

# Kaleidoscope 157

St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church Magazine

Summer 2023 June, July, August



## A Message from Neil

General Charles Gordon (1833-1885) was a brilliant soldier, an inspirational leader and a committed follower of Jesus. He successfully organised the defence of Khartoum in Sudan and died just two days before help arrived. He lived by the highest standards and was never interested in lining his own pockets. A special gold medal was made to honour him. It recorded the various battles he'd been in. He considered it his most prized possession.

When General Gordon died there was no sign of the medal. Friends were dismayed, fearing it had been stolen. It was only when they read his diary that the truth emerged. Some years earlier he'd heard of people in Manchester who had barely enough money to feed their children. So, he had the engraving removed from his medal and sent it (anonymously) to feed the hungry. In his diary he wrote, 'The last earthly thing I valued I have given to the Lord Jesus Christ today.'

In one of his parables Jesus talked about this. He said, 'I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.' Puzzled, the righteous asked, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you something to eat?' To which Jesus replied, 'Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me.' (Matthew 25:34-40).

Gift Day is an opportunity for us to share some of what God has given us. It is an opportunity to feed the hungry, provide care for the sick, care for creation, enhance the local community and spread the Word of Life. When we do these things and make the lives of others better, Jesus says, 'You are doing it for me.' Gift Day will be on Sunday 25 June. The enclosed leaflet gives details of the different projects being supported. Please read it and consider what you might be able to give.

St Andrew Blackadder Church of Scotland North Berwick  
Scottish Charity SC0006421

## **Prayer**

Generous God,

thank you for all the good things I enjoy.

Forgive me for being sucked into a spirit of complaint  
that makes me focus on what I lack.

Help me each day to count my blessings.

As I do, prompt me to be generous.

Create in me a spirit that shares rather than hoards,  
which thanks rather than moans  
and celebrates rather than complains;

For the sake of Jesus Christ  
who gave everything for me. AMEN.

**Neil**

## **Joining a Welcome Team**

The Welcome Teams play an important part in our Sunday services, welcoming members and visitors into church, handing out notices and generally helping things run smoothly and safely. There are eight teams working on a rota, so teams are only on duty about 6 times a year. At the moment there are a couple of teams that are looking for new members. If you are new to Church it is a great way to get to know everyone. Or perhaps you have been around a while, but have never thought about joining a team? If this is something you think you could help with, you can email me via the Church Office, or why not give me a phone on 893150 and I will be happy to tell you more about what is involved.

Thanks,

**Stuart Duncan, Welcome Teams Coordinator**

## Spring Harvest 2023

What a wonderful time we had at Spring Harvest! This year 36 of us went from St Andrew Blackadder Church – all ages ranging from kids in primary school to people in retirement – and there was something for all of us to learn and be blessed by. The theme was **Flipped: Life in the Upside-down Kingdom**, and the teaching was on The Beatitudes in the Gospel of Matthew. We were challenged to live in God's kingdom – “A place where justice matters, where the weak are given strength, where the poor are enriched, where the forgotten are remembered, and the unnoticed are seen.” A kingdom that is rooted in grace, mercy, and forgiveness.

Daily Bible teaching was led by Malcolm Duncan.

**Stacy Cathcart**



## **“A Patchwork of Stories” by Judy Dinnen**

My sister, Judy Dinnen, is a Church of England vicar and a published poet and has recently had a book published which is being sold in aid of a hospice.

Set in the context of the work and experience of a hospital chaplain, this book offers a variety of different ways of looking at the issues and joys of working in this field. The book is full of stories and poems about people she has met over many years as a chaplain, and gives little glimpses into the lives of patients as a healing, focused means of exploring the world.

As Judy says, “I hope these prayers, poems and stories will engage with the reader and offer insight and healing. The role of both chaplain and poet involves listening deeply, noting both expression and body language. Both roles have a spiritual dimension, opening up to life’s meaning, the questions and pain of the patient.”

