



St John the Evangelist

Scottish Episcopal Church, Jedburgh

MAGAZINE



Autumn 2018

St John's — A community of welcome in the Borders

Dear Reader

This time last year we were looking forward to Fr Andrew's arrival amongst us, and under his guidance and with his enthusiasm the past twelve months have proved to be both stimulating and also challenging at times!

Seemingly undaunted by having to face first the "Beast from the East" followed by the hottest summer for many years, (not quite what he was expecting from moving to Scotland), it is to be hoped that he feels settled and "at home" amongst us and in the wider community of Jedburgh.

Where he will guide us over the next twelve months remains to be discovered; should we look forward with eager anticipation or with some apprehension? One thing is certain, life at St John's is never dull!

*"The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils Himself in many ways
Lest one good custom should corrupt the World"*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson
(from 'The Passing of Arthur')

St John's Scottish Episcopal Church, Jedburgh

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FROM OUR PRIEST IN CHARGE

By the time this goes to print, I will have been here in Jedburgh for one whole year. A year of big weather and of big transitions for me and you. I think we are settling into a rhythm and routine with each other... I think of stuff and you roll your eyes and wonder what is going to happen next! On the whole though the year has been a mix of watching and listening mixed with a little prodding and challenging.

For me, the big theme of the year past has been CONNECTING... finding the meeting point of your lives and mine... finding the links between our worship and our call to service in the world... shining a light on those spaces where the things of God meet the things of our hopes, dreams, fears, hurts and needs (all of which are things of God by the way). We've been considering how we connect the treasures of our past with the reality of our now and our hopes for the future. Connecting this quirky, human, gifted and blessed little group of lovers of St John's with the broader community of Jedburgh and this patch of the Borders.

It's in our connections that we find our strength. Some weeks ago I made reference to Lego and its power to reflect the awesomeness of God... standing on a piece in bare feet usually causes one to invoke the

name of the Almighty... or words to that effect. A Lego block by itself may have a simple beauty but it is only when connected to other Lego blocks is it possible to create anything worthwhile. Lego blocks with the wee nubs and crevices are specifically designed to join together... and so are we. Alone we are great but together, powered by the love of God, we are awesome!!

So basically I see my job here is to find the places and moments of connection where we can shine the reality of God's transforming love into the lives of others. I can't do it alone and neither can you but when connected to each other, to the other communities of faith and to the places and events in which our broader community gathers, God's transforming love has the best chance of transforming us.

So thank you for the welcome, the love and the patience over the last year or so. This magazine is full of stories of the connecting events and moments of our lives together and little of it would have happened without the willingness of the people of St Johns to step out in faith and hope. Hold onto your hats, flock... what will the second year bring?

Fr Andrew

ST JOHN'S CHILDREN

We will all miss the Yip family, especially Maria Yip who did so much to run the Sunday School and her input on the Vestry. Susanna, Gudrun, Esther, and Naomi all played their part in church life.

We have a child friendly space at the back of the church until more children come to St Johns.



Messy Church is our ecumenical activity for Jedburgh's children.

We start our monthly gathering on the first Friday of September - the 7th at 1.00 pm till 3.00 pm in the Kenmore Hall. We are blessed with great folk to run the activities: games, bible stories, singing and crafts – plus lunch and tea snacks etc.

Christmas and Easter give us the opportunity to go big in the Jedburgh Town Hall.

Ruth Johnson

A poster for the Harvest Festival. The top section has a dark background with "OCTOBER" in large white letters and "HARVEST FESTIVAL" in a stylized, textured font. Below this is a red banner with "Messy Harvest" in white and yellow. The middle section is orange and contains text for Friday 5th, Saturday 6th, and Sunday 7th. The bottom section is white with a photo of various pets and the text "PET BLESSING".

OCTOBER
HARVEST FESTIVAL

Messy Harvest Friday 5th Messy Church
Thank God for all the gifts of creation
1-3pm Kenmore Hall

Saturday 6th Family Fun and Harvest Dinner
The Thistle Club Pavilion, Jedburgh

4.30pm Furry Family Fun—activities and displays
6.30pm **harvest dinner**

Sunday 7th St Francis' Day
Blessing of Pets Service
10.30am St John's Church
Bring a furry, feathered or scaly friend for a blessing!!

PET BLESSING

A HAPPY CAMPER!

Earlier this year, St John's sponsored Susanna Yip so she could participate in the Episcopal Provincial Youth Week camp held every year at Glenalmond College near Perth. Here's what Susanna had to say after the Camp.



'Things had been a bit tough for me until I went back to the Christian Camp in Glenalmond for a week in July. The first thing the people told me is that I can be happy and still help others by just being 'ME'. I don't have to do things I don't want to do even if it is about worshipping God. There was a new girl I met there this year who told me that her parents didn't force her to become a Christian, she got the choice to choose herself after experiencing going to visit different churches and their worship.

