

THE BRIDGE



THE MAGAZINE OF BALERNO PARISH CHURCH

WHAT'S ON in JULY 2018

Sunday 1 st	10.00am	Sunday Worship
Wed 4 th	7.15pm	Guild Strawberry Tea in St Joseph's
Friday 6 th	9.00am	Mill Café
Sunday 8 th	10.00am	Sunday Worship
Friday 13 th	9.00am	Mill Café
Sunday 15 th	10.00am	Sunday Worship
Friday 20 th	9.00am	Mill Café
Sunday 22 nd	10.00am	Sunday Worship
	4.30pm	Afrikaner Service
Friday 27 th	9.00am	Mill Café
Sunday 29 th	10.00am	Morning Worship

AUGUST 2018

Wed 1 st	9.00am	Mill Café resumes normal hours
Sunday 5 th	10.00am	Sunday Worship
Tuesday 7 th	7.30pm	Fabric cttee, Shepherd Room
Saturday 11 th	10.00am	Farmers Market coffee morning
Sunday 12 th	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sunday 19 th	10.00am	Morning Worship
Saturday 25 th	BVS Animation Workshop	
Sunday 26 th	10.00am	Morning Worship
	4.30pm	Afrikaner Service
Wed 29 th	7.30pm	Kirk Session in St Joseph's
Thurs 30 th	Choir practices resume	



12 June 2018

3 Johnsburn road

Balerno

EH14 7DN

Dear friends

I hope you are enjoying the good weather! I certainly am. We had a wonderful summer so far. The gala parade, the Royal wedding tea party at St Joseph's and the summer Sunday school picnic. All these events make us smile and help us to look forward to the summer holidays and beyond.

I am currently praying about my vision for the new autumn session and I am so enthusiastic about Jesus' mission to this earth and his command to us to mission as well. As believers we should return to that moment in time when Jesus said in Matthew 28:18-20:

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'

Maybe if we are missionaries again, sent by the ONE ALMIGHTY GOD, we will be relevant again and being able to be Christ to our secular brothers and sisters who need our church buildings for birthday parties and other fundraising events. Maybe if you and I start spreading the GOOD NEWS that there is new life and hope through believing in Jesus, others too will follow HIM. Let us forget about ourselves more and let God **be** more in everything we do, say and think *especially* in the church.

I plead with you to think with me how we can be faithful missionaries of God's loving forgiveness in Balerno Parish *and beyond* in the new year. Remember: God's mission is not necessary to get more NEW MEMBERS into our church! God's mission is to make NEW FOLLOWERS disciples of His Salvation...

So ... I am planning an exciting new 6 week Study Group/Course with supper provided, starting in September! Read all about it on page 15 ...

Also, several people have mentioned other different missional initiatives that can be done in the coming session such as:

- A monthly community soup lunch.
- A “brew, bap and blether breakfast”.

Please let me know your thoughts as soon as you are willing to share them. Enjoy your summer!

All my best wishes,



Rev Dr AJ Groenewald

A Word from the Editor: This is our third edition of The Bridge in its new format. Feedback – so far! – has been mostly positive, and we welcome more suggestions and ideas, not to mention actual written articles, from all of you. We are still experimenting and feeling our way so feedback is important. Future issues will see more use of colour and hopefully a wider range of articles. Maybe something for the young people? Could someone take this on? Help with organising the layout would also be most welcome. You can always get in touch on bpc-thebridge@balernochrch.org.uk or phone me on 449 4314. Lesley

WOMEN AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

It was a fairly dreich afternoon on 22nd May – not raining, just rather grey and windy – when around 500 women ministers and their supporters gathered at the bottom of the Mound, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the historic decision to ordain women to the ministry of word and sacrament in the Church of Scotland. I went along as a Supporter, following the procession as they carried their blue banner up the Mound, singing ‘We are Marching in the Light of God’. There were some familiar faces – I caught up with Anne Logan, and briefly saw Lesley Stewart, Easter Smart, Nanda Groenewald ... and I chatted to ladies from Canada and South Africa. Outside the Assembly Hall, the gathering

was greeted by Right Rev Susan Brown, the Moderator of the General Assembly, under the statue of Kirk founder, John Knox. Some of the women there were among the first to be ordained, and Rev Mary Morrison and Rev Catriona Morrison, the first mother and daughter to be ordained into the ministry, addressed the crowd and read a prayer.

