

Kaleidoscope 156

St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church Magazine

Spring 2023 March April May



A Message from Neil

There was once a wealthy, widowed art collector. He was delighted when his only son came to share his passion. Together they built a wonderful collection. Soon priceless works by Picasso, Van Gogh and Monet adorned the walls of their mansion.

When war broke out, the son left to serve his country. Tragically he was killed while helping an injured comrade. Distraught and lonely, his father faced the upcoming Easter holidays with anguish and sadness.

On Easter morning an unexpected knock startled the depressed man. At the door stood a soldier holding a package. "I was a friend of your son," he said. "I was the one he was rescuing when he died. I have something to show you."

As the two began to talk, the soldier explained that he was an amateur artist and offered the father the package. Unwrapping it, the old man found a portrait of his son. Although clearly not a masterpiece, the painting had captured the young man's face in striking detail. Overcome with emotion, the man thanked the soldier, and immediately hung the portrait in a prominent position. He spent that Easter gazing at the gift he had been given. This painting became his most prized possession. He told every visitor none of his masterpieces could match it.

During the next few months he discovered his son had helped rescue dozens of soldiers. Gradually he realized that, though his son was no longer with him, he would live on because of those he had saved.

The following spring, the old man became ill and died.

The art world was buzzing with anticipation. With the collector's death, and no living children, his fabled collection would be sold at auction. They learnt he had specified the auction would be held on Easter Day, the day he'd received his greatest gift.

Art collectors gathered to bid on some of the world's most spectacular paintings. Anticipation filled the room. To everyone's surprise it began with a painting not on anyone's wish list - the painting of the man's son. When the auctioneer asked for an opening bid the room remained silent.

Minutes passed. No one spoke. At the back of the room someone shouted, "Who cares about that painting? It's just a picture of his son!"

"Let's forget it and go on to the good stuff," echoed another.

"No, the will says we must sell this one first," replied the auctioneer. "Now, who will take the son?"

Finally, a friend of the old man spoke. "Will you take £10 for the painting? That's all I have. I knew the boy, so I'd like to have it."

"I have £10. Will anyone go higher?" called the auctioneer. After more silence, the auctioneer declared, "Going once, going twice. Gone." The gavel fell. Cheers filled the room and someone exclaimed, "Now we can get on with the real stuff!"

The auctioneer looked up and declared "The auction is concluded."

Stunned disbelief filled the room. Someone protested, "What do you mean? We didn't come for a picture of some old guy's son. What about all the masterpieces? There are millions of pounds of art here! What's going on?"

The auctioneer replied, "It's very simple. According to the will of the Father, whoever takes the Son gets it all!" *

Scripture says: *Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. (1 John 5:12)*

Prayer

Father we praise you
for your miracle of love
by which you used the death of Jesus on the cross
to set us free.

The place of defeat
has become the place of victory;
in the humiliation of one man
we are confronted by your glory;
where eternal life was lost
we find eternal life.

AMEN

(Alan Gaunt)

* Story by **Bill Cromie**

St Andrew Blackadder Church of Scotland North Berwick
Scottish Charity SC0006421

The Guild

We are a group of women and men who meet in the Chapel for fellowship, to hear invited speakers, and to raise money for the Church of Scotland Guild's charity projects. These are currently Starchild Uganda, which supports disabled young people; and BEAT, the UK eating disorders charity. Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings on an occasional or regular basis.

In recent months, we hosted Empathy International, which combats child trafficking in Laos. Janice Macleod visited to give an entertaining account of her nursing career. Alastair MacNeill and Martin Wilson celebrated "Places we love: Photos and Music around Scotland". We also met in Abbey Church to hear an inspirational speaker who described her recovery from an eating disorder. Our Minister will speak about the Guild's theme "Wee Seeds, Big Trees" on 28 February.

Please come and join us at the meetings listed below – especially our fund-raising **Easter Coffee Morning on Saturday 1 April**. I would also like to encourage you to join with other East Lothian Guilds for the Daffodil Tea and for Songs of Praise.

Note: The Joint Meeting with Abbey for Starchild Uganda, scheduled for Tuesday 7 March, has been postponed because our speaker will be in Uganda. This Joint Meeting will now take place on Tuesday 19 September.



2023 PROGRAMME

Tuesday 28 February 2.30pm: Rev Dr Neil Dougall: “Wee Seeds, Big Trees”.

Friday 3 March 3.00pm: World Day of Prayer at Our Lady Star of the Sea.

Tuesday 7 March 2.30pm: Ann Cubitt’s Faith Journey.

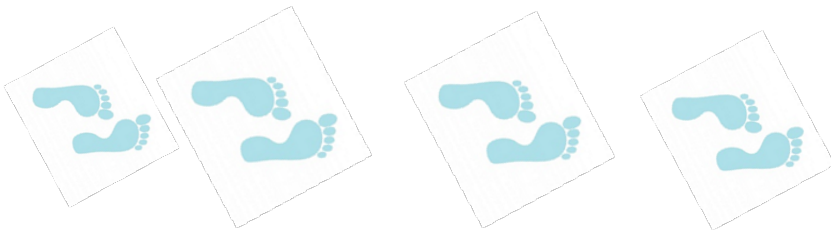
Tuesday 21 March 2.00pm: Guild AGM with North Berwick Sings.

