – an achievement recognized by Princess Anne, who awarded him with a long service medal during her second visit to MRT.

Thanks to those who cared for and supported Kishmul in retirement, through Friends of Retired MRT Ponies. And thanks to everyone at MRT who has handled Kishmul over all the years. We have learnt from him, a more mindful way of handling all of our wonderful therapy ponies. Hopefully we will continue to pass down the valuable lessons about how we work with our ponies, treating them with respect and working in partnership to help them to do a difficult job.

This old warrior has now left us aged 29, after a great 18 months living naturally, just being a horse. He lived in a massive field with three other 16.2 retirees who dwarfed him. But he was, predictably, both the boss of his herd and his own man to the end.

I will miss him but know that he led a good useful life, enjoyed a wonderful retirement and died a peaceful death.

If you would like to find out more about the work of MRT please email me - [services@muirfieldridingtherapy.org.uk](mailto:services@muirfieldridingtherapy.org.uk).



# **CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER**

## **Baptisms**

26 August 2018      Alexander Fulton-Peebles   Aberlady  
                                 Arthur Fulton-Peebles   Aberlady

16 September 2018      Angus Bowen   Aberlady

## **Marriages**

4 August 2018      Sophie Gardner and David O'Connell  
                                 Aberlady

18 August 2018      Eliza Findlay and Hugo Watts   Aberlady

25 August 2018      Gaelle Stocker and Angus Kennedy  
                                 Aberlady

22 September 2018      Lucy Black and Andrew Light Aberlady

## **Deaths of members**

30 July 2018      Jimmy Douglas      Aberlady

14 August 2018      Grace Shaw      Gullane

23 September 2018      John McCollam      Gullane



**~~ Directory ~~**

|                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Minister</b>               | <b>Rev Brian Hillsley</b> |
| <b>Session Clerk</b>          | <b>Keith Anderson</b>     |
| <b>Treasurer</b>              | <b>Joe McGrane</b>        |
| <b>Gift Aid</b>               | <b>Morag Black</b>        |
| <b>Free Will Offering</b>     | <b>Carol Murray</b>       |
| <b>Beadle</b>                 | <i>currently vacant</i>   |
| <b>Roll Keeper</b>            | <b>Ken Wright</b>         |
| <b>Sunday Club</b>            | <b>Rachel Wallace</b>     |
| <b>MAC group</b>              | <b>Church Office</b>      |
| <b>Cradle Roll</b>            | <b>Elsbeth Walker</b>     |
| <b>Safeguarding</b>           | <b>Win Wright</b>         |
| <b>The Guild</b>              | <b>Church Office</b>      |
| <b>Presbytery Elder</b>       | <b>Janice White</b>       |
| <b>Christian Aid</b>          | <b>Rachel Wallace</b>     |
| <b>Flower Convener</b>        | <b>Anne Dobie</b>         |
| <b>Choirs</b>                 | <b>Janet Anderson</b>     |
| <b>Life and Work</b>          | <b>Tom Walker</b>         |
| <b>Church Centre Bookings</b> | <b>John Holm</b>          |
| <b>Secretary</b>              | <b>Zena Shand</b>         |
| <b>Newsletter</b>             | <b>Anne McCarthy</b>      |

**[www.aberlady-gullaneparishchurches.org.uk](http://www.aberlady-gullaneparishchurches.org.uk)**

Registered Charity No: SC005237