



St John the Evangelist

Scottish Episcopal Church, Jedburgh

MAGAZINE



Autumn 2019

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



Dear Reader

In this magazine we celebrate St John's past, take a look at where we are now, and consider where we might be in the future; with Fr Andrew back at the helm, anything can happen!!

One thing is certain, nothing in life stays the same and in the natural world around us we can see that those species of flora and fauna that can adapt to changing conditions will survive, while those that can't become extinct.

What about us ?!

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 & Evangelist
Sept: 29th St Michael & All Angels
Oct: 6th Harvest Festival & Blessing of Pets
to celebrate the Feast of St Francis of Assisi
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
Nov: 29th St Andrew's Day
Dec: 1st Advent Sunday
Dec 8th Advance Notice of AGM

REGULAR DATES

- Old School Lunch** 12:30pm in the Centre, last Wednesday each month
Sewing Group 10:00am in the Centre on 1st & 3rd Wednesdays each month
Choir Practice. 6:15pm Fridays in the church. Come & sing with us.
Messy Church 1:00-3:00pm at Kenmore Hall on 1st Friday each month
Vestry Meetings Sept: 17th, Oct: 15th, Nov: 19th.

FROM FATHER ANDREW

This is indeed a season for celebration and thanksgiving. On a personal level I have much cause for thanksgiving with the completion of seven months of rigorous chemotherapy that have resulted in being announced officially in remission and no longer needing any more treatment ... just a little more recovery time but that's very manageable. I am very grateful for the folk of St John's for the support over my illness. This manifested itself in many ways. First and foremost in deep prayer. I had a very strong sense of being held before God. There were many other practical things like the ministries people volunteered to cover, the small gifts, cards, food offerings and house work, the visits and the kind thoughts that all made the transition easier. Some wonderful generosity made it possible for my family to come and spend time with me when I needed it most. Lots of reasons to be cheerful.

On the 18th August we celebrated 175 years of faithful worship and loving service at St John's. Some of the story and pictures will appear in the issue to show some of the joy at sharing such a momentous milestone. The

anniversary is a timely reminder of the deep roots we have in this community and the wonderful

heritage we have to share, perhaps in new and fresh ways as well as the time honoured and well tested. I anticipate that the events of Dedication Sunday marked the beginning of a year of celebration in a variety of ways ... indeed perhaps a Year of Jubilee.

My friend, Professor Google tells me that *'in Judaism and Christianity, the concept of the Jubilee is a special year of remission of sins and universal pardon. In the Book of Leviticus, a Jubilee year is mentioned to occur every fiftieth year, during which slaves and prisoners would be freed, debts would be forgiven and the mercies of God would be particularly manifest. In Western Christianity, the tradition dates to 1300, when Pope Boniface VIII convoked a holy year, following which ordinary jubilees have generally been celebrated every 25 or 50 years, with extraordinary jubilees in addition depending on need.'*¹



I wonder if we are able to operate as a Jubilee people, instigating a year of the Lord's favour. While we may not have the capacity to completely cancel each other's financial debts, perhaps we can look at how we release some of the spiritual burdens of debt that keep us captive. Perhaps this is a time to let go of the debts we hold against others ... the hurt and barriers we hold onto because of something once said or not said, done or not done. Perhaps we can forgive the time when our community has not seemed to serve others well or placed its energies more into things than people. Perhaps it is a time to

embrace as always the call to be more than a group of individuals who happen to sit in a building together and continue the work of being a real community that supports, nourishes and cares for each other and for the people outside our doors. Perhaps it is a year to really celebrate the goodness and wisdom and quirky humanity we share and let go of all that builds barriers to hope and joy in community.

Have a wonderful Year of Jubilee, flock ... and here's praying that God will grant us many more.

Andrew

¹ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jubilee_\(Christianity\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jubilee_(Christianity))

MESSY CHURCH NEWS

Messy Church children recently celebrated "the story of Abraham" with my dessert to complement the story! The games and crafts went down a treat too. Next Messy Church is on Friday 6th September in the Kenmore Hall, 1pm-3pm. Please bring your children along, we always welcome new faces. Lunch is provided.

Julie Black

175 YEARS AGO

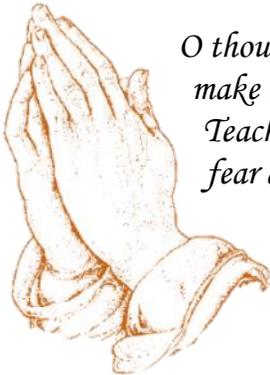
Here is a page from the order of Holy Communion used on Thursday 15 August 1844, the day of St. John's consecration by the Bishop of Glasgow.

One of a number of volumes specially prepared for St John's, it is notable for the quality of the printing and binding, and for the fact that the type-setting, the page design and the setting of the musical parts of the service to plainchant were the work of William Dyce, who later in life became famous as a painter. The words are those of the 1764 Scottish Communion Office.



To mark the anniversary, a substantial amount of historical information is being added to the church website, and a short 'walk round guide' is being produced for visitors to pick up.

