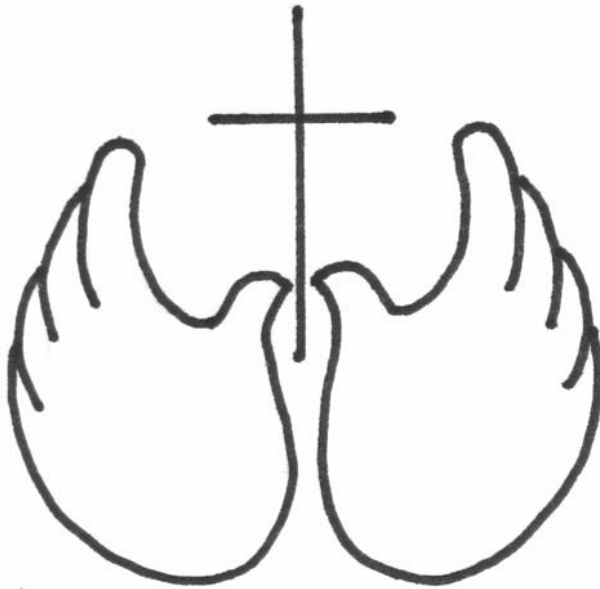


**ST EBBA'S  
SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
EYEMOUTH**

**February 2014**



**Times of worship**

Every Sunday: 11am Eucharist in church  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday: 10.00am Eucharist in the parsonage

OSCR number SC023275



## LETTER FROM THE MINISTRY TEAM

I recently went to see the film “The Railway Man” at the Maltings in Berwick. This is the story of Eric Lomax who lived his later years in Berwick until his death at the age of 93 in 2012. Many of the film locations were very recognisable, especially those of the magnificent railway viaduct over the River Tweed, and I am sure the packed houses at the cinema testified to the fact that Eric and his wife Patty were well-known local people.

I knew something of the story before I saw the film – how Eric had been captured by the Japanese at the surrender of Singapore and forced to work on the Burma railway; how subsequently he had sought out and established a relationship of friendship with his Japanese guard. I assumed this story of forgiveness and reconciliation would be worth seeing and learning from.

I was struck more forcibly as I viewed the film by something else – the nature of evil as demonstrated by the horrific actions of the prison guards towards their captives. The violence and brutality shown was not the mindless actions of a psychopath but was systematic and systemic, deliberate and wilful evil, carried out by intelligent and rational “normal” human beings.

Christians often struggle with what is called “The problem of Suffering in the world”, in other words how a good and loving God can allow pain and suffering. My difficulty is not so much with the problem of the existence of suffering – that seems to me to be bound up with the very nature of physical life and not to have pain and suffering would derive humanity of much freedom. My problem is with the existence of evil. How in the face of so much that is good and glorious in this God-created world can humanity perform actions which are fundamentally wicked and evil?

The excesses of war may account for – but not excuse - some evil in the world. But evil stalks the news bulletins in these early days of 2014 with care-workers abusing dementia patients for “fun”, with children massacred by other children in intertribal violence in Southern Sudan, with a child being forced to carry a suicide bomb in Afghanistan.

It would be lovely to argue that in the course of evolution humanity is learning “goodness” and that things are getting better all the time. But I fear the evidence for such a position is fundamentally lacking.

Evil is alive and well in our world. And perhaps the lesson from “The Railway Man” is that it is only in recognising its true reality (and its effects) that we can have any chance of moving towards a better world based on forgiveness and truth. If we ignore evil, sweep it under the carpet or pretend it does not exist then it never will be overcome.

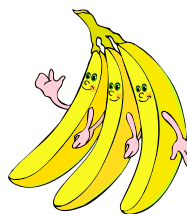
Jesus faced the reality of evil throughout his life - in his temptations in the desert and in the garden of Gethsemane but particularly on the Cross. There he showed how to defeat evil with love and opened the door of deep forgiveness for everyone.

Tim Morris

## **Fair Trade Fortnight goes bananas....**

Fair Trade Fortnight this year (24 Feb – 9 Mar) will see the launch of a new campaign to increase the sales of Fair Trade bananas. Although more than 1.2 billion Fairtrade bananas are now sold in the UK each year, that is still only one in three of the bananas sold.

