

Kaleidoscope 169

St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church Magazine

Summer 2026 June, July, August



A Message from Neil

The end is the beginning.

Jesus, in the last chapter of the Bible declares, *“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End”* (Revelation 22:13). He tells us that endings and beginnings are two sides of the one coin. And he’s got both sides covered. Think for example of midnight on December 31. Is it the end of one year or the beginning of a new one? It’s not either/or, it’s both/and.

In one of his poems, T S Eliot put it this way.

“To make an end is to make a beginning.

The end is where we start from.”

I have come to an end of my time as minister of St Andrew Blackadder Church. It has been such a privilege to have been entrusted with this responsibility. It has been more fulfilling, life-giving, and fruitful than I could ever have imagined. I am so grateful to God for giving me this opportunity and to you for the way you have worked with me, supported and encouraged me. Thank you.

Part of me is very sad that the time has come for me to hand on the baton of leadership. Helen and I are even more sad that we will no longer be part of St Andrew Blackadder. Yet at the same time, another part of me is excited. As midnight on Hogmanay signals both the end of one year and the start of a new one, a new chapter is beginning. God has plans both for St Andrew Blackadder and for me.

The gospel of Jesus Christ is the good news North Berwick desperately needs in 2026. God is working in this town. God wants St Andrew Blackadder to join in with what he is doing. God will provide a minister to help the congregation and Kirk Session work out what that looks like in practice. That person will bring their gifts and perspectives, their experience and energy. As this process unfolds I will be cheering from a distance and praying for you.

Neil

Prayer

Lord Jesus,

thank you that you have both endings and beginnings covered.

Give me peace and hope as I face endings.

Give me courage and wisdom as I face beginnings.

And help me with the long-middle -

the time between an ending and a beginning.

In all the seasons of life

keep me walking in step with your Holy Spirit

trusting and serving you. AMEN.

Edinburgh Fringe at Duncan Street Baptist Church

This August, Duncan Street Baptist Church will once again be taking part in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival by hosting two productions from the Millar College of the Bible Drama Team from Canada.

These performances combine drama, storytelling and Christian faith, and are part of the church's outreach during the Fringe season.

Martin Luther: Not For Sale

Wednesday 12th – Friday 14th August at 7.00pm

Saturday 15th August at 2.30pm

A dramatic presentation exploring the life and convictions of Martin Luther and the impact of the Reformation.

Into the Light: True Story of Survival and Faith

Tuesday 18th – Friday 21st August at 7.00pm

A powerful true story of survival, hope and faith.

All performances will take place at Duncan Street Baptist Church, 13 Duncan Street, Edinburgh EH9 1SR.

Tickets and further information are available on the Edinburgh Fringe website, <https://www.edfringe.com>, by searching for: *Martin Luther: Not For Sale* or: *Into the Light: True Story of Survival and Faith*.

Please remember this outreach in your prayers as the church seeks to share the Gospel during the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Church Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary are funded by donation.

Joan and I are very grateful to members of the congregation and the Guild who support us in this.

We are changing the previous arrangement. Instead of us contacting you, we now ask that you contact us if you wish to remember a special event, such as a birthday, anniversary, loss of a dear one or to arrange your own flowers in a vase if preferred.

Please contact Joan or myself using the phone numbers below. The donation would be to cover the cost of the flowers and oasis (if used).

Please note: we are not responsible for funeral or wedding flowers.

If flowers are required for the main church arrangement in the sanctuary for a funeral, it is recommended that these are coordinated with the coffin flowers through a florist.

With thanks,
Caryl Campbell

Contact details:

Caryl Campbell – 07999 514 528.

Joan Mackenzie – 07711 123 926.

Exciting news from the Ifè Bible translators, Togo

Over the last 20 years we have regularly supported the Translation team as they have worked to help the Ifè people read the Bible in their own language. From supporting Komi Sena through university on his journey to becoming a translation consultant, to the setting up of literacy classes in many villages and the printing of the completed New Testament in 2009. The team have faced many challenges since then, but now the Old Testament is almost at the final checking stage with a dedication planned for 2027.