The Prie-Dieu



*O thou, who art the Way, the Truth and the Life,
make thy way plain before our face.
Teach us to live boldly, that we may be free from
fear and favour, strong in thy love and power.*

Amen

JEDBURGH CHRISTMAS MARKET

SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER 2019



This is still a long way ahead but time flies past all too quickly and as the idea is to make this a “craft” stall, we need you to start being creative now !

At this stage we are asking folks to have a think about producing some small, reasonably priced festive items that we can display attractively on our stall. ‘Crafts’ covers a wide range of skills such as:- woodwork, needlework, knitting and artwork, which can be used to make decorations, cards and trinkets. Culinary skills: baking, confectionary and preserves will be equally welcome. Learning from last

year, we need to concentrate on making small, reasonably priced items that can be bought as gifts by children as well as adults and that reflect the Christmas season. We have a wealth of talent here at St John’s that can be put to good use.

Having a table there is, for us, as much a PR exercise and a presence on the street as it is a fundraiser. More details will appear in the weeks leading up to it, so please keep an eye on the pew-sheet and notices in the town.

EK



ST JOHN’S COBWEBS

get more volunteers.)

The loyal band of people who keep our church clean and dust-free have been doing their duties for many years and the time has come to ask for some new volunteers. This is by no means an onerous task and only comes round about every 8 weeks. So 5 or 6 times in a year. (Less if we

So – if you are willing to step up to help, or if you’d like to step down after helping for many years - please get in touch with me. Thank you, both in advance and in hope.

Judith Coulson



JEDBURGH CHURCHES FOODBANK

Foodbank has just given out its 1,000th parcel since it started 8 years ago. This year has been the busiest year ever, and we are only half way through it. We fear there's no end in sight. Families seem to be making more calls for help, especially those with babies and small children. Help is given with baby milk and nappies (always expensive) and we are most grateful to those who make money donations which go towards this need.

Foodbank has entered into a contract with Fare Share, a UK charity which fights hunger and tackles food waste. (www.fareshare.org.uk) Foodbank pays to receive some supermarket over-stocks. We can only take tinned, packet and jarred products and what we get depends upon bidding for what is available. So we don't get huge quantities of all our most frequently given staples, but we do receive some of them, sometimes, and other things that we can use as alternatives, extras or treats. This supplements, but cannot replace, the regular faithful giving of church folk focused around the donating the staples. We still have shortages of certain items every few weeks.

We often 'run low' on the robust carrier bags (the 10p ones) in which we deliver food parcels. (The thin ones aren't strong enough.) If anyone has more of these than they need at home, folding them and popping them in with your food donations is a really helpful contribution.

Foodbank relies on teams of volunteers to pick up Fare Share items and do Foodbank deliveries to clients, stock organisation and finance. We are always grateful for donations from St John's.

There is a list of Foodbank items needed on the noticeboard in the porch at St John's and the box for food donations is beside the font. If you would rather make a money donation please put it in an envelope labelled 'Foodbank', hand it to me and I will pass this on.

Ann Beck

SUMMER SNAPSHOTS

The first “event” of the summer, at the beginning of June, was the welcome return of Fr Andrew amongst us after an



absence of seven months. Appropriately enough that took place at Pentecost and was celebrated with the appearance of ‘Pentecost cakes’ adorning the altar which were shared amongst the congregation after both services, with some being taken to those unable to get to church.

Has a new tradition been started here?

“**Callant Festival, Sausage Rolls**” was the entry in one helper’s diary for 12th July, and down at St John’s the willing helpers gathered at the Lych Gate to fortify those riding with the Callant on Festival day. It was not only members of the congregation who had offered to help but also friends and some unfamiliar faces that made the occasion a real community effort.



The riders, of all ages, appeared around 7:30am and were glad to partake of the sausage rolls and soft drinks that were available; many of them had probably not had breakfast as they got their horses ready for a long day ahead.

There were familiar faces amongst the riders but also visitors to Jedburgh who had hired horses for the event. Hopefully they took home with them the warmth of friendship from those of us representing St John's. Our offerings of food and drink were certainly much appreciated.



A policeman on Festival duty for the day was included in the refreshment 'hand-out'. After all, his day was likely to be even longer than the Riders'!



On Trinity Sunday we heard Claire Nicholson give her first sermon at St John's. Claire is now entering her second year of training for the Priesthood and is playing an ever increasing role in the church as Fr Andrew regains his health and strength. Trinity Sunday was not perhaps the easiest of Sundays to make one's debut in familiar surroundings, but no-one in the congregation had any complaints!

Claire is the first Ordinand from St John's since 1996 and we wish her well, both with the remainder of her training and in her future ministry.

TOWARDS 2024

Vestry held an open session on Saturday 20th July, where several members of the congregation joined them for a wide-ranging discussion of plans and priorities for the next five years. St John's faces the same challenges of numbers and resources as most rural churches in a changing society, where it seems fewer and fewer people want to do the things we have always done. The question how to be true to our vision of ourselves as a "community of welcome in the Borders" and what this might mean in practice, occupied two very full sessions broken by a short lunch, but still only scratched the surface.