So ‘Abolish the Unfair Banana’ aims to carry on transforming the banana industry, in order to ensure that those at the sharp end of the supply chain – the millions of struggling banana farmers – get a fair deal. The campaign is the next part of Fair Trade’s three year initiative to Make Food Fair.



For more information on Fairtrade Fortnight, go to  
[www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)

## FEBRUARY DIARY

**Sun 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**EPIPHANY 4**

11am Eucharist (1982)

Readings

Micah 6 vs 1-8

Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1 vs 18-31

Matthew 5 vs 1-12

**Wed 5<sup>th</sup>**

**10am Eucharist**

Followed by Mothers Union

**Sun 9<sup>th</sup>**

**EPIPHANY 5**

11am Eucharist (1970)

Readings

Isaiah 58 vs 1-9a

Psalm 112 vs 1-9

1 Corinthians 2 vs 1-12

Matthew 5 vs 13-20

**Sun 16<sup>th</sup>**

**EPIPHANY 6**

11am Eucharist (1982)

Readings

Deuteronomy 30 vs 15-20

Psalm 119 vs 1-8

1 Corinthians 3 vs 1-9

Matthew 5 vs 21-37

**Sun 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**EPIPHANY 7 with healing**

11am Eucharist (1970)

Readings

Leviticus 19 vs 1-2, 9-18

Psalm 119 vs 33-40

1 Corinthians 3 vs 10-11,16-23

Matthew 5 vs 38-48

**Leaders for February services will be:**

Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Richard Oldale
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Shelmerdine
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup>	Richard Oldale
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Joan Shelmerdine

**Intercessors and Readers – February**

	<b>Server</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>	<b>Reader</b>
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Richard Oldale	Noreen Thompson	Susan Struthers
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Shelmerdine	Frankie Taylor	Jan Simpson
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup>	Richard Oldale	Ernie Cox	Pat Elliott
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Joan Shelmerdine	Simon Furness	Debbie Higson

LCM team meets at 4pm on the third Thursday of the month.

Ecumenical Groups in Eyemouth meet every second and fourth Monday between 7.30 and 9pm. Everyone welcome.

**ADVANCE DIARY DATES**

Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Bishop's visit to commission the new LCM team  
Sat 10<sup>th</sup> May: Coffee Morning  
Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Oct: Coffee Morning

**CREATING A BETTER INTERNET**

Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Feb Safer internet day will be celebrated in over 100 countries under the slogan "Let's create a better Internet together". Its aim is to promote the positive power of the internet to allow people to create, share and connect. See [www.saferinternetday.org](http://www.saferinternetday.org)

## NOTES FROM THE VESTRY

### **1 St Ebba's New Ministry Team**

The Vestry were delighted to receive the names of members of the congregation who have accepted the call from the congregation to work together as St Ebba's Ministry Team. At their first meeting on February 2<sup>nd</sup> the team members' will have an opportunity to get to know each other and to talk about their new and continuing roles on the team. The Team will identify together how best we can learn from and through each other. Some training and expertise is needed from the wider church resources and the Vestry is committed to supporting this in whatever way seems useful to the Team.

The programme and pattern of worship will continue to be delivered as we move through the transitional period until the Commissioning of the New Ministry Team on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014. The Right Rt. John Armes, Bishop of Edinburgh, will be with us for the morning service. Please put this date in your diary and come and support the Team members with your presence and prayers. Food and fellowship will follow the service.

This is an important and exciting time in the life of St Ebba's and will be help shape our future ministry and mission.

### **2 Garden of Remembrance**

The Vestry agreed to create a Garden Of Remembrance within the Church Garden for the scattering of ashes. The contract for this has been awarded following a tender process and work will proceed as soon as possible.

### **3 Fabric Working Group**

Four Vestry members will work on this group to plan and bring forward options and costs for a new heating system for the Church. The group will prioritise the repairs restoration and decoration needed and bring a plan of work to the next Vestry meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> 2014

Approved Minutes of Vestry meetings are available in the Vestry File at the back of the Church

The new Ministry Team members and their roles are listed in a

paper titled Calling Sunday Results

#### **4 Charitable Giving**

The Vestry will allocate the 2014 grants to a range of charities at the next meeting in March. These grants are made on behalf of all members of the congregation. A list of the charities who received a donation in 2013 and a note of their work is in the Vestry file at the back of the Church. If you wish to nominate another charity for consideration please give the Charity name and details to any Vestry member.