Referring to her hospital placement, Judy says, “I witnessed pain and anguish. I also found a place, where watching alongside patients was deeply appreciated, and somehow there seemed to be a joy there; if joy can be taken as an embracing of a new depth of truth and love.” Judy reflects too on how prayer is used and on the spirituality of those with no faith.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the book, please contact me on 01620 893620 or [helen@mikemillar.co.uk](mailto:helen@mikemillar.co.uk) or order from PoetrySpace.co.uk. I hope to bring copies of the book to church on Sunday 11th June. Copies are available for £10 and all proceeds go to the St Michael’s Hospice in Hereford, which is Judy’s local hospice.

**Helen Millar**

**\* (Please see back page for a photo of the book)**

## **We Are All Connected**

### ***Painting by Ukrainian artist Tetiana Hurn.***

Blue and yellow national colours and the iconic sunflower symbol are brought together in this painting. A female figure represents the women of Ukraine. Holding the sunflower to the ear is an imaginary means of communication and connecting people.

Wearing a national hand-embroidery dress in blue and white also references the Scottish Saltire and is in recognition of the artist's new adopted home.

Gazing out with an expression of hope, the message communicated and received by the symbolic figure is one of welcome and safety for Ukrainians in Scotland.

"We Are All Connected" artwork was created as a result of collaboration with pARTicipate arts group and North Berwick Environment and Heritage Trust.

In July 2022 Tetiana's artwork was installed in the art space of the old telephone booth at the former Post Office in the High Street, North Berwick.

In October 2022, she donated the main wood-panel painting to St. Andrew Blackadder Church for a temporary display. This initiative was kindly welcomed and accepted.

Tetiana and her 8-year-old son Nikolai came to Scotland in springtime 2022, arising from the war that started in Ukraine. Tetiana was already an acclaimed artist in Murals, Portraits and Icons.

They received a very warm welcome from Scottish people and were kindly hosted by a local family in North Berwick for their first 6 months.

On the first Sunday in North Berwick, Tetiana was introduced to St Andrew Blackadder Church. Since then, the compassionate church community has become a part of her safe space to go and heal from her traumatic hard times.

She and her son Nikolai regularly attended Sunday-worship and connected with local people. Her active social life has resulted in "giving back" and contributing to the local community through the media that she works with – Art.

Tetiana and Nikolai were relocated to Musselburgh in November and quickly settled down on their own with the continuing support of ELC government and the local community. North Berwick, being the first introduction to the family, has made a great impact on their life and will be remembered with much love and gratitude.....**We Are All Connected .**

**Rex Homer**



We are all connected



## St Andrew Sustainability Initiative: Guiding Principles

Now that our Sustainability initiative is underway, it's worth considering the broader principles that should undergird our work and actions. Here are some suggestions:

1. Focus. Sustainability is a huge topic, including for example:
  - a. climate change;
  - b. responsible waste management;
  - c. adequacy of food and water;
  - d. protection of biodiversity;
  - e. physical and mental wellbeing.

This makes it very easy to become scattered in our actions. The only solution is laser-like focus. We should aim to do a few things really well.

2. Don't panic. We are truly standing on a burning platform. This will tempt us to rush into doing things willy-nilly! Panic is not the answer. It is the opposite of focus. It also risks actions being poorly thought out, or ineffective. We should carefully control and channel the growing head of steam for change.
3. Get people involved. There are already important 'voices in the wilderness' urging change. Such change leaders are often marginalised and portrayed as misguided alarmists or nuts. The lobby for status quo is deep and powerful. However, large, organised groups of principled, ordinary folk can drive enormous change. Getting people involved is therefore key.
4. Encourage change; Don't demonise. Some effective actions may be self-evident to many. However, we should seek to inform and support change, not make people feel guilty. Not everyone will immediately do everything they ideally could, but encouraging incremental change beats driving a divisive revolution.
5. Avoid rigid structures. New movements often seek to impose formal structure on the process from the word go. This is generally a mistake. Our main thrusts, and their effectiveness, are not yet clear. We may also include others from outside St Andrew Blackadder. We would do better delaying any formal structure just now.