I finally realized that I have the freedom to choose my own faith. I have been in church since I was a baby, so church has been a part of me that can't be removed and that's one of the reasons why I forgot the real meaning of 'going to church on Sunday Morning'. 'Going to Church' doesn't mean that I have to always help out in the church or sit in the Church and pretend to be a good dressed and well behaved girl.

I can have fun and worship God in my own way in Church on a normal Sunday morning. Also I don't have to care so much about how others think about me.

My mum once has told me that in the Bible there is somewhere that says that your actions don't need to be seen by people, but by God and God will reward you more for what you have done. So, I believed. For the first time, I believed in God because I wanted to; not because my parents persuaded me to.

I wouldn't say that I am a GOOD believer, as a sinner I still have a lot of things I have to learn and change. But I will not give up easily, because God is always there ready to help me when I am down.

I would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone in the Church who supported us and helped us throughout the few years my family lived in Jedburgh.

I wish God will always be there for everyone in St John's Church and the world, 24 hours for 7 days a week, 365 days in a year, Amen.'

Susanna Yip

Website :

www.stjohnsjedburgh.org.uk

This magazine is also available on our website, with further information about St John's in Jedburgh.



- Sept: 21st St Matthew Apostle and Evangelist
- Sept 29th St Michael and All Angels
- Oct: 6th Harvest Supper
- Oct: 7th Harvest Festival
- Oct: 18th St Luke the Evangelist
- Nov: 1st All Saints Day
- Nov: 2nd All Souls Day
- Nov: 11th Remembrance Sunday No 10:30 Service in Church
- Nov: 15th St Margaret of Scotland 10:30 Service of Holy Communion
- Nov: 29th St Andrew's Day 10:30 Service of Holy Communion
- Dec: 1st Advent Sunday

Advance Notice of AGM Dec: 9th 12:00 noon in the Centre

- Old School Lunch** 12:30pm in the Centre on last Wednesday each month.
- Study Group** Yet to be decided. Speak to Fr Andrew if interested.
- Sewing Group** 10:00am in the Centre on 1st & 3rd Wednesday each month.
- Choir Practice** Fridays in the church at 6:15 pm. Come & sing with us.
- Messy Church** 1:00-3:00pm at the Kenmore Hall on 1st Friday each month

THE PRIE-DIEU

A prayer by Dr William Barclay



*O God our Father, grant us
 The love which is always ready to forgive;
 The love which is always eager to help;
 The love which is always happier to give
 than to get
 And so grant that living in love,
 we may live in the likeness of Jesus.*

Amen

DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY

Sunday 12th August saw St John's celebrate the 174th anniversary of the dedication of the church building. While the dedication service itself was held on 15th August in 1884, Sunday 12th 2018 was a great opportunity to give thanks for the faithfulness of men and women to worship and service in this place.

After toasting the Good Ship St John's, a joyful party made their way to Border Meringues for a buffet lunch beautifully prepared by proprietor Sharon and her willing team.

The banter and blether were both running high but paused long enough for the musical stylings of our resident crooner, Paul Beck and the poetic genius of Colin Wilkins. A wee bit of the antipodes also brightened the day as Fr Andrew shared a bit of Australian bush poetry... sadly not recited from memory. '



A wonderful occasion to rest, relax and be refreshed as we celebrated being us. 2019 is the 175th anniversary, so we suspect something special will be ahead of us



OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY

Jedburgh Callant Festival



This year we decided that we would offer refreshments on Festival Day to the Callant and his followers, consisting of soft drinks, sausage rolls, cocktail sausages and shortbread. Those who were able to help, congregated at the Lych Gate around 7:30 am on Friday 13th July. The morning was overcast and probably a relief for the riders. Leaving from the Back Bongate, the cavalcade rode up The Pleasance where the refreshments were distributed to any hungry or thirsty rider - not to the horses though! The gesture appeared to be very much appreciated - so, maybe again next year ?!

Goodbyes

Bidding farewell to Maria and her family as they move to a new life in Dalkieth.

We wish them all well.



Summer Thursdays

Thursday is a special day in the life of St John's; it is the day each week when a small group gather with Fr Andrew to celebrate the Eucharist.

That calm and uplifting little service, which takes place in the Chancel of the church, is a wonderful way to bridge the gap between Sundays, so, if anyone has thought of coming along, hesitate no longer and join us.



There is also the added bonus in the form of fellowship, when we share much laughter, chat and memories over a cup of coffee at the Woollen Mill. Through the summer months Fr

Andrew has found the time to join us; perhaps we could be seen as a little group from St John's meeting around a table on a week-day morning. Service in church 10:00am; coffee and chat 11:00am. You don't have to do both!

