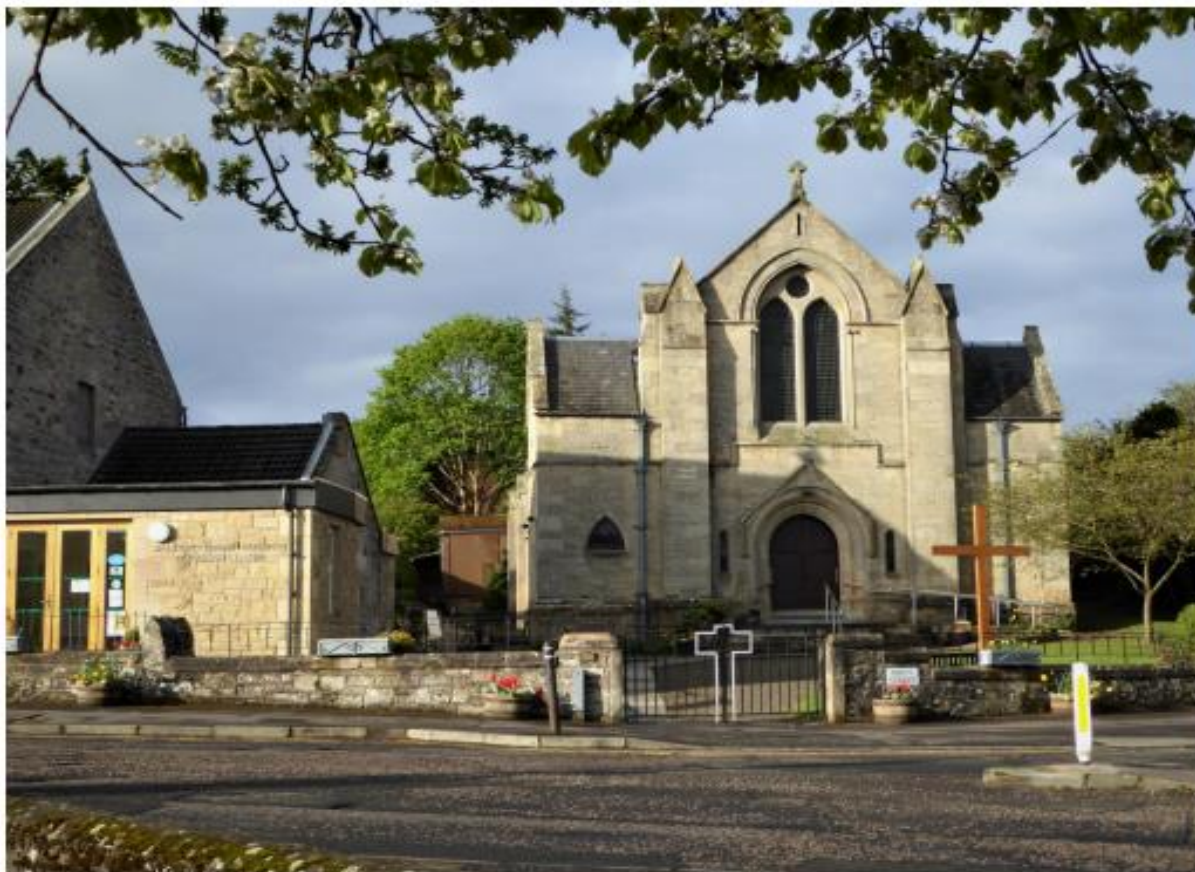


The Bridge

Balerno Parish Church Magazine



May-July 2019

What's on in May 2019

Sunday, 5th 10am Sunday Service followed by refreshments. No Sunday Club

2.30pm Afternoon Service followed by refreshments in the Ogston Hall

Monday, 6th 2pm Monday Club, AGM & Bring and Buy Sale

Tuesday, 7th 10am – 12noon Vestry Hours, an opportunity to meet with the Minister

Thursday, 9th 7.30pm Finance Committee Meeting in the Shepherd Room

Saturday, 11th 10am Farmers Market Coffee Morning in St Joseph's

Sunday, 12th 10am Sunday Service followed by refreshments. Sunday Club

Monday, 13th Monday Club outing

Tuesday, 14th 10am-12noon Vestry Hours, an opportunity to meet with the Minister

Friday, 17th 7.30pm 'Make 2nds Count' Fundraising Concert in the Church

Sunday, 19th 10am Sunday Service followed by refreshments. No Sunday Club

Tuesday, 21st 10am – 12noon Vestry Hours, an opportunity to meet with the Minister

Wednesday, 22nd 7.30pm Dinner Discussion Meeting in St Joseph's

Sunday, 26th 10am Sunday service followed by refreshments. Sunday Club.