Afterwards, at a special celebration held in the Assembly Hall, among others Rev Dr Margaret Forrester spoke of the long difficult journey she and other pioneers had taken. She described how they had felt “gagged by the church we loved and sought to serve.” And Rev Jean Montgomerie of Peterculter in Aberdeenshire, the longest living ordained woman, spoke of having watched the debate in 1968 from the public gallery as a student. She remembered applying to around 35 parishes after completing training as a minister.

(For a full account of the day's proceedings, go to the Church of Scotland Website www.churchofscotland.org.uk)



Women Ministers and supporters in the Courtyard Photo by Marion Wallace

FRESH START COLLECTION: Again, we filled a van with donations for Fresh Start! Many thanks to the team who unpacked, sorted and packed up again all the bedding, crockery, cutlery, curtains etc, all the basics which will make life easier for people starting out on a new journey in their lives. Duvets were especially welcome! The team at Fresh Start are very grateful for all the donations.

And ... the **FRESH START SPONSORED WALK!**

As a result of the generous sponsorship of Gavin Johnstone, Bill Black, Allan and myself, from the congregation and the wider community £911 has been sent to Fresh Start. This is before gift aid is added. Thank you all for your continued support. During the walk Allan & I spent part of the time with a young woman (late 40's) whom we shall call Liz (not her real name). En route we chatted about all sorts of subjects. She was a well educated, very knowledgeable young woman. It transpired she had been ill for 4 years. 2 years into her illness she ran out of money and literally had no food. She was directed to Fresh Start's Food Bank. She said it was, quite literally, a lifesaver. When we explained that Balerno Parish Church was a collection point for a Food Bank, she thanked us so much and asked that her thanks be passed on to the congregation. As Liz said, she did not benefit directly from us but she knew that others in a similar position to her would, and she knew what that was like. Thank you for all your donations to the Food Bank. Please keep them coming.

Maureen Woodburn

And a word from the **FOOD BANK** at Holy Trinity Church of Scotland, Westerhailes, who are planning for the first time to keep their Bridge Café open during the summer holidays as they feel there is a desperate need for it. The Café is at the heart of the Trinity Centre. It is a lovely, friendly place to sit and relax, with comfortable seating areas. Opening hours are Wednesday to Friday, 10am to 1.30pm, offering teas, coffees, freshly baked scones and delicious Smoothies, with three Meal Deal options offered for a very reasonably priced £2. They are committed to providing good food at good prices, with an emphasis on healthy options and were recently awarded the Healthy Living Award Plus and are delighted to have achieved this standard. **BUT** to provide this service over the holidays, they will need **extra volunteers**. To apply, contact Angie Thomson on 442 3304.

Following the retiral of Martin Petty as our organist, we can announce the appointment of our **NEW ORGANIST:**

‘We are very pleased to be able to inform the congregation that Mr Iain Whyte has been appointed as our new Organist / Musical Director and that he will start at morning worship on Sunday 8th July. Iain has had experience playing the organ and being involved in the praise band in various churches and we look forward to his contribution to worship with both the choir and Jubilate as we head into the autumn.

Thanks are due to the members of the committee, Helen Bissett, Christine Fergusson, Carol MacBeth, Debbie McConnell and Phyllis Tait who contributed time and thought to this recruitment process.’

JB

1918 – 2018; 100 YEARS OF MEMORIES

2018 marks 100 years since the end of hostilities in the Great War. The fighting in the First World War, as it subsequently became known, involved over 30 nations, and, while having started on 28th July 1914 and while only finally ending with peace at the Treaty of Versailles in 1919, the Armistice of 11th November 1918 marks the ending of hostilities.