St John's in the Market Place

It is often said that "...you meet everyone at the Co-op". Maybe that is true, maybe not, but Fr Andrew thought it worth a try to see if he could get to know more people in the town. On two evenings in August he spent three hours or so sitting in the store, drinking coffee and chatting to people; he said afterwards that he had found it a great experience and many people were very happy to stop and talk for a while.



St John's Outreach Giving

At Vestry in early spring this year, Fr Andrew suggested that it is a good practical and spiritual practice to set aside a certain proportion of our income to support ministry beyond the church. This would be from our 'first fruits' - our communal assets as well as regular appeals. It was decided after being proposed and seconded and then voted upon, that the sum of £1,000 for this, be set aside in our budget in this financial year, which ends this September.



For some years, Petra Schools in Bulawayo, Rhodesia has been the recipient of a regular amount of financial support from St John's. This financial year they have received £500 towards their work.

Serving in Mission, an international Christian organisation, is to be the other recipient, to the benefit of the work of Simon and Grace Stretton-Downes, presently serving in Liberia. Vestry wished that the donation to them go towards a specific project of their choice. After consulting with Simon and Grace by email, they got back to Vestry with three options and it was decided at the July meeting that a donation of £500 go towards the work of the brand new Trinity Dental Centre Project. This has been forwarded.

The donation will help support the equipping of 8 new dental surgeries, each needing all the usual dental equipment, scalers, dental stools, etc. There are many other needs, including the training of local dental health workers, but our little should help get things up and running.

Simon and Grace send out a regular Liberia newsletter and if you'd like to be added to their mailing list get in touch with me with your email and I'll forward it to them for inclusion on their list.

Ann Beck (ann.beck@zoho.com)

IN SEARCH OF A ROUNDTABLE

Concerning the why and how and what and who of ministry, one image keeps surfacing: a table that is round.

It will take some sawing to be roundtabled, some redefining, some redesigning.

Some redoing and rebirthing of narrowlong churching can painful be for people and tables.

It would mean no daising and throning, for but one king is there, and he was a foot-washer, at table no less.

And what of narrowlong ministers when they confront a roundtable people, after years of working up the table to finally sit at its head, only to discover that the table has been turned round?

They must be loved into roundness, for God has called a people, not "them" and "us".

"Them and us" are unable to gather round for at a roundtable, there are no sides, and all are invited to wholeness and to food.

At one time our narrowlong churches were built to resemble the cross but it does no good for buildings to do so, if lives do not.

Roundtabling means no preferred seating, no first and last, no better and no corners for "the least of these".

Roundtabling means being with, a part of, together, and one. It means room for the Spirit, and gifts and disturbing profound peace for all.

We can no longer prepare for the past.

We will and must and are called to be church and if God calls for other than roundtable we are bound to follow.

Leaving the sawdust and chips, designs and redesigns behind in search of and in the presence of the kingdom that is God's and not ours

Amen

Chuck Lathrop

In Search of a Roundtable; gender, theology and church leadership
Musimbi Kanyoro ed WCC (1997)



THE GIVE AND TAKE OF CHURCH LIFE

How should you receive the bread and wine at Communion? Are there any rules?

Churchgoers of a certain generation will tell you that someone trained them in the proper way of doing things when they were confirmed. Ask for more detail, and it turns out that different things were taught in different places. That's because there is more than one way of interpreting the central act of our Eucharistic services.

Is it the moment in worship when we approach the presence of Jesus to receive the bread and wine consecrated as His body and blood? Is it the time when we come together as a community symbolically re-creating the meal that Jesus shared with his Disciples? Actually, it is both of those – a sacrifice and a celebration – but in different Christian traditions one has often been emphasised over the other, with different conventions about actions and posture.

A church like St John's imposes no single interpretation, nor any rules beyond the expectation of decent behaviour. So, should you kneel or stand? Lift your hands or keep them out of the way? Eat the wafer or keep it to dip ("intinct") into the wine? Look up or bow your head? Take the chalice or let it be put to your lips?

You should do what you feel most comfortable with, both in body and in mind. Having said that, I write as one of those who negotiate the Sanctuary steps distributing the elements, and there are a few practical things – *nothing to do with theology and everything to do with ergonomics* – that we would ask you to consider. We come in different shapes and sizes, and the



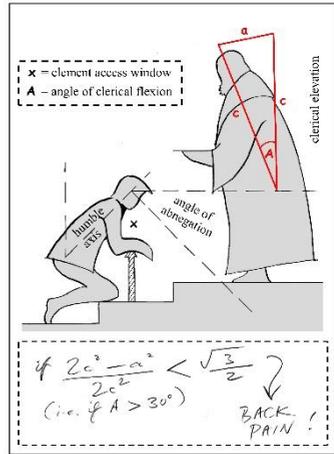
geometry can be quite challenging, especially for those of us who need to reach from the upper step.