4.30pm Afrikaner Service followed by refreshments

Tuesday, 28th 10am – 12noon Vestry Hours, an opportunity to meet with the Minister

2.30pm PALM Café in St Joseph's

Wednesday, 29th Mill Volunteers Social Evening in St Joseph's

Friday, 31st 7.30pm Balerno Village Screen

PASTORAL MATTERS: If you are needing support ... contact the Minister on 449 3830 or 07588845814, or by email at bpc-minister@balernoChurch.org.uk . Or call your Elder, or Kay Coull, the Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, on 449 6151. And if you cannot get hold of the minister, contact the Church Office which is open 9-12 noon.

LETTER FROM THE MANSE

The Manse
3 Johnsburn Road
Balerno
May 2019

Dear Congregation,

I cannot believe it is May already!

May is the time of blossoms and tulips. It is also the time of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Every year members of Presbytery become delegates to the Assembly in Edinburgh from Saturday the 18th of May until Friday the 24th of May. I will be in attendance when the national committee I am serving on, namely the Panel of Review and Reform, presents its report to the General Assembly.

It is going to be a very important meeting and many important Church issues will be discussed that influences every member of the Church of Scotland.

Church meetings are always important and should seek God's guidance in every matter. In the Christian fellowship asking God for His help and guidance is a given as we find in the New Testament in Matthew 7:7-12:

7 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

9 "Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! 12 So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

We always need to listen to God. We must seek his guidance. We must ask and leave it up to Him to answer our prayers. We must knock on His "door" for all our problems, issues, and questions. We must be patient. We must ask Him everything we NEED and NOT what we WANT because He will provide to us what He thinks is

best. We NEED God and not the other way round. We NEED him in everything we struggle with, in every life issue that we are dealing with, in every decision we need to take and every choice we need to make!

Maybe we must open our doors of faith again and allow God's breathing Holy Spirit to come in and change our perspectives and attitude. It may come as a surprise to some: We do not have all the answers, the best insights and the wisdom to take the right choices and make the best choices!

With all my blessings,

André

FROM THE EDITOR:

Hard to believe that as I write this, on the hottest Easter weekend on record in Scotland, that many of us are planning summer holidays and indeed will be home again before the next edition of The Bridge appears on August 1st. And while you're at it ... if you visit a Church when you're away – of any religion / denomination – why not write and tell us about it in the Bridge? We would love to hear from you, and if you can supply a photo as well, that would be lovely. By 21st July, please!

Have a wonderful, safe and blessed summer!

Lesley

THE LOUISE DUNCAN BURSARY 2019

The Louise Duncan Bursary this year has been awarded to Kirsty Williams, who comes from Balerno. Having recently left school, she is going to spend a year working abroad with a Scottish charity.

“My name is Kirsty Williams and I am a former sixth-year pupil at Balerno Community High School. In 2020 I will be moving to Aberdeen University where I will be studying Biomedical Science (with Pharmacology), however prior to this I am

taking a Gap Year to volunteer abroad with Project Trust. Project Trust is an educational charity based on the Hebridean Isle of Coll. Since 1967, Project Trust has been sending school leavers overseas to projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Projects allow young individuals to learn about a new culture by living and immersing themselves in a different country for an entire year. In my Gap Year, I will be moving to Ghana where I will be teaching primary children. This journey will be the most challenging experience of my life so far but though it will change me it will also benefit the children in Ghana who have such little access to education. For the duration of the year I will be teaching my primary class the Ghanaian primary curriculum. Education is so valuable to young children as it is the key to their future. This is why it is so important volunteers such as myself are placed in less fortunate villages to provide this education. However, in order to go overseas in August 2019, I have to first fundraise £6,200.