Over nine million combatants and seven million civilians died during or as a result of the Great War. It became known as the War to End All Wars, although we know that that was not the outcome. Many survived its horrors and some went on to have families; some of those involved also survived through the Second World War, and some amongst them along with those others who experienced that war or conflicts after 1945, passed on stories to their children and families. Many of those involved understandably never talked about what they saw and experienced, although for those who were told the stories those in turn have become a precious part of their own stories. Ever since 1918 people have each year commemorated the sacrifice of those who have fallen in war on 11 November. This year Balerno Parish Church will join with the country at large to mark the centenary of the ending of the Great War, remembering those who lost their lives in that war and in conflicts which have followed since then. As part of that commemoration we in Balerno Parish Church are pursuing a number of projects and initiatives, including a tribute of at least 2700 knitted poppies in a Garden of Remembrance in the Church grounds, organised by Janet McCracken.

Separately we are also compiling video, audio and written diaries of recollections of local people, recording not only stories of their own personal experiences of wartime , but also some of the stories they were told by parents, grandparents or other relatives. We hope that these may help to provide a fitting tribute to the sacrifice made in those conflicts, as well as celebrating the lives of all those involved. We hope that we may also be helping to record the past for future generations.

We hope also that it may be possible to mount a small exhibition of photographs, documents and reminders associated with this memories, for display on a date around 11th November 2018.

100 years is a watershed moment; it is important that we remember.

If you would like to be involved in these initiatives whether by knitting or telling your stories, or helping to record the stories of others, then please contact Richard Henderson on 449 4484 or at richardmhenderson@gmail.com.

REMEMBRANCE POPPIES – an update, from Janet McCracken

I'd like to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who has responded to Andre's request for 2,000 knitted poppies. Not only has the congregation taken this to their hearts but the community and beyond have also. Some people have told Andre that they feel included in our venture, which is heart warming. We now have in excess of 2,700 but we still need as many as possible to also decorate the sanctuary and perhaps even produce a cascade somewhere appropriate, so please keep on knitting.

We are now out of kits but are still getting requests for more, so if anyone is unable to finish their wool, please feel free to return it to Jennifer in the office because others will be happy to finish the wool off. I would appreciate it if you could hand in any poppies to Jennifer that you have already knitted so that we can start planning ahead of November.

Dobbies Garden Centre have kindly offered to donate 2,000 plant sticks which we can glue onto the poppies, so when they arrive, gentlemen, this is your chance to chip in. It should be fun.



A letter from Anne Charman, our out-going Session Clerk:

Dear Kirk Session and members of the congregation

Thank you very much for the beautiful flowers and gift voucher you gave on my retirement as Session Clerk. The voucher is being used to buy a copy of the New International version of the Bible. Thank you also to Mary Goodbrand and her team of helpers who organised the wonderful spread of sandwiches, cakes, strawberries, Prosecco and coffee for everyone after the Church service. It was all very much appreciated.

Being a Session Clerk for the past 15 years has been a great joy and privilege and a wonderful way to serve God here in Balerno Parish Church. Thank you to the former Session Clerks for their guidance and to the Kirk Session for all their love and support especially over the difficult periods.

The role of Session Clerk has now been passed into the very capable hands of Malcolm Ogilvie and Scott Simpson. Please offer them that same support as you gave to me.

Balerno Parish church is indeed a great place – a place to Believe, a place to Belong, a place to Grow and a place to Serve.

Thank you again and God Bless.

Anne

THE GUILD AT RATHO FORGE

On Tuesday 1st May the Guild had their annual outing, this time to Ratho Forge. This local smithy makes wonderful decorative ironwork for historic buildings, commercial companies as well as private customers. During our visit, one of the blacksmiths demonstrated the art of ironworking using both traditional and modern methods. Afterwards we had a lovely lunch at the Riccarton Inn. We are all very thankful to Joan Graham and her group for organising such an interesting day out.

Although the evening meetings have finished for this session we are still very busy planning an exciting programme for next session. New members are very welcome, so why not come along on Wednesday evenings. The new syllabus will be available in time for the **Strawberry Tea**, which is on Wednesday 4th July at 7.15pm in St Joseph's Centre. Tickets cost £3 and are available from Guild members or at the door. All are welcome! The money raised is for our new project 'The Sailors' Society.' This organisation aspires to place a chaplain in every port in Scotland. They give spiritual and practical support to merchant seamen who are often far from home.