#### **5 Vestry Members**

The 2014 Vestry members are:

Jennifer Edie, Pat Elliott, Simon Furness, Dave Garside, Debbie Higson, Irene Morris, Richard Oldale, IanTaylor Joan Thomas, Richard Yeo.

Irene Morris

\*\*\*\*\*

*2<sup>nd</sup> February is an important day in the Christian Church celebrating both the Presentation of Christ in the Temple and Candlemas*

#### **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple**

In New Testament times 40 days old was when a baby boy made his first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present him to the Lord'.

#### **Candlemas**

In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season exactly 40 days after Christmas Day. But why Candlemas?

Jesus is described as the Light of the World, and early Christians lit candles in celebration of this day and the Church also blessed the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas.



## PRAYERS FOR THE NEW TEAM



**The members of the old Team invite you to pray each day for the new Ministry Team to be commissioned on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

### **Monday**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified:

hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,  
that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness  
and truth to the glory of your name;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

*From Jennifer*

### **Tuesday**

O Thou who art the light of the minds that know thee, the life of the  
souls that love thee and the strength of the wills that serve thee,  
help us so to know thee that we may truly love thee, so to love thee  
that we may fully serve thee, whom to serve is perfect freedom.  
Amen.

*From Tim (A prayer of St. Augustine)*

### **Wednesday**

Thanks be to thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which  
thou hast given us, for all the pains and insults which you have  
borne for us.

O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may we know thee  
more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly,  
now and for evermore. Amen

*From Sheila (A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester)*



### **Thursday**

Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on us!

We thank you that throughout the generations you have raised up men and women to serve your church in all times and in all places. As we go about the task of calling new leaders to serve with us, we pray for a spirit of mutual trust and for the ability to speak fully and listen faithfully to each other. We pray for the spirit of wisdom to be in our midst as we go about the tasks to which we have been called.

We give thanks for all who have served this congregation as servants of your Word. Fill us with the love, grace, and confidence that can only come from you, In Jesus' Name. Amen.

*From Joan T.*

### **Friday**

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or conceive, by the power which is at work among us, to Him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus from generation to generation evermore! Amen.

*From David (Ephesians 3.20-21)*

### **Saturday**

Grant me, O Lord, the royalty of inward happiness and the serenity which comes from living close to Thee. Daily renew in us the sense of Joy and let the Eternal spirit of the Father dwell in my soul and body, filling every corner of my heart with light and grace, so that bearing about with us the infection of a good courage, I may be a diffuser of life and may meet all ills and cross accidents with gallant and high hearted happiness, giving Thee thanks always for all things. Amen

*From Joan S.*

Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts.”  
Mother Teresa

## MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE

(Acts 20:35)

*St Ebba's has a tradition of generosity and the following payments to charities were made by the Vestry on your behalf in 2013.*

**Scottish Episcopal Church Community Fund** £200

**Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association** £200

The Association supports a number of projects across the world. (A list of the 2013 projects is available in the Vestry Minutes folder at the back of the church) The work is varied with the new projects including working in Uganda to help restore running water to communities, providing desks and computer equipment in Brazil, establishing a piggery in Malawi and supporting farming in Palestine. The Association publishes the Links magazine to keep supporters informed on progress.

**Rock Trust** £200

This Trust aims to prevent youth homelessness and to support young people to build better futures. Over 50% of young people who are referred to the Rock Trust self-access scheme have physical or mental health difficulties. The funding helped support the work of an Occupational Therapist to help signpost people to the mainstream health services they need.

Many of the young people took part in the 'Sleep Out Challenge' in Edinburgh on 7<sup>th</sup> November. This year an additional challenge was held for businesses, organisations and supporters to bring supporters a step closer to the reality experienced by the homeless and vulnerable young people.

For more information visit [www.rocktrust.org](http://www.rocktrust.org)

**Scottish Churches Housing Association** £200

The Association supports Churches and Organisations make practical responses to people who are homeless and to those who have worked within the Church and require help in finding and funding a house in retirement As well as help with accommodation people using the services are supported to create connections and contacts within their communities to help sustain a home and boost income. Current work within the Julius project will see four new

befriending initiatives for homeless people in the next three years. The Association has helped a number of local people from Berwickshire who were provided with starter packs and contact with a volunteer to assist to guide them through the stages of finding a shelter and food.