I have lived in Balerno since I was born so I have been a member of Balerno's wonderful community for 17-years now. I have always taken pride in being a member of a community full of kind, loving and generous individuals but not until recently have I truly appreciated the support and generosity of our village. I began volunteering at the Mill Café last August. The Mill has a true sense of community surrounding it. Each individual I met within the Mill either inspired or encouraged me to be the best version of myself. It was at the Mill where I was informed about the Louise Duncan Bursary and it was from there I applied. Louise Duncan was a brilliant woman who will always have a place in my family's heart. She was an inspiration and asset to Balerno and to have successfully been granted her bursary I am truly grateful and honoured. This bursary is a great amount which is going to significantly help me achieve my final fundraising target of £6,200. To have the support of the village means a great deal to me and this grant to help me get out to Ghana to teach young lives is just incredible".

When I am in Ghana, I will make sure I write to the Church magazine to give updates on my progress in the schools and to show the benefits this bursary will have upon the lives in Ghana as well as my own. I am forever grateful for this donation and I look forward to sharing my experiences and adventures with the community.

Kirsty Williams

On the Button for Marie Curie!

On The Button is organised by Creative Together, part of Edinburgh City Centre Churches Together. In 2017, the sum of £4,500 was raised for Marie Curie at a sale of old buttons – amazing funds from such small things. And in September 2019, Creative Together is planning another button sale, again for Marie Curie. So they are gathering buttons to sell!

Do you have a box of buttons tucked away – maybe accumulated over years or passed on from a previous generation? You could donate it to help the work of Marie Curie!

The sale will be widely advertised to button collectors, vintage and craft enthusiasts. Practised volunteers will carefully sort and evaluate the donated buttons and present them attractively on cards. This will take time, so they need buttons NOW.

Or look out for Button Boxes displayed around the Church campus for you to drop your donated buttons into! Contact Moira Darling, 449 3751 for details.



A PENTLANDS CELEBRATION OF VOLUNTEERING

The Pentlands would not be such a special place, without the variety of groups and organisations which thrive here and contribute to our Health & Wellbeing.

Success of local enterprise largely depends on one force, “**Volunteers**,” as the unsung heroes and backbone of every community.

Yes! It’s time for the 3 villages, of Currie, Balerno & Juniper Green, to bring their sense of community together, with a **Celebration of Volunteering** on June 6th 2019 1pm- 4pm, at the **Gibson Craig Halls, Currie**. We are inviting all Volunteers who support Older Adults to take part, to show our appreciation of the outstanding commitment and difference you make in the lives of our villagers who’ve reached their “golden years.”

We are putting together a film and a display board (with their permission) with written stories and photos to capture the “**Voice of Volunteers**” i.e. who they are, how they volunteer, what difference the group / service that they support makes to the people that attend, and what they get from their volunteering role. So, Volunteers! We need to see **YOU** there on June 6th and to hear from **YOU**.

PENTLAND SINGERS are holding a joint concert with **DALKEITH SINGERS**, performing Brahms German Requiem on Saturday 4 May, at 7.30pm in Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh. Tickets are available from choir members or online at www.pentlandsingers.org.uk *Alison Marr, Convenor, Pentland Singers*

ANOTHER DATE for your diary! Please join Debbie McConnell at the Church on Friday 17th May at 7.30 pm, for a night of Magical Moments From The Musicals. Admission is free, but donations to the charity ‘Make Seconds Count’ would be appreciated. This is an Edinburgh-based charity to help fund research into

secondary breast cancer, set up two years ago by Lisa Fleming, a young mum who is herself being treated for secondary breast cancer which affects thousands of women – and men too – every year.



HELLO FROM THE MILL CAFÉ!

The Mill Café would like to thank all those who stopped by and visited us at the March Farmers Market. We were there handing out free soup to the community.

The soup disappeared quite quickly, and double quantities will be made up for our next free soup market day of which I will be sure to let you all know when. It was very windy and cold, and the hot soup was received appreciatively by all and I'm told was 'very yummy!' **The Mill Café** was delighted to be a part of Farmers Market and to give a little back to the community.