ML

BOOK REVIEW: Days of Awe and Wonder *by* Marcus Borg

I would thoroughly recommend reading this anthology of the works of Marcus Borg a copy of which I picked up whilst stewarding for the General Assembly. It is an Anthology and, as such, would be best appreciated in bite size pieces with ample time and opportunity allowed afterwards to consider the thoughts stimulated by his writings.

As it says on the cover I found it to be 'Profound, challenging and engrossing' as it attempted to portray how to be a Christian in the 21st century. MKW

We would love to have more brief reviews of anything spiritually related which you have been reading.

YOUNG @ HEART



This photo shows some members of our group enjoying their summer outing near Crieff. This group meets each week in the Ogston Hall throughout the winter and spring to enjoy one another's company whilst participating in gentle exercise, games, quizzes and, essentially, a cuppa with home baking. New members are always welcome and we would love to see you on a Tuesday morning at 10.00 a.m. when we restart on 4th September. For further details please phone Mary Laing on 449 3523

Louise Duncan Bursary – Rhona Goodarzi

My name is Rhona Goodarzi and last year I graduated with a degree in Law and French from the University of Edinburgh. Aside from my third year which I spent studying abroad in France, I have lived in Balerno essentially all my life. Since finishing university I have spent the past year volunteering on the committee of a refugee integration group called The Edinburgh Weekend Club, run as part of Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees, whilst working just short of full-time. This has been a truly rewarding experience which has confirmed my passion for working directly alongside vulnerable groups such as refugees and asylum seekers. Incidentally it is also through this that one of the other committee members, Teresa Martin, who is also an old friend and neighbour of mine kindly alerted me to the availability of the Louise Duncan Bursary and encouraged me to apply.

To explain a little about my upcoming plans, this August in partnership with Inter-Cultural Youth Exchange UK I hope to undertake a year-long placement in a human rights NGO with based in Bolivia. The organisation in question, the Research and Therapy Institute (Instituto de Terapia e Investigación), takes a multidisciplinary approach to supporting those affected by torture and state violence, alongside their families and communities, by providing psychotherapeutic, medical, social and legal assistance. It also works to educate the public on the consequences of state violence with the aim of eradicating these practices in Bolivia.

Whilst volunteering there, I will play an important role in supporting the administrative work of the NGO, completing translations between Spanish, English and French, thereby broadening the reach of the organisation's work, conducting legal research, assisting with victim interviews and facilitating human rights campaigns. Having been offered the opportunity of staying with a host family, I shall also have the privilege of gaining deeper immersion into Bolivian culture outside of my working hours and hopefully developing friendships which will last long beyond the end of my exchange.

By means of the Louise Duncan Bursary, the Church's generous contribution of £500 has brought me a great deal closer to achieving my fundraising target of roughly £5000. This amount shall support me in meeting my essential costs – flights, accommodation, food and insurance – thus being instrumental in making this placement a possibility. I believe that this opportunity will provide me with a springboard into NGO work where I have often otherwise found barriers in the form of unpaid internships and expensive masters programmes. The project at hand will not only offer me invaluable insight into the nature of NGO work at a grassroots level, but shall also allow me to acquaint myself with an underappreciated corner of the world, an experience which shall greatly fuel and inform my ambitions for work in the third sector on my return to the UK.

Please visit my JustGiving page to follow any updates on my fundraising efforts and support my chosen cause: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rhona-goodarzi.

Rhona and her mum Karen came to church on 24th of June, and Rhona explained about her plans for the next year. While in Bolivia she is hoping to keep in regular contact with us with reports every few months. They both joined us for the Summer Picnic afterwards – see page 19!

WHO WROTE THAT HYMN?