- If you find it uncomfortable to kneel for communion, feel free to stand. Standing is no less respectful.
- If you kneel, an upright posture when we come to you with the bread and the wine helps us see what we are doing.
- If you kneel, lifting and extending your hands to receive the wafer saves a lot of bending.
- Taking the chalice, or at least helping to guide it to and from your lips, reduces the risk of receiving too much or too little, or of the wine being spilled.
- If you choose to intinct, make sure you can see into the chalice to avoid putting your fingertips in the wine, as they carry at least as many germs as the lips.

It is a great privilege to be in the Sanctuary to serve and to distribute the bread and wine. The Eucharist – however you interpret it – is the focal point of worship on both sides of the altar rail. Some of us will be alone with our thoughts: others simply trying not to trip up. Let's help each other keep the moment special.

Like so much of our Church life, it's a matter of give and take.

Paul Beck
for the Sanctuary team



In the last magazine we had a poem about Opening Doors; here is one about Choosing Roads.

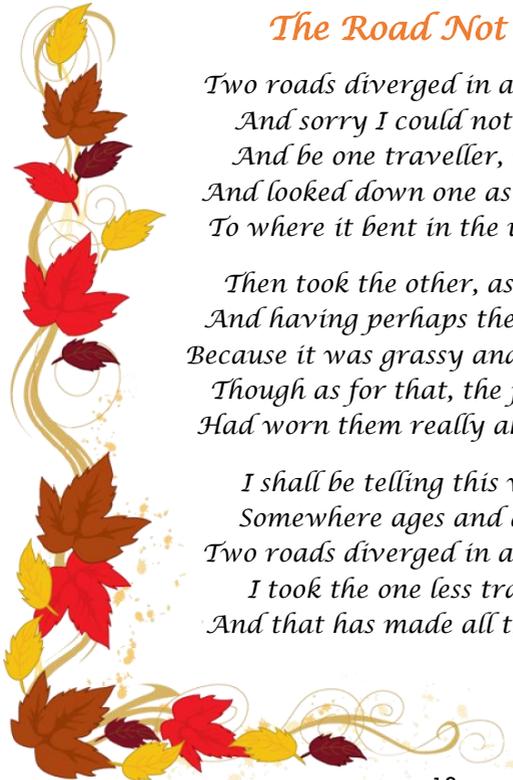
The Road Not Taken

*Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveller, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;*

*Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that, the passing there
Had worn them really about the same;*

*I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -
I took the one less travelled by,
And that has made all the difference.*

Robert Frost
1874 – 1963



Saint John's Church – Services

SUNDAYS

9.00 am Holy Communion 1970 Scottish Liturgy
 10.30 am Sung Eucharist 1982 Scottish Liturgy

THURSDAYS

10 am Holy Communion

Also Communion on important saints' days



READINGS FOR 10.30am SERVICE

DATE	READINGS
09/09/18 Pentecost 16	Prov. 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Psalm 125 James 2:1-10(11-13) 14-17 Mark 7:24-37
16/09/18 Pentecost 17	Prov. 1:20-33 Psalm 19 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38
23/09/18 Pentecost 18	Prov. 31:10-31 Psalm 1 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37
30/09/18 Pentecost 19	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50
07/10/18 Pentecost 20 Harvest	Joel 2:21-27 Psalm 126 1 Tim. 2:1-7 Matthew 6:25-33
14/10/18 Pentecost 21	Job 23:1-9, 16-17 Psalm 22 Heb. 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31
21/10/18 Pentecost 22	Job 38:1-7 (34-41) Psalm 104 Heb. 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45

DATE	READINGS
28/10/18 Pentecost 23	Job 42:1-6, 10-17 Psalm 34 Heb. 7:23-28 Mark 10:46b-52
04/11/18 Pentecost 24 <i>[4th Sunday before Advent]</i>	Ruth 1:1-18 Psalm 146 Heb. 9:11-14 Mark 12:28-34
11/11/18	(no 10.30 service) Remembrance Sunday
18/11/18 Pentecost 26 <i>[2nd Sunday before Advent]</i>	1 Sam. 1:4-20 Psalm 16 Heb. 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25 Mark 13:1-8
25/11/18 Last after Pentecost Christ the King	2 Sam 23:1-7 Psalm 132 Rev. 1:4b-8 John 18:33b-37
02/12/18 1st Sunday of Advent	Jer. 33:14-16 Psalm 25 1 Thess. 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36



We are always keen to receive articles from you
for inclusion in the magazine.

The deadline for anything to be included in the Winter magazine is
Sunday 11th November

LIZ KITELEY

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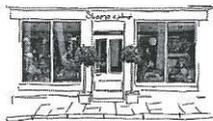
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