**Aberlour** **£200**

**Scottish Bible Society** **£200**

The Society has set up a Trauma Healing Project to help refugees who have fled from Colombia into Ecuador following sustained violence and abuse .Two hundred pastors are being trained in a trauma healing programme and will support refugees, providing practical support and giving each participant their own Bible .

For more information visit [www.scottishbiblesociety.org](http://www.scottishbiblesociety.org)

**Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fisherman** **£200**

At a national level the work of the mission continues to offer hospitality and basic support to those who work on ships .Some funding covers the costs of keeping families in touch with their families through mobile phone contact. This can be very important in helping families stay and feel connected through the many months of separation. Food and warm clothing are available and centres offer hospitality and friendship to sailors and other staff.

Locally there remains an office and contact point in the Fisherman's Mission following the sale of the premises last year

**Mercy Corps** **£200**

The work continues in almost every major disaster area with hands on help providing immediate lifesaving assistance to those in need and working to help communities build longer term recovery plans The support given provided clean water, basic food supplies , hygiene kits and shelter The current funding is targeted towards the Mercy Corps' Super Typhoon Haiyan Appeal.

**BCYT** **£480**

The money helped to fund the summer activity week at Ayton PS Up to 50 children of primary school ages took part. Two facilitators and lots of volunteers lead and supported a Jungle based programme of drama story telling arts and crafts that helped the

children (and adults) learn the stories of creation. Clearly there were a lot more Eden based adventures than you may have read about in the Bible all of which the young people acted out with enthusiasm.

The Bible Bus was a success and the visitors to this liked the interactive games and puzzles that encouraged them to try to apply some of the Christian teaching to their everyday experiences

**Bishops Lent Appeal** **£128**

The projects sponsored this year were L'Arche Edinburgh and Street Kids. Diocese of Lusaka, Zambia. We have suggested that notification and information on future appeals be sent out earlier to assist us with our response.

**Please let the Vestry know of any particular projects or organisations you wish to support and whether you feel the current level and range of support is about right. Thank you all for your continuing support.**

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### **OUTSIDE OUR BORDERS**

*Continuing his global series, Brian Payne takes us to Germany*

The town of Lippstadt is in the state of Lower Rhine Westphalia, to the east of Dortmund in Germany. It is a town where little of note has happened, and whose history is a solid reflection of the way in which the fortunes of towns on the North German Plain have waxed and waned with the gradual development of modern Germany. The town has a couple of big factories on its outskirts, has a fine central square and church, and is steadily prosperous.

On the southern boundary of the town are serried ranks of stone and concrete buildings. They are now divided into private flats and houses, but their original use is clear, defined by the architectural practice of the 1930's. These were once Barracks. I once worked in them.

In the 1980's, the Cold War showed no sign of abating. The British had two regiments stationed in the Barracks, Churchill Barracks on Winston Churchill Strasse. Inside the barrack blocks, in

hidden places, graffiti scrawled by previous occupants gave evidence of the Luftwaffe Anti-aircraft regiments, the American tank battalion that had succeeded them and the British soldiers' love of recording their presence. The Cold War ended when the Berlin Wall came down, and quite shortly afterwards, the British left Lippstadt as the Army of the Rhine was reduced in size.

However, a legacy beyond the Barracks remains. In the 50 years that the British were in residence, soldiers met and married local girls. The local phone book has English names scattered through it, and in some cases the grandchildren of men from Newcastle or Sheffield are now living their own lives as adults. They are German nationals but with relations across the United Kingdom. When the regiments departed, the retired soldiers stayed behind. Why should they move? Their life was in Lippstadt. By 2020, the very last of the Army presence in Germany will have gone. Perhaps then the Cold War will be forgotten. Where my self-propelled howitzers were once parked and serviced, in Churchill Barracks, there is now a kindergarten where the Schmidts and Smiths send their grandchildren. I like the idea of former enemies educating small children in a reused barracks. Don't you?

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### **Education Sunday – 16 February**

Do you pray for our local schools – the teachers and students alike? If not, here is a good time to start: on Education Sunday, which is always held on the ninth Sunday before Easter.

Education Sunday began more than 100 years ago as a national day of prayer and celebration for everyone involved in education. Today, our prayers are needed every bit as much as ever, as teachers and students alike face ever increasing demands upon them.

Education Sunday this year will look at the theme of 'Going Above and Beyond', and will be based on Matthew 5.21-37.

## NOTEBOOK



The Mothers' Union will meet on the first Wednesday of each month in the Parsonage after the 10.00am Eucharist.