6. Avoid overly simplistic solutions. People often do mind experiments, and push solutions that are confident but not well grounded on actual data – e.g. if everyone would just get a bicycle ....! Making our planet more sustainable is going to require many real life changes, some more effective than others. We need to try many things, and emphasise what actually works.
7. Stick to our principles. The above is not a complete list, and you may have ideas for others. The important point is that we should constantly check our actions against such organising principles. We should also not forget that God is a very present help in our times of trouble, and we should regularly seek his help, support and guidance in our prayers.

**Robert Galbraith**

### **Find and replace?**

A minister whom I know of uses a standard liturgy for funerals. To personalise each service, he enters a 'find and replace' command. The computer then finds the name of the deceased from the previous funeral and replaces it with the name of the deceased for the upcoming one.

Not long ago, the minister told the computer to find the name 'Mary' and replace it with 'Edna'. The next morning, the funeral was going smoothly until the congregation intoned the Apostles' Creed. "Jesus Christ," they read from the pre-printed programme, "born of the Virgin Edna...'

## The Guild

Another successful Guild year finished at the end of March with wonderful entertainment from North Berwick Sings, followed by the AGM when the allocation of the monies raised over the year was decided.

The Easter Coffee Morning on 1st April in the Hall was well attended and raised the excellent sum of £580 to be divided between Blether with BEAT and Starchild Uganda, the two projects we are supporting this year. Thank you to everyone who manned stalls, waited on tables, washed dishes, set out tables and chairs and then put them all away again, and all the other jobs that needed doing. But a special thank you to all who came along and supported us and gave so generously – we hope you also enjoyed the chat, the coffee, and the baking. With the money from the coffee morning and money raised during the year, we are now able to donate £1000 to each of the two projects, which is a fantastic result! With other smaller donations made to various charities, the church and the work of the Guild, we have raised, and given away, over £2500 this session, which is a fine achievement for our Guild.

The new committee, elected at the AGM, has met and is busy putting together a programme of speakers and events for the next Guild year. We hope you will join us on Tuesday afternoons in the Chapel at 2pm for fun, friendship and fellowship. Look out for the new programme in September.

**Note:** In the March-May issue, we regrettably omitted the names of two of the 4S Stravaig Group, who entertained us on 14th February. The description should have read: 'The 4S Stravaig Group, with Alastair, Jane and Fiona MacNeill and Martin Wilson, celebrated "Places we love: Photos and Music around Scotland" giving us a suitably romantic entertainment on Valentine's Day.'

## **Ann Braid**

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**

<b>WHEN</b>	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>WHERE</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
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  11.00am to 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 to 1.30pm	THE BEACON SERVICE This short service is relaxed and intimate	Chapel	Ann Cubitt
Tuesdays (from September)  2.00 to 3.20pm	The Guild We have a speaker and enjoy worship, fellowship and coffee.	Chapel and Front Vestibule	Ann Braid
Tuesdays (term time)  3.30 to 6pm	Warhammer Club	<b>Room 1</b>	Andrew Duncan
2nd Sunday of the month  12pm	<b>Hunger Lunch</b>	Hall	Jane Murdoch

## Special Events in June, July and August 2023

<b>WHEN</b>	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>WHERE</b>
Sat 3 - Sun 4 June	Church Weekend Away	Scoughall
Wednesday 7 June 2pm	Lothian East Guilds Together Songs of Praise	Belhaven Parish Church Belhaven Road
Friday 9 & 23 June 9-11am	Parent Space	Chapel, Front Vestibule & Creche
Saturday 10 June 10am-2pm	East Lothian Food & Drink and Makers Market	Hall & Chapel
Friday 16 & 30 June 7-9pm	Youth Night	Hall
Saturday 17 June 10am –12pm	Christian Aid Coffee Morning	Hall
Fri 21 & Sat 22 July 10am- 4pm	Art Show Ali Blevins & Bernie Petrie	Chapel & Front Vestibule
Mon 24 - Fri 28 July	Holiday Club week See website and noticeboards for details	Various Locations
Saturday 5 August 10am-2pm	East Lothian Food & Drink and Makers Market	Hall & Chapel
Wed 9 - Sat 12 August 10am-4pm	Young Carers Art Show	Chapel
Saturday 12 August 10am-2pm	East Lothian Food & Drink and Makers Market	Hall