However, Vestry made some important decisions in principle on Mission and Outreach, Leadership and Governance, and Stewardship. In the months to come, it will engage with the broader congregation in small working groups to look at the options and the details.

**I'm not having a senior moment.
I'm just suffering from information
overload**

DEDICATION SUNDAY

A special service of Sung Eucharist, combining the 9.00 am and the 10.30 am congregations was held on the morning of Sunday 18th August, celebrating the anniversary of the church's dedication on 15th August 1844, 175 years ago. St John's was pleased to welcome Rev. Denise Herbert, Rev. Margaret Pederson, and Reader Rosemary Wilson, along with other past members of the congregation who now live elsewhere.



F. Andrew was in good form and as usual preached an excellent sermon. (His 21 minute sermon was allowed by Jeremy as a special concession because of the 175th anniversary!)

Afterwards Borders Meringues hosted a

splendid buffet lunch which was well attended and enjoyed and appreciated by all - especially the meringue lovers.

At 6:00 pm the ringing of the Church Bell, first heard in 1844, announced the start of a service of prayer and song bringing folk from far and wide and the local folk of Jedburgh to join with St John's community. The Choir, helped by guest soloist Ruth Dorward, organ solos by Ted Ferguson and Isobel Portch and a duet by them, a large congregation in full voice for the hymns, a passage of scripture read by Rev. John Evans, a short sermon from F. Andrew and



a reflection from Paul Beck on St John's 'then and now', made it a service to remember. Afterwards fellowship over 'drinks and nibbles' added to the occasion.

Many interesting artefacts were on display, thanks to Joan Stafford-Badger, St John's archivist, including the prayer book used at the dedication service by Lady Lothian and signed by the Bishops attending. The special flower arrangements for the day were admired by many.

It was a good day. St John's is indeed very special and lived up to its vision of being a

'Community of Welcome in the Borders.'



MEANWHILE – IN ANCRUM

Bishops of Glasgow have had links with this area going back much further than the dedication of St John's.

Ancrum & District Heritage Society will host an archaeological dig on the Mantle Walls field. In medieval times on this field there was a Bishop's Palace and excavations take place from 16th to 28th September in the hope of finding further evidence and details of the site. On the middle Saturday (21st) there will be an **Open Day** when people can visit the site, talk to the experts and see what has been uncovered. On the Sunday (22nd) there will be a **Living History Day** on the village green where you can see weapon demonstrations by the Time Bandits re-enactors and see demonstrations of stone-carving, pottery, woodworking and metal working and more.

Visit adhs.co.uk for more details or see the posters in the porch.

THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Saint John the Evangelist

Website: www.stjohnsjedburgh.org.uk

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 17th November.

Saint John's Church – Services

SUNDAYS

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

THURSDAYS

10.00 am Holy Communion

Also Communion on important saints' days

READINGS FOR 10.30am SERVICE



08 Sep Pentecost 13	Jeremiah 18:1-11 Ps 139 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14:25-33	27 Oct Pentecost 20	Joel 2:23-32 Ps 65 2 Tim. 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14
15 Sep Pentecost 14	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 Ps 14 1 Tim. 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10	03 Nov Pentecost 21	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Ps 119 2 Thess. 1:1-4, (5-10), 11-12 Luke 19:1-10
22 Sep Pentecost 15	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 Ps 79 1 Tim. 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13	10 Nov Remembrance Sunday	
29 Sep Pentecost 16	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 Ps 91 1 Tim. 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31	17 Nov Pentecost 23	Isaiah 65:17-25 Canticle: Isaiah 12 2 Thess. 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19
06 Oct Pentecost 17 Harvest	Deut. 8:7-18 Ps 126 1 Tim. 2:1-7 Matt. 6:25-33	24 Nov Christ the King	Jeremiah 23:1-6 Luke 1:68-79 or Ps 46 Col. 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43
13 Oct Pentecost 18	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 Ps 66 2 Tim. 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19	01 Dec Advent 1	Isaiah 2:1-5 Ps 122 Rom. 13:11-14 Matt. 24:36-44
20 Oct Pentecost 19	Jeremiah 31:27-34 Ps 119 2 Tim. 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8		

Love without Limits

*Let love be real, in giving and receiving
Without the need to manage and to own;
A haven free from posing and pretending,
Where every weakness may be safely known.
Give me your hand, along the desert pathway,
Give me your love wherever we may go
As God loves us, so let us love each other;
With no demands, just open hands and space to grow.*

*Let love be real, not in grasping all confining,
That strange embrace that holds yet sets us free;
That helps us face the risk of truly living,
And makes us brave to be what we might be.
Give me your strength when all my words are weakness;
Give me your love in spite of all you know
As God loves us, so let us love each other;
With no demands, just open hands and space to grow.*

*Let love be real, with no manipulation,
No secret wish to harness or control;
Let us accept each other's incompleteness
And share the joy of learning to be whole.
Give me your hope through dreams and disappointments;
Give me your trust when all my failings show.
As God loves us, so let us love each other;
With no demands, just open hands and space to grow.*

Michael Forster (1946-)

LIZ KITELEY

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