The hymn writer Bob Gillman is either a very shy or very modest man, because apart from the year he was born – 1946 – there seems to be no biographical information available for him! But his song ‘Bind us Together, Lord...’ has become a favourite, and I found an article by him on how he came to write it. A Baptist, he became involved in the House Church Movement – an inter-church incentive in the late 1960s / 70s to break away from the sternly traditional form of church service and introduce a more spontaneous and inspirational service. He explains, *‘I remember [in 1974] a group of us were all praying together; I had such an emotional feeling come over me, and I felt a real need to do something concerning the unity of God’s people. It was then that the words “Bind Us Together” dropped into my mind; they were immediately followed by “With cords that cannot be broken,” and “Bind us together with love.” Also, a tune popped straight into my head and I stood up and sang it out to share it with everybody’*. The rest of the words followed gradually. He feels humbled that his song is now sung all over the world... *‘I was just the mouthpiece God used, and for that I am truly grateful and blessed’*.

LOCAL MATTERS:

The following is a situation which affects members of our congregation – particularly our older members and those not so well off. Richard Henderson asks ... **STILL NO BUS TO ST JOHN’S?**

Back in 2016 – not so long ago really - the number 24 connected Balerno with St John’s Hospital and incidentally with Kirknewton whose children attend Balerno High School. To those without access to private transport it was a lifeline, but it was subsidised by both West Lothian Council and Edinburgh Council. Then in March 2016, West Lothian withdrew their subsidy and the service stopped immediately. At a stroke public transport journey times more than doubled. The 30-minute journey from Balerno to St John’s became a 180 minute return trip, or a £50 return taxi fare. It’s only about twenty minutes each way by car from Balerno to St John’s. Balerno Community Council understand that some patients may have missed medical appointments, or been unable to visit loved ones as a result. There were 3036 number 24 bus journeys (both directions) in 2015/16 before it was withdrawn on 29 February 2016, and in total 23,551 passengers (both directions) were carried in that period - (source Freedom of Information response by West Lothian Council to BCC -4 My 2016). The bus was obviously not

running empty. At the same time Edinburgh withdrew their subsidy from the 70 bus service which linked Balerno to the Gyle, meaning that direct public transport access to a shopping centre was lost to Balerno residents. Edinburgh Council describe Balerno as 'at the end of the line' and 'out on a limb' and at a stroke they made it so.

To their credit the Pentlands Ward councillors protested vigorously and managed to pressure CEC into allocating £100K funding into the transport budget for 2018/19 to support an extension of the service 63 (South Queensferry - Gyle - Hermiston) to Balerno. But Edinburgh Council say that that sum is unlikely to be sufficient; they are now talking to West Lothian and E&M Horsburgh, the bus company, about varying the 40 Service (St John's to the Royal Infirmary) along Riccarton Mains Road and Lanark Road West allowing direct access from Currie and Juniper Green to both hospitals; Balerno residents would however still face a change of bus in Currie.

But that 'solution' depends on agreement between Edinburgh Council and West Lothian. The record of 2016 does not suggest that such an agreement is a foregone conclusion. Subsidised cross boundary bus services are not straightforward and when Balerno Community Council spoke to the Scottish Government Transport Minister in 2016, the government showed no appetite to become involved in ensuring cross boundary bus services could happen.

Balerno High School has three feeder primaries; Dean Park, Kirknewton and Ratho. By car that's a 13 minute journey from Ratho and from Kirknewton to Balerno High School. If you want to go by bus it will take 1hr 30 minutes from Ratho and 1hr 6 minutes from Kirknewton, both journeys involving several changes.

Balerno Community Council doesn't think it's right that people trying to get to appointments at their local hospital should be forced into a three hour round trip by bus or having to find a minimum of £50 for return taxi fares. And we doubt that any other schools in Edinburgh are affected in the way that Balerno High School's feeder primaries outside of Balerno are. BCC are clear that a strategy for public transport in this area needs to be developed, and we say what we think is necessary in the draft Community Plan.

Balerno Community Council published its draft Community Plan in March and are inviting comments by the end of August. The draft Plan is available on line on the Council's website or in third copy at Balerno and Currie Libraries.