Wednesday 22 March 2.00pm: Lothian East Guilds Together Daffodil Tea in Pencaitland Parish Church, Pencaitland EH34 5DL. Limited places; booking needed.

Saturday 1 April 10.00am-12.00 noon: Easter Coffee Morning in the Chapel and High Street Vestibule. Come and enjoy tea, coffee and home baking, and support our Projects, Blether with BEAT and Starchild Uganda.

Wednesday 7 June 2.00pm: Lothian East Guilds Together Songs of Praise in Belhaven Parish Church, Belhaven Road, Dunbar EH42 1NH.

Jean McAulay



Junior Church

So far this year we have been learning about following Jesus in Junior Church by looking more closely at the way Peter, Andrew, Matthew, James and John followed Jesus.

You are very welcome to take a look at our Junior Church board down in the Chapel to see what we have been learning together.

Or you could just ask us, or one of the leaders. We might even show you which picture is ours!

OVERSEAS NEWS

Journey of an Ifè Bible Translator

Yèésù ní òṅṅu ní dzé olí-mímá á Yòhánà 8:12

I first met Komi Sena in 2004. I was one of eight Wycliffe supporters, led by Hamish Ralston, on a visit to a translation project in Ghana. While we were there Hamish planned a thirty-six hour trip into neighbouring French speaking Togo to meet Mary Gardner, a Scottish member of Wycliffe working on translating the New Testament for the Ifè people. Komi was one of three local men who were helping her and her colleague Pat with the translation. Komi had grown up in a family holding traditional animistic beliefs but while at university he became a Christian. On finishing his studies and looking for a job, a friend told him that the Ifè project was looking for translators and that “he would be good at it.”

And so his journey began. Mary recognised his potential and trained and mentored him, and as he worked on the translations his faith grew.

Fast forward to 2009, and the New Testament was completed and eagerly received by the local churches. During the translation process a huge effort had been made to hold reading classes in many villages, so that people would be able to read in their mother tongue.

Then, tragically, while in Jerusalem studying Hebrew in preparation for translating the Old Testament, Mary was killed by a bomb at a bus stop.

Komi and the team were devastated and wondered how they could carry on, but now in 2023 the Old Testament is two-thirds completed and the New Testament has had to be reprinted.

After Mary died, Komi completed his training at University, including six months in Jerusalem studying the Hebrew course Mary had been doing. He is now a Translation Consultant coordinating translation work across Togo and Benin.

Komi says “Translating the Bible is so important because many people do not understand French so they are not able to read and understand the Scriptures. And it does change their lives when they understand it. It also enables non-believers to hear the good news in their language.”

St Andrew Blackadder has supported Komi and the Ifè Project five times over the Gift Day years, and they are extremely grateful. Let us not forget to pray for Komi, the translation teams and the Ifè people.

Jenny Kellock

Africa Greater Life Mission UK

Many of you will remember that I have made four trips to Uganda with this charity, which supports children and young adults through primary, secondary and further education or vocational training into adulthood. Our last trip was in February 2020. You have given a huge amount of support over the years, thank you. Last month we should have made a return visit, but very sadly it had to be cancelled due to the Ebola outbreak. Hopefully we will manage it in January, 2024!

Meanwhile, however, the support continues. Obviously, education was severely disrupted during Covid, but all the young people we look after are back to school or college and are doing well. We have invaluable help from three amazing Ugandans, Barry, Joseline and Harriet, who take care of the welfare of all our young people. If you are interested, AGLMUK have a very interesting website: www.aglmuk.org

Sarah Barlow

The Bishop's Visit

A bishop was visiting a small church in his diocese for Easter. He wanted the young people to understand what he had to say about the Good Shepherd, so he dressed up in his bishop's long, flowing robes and carried his crook. "Now," beamed the bishop, "do you know who I am?"

After a moment's silence, one child ventured "Little Bo Peep?"

St Andrew Blackadder Church of Scotland North Berwick
Scottish Charity SC0006421

Sundays at St Andrew Blackadder

Morning Worship 9.30am – 10.10am

This is a traditional and reflective service. It was created to meet the needs of those who find the bustle and background noise of the all-age worship a trial rather than a delight. Tea and coffee are available afterwards.

Worship for all ages 10.30am – 11.40am

This is our main service including Christian teaching for both adults and children. All meet at the beginning then the children go off to Junior Church. There is a crèche available from 10.30 for babies and toddlers. There is a multimedia presentation and CH4 songs.

