

BALERNO PARISH CHURCH BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017



Letter from the Manse

Dear congregation,

I hope you all had a wonderful time of rest and relaxation during the summer holidays. We enjoyed our holiday in South Africa visiting and meeting up with many family relations and friends. We also had time to enjoy each other's company

while watching some amazing animals within close range.

Henro and Nehan had a very close encounter with a baboon who opened the sliding door in front of their eyes. Luckily, they ran for their lives, screaming at the top of their voices. I then had to use another door, while locking them safely in the main bedroom, to go outside and see if I could "scare" the baboon from the outside and convince him that it was time to leave the fruit that he was so happily eating. I succeeded and being grateful to live and tell the story. It was a harrowing experience which reminded us all that wild animals cannot be treated as pets!

We returned home to busy Parishes with everything going at a fast pace. It was as if we have never been away with phones ringing, pastoral visitations and meetings. I found it funny that my email account could not handle all the emails that I received while I was away although it was a different kettle of fish to read through them all!

But in the 'busy-ness' of it all, we should never forget that we have a GOOD SHEPHERD guiding us and helping us through His Holy Spirit. Jesus says in John 10:11-18 that He is our GOOD SHEPHERD who knows us better than we know ourselves. It is His will that others who are not of the same faith, creed and culture will also be included. He also promises that He will sacrifice His life for the sheep.

We have nothing to fear. We can go through life knowing that He is with us always and ever. We do not have to journey ever alone. He is the Good Shepherd who loved us so much that He gave us His life on the cross so that we are free of the powers of sin, death and hell. He will lead us until we find eternal peace in heaven.

May we never be tempted by the "busy-ness" of church life in BALERNO to forget to SEE, HEAR and RECOGNISE our resurrected Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ in all we do, say and think!

All my blessings, André

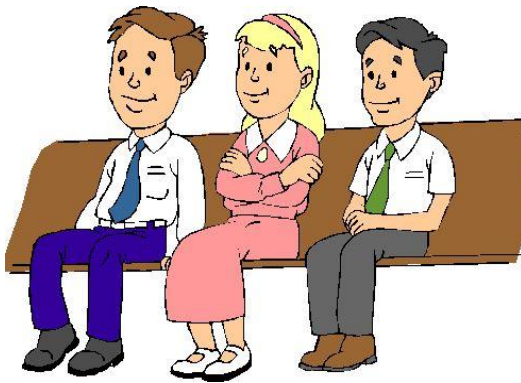


Welcome

Welcome to our latest Bulletin. And welcome back after the summer holidays, thanks to the position of the Jet Stream – much further south than it should be! – the weather has been fairly miserable on the whole, but hopefully you all feel refreshed and ready to take up winter activities centred around the Church. The Mill has re-opened (please admire the renovated floor!), church organisations have a busy schedule ahead and (*shh!*) it will be Christmas before we know it!

Please remember to let us know what your organisation is planning. And feel free to contribute anything you want to future editions of the Bulletin.

Regards, Lesley Burt, the Editor.



View from the pew

Services during July while André was on holiday were shared among 3 ministers. Rev Keith Ross preached thought-provokingly on 'Voices'... God's voice in the silence, the spirit voice... the voice of the heart, voices of anger and grief ... the Voice of Jesus. Then we were delighted to welcome back Rev Dr Anne Logan, whose theme was relationships – centred on the story of Jacob and Esau. And she baptised her own little grandson, James Michael Logan, on July 16th. Three years ago while acting as Locum minister here she baptised James' big brother Angus, so this was an extra happy occasion for us. Last but not least, worship was led by Deaconess Margaret Gordon, whose engaging topic of the growth of the Spirit was illustrated by the theme of the mustard seed.



❖ There is still time to sign up for the Sunday Brunches to **get to know the minister!** 10th, 17th or 24th of September after morning worship. RSVP to your Elder or to the church office. All welcome!

❖ **EVENSPACE** begins a new series on Sunday 1st Oct, with a short communion service led by André. 7.30pm in Church. Looking ahead, the next **Informal Communion** will take place in St Joseph's Hall on Sunday 5 Nov. at 9am. Come along for a bacon roll, coffee/juice, followed by a short communion service. Everyone, all ages, welcome!

❖ **THE HARVEST FESTIVAL** is on Sunday 1st October, at 10.00am. The Church will be open on Saturday 30th September from 2.00pm till 2.45pm to receive Harvest Goods. Gifts can also be handed in on Sunday 1st October at the 10.00am service. Gifts of Fruit, Vegetables, Dried goods eg pasta, rice, cereals, biscuits. Tinned goods eg Baked Beans, Spaghetti, Fruit. Also Coffee, Tea, Juice. Are all welcome. The Gifts go out to people in our community and to the Food Bank. The Flower team ask that members help take out the gifts going round the village, they will be ready to be distributed at 1.30pm on Sunday 1st October. Please come and help us as this is one way we can serve our community. If you require any more information please contact Rita Poulter on 01506 336156.

❖ **Sunday Club:** Started up again at the beginning of school term, as did **Chill AM** for older children.

❖ **PALM:** The next PALM café will be on Tuesday 26th September in St Joseph's Hall @2.30-4pm

❖ **Bridge Club:** Starts again Wednesday 6th September, Ogston Hall @ 10am.

- ❖ **Guild:** the first meeting back is on Wednesday 4th of October when André will open the session focusing on our theme, *Go in Love*. Long service certificates will be presented and the Guild will be dedicated for the session.

- ❖ **Monday Club** re-starts 4th September, with entertainment from Ken Hastings.