Over the last six months...

115 individually printed copies of books of the Old Testament have been shared in the community, 85 women and 35 men have signed up for literacy classes, 41 new audio Bible study groups started, and two radio stations regularly broadcasting Bible teaching.

Akakpo, the literacy programme leader says...

“Today I can not only read and write – and take a test in Ifè and do it brilliantly – I can also now read the word of God in my mother tongue and understand it better.” Understanding God’s word has changed his life. “I always return to reading the New Testament in Ifè and after doing so the difficulties of comprehension disappear. I have more peace...I am closer to the Lord than ever before”

We can pray for the final checks of Isaiah and general review of the Bible, for the health and safety of the team and their families, and that lives will be changed as more people can read, hear and understand the Bible in their own language.

The North Berwick Wycliffe prayer group receives news of around 30 Scottish Wycliffe members working around the world or remotely from home. We meet four times a year to pray together. If you would like more information, please contact Jenny Kellock or Julie in the office.

Jenny Kellock



Komi at St Andrew Blackadder

Ask children about angels – and this is what you get!

Angels talk all the way while they're flying you up to heaven. The main subject is where you went wrong before you got dead. – Daniel, age 9.

When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten. And when he lets out his breath again, somewhere there's a tornado. – Reagan, age 10.

Angels have a lot to do and they keep very busy. If you lose a tooth, an angel comes in through your window and leaves money under your pillow. Then when it gets cold, angels go south for the winter. – Sara, age 6.

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and His Son, who's a very good carpenter. – Jared, age 8.

All angels are girls because they gotta wear dresses and boys didn't go for it. – Antonio, age 9.

Greetings from North India – Celebrating 25 Years

We received this message from North India:

“Warm greetings to you *Bill & all our Friends in the Lothian & Borders Presbytery & friends in the Church of Scotland!!”

As our Twinning Programme between our Diocese of Eastern Himalaya, Church of North India, and the Lothian & Borders Presbytery, Church of Scotland crossed its 25-year milestone last year, we thank our Lord Almighty for His blessings, guidance and His everlasting love and care to all our dear friends in the Presbytery & the Church of Scotland.

The visits, emails, WhatsApp messages, innumerable calls and the unconditional support by friends from the Presbytery & the Church of Scotland have been a great blessing, inspiration and joy to all of us here in the Diocese. The love, joy and warmth you all have shared in this twinning journey of a quarter of a century remains etched in our hearts.

As I have often shared with friends in Scotland, what we are here in the Diocese, and as believers, would not have been possible without the Scottish missionaries who dedicated and sacrificed their lives over a century ago to share the Gospel and build innumerable churches. In the process, they also established eight mission schools, still very vibrant and still providing education to hundreds of young people in our Diocese, alongside healthcare facilities. This is definitely a witness of sharing God’s love.

Dear friends in Christ, we thank each one of you in the Presbytery, and the past and present friends in the Church of Scotland, for your love, prayers and good wishes as we continue this twinning journey together heading towards the Golden Jubilee in the next 25 years.

You are always in our prayers and we wish each of you well with good health and good life.

With much love and warm regards,

Yours in His Mission,

Miku Foning

*(*Bill referred to above is Bill Stevenson, the present Twinning Coordinator.)*

Need total darkness to sleep?

According to followers of “The Dutch Method”, it is good to sleep with your curtains open.

That way, in the morning your bedroom slowly floods with natural light, which coincides with your circadian rhythm, the internal body clock that regulates your sleep cycle. Natural light also stops the production of melatonin (your sleep hormone) and triggers a natural rise in cortisol. That lets you know that the new day has begun. It is considered a gentle way to wake up.

Nevertheless, others of us prefer the curtains to be shut, and need pitch black to sleep.

Whichever you prefer, here are some tips on sleep and waking up.