On the Thursday 18th of April we welcomed Paul and Kayleigh our Community Officers to the café. Paul and Kayleigh stayed with us for the day and offered advice on how to prevent doorstep crime. They were happy to answer any questions and enjoyed talking with you all. Our Community Officers want to arm you with knowledge to help prevent any crime happening. Paul and Kayleigh will visit us again soon, and we hope you will come along to meet, chat and get to know them.

I will post on our Facebook page - 'the Mill at St. Joseph's' and put up a poster with any future dates.

It may seem a little too early to talk about July, but this 'Bridge' issue will take us up to it and so **The Mill Café** would like to let you know in advance....

JULY OPENING TIMES 9am-12.30pm Fridays

JULY FARMERS MARKET 13th 9am-12.30pm

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 all of you, 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.

'Happy Summer holidays!' Lynsey xxx

AND A REQUEST... if you are away on holiday (yes, even if it's just on the bus to North Berwick for the day!) please will you do something for the Mill Café? When it opened 7 years ago (I know, hard to believe, isn't it?) there was a plea for donated teatowels. Many teatowels were donated, and have been used heavily over the years – to the point where the ladies (and men) laundering them comment that they can just about read The Scotsman through them as they do the ironing... SO, we are asking, please when you go away, wherever you go, could you bring back a nice new teatowel and donate it to the Mill Café?

EDINBURGH GUILDS TOGETHER, SPRING RALLY *featuring* 'The Heart and Soul Swing Band'.

On Thursday the 4th of April, the Edinburgh Guilds met in Balerno Parish Church for their Annual Spring Rally. The Heart and Soul Swing Band were the main event. Music, song, entertainment and information combined to make an evening that will linger long in our memories. The band were lively and uplifting and the Rev Alex Shuttleworth, one of the lead singers, entertained us with a string of stories and jokes.

Mrs Lesley - Ann Calvert from the World Mission Council spoke to us about the Church of Scotland HIV programme. The focus of The Heart and Soul Swing Band is their desire to raise awareness and funds for the plight of people worldwide who are living with or affected by HIV and AIDS.

The National Convener of the Guild, Patricia Robertson also joined us from Greenock.

On the night £817.20p was raised for the Church of Scotland HIV programme. An amazing amount.

I would like to thank our Minister, the Mill Café staff, Paul Williams, Craig Dunlop and the Balerno Guild for all their support and of course everyone who attended. Without them this evening would not have been the success it was. Well done everyone. Together we have achieved so much.

Kay Coull, Convener, Edinburgh Guilds Together.



Photo © David Coull

NEWS FROM OTHER PARISHES

Rev Haley Jesmont, whom many of us remember as Haley Cohen when she worked as assistant to Louise for a year, has begun her career in the ministry as Assistant Minister at St Andrew's Clermiston in Edinburgh. She is now married to Ross Jesmont, who is completing a PhD before training for the ministry in the Episcopal Church of Scotland. Please pray for Hayley as she takes up her new position!

A NEW POST AT CURRIE RUGBY CLUB

Currie Rugby Club has accepted our minister André's offer to become their Chaplain. He has applied to Sports Chaplaincy UK to become a "sports chaplain" and since then has been invited to attend the induction conference and the Sports Chaplaincy conference in Bradford from the 10th to the 12th of June 2019. He has also had a meeting with Mark Fleming who is the Pastoral Director for Scottish Football and Chaplain to the Scottish Football Association, and who is very enthusiastic about Chaplaincy opportunities in Scotland. André is delighted to have this opportunity and is looking forward to be of any assistance to the Currie Rugby club. We look forward to hearing about how this new relationship in the local community develops, alongside his work as Chaplain to local schools.



Participants in 'The Covenant'. Photo: © Ian Gidney

The service for **Palm Sunday** was led by our organist Iain Whyte, along with the Choir, Jubilate and One Bar Rest. Together they performed *'The Covenant'*, a Cantata written and composed by Iain Whyte. The narrators were Ishbel Smith and Derek Duncan, Mary was played by Debbie McConnell and Pilate by George Burt. It was a wonderful performance – very moving in parts – and very much appreciated by the congregation.