- ❖ **Fair Trade:** Balerno Fairtrade Village Group – a BPC Group, open and welcoming to all – meets again at 7.15pm on Tuesday September 12th, in the Shepherd Room. You may have read over the summer about an ‘unusual’ supermarket Fairtrade decision – and the massive response to it. Come and find out more, and help Balerno plan our next few months as a Fairtrade Village: we’re very much alive and kicking! New supporters are always welcome, however much or little time you can spare. Look forward to seeing you on the 12th, *Lesley Henderson (449 4484) for Balerno Fairtrade Village Group*

- ❖ Did you manage to get any photos to enter for the **BALERNO PHOTO** competition? Photos will be exhibited in November but entries don’t close until 20th October, so there’s still time to get your entry forms from the church office or www.balernochurch.org.uk

- ❖ **BALERNO VILLAGE SCREEN:**

Friday 8th September, 7.30pm – *Manchester by the sea (15)*
Saturday 9th September, 2.30pm – *Beauty and the Beast (PG)* 7.30pm – *Lion (PG)*
Saturday 30th September, 2.00pm Sing (U) and 7.30pm Sing Street (12A)
Tickets available online at www.balernovillagescreen.com on in the Mill Café.

It hasn't all been quiet over the holidays! On the 3rd of August fifteen intrepid souls gathered at Harburn Golf Club for the annual church **Golf Outing**. The weather had been inclement, however everyone got underway in dry conditions. This did not last long and soon the rain fell as only it can on a golf course. Everyone was soaked by the end of the round but amazingly the mood was still one of a good day out in good company and good crack. Rob Cargill won the Richard Dennis trophy and a goodly number of prizes were handed out. All declared it a successful day and vowed to come back again next year. Many thanks to Brian Conway for organising this year's event. **GB**



Great news for the **Dementia Friendly Communities Project**. They are 'Coming of Age' and will soon start an exciting new phase in their amazing journey with the folk of the 3 villages – Juniper Green, Currie & Balerno – supporting people with Dementia and those close to them, to continue to contribute to their communities in a meaningful way. Details next month. We wish them well with this development.

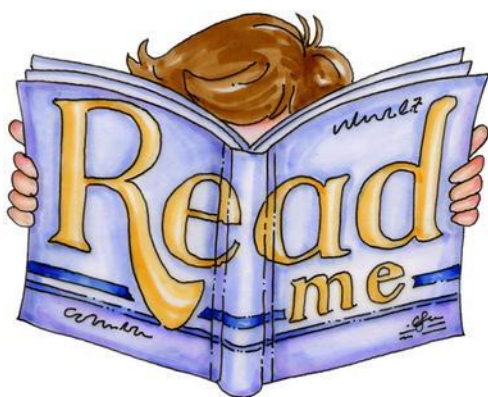
The **BALERNO MUSIC FESTIVAL** runs from 27th September – 15th October, with 18 events. Tickets from the Box Office, open on Farmers Market day and outside the Mill on Friday mornings, or from their website, www.balernomusicfestival.org.uk

GARDENERS' QUESTION TIME returns on November 2nd. Tickets from David Booth.



We support the **FOOD BANK** run by Holy Trinity Wester Hailes. There is a box in St Joseph's for contributions. As well as the basic foodstuffs, they always require baby necessities and ladies' sanitary requirements. We operate a roughly fortnightly delivery rota.

There will be a collection of household goods for **FRESH START** in the Rear (Old) Hall, Fri. 29th Sept – Sunday 1st October. Crockery – mugs please, not cups and saucers, nothing with brand names on, no stemmed glasses - cutlery (please no kitchen knives). Bedding, curtains, towels etc. Small electricals ie microwaves. Cleaning materials are always welcome. Phone Lesley Burt on 449 4314 for more details.



BAPTISM: James Michael Logan, was baptised by Rev Dr Anne Logan on 16th of July.

FUNERALS: Thinking of the family of ... Martin Lambie, who died in June after a short illness. His funeral was on 2nd July.

WEDDING: Congratulations to Andrew and Anna Wilson, who were married at the Mansfield Traquair Centre in June!



Minister: Rev Dr André Groenewald, The Manse, 3 Johnsburn Rd, Balerno EH14 7DN tel: 449 3830
email: bpcminister@balernochurch.org.uk

Session clerk: Anne Charman

Deputy session clerks: Malcolm Ogilvie, Scott Simpson

Treasurer: David Booth, 449 3516 bpc-treasurer@hotmail.com

Church Administrator: Jennifer MacDonald, 449 7245

bpc-admin@balernochurch.org.uk

Organist: Martin Petty, 449 4175 mpetty712@aol.com

Rollkeeper: Craig Dunlop, 449 4317 stephdunlop73@talktalk.net

Steering group convenor: John Burnside

Fabric Convenor: Dilys Conway, 449 7245 dilysconway@blueyonder.co.uk

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Kay Latimer, 449 6186 kaylatimer@btopenworld.com

Sunday Club Secretary: Pam McKeon, 449 2541 pammckeon@bt.com

MOU – Ishbel Smith ishbel.iain@blueyonder.co.uk

Mill Café Co-ordinator: Lynsey Inglis, themillatstjosephs@gmail.com

There will be a short service of worship at 2.30pm on Sunday 3rd September, followed by refreshments. There will be a special Communion Service at 7pm on Sunday 1st October, to which everyone is welcome. The next Stated Communion will be held on 5th November: an informal communion service in St Joseph's Hall at 9am with refreshments (bacon rolls!) then the main Communion during the service of worship at 10am in the Church.