Sunday Activities

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT
Every Sunday	An opportunity to pray about anything with members of the Prayer Team	Church at Pulpit	Badged Team Members
Every Sunday	Junior Church Ages 3 to 12 Faith with fun	Chapel	Stacy Cathcart
Every Sunday	YF Ages 13 to 18	Room 2	Paul Cathcart and Mary Leckie

Regular Activities

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT
Mondays 7.30 to 10.00pm	Table Tennis Club	Hall	northberwicktt@gmail.com
Tuesdays 1.30 to 2.30pm	Seniors' Table Tennis Club	Hall	Patricia Hay
Tuesdays 9.30 to 11.30am	Little Angels Kids gather for fun while their carers enjoy a cup of tea or coffee & a chat	Chapel	Geraldine Woolley
Thursdays 11.00 — 1.00pm (soup from 11.30am)	THE BEACON Come and enjoy a bowl of soup, home baking, a chat and good company	Hall	Elaine Martin
Thursdays 1.00—1.30pm	THE BEACON SERVICE This short service is relaxed and intimate	Chapel	Ann Cubitt
Tuesdays 2.30 — 3.50pm (dates on page 5)	The Guild We have a speaker and enjoy worship, fellowship and coffee.	Chapel and Front Vestibule	Ann Cubitt
2nd Sunday of the month 12pm	Hunger Lunch	Hall	Jane Murdoch

Special Events During March, April & May 2023

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
Sunday 5th March, 2nd April & 7th May 4-6pm	Messy Church	Hall & Sanctuary
Friday 3rd March 3pm	World Day of Prayer	Our Lady Star of the Sea
Saturday 4th March 10am-2pm	East Lothian Food & Drink and Makers Market	Hall & Chapel
March 10th, 24th & 31st April and May dates to be announced	Youth Night	Hall
Tuesday 28th Feb, 7th & 21st March 2.30pm	Guild	Chapel
Wednesday 22nd March 2pm	Daffodil Tea	Pencaitland Parish Church
Wednesday 29th March 7pm	Welcome Evening Are you new to St Andrew Blackadder– come along and find out more about our church	Room 1
Fri 28th & Sat 29th March 7-8pm	NB Gospel Choir Concerts	Sanctuary
Sat 1st April 10am-12 noon	Easter Coffee Morning for Guild Projects	Chapel & High Street Vestibule
Mon 3rd April Tue 4th April Wed 5th April Thurs 6th April Fri 7th April	<u>Holy Week Services</u> St Aidans Gullane, 7.30pm Aberlady Church, 7.30pm Our Lady Star of the Sea, 7.30pm Abbey Church, 7.30pm St Andrew Blackadder, 7.30pm	

Saturday 29th April	Marie Curie Coffee Morning	Hall
Sunday 14th May Noon	Annual Stated Meeting	Sanctuary
Thurs 25th-Sat 27th May	Rotary Sale	Hall

St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church

St Andrew Street, North Berwick, EH39 4NU

Minister

Rev. Dr. Neil Dougall

Email: ndougall@churchofscotland.org.uk

Church Office Administrator, and Roll Keeper

Julie Scanlon Tel. 01620 895233

Email: admin@standrewblackadder.org.uk

Office open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 12 noon.

Church Web Administrator

Ewan Bell Tel: 01620 861296

Email: webmaster@standrewblackadder.org.uk

Website: www.standrewblackadder.org.uk

Messy Church

Alison Singleton

Email: messychurch@standrewblackadder.org.uk

Communion Services

St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church usually celebrates Communion as follows:

The last Sunday of February, May, August, and November, at 9.30am and 10.30am. Beacon Communion Service is on a Thursday near to the Sunday.

Tuesday 15th MAY is the Summer Edition DEADLINE.

Please send articles for consideration
by email to: kaleidoscope@standrewblackadder.org.uk

Or write to the Editor at the church office address
or phone Kirstin Entwistle tel.: 01620 894933

From the Harvest Store.....

It's that time of year again when a few of us take our annual pilgrimage to Skegness, to join with several thousand others in worshipping Jesus and learning more about His Word, as well as having a lot of fun together. But does it really make a difference?

Here are just a few comments some of us made recently, almost a year on:

"Spring Harvest gives me time to breathe away from the distraction and rhythm of our usual routine... to immerse myself in God's word, worship with thousands of others and connect with (a part of) our church family. Last year I experienced a sense of God refilling my cup for the year ahead."

"It was really good to make a friend who is a Christian who I could text through the year."

"The music was great because we learnt a lot of songs we don't normally sing at church."

*"In the early mornings we learned about how the church is **God's International Fixit Team** – literally God's **GIFT** to a broken and hurting world. Keeping this in mind, I have been much bolder this past year in praying for friends and colleagues and sharing my faith with more confidence."*

"I always enjoy the opportunity to take time out to relax, reflect, reconnect and be encouraged. It reminds me we are part of a worldwide family."

"I loved the worship at Spring Harvest, it always makes me feel so uplifted and emotional. It's an amazing experience to sing along with so many people and praise the Lord together."

And of course.....

"I liked the food and the slides."

So this year instead of the usual

"How was Spring Harvest?" – "Great!" conversation, perhaps each of us, whether we head to Skegness or not, can share at a deeper level what God has been teaching us this Easter, and what that might mean for the year ahead.

L Lawrie

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