THE VIEW FROM THE PEW

Your Reviewer woke up early on 3rd June, so decided to sample the Bacon Roll Communion held at 9am. The smell of frying bacon on Johnsburn Road was promising, and St Joseph's was very busy with the Praise Band and Jubilate practising, lots of people (about 40 in all as it turned out) old and young – families and people on their own, enjoying bacon rolls and tea, coffee or juice being served. Everyone then settled down for a delightful little service led by André, breaking bread together and drinking grape juice. We felt truly blessed. The next Bacon Roll Communion will be on the first Sunday in November, do go if you feel you would like something a little different and very enjoyable. Thank you to Irene Rogerson and her team of early risers! The team are looking to set up a rota and are seeking more helpers to spread the load, preparing the bacon and the rolls, making drinks and setting up St Joseph's. As there are three Stated Communion services in the year, this could mean that you are only required once a year. Please get in touch with Irene Rogerson on 449 4044 or leave your name at the office.

AUTUMN PLANS

Dear friends,

At the recent Assembly the Council of Assembly submitted a strategic plan, "Worshipping God, Inspiring Faith, Connecting People," which was rejected. The General Assembly passed Rev Robert Allan's (Presbytery clerk of Falkirk) proposal to: *'Instruct the Council to work collaboratively with other Councils, Committees and Presbyteries to bring proposals to the General Assembly of 2019 for structural change, consulting with the Rev Dr Doug Gay about the ideas contained in the recent Chalmers lectures and with other appropriate persons with expertise in the reform of institutions and structures, to enable a Church structure that is lean and fit for purpose to lead reform.'* It is alarming that on this great and grand scale there are no Biblical imperative to justify the above-mentioned counter proposal. We cannot forget that the church of Christ exists of a long line of Apostolic authority that was handed down from Jesus to the present as we read in Acts 1:15-17, 21-25:

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) ¹⁶ and said, "Brothers and sisters,[d] the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ He was one of our number and shared in our ministry. ²¹ Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, ²² beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection. ²³ So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs."

The past cannot be ignored or deleted. And equally the past cannot be celebrated in a way that ignores the present reality. And the future without the past and the present, is no future at all! There are no quick resolutions or answers. We have only one option and that is to go and read God's word. Yes let us return to Bethlehem, Jerusalem and Rome and be obedient to what God is calling us to do. Let us return to the commands of Jesus when He said in Matthew 28:16-20:

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him; but

some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'

Maybe if we are missionaries again, sent by the ONE ALMIGHTY GOD, we will be relevant again and being able to be Christ to our secular brothers and sisters who need our church buildings for birthday parties and other fundraising events. Maybe if you and I start spreading the GOOD NEWS that there is new life and hope through believing in Jesus, others too will follow HIM. Let us forget about ourselves more and let God **be** more in everything we do, say and think *especially* in the church.

I plead with you to think with me how we can be faithful missionaries of God's loving forgiveness in Balerno Parish *and beyond* in the new year. Remember: God's mission is not necessary to get more NEW MEMBERS into our church! God's mission is to make NEW FOLLOWERS disciples of His Salvation... Therefore, I would like to present a "Making disciple course" with supper provided, that I intend to run for 6 weeks **every Tuesday** from the 11th of September to the 16th of October 2018. I will once again write and produce my own material as I did with the recent Lent Bible studies.

Please pray with me that people will be called by the Lord to participate and enthused to become missionaries/disciples of His Name. Please also pray for me that I will listen and obey to what the Lord is telling me to teach/write. And I will need a lot of help organising this event. We will need to have different hosts/hostesses for every week who will supply the food, coffee and tea. I am not thinking of fancy meals. It can be as simple as "Mince and Tatties" "Bread and cheese" "Stovies" etc. It is about eating and sharing together like Jesus did a long time ago... If you are willing and able to help, please get in touch with me or Jennifer. Your help will be much appreciated. Please let me know your thoughts as soon as you are willing to share them. Enjoy your summer!

All my best wishes, André



The Mill Café would like to thank all those who supported 'The Wedding Viewing Brunch' on May 19th. The sun was shining, and the main street was abuzz as preparation was made for the parade of gala floats.