~ Natural light in the morning is good for you. It is better to go for a walk at the start of each day, rather than to head straight for your phone and computer.

~ Melatonin levels decline as we get older, which makes it harder to fall and stay asleep.

~ Our body clock can shift to earlier, leaving us sleepier at night, but more awake earlier in the morning.

~ As we age, we become more sensitive to disruption during the night, and things like stress, life changes, noise or light can have a bigger impact.

~ A good routine before sleep is essential. Aim for bed at the same time, empty your head with a to-do list for tomorrow, clear your thoughts, and relax.

The Editor—Courtesy of Parish Pump

Sound—Three Generations

Many of you will have already seen this photograph of three generations of my family, – my son Andrew, my dad Harry, and me, – all involved in the Sunday 10.30am service on 3rd April.

On that Sunday, my dad, Harry Lightoller, and I played together during the service, – he on the organ and me on the piano, – while my son Andrew worked on the sound desk.

What made the occasion even more special for me was remembering that the connection between our family and church music goes back much further still. My grandfather, Alfred Lightoller, was organist and choir master at Blackadder Church for over 30 years, while my granny, Helena, sang in the choir. It was my grandfather who taught me to play the piano.

Music has always been part of our family life and how we express our faith. I didn't always appreciate the piano practice I had to do as a child, and I still remember that day, aged 12, begging my mum to let me stop piano lessons! Her response was simple: "You'll thank me one day."

Over the years, music became something my dad and I shared and have continued to enjoy together.

Looking across the church that morning and seeing my dad at the organ and my son on sound felt quite emotional and humbling.

Church music and worship styles may have changed over the years, from organ and choir to keyboards and sound desks, but at the heart of it is still the same desire to serve God and support worship through music.

I feel very grateful that faith and music have continued through several generations of my family, and that each generation has found its own way to serve.

Kirstin Entwistle



St Andrew Blackadder
Parish Church

3rd April 2026

Sound - Three Generations

On 3rd April 2026, three generations of the same family produced the sound for the Sunday 10.30am Service. Grandfather Harry Lightoller on Organ, daughter Kirstin Entwistle on Keyboard and grandson Andrew Entwistle on the Sound Desk as Sound Engineer



Pictures and Montage by Derek Braid

The Guild

The Guild has finished for the summer after a good session of interesting meetings and excellent fundraising for the two projects we are supporting this year. They are Bear Necessities Bulgaria. – Build my Church, and Operation Hope. – Egypt.

Both charities have exciting and challenging projects to reach, support and nurture Christians in two very different locations: the city of Sliven in Bulgaria, and villages of the Upper Nile in Egypt.

We raised money for the projects from our Soup and Pudding Lunch for the congregation in September, the Coffee Morning in March and the recent Concert by the Edinburgh Gilbert & Sullivan Society. From those three events alone we will be able to give each charity over £1500.

The Guild committee would like to thank the congregation for their very generous donations helping us to achieve such a wonderful sum.

The Guild will restart in September with the Annual Gathering, the Lunch for the congregation, and covering of Blythswood Shoeboxes before our programme of fortnightly meetings resumes in October.

Our Speaker Secretary, Ann Cubitt, has nearly finished putting the Guild 2026-27 programme together, and paper copies will be available in late August.

Ann Braid

St Andrew Blackadder Church of Scotland North Berwick

Scottish Charity SC0006421



St Andrew Blackadder
Parish Church

17th March 2026

Bear Necessities for Bulgaria



Helen Dennison led the meeting and Cathey Reece and Christina Ross, the founders of the Bear Necessities, spoke about the project. The Guild currently support Bear Necessities as one of their 2025 - 2027 projects. Thirteen years ago they began supporting the children of a small, primarily gypsy village in rural Bulgaria to attend school. Currently, Bear Necessities operate a soup kitchen and medical clinic, and provide winter boots to all school aged children in the village, as well as a few other key projects, and have been doing this with the support of Rumén Ganushev, a local minister. The project "Build My Church" will work with Rumén to plant a church at the centre of the large residential district of the city of Sliven. It will offer services for teaching and worship and prayer, but in time the vision is for the church to also provide free access to health care, food for the hungry, and training and support for the leadership of other churches in the district.