Don't forget! Early, informal communion service in St Joseph's on 2nd June, ahead of the main communion service in Church – bacon rolls available from 8.45am, veg/ gluten-free available, all ages welcome!

BPC FELLOWSHIP:

The February Dinner Discussion was treated to a wonderful story of David Laing's real-life adventure to Antarctica. David, son of Isobel and Allan, was selected nearly 20 years ago at Standard Life to join a team led by seasoned explorer, Robert Swan OBE, first person to walk to both poles. Entitled "SOUTH", David's talk recounted his experiences of travelling around Antarctica capturing photos of the breathtaking sights including penguins, seals, birds and iceberg arches. His team conducted some experiments and logged the substantial rubbish heaps left by others. His talk was delivered with passion, intrigue and a charmingly engaging style.

The usual Q&A session featured a surprise contribution from Douglas Macbeth's guest, one Forrester Davidson, a New Zealander now living locally. Forrester made some complimentary remarks to David then explained that he had been selected by Sir Edmund Hillary to be part of the support team for Sir Vivian Fuchs famous expeditionary team that completed the first overland crossing of [Antarctica](#) in 1958. This unexpected tribute was appreciated by all and topped off when Forrester graciously presented David with a commemorative first-day cover and stamps for Fuchs's expedition. What a lovely touch!



Photo © Ian Gidney

ST ANDREW'S AND ST GEORGE'S WEST CHRISTIAN AID BOOK SALE

Saturday, 11 May 2019 – 10.00am to Friday, 17 May 2019 – 3.30pm

Since it started in 1974 the Sale at St Andrew's and St George's West has raised over £2m for Christian Aid's work to end poverty. During Christian Aid Week, over 500 volunteers from Edinburgh and beyond work together to create the UK's biggest fundraising event. Over **100,000 books** of every kind fill the sanctuary and both courtyards. But there's much more than books. Upstairs in the gallery you'll find sheet music (and more books!). Downstairs in the Undercroft Café you'll find a gallery of pictures and delicious homebaking. In the Davidson Room, hidden at the back of the Church you'll find a treasure trove of antiques and collectables. And also toys, records, stamps and postcards!

WHO WROTE THAT HYMN?

A slightly different one this month. On Easter Sunday as we sang a great Easter favourite, hymn 410 – '*Jesus Christ is Risen Today...*', did you wonder who '*Lyra Davidica*' could have been? And the answer is not WHO, but WHAT. '*Lyra Davidica*' (literally 'the harp of David') was a collection of hymns by John Baptist Walsh, published in 1708. 'A Collection of Divine Songs and Hymns, Partly Newly Composed, Partly Translated from the High German and Latin Hymns; and Set to Easy and Pleasant Tunes' is how it was described, and it contained several hymns translated from German. However, '*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*' is the only hymn to have survived over the years.

MODERN SLAVERY AWARENESS

The Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church have joined forces to produce an app giving a checklist for people to ask themselves when using a hand car wash. Many of these are legitimate businesses, but some of them are forcing workers (who may have been trafficked) to work in poor or dangerous conditions. The Safe Carwash App has been downloaded 8,225 times since it was launched last year, and used more than 2000 times. In 41% of cases, there was strong evidence of workers being subjected to modern slavery. The information is shared anonymously with the police, Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, and figures have been analysed by the University of Nottingham. Pointers are: suspiciously low prices; do the staff appear vulnerable or nervous; do they have suitable protective clothing; is there evidence of them living on-site? The app is part of the Clewer Initiative, launched in 2017 to tackle modern slavery.

THE VIEW FROM THE PEW

Would you ever expect to be offered a piece of toast during a Church service? Bread, yes, during a communion service. But *toast*? Well, the service *was* titled 'Expecting the Unexpected'... First surprise was, André was taking the service. No surprise there, you'd think. He is the minister, after all. But Ishbel Smith was supposed to be taking the service on 31st March in André's place, yet here he was, large as life... (oops! Mea culpa, André...!) Poor Ishbel had suffered a catastrophic fall while out running a few days earlier and was nursing a badly-broken shoulder at home. Co-incidentally (yes, really...!) the theme of the service was ... '*Expecting the Unexpected*', horribly apt in poor Ishbel's case, and searching for a very topical illustration, André came up with ... making toast. Amazing! The manse toaster was pressed into service and the sanctuary became filled with the odour, not of sanctity, but ... *toast*. Well, no-one can say that services at Balerno Parish Church are predictable, can they? Not after the minister serving up toast in place of an All Age Address!