We gathered in the St. Josephs hall, which, had been beautifully laid out for our wedding celebrations. The new sound system and huge cinema screen transported us all to St. George's chapel. We all enjoyed a tasty picnic selection of sandwiches followed by fresh baked scones with jam and cream. The finale of lemon and elderflower treat. The St. Josephs spacious venue. Not new people and find up with a wedding hat! Marie Curie. A huge donated and took part



'wedding cake' was a fabulous Hall was the perfect bright and only did we all have fun, meet an excuse to spruce ourselves We managed to raise £200 for 'Thank you' to everyone who in the celebrations.

The Mill Café has introduced three new **smoothies** until the end of August. If they are popular we will keep them on the menu, so come along, order your preferred choice and let us know what you think?.....

We will have ... *Breakfast Smoothie* - Mixed berries, Banana, 0% fat Greek yogurt Oats and Almond milk (contains gluten and Nuts), *Green Boost Smoothie* – Ginger, Spinach, Kale, Cucumber, Pineapple and Apple Juice. *Tropical Smoothie* – Pineapple, Mango, Banana, 0% fat Greek yogurt and Coconut milk (contains nuts-almonds) ENJOY!

JULY OPENING TIMES: 9am-12.30pm Fridays only. The Café will only open every Friday in July for Drinks and a selection of Cakes. Our volunteers have earned their holidays! The Café would like to wish them and everyone else a wonderful July. Don't forget to stop by on Fridays. Our staff and Volunteers supporting these openings will look forward to catching up with you. If you would like to offer any voluntary help, please pop in for a chat. 'Happy Summer Holidays' from The Mill Café!

HOLD THE BACK PAGE!! Just in time before we go to press!

Those of you who were already on holiday on 24th June missed a wonderful morning! It was a glorious summer day and we rejoiced accordingly. The service took the form of a Beach Party, complete with sand, water and shells ... the theme of André's address was that we have all that we need and the beach scenario illustrated it. Well, you don't need to take sand, water or shells with you to the beach when you go there, do you? No, they are there already! Water was sprinkled around liberally and buckets and spades were handed out to all the children. Because of course, you always need those at the beach, don't you? Worship included music from Jubilate, we all sang everything together, and Charlie accompanied 'All You Need is Love' on his trumpet. Members of Sunday Club each received a book, including the youngest member Rona who is to be baptised next week.

The celebrations continued outside for the Church Family Picnic in the church grounds, with a delicious help-yourself lunch. Tremendous fun for everyone!



FLOWER ROTA JULY / AUGUST

Date	Flowers given by:	Recorder:	Contact:
01 July	Mrs A Petty	Mrs J Booth	449 3516
08 July	Mrs C Campbell		
15 July	Mrs T Miller		
22 July	Mrs J Mitchell		
29 July	Mrs K Latimer		
05 Aug	Mrs J McCracken/Mrs A Louden	Mrs L Burt	449 4314
12 Aug	Mrs A Robertson		
19 Aug	Mr M Ogilvie		
26 Aug	Mrs J Buchanan-Smith		
02 Sep	Miss T Cossar		

FOOD BANK ROTA Fortnightly, week beginning:

July 9 Sandra Lyall 449 4375 sandralyall@hotmail.com

July 23 Moira Todd 449 6422 toddclan@blueyonder.com

Aug 6 R Henderson 4494484 richardhenderson710@btinternet.com

Aug 20 Emma Crichton 449 5230 emma.ron@blueyonder.co.uk



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

Church Administrator:

Jennifer MacDonald, 449 7245 bpc-admin@balernochurch.org.uk

Session clerks:

Malcolm Ogilvie malcolm.ogilvie@hotmail.co.uk

Scott Simpson drscottsimpson@gmx.co.uk

Treasurer: Jim Todd: bpc-treasurer@balernochurch.org.uk

Organist: Iain Whyte

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

Steering group convenor: John Burnside johnburnside@virginmedia.com

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

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator:

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

Mill Operating Unit: Ishbel Smith ishbel.iain@blueyonder.co.uk

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The Bridge Magazine: Lesley Burt, bpc-thebridge@balernochurch.org.uk

All items to be included in the next Bridge, to cover AUGUST/SEPTEMBER should be submitted by Sunday 18th AUGUST