Pictures and Montage by Derek Braid



St Andrew Blackadder
Parish Church

8th May 2026

Gilbert and Sullivan



The Guild of St Andrew Blackadder Church, held a Gilbert and Sullivan concert performed by the Edinburgh Gilbert and Sullivan Society. There were songs from Iolanthe, the Grand Duke and other G&S delights. All proceeds were raised for the Guild projects Bear Necessities Bulgaria and Operation Hope Egypt. The concert raised £985 before expenses.



Pictures and Montage by Derek Braid

Thank You, Neil

This month marks the end of an era as Neil retires from his role as our minister on 31 May.

Over the years, Neil and Helen have been part of countless moments in the life of our church — from Sunday worship and special services to shared meals, community events, celebrations, and times of encouragement and support.

These photographs reflect just a small glimpse of that journey.

Thank you, Neil, for your faithful ministry, kindness and friendship through the years.

We wish you and Helen every blessing and happiness for the next chapter ahead.



All photos courtesy of Derek Braid



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	Andrew Duncan 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 2.00pm	The Guild We have a speaker and enjoy worship, fellowship and coffee.	Chapel and Front Vestibule	Ann Braid
Mondays (term time) 3.30 to 6.00pm	Board Games Club	Chapel	Andrew Duncan
2nd Sunday of the month 12.00pm	Hunger Lunch	Hall	Jane Murdoch
Every second Friday (term time) 9.00 to 11.00am	Parent Space A place to connect for parents, crèche provided	Room 2 & Chapel	Helen Nelson & Sally Anderson
Every second Friday (term time) 7.00 to 9.00pm	Youth Nights	Hall	Andrew Duncan

Special Events June, July, August

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
5th - 7th June	Church Weekend Away	Scoughill SU camp
20th June 10am-3pm	Postcard & Stamp Fair	Church Hall
20th –24th July	North Berwick Holiday Club (SU)	Multiple Locations
30th July-1st Aug 10am-4pm	Young Carers Art Show in aid of East Lothian Young Carers	Chapel
5th - 8th Aug 10am-4pm	Ali Blevins & Nat Springs Art Show	Chapel
Sat 20th June 25th July, 29th Aug	NB Climate Café 11am – 12pm	Chapel

****Monday 17 August 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

St Andrew Blackadder Parish Church

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Messy Church

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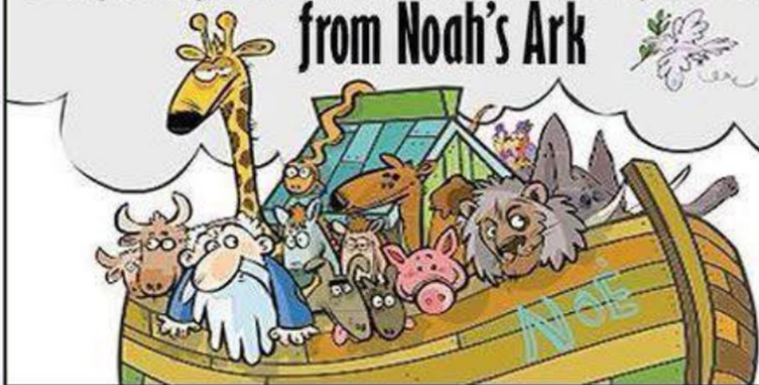
Communion Services

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.

Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark



- 1 Don't miss the boat.
- 2 Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- 3 Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.
- 4 Stay fit. When you're really old, someone may ask you to do some thing really big.
- 5 Don't listen to the critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- 6 Build your future on high ground.
- 7 For safety sake, travel in pairs.
- 8 Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs
- 9 When you're stressed, float a while
- 10 Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- 11 No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting...

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