ROTAS

FOOD BANK Fortnight beginning:

Date	Name	Phone	email
13/5	Sally Lindsay	4987	scallywag0@gmail.com
27/5	Judy Savage	5016	judythesavage@hotmail.com
03/6	George & Lesley Burt	4314	lesley.burt70@gmail.com
17/6	Maureen Woodburn	6343	maureenwoodburn@aol.com
01/7	Wm & Marion Wallace	2951	wmkwallace@aol.com
15/7	Mary Goodbrand	4517	jamesgoodbrand@blueyonder.com
29/7	Sandra Lyall	4375	sandrallyall@blueyonder.com

CARS, MAY/ JUNE

May 5 th am	Graham Lorimer	5099	Malcolm Ogilvie	6985
May 5 th pm	?????		Bill Black	6707
May 12 th	Ken Bisset	5812	Christina Graham	4181
May 19 th	Kay Latimer	6186	Anne Shaw	3874
May 26 th	Ian Alexander	6739	Brian Buchanan	5378
June 2 nd am	Ian Gidney	6919	Anne Shaw	3874
June 2 nd pm	J Goodbrand	4517	Sally Lindsay	4987

June 9 th	Alison Petty	4175	Richard Henderson	4484
June 16 th	Judy Savage	5016	Susan McDonald	5756
June 23 rd	Ken Bisset	5812	Ian Alexander	6739
June 30 th	Kay Latimer	6186	Anne Johnstone	2930

FLOWERS:

Date	Given by	Recorder	Arranger
05/5	C Harris	A Petty	C Harris
12/5	H Jarvis / J Summers		H Jarvis
19/5	J Duff		M Darling
26/5	A Smith		W Williams
02/6	E Crichton/A Clark	J Booth	P Tait
9/6	E Shaw		H Jarvis
16/6	N Ross		J Tervit
23/6	M Woodburn		M Todd
30/6	C Campbell		C Campbell
07/7	A Petty	M Woodburn	D Pride
14/7	T Miller		M Darling
21/7	J Mitchell		J Mitchell
28/7	K Latimer		J Tervit

What's on in June 2019

Saturday, 1st 2.30pm & 7.30pm Balerno Village Screen

Sunday, 2nd 9am Breakfast Communion in St Joseph's

10am Traditional Communion Service in the Church followed by refreshments

2.30pm Short Afternoon Communion Service in the Church followed by refreshments

Monday, 3rd 7.30pm Steering Committee meeting in the Shepherd Room

Tuesday, 4th 10am-12noon Vestry Hours, an opportunity to meet with the Minister

Friday, 7th Balerno Village Screen 7.30pm

Saturday, 8th 10am Farmers Market Coffee Morning in St Joseph's

Sunday, 9th 10am Sunday Service followed by refreshments. Sunday Club

Monday, 10th 7.30pm Finance Committee Meeting in the Shepherd Room

Tuesday, 11th 10am-12noon Vestry Hours, an opportunity to meet with the Minister

Wednesday, 12th 7.30pm Kirk Session

Sunday, 16th 10am Sunday Service followed by refreshments. Sunday Club

Tuesday 18th 10am-12noon Vestry Hours, an opportunity to meet with the Minister

Friday, 21st 7.30pm Balerno Village Screen

Saturday, 22nd 2.30pm & 7.30pm Balerno Village Screen

Sunday, 23rd 11am Sunday Service followed by our Church picnic

4.30pm Afrikaner Service followed by refreshments

Tuesday, 25th 10am-12noon Vestry Hours, an opportunity to meet with the Minister

Wednesday, 26th 7.15pm Guild Strawberry Tea

Sunday, 30th 10am Sunday Service followed by refreshments. No Sunday Club

For JULY dates, please look at the weekly Intimation sheet and the overhead screen.

Cover design by David Coull Photo ©David Coull



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

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: Kay Coull, 449 6151 coullkay@hotmail.com

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

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

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

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 21 JULY