*If you are in hospital and would like us to know and/or to visit, under the current regulations you have to specifically ask the hospital to inform us.*

Ecumenical Groups in Eyemouth meet every second and fourth Monday between 7.30 and 9pm. Everyone welcome.

*Editor's Note: Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this month's newsletter. You may have noticed there isn't a contents page but this is for the really good reason that the newsletter is bursting with so much interesting and thought-provoking material space was at a premium. Long may that continue! And do keep those contributions coming in.*



If you want to keep up with what's happening here and across the Borders, you will find the minutes of our own Vestry meetings and the Borders Area Council meeting in the files at the back of the church.

## CHURCH OFFICERS

Priests	the Revd Sheila Cox	01890 771764
	the Revd Jennifer Edie	01289 386338
	the Revd David Smout	01890 771220
	the Revd Tim Morris	01289 386615
Lay Rep	Richard Oldale	01890 750939
Alt Lay Rep	David Garside	01890 751159
People's Warden	Richard Oldale	01890 750939
Administrator	Joan Thomas	
Treasurer	David Garside	01890 751159

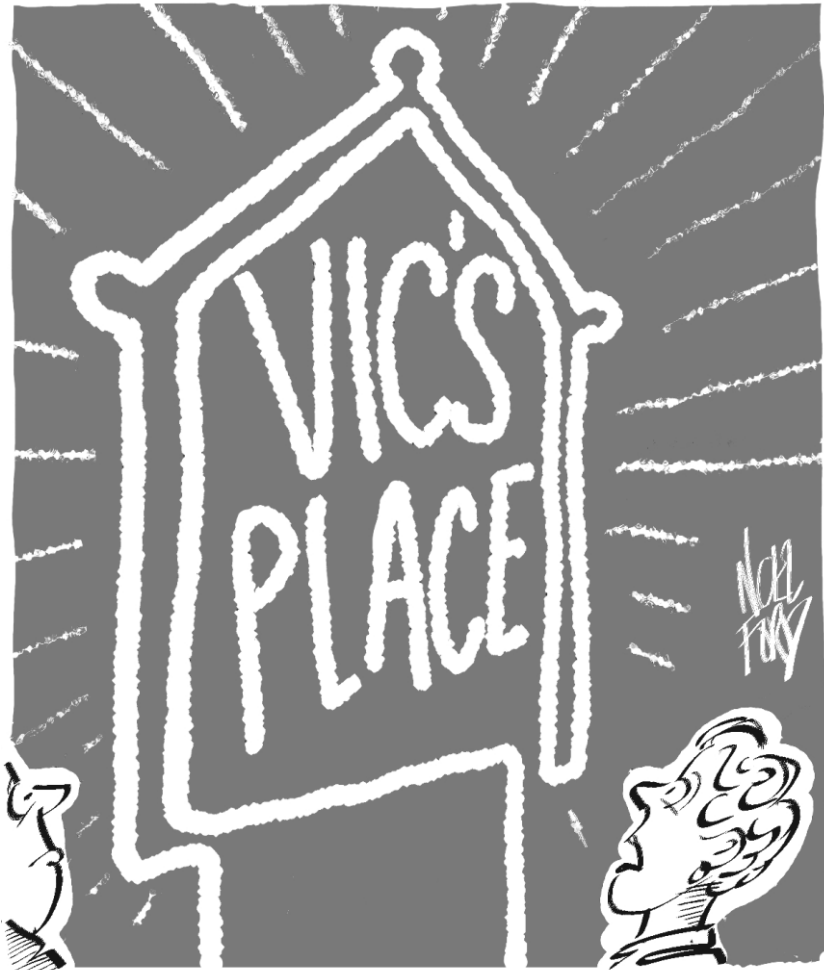
St Ebba's Church, Fort View, Paxton Terrace, Eyemouth, TD14 5EL  
St Ebba's Parsonage, Beach Avenue, Eyemouth, TD14 5EL

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Please hand copy for the next issue of the magazine to one of the Wardens or send to the Editor (address inside front cover) **by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.** The Editor welcomes all contributions and is grateful to those who helped this month.



The Editor would also like to thank Parish Pump, a site on the World Wide Web accessed via the Internet, for material supplied for use in parish magazines and newsletters.



"It may well attract more young folk to join the congregation but I still prefer the old church notice board"