## **St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church**

St Andrew Street, North Berwick, EH39 4NU

### **Minister**

Rev. Dr. Neil Dougall

Email: [ndougall@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:ndougall@churchofscotland.org.uk)

### **Church Office Administrator, and Roll Keeper**

Julie Scanlon

Tel. 01620 895233

Email: [admin@standrewblackadder.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:webmaster@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.

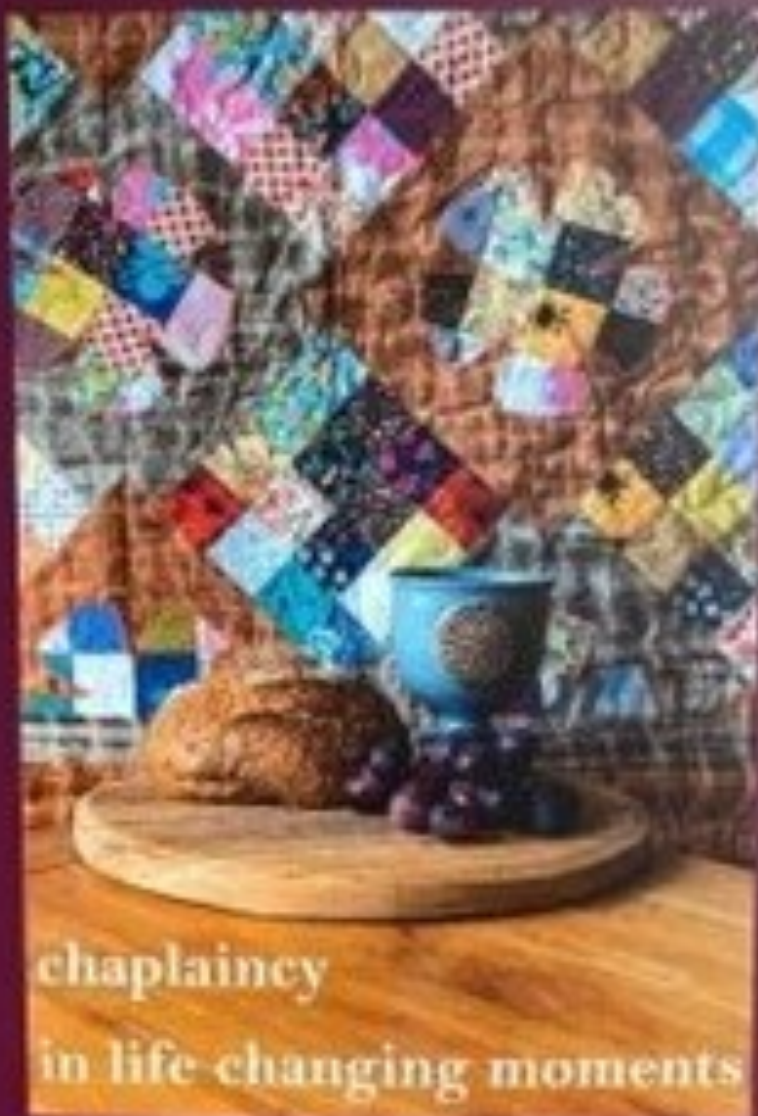
Beacon Communion Service is on a Thursday near to the Sunday.

### **\*\*Monday 14th AUGUST is the Autumn Edition Deadline\*\***

Please send articles for consideration by  
email to: [kaleidoscope@standrewblackadder.org.uk](mailto:kaleidoscope@standrewblackadder.org.uk)

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

# A PATCHWORK OF STORIES



chaplaincy

in life changing moments

JUDY DINNEN