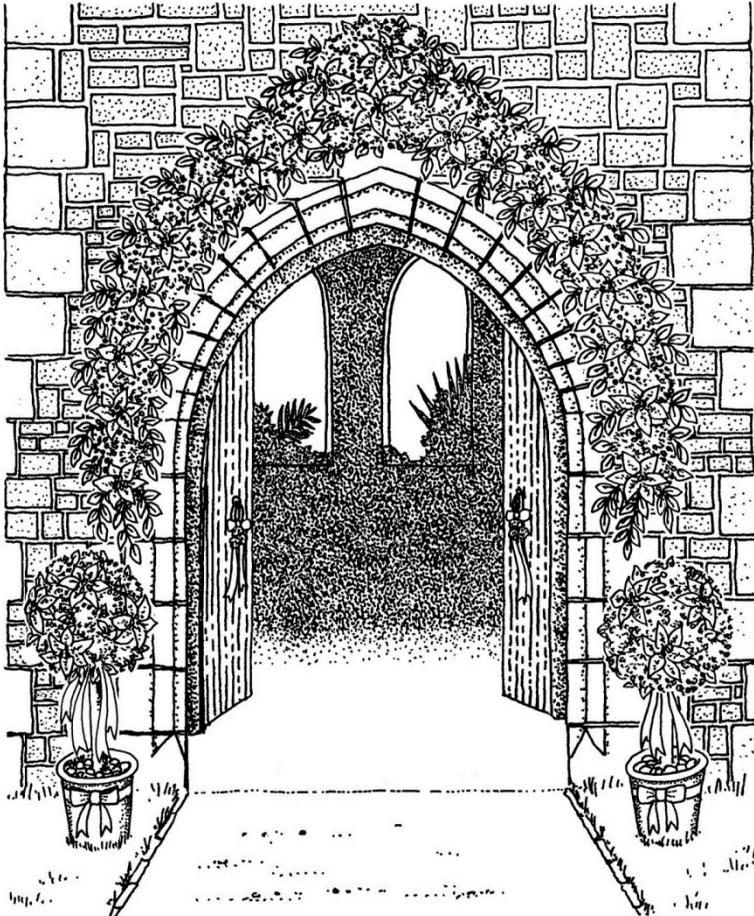


**ST EBBA'S
SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
EYEMOUTH**

July/August 2014



Times of worship

Every Sunday: 11am Eucharist in church

OSCR number SC023275

A Priest's Ponderings

These lovely sunny days we are enjoying have shown me there is no more beautiful place than where I live around St Abbs. Nature has carried out something truly breathtaking and majestic with the red/purple of the rugged cliffs against the deep blues of the sea and sky; the gentle undulating intensely green hill fields above and the glorious abundant blossom in the hedgerows of vibrant yellow of gorse and broom and cascades of snowy hawthorn. It is as if there is an echo of it all as I look across the bay to the Eyemouth cliffs. It is hardly surprising that thousands of people are drawn to the area and walk past our cottage each year.



Then the other day I woke and found the world had disappeared from sight. Cut off from all that was familiar I felt a sense of loneliness. The sea haar had come in so thickly there was not a farm building in view let alone an awareness that Eyemouth was so near amidst the gloom.

Two images came to mind. One, sadly, was that it reminded me of how the church sometimes looks to those outside. A place that is a bit forbidding if not actually gloomy and you are expected to pay a fee for the privilege of being there. (A bit like the request for a voluntary donation for the National Trust and upkeep of the road up to the cliffs and lighthouse.)

Are we as church members – as Christians – good enough at sharing our faith with joy and a smile like a glorious sunny day or are we a bit clouded and gloomy or at best apologetic about our faith and how vital God is to our daily life in sun or mist?

And do we give as generously to keep the church functioning? How much do I spend on newspapers, magazines, meals out plus so many things I want but do not really need? How much do I give to God's work? (But no, I am not on a stewardship campaign. Just a wandering mind!)

Though the misty cloud hid from my sight that day, the splendour and majesty and beauty of the scenery, I actually knew they were there and that the lifting of the haar and a touch of

sunshine would reveal it all to me anew. A little like the times I feel lost and cut off from God. My head tells me He is there even when I cannot see or feel His presence until God speaks to me, often just by the sight and beauty of his creation.

In August many churches celebrate the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ – try reading St Luke Chapter 9 verses 28-36. The glory of God in Jesus was revealed and Peter, James and John were awestruck at the splendour that they saw, then a cloud descended on the mountain.

Though the glory of God they had seen was now hidden, they knew it was there no matter what might befall; rather like an old nun who was so full of radiance and holiness that someone said to her, ‘You must have had many glorious experiences of God’ to which she replied, ‘No, only once, many years ago – but it was enough.’

Let me remind you of a prayer we can use daily: ‘Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own we give you.’

As you enjoy the summer, may God continue to reveal to you a vision of his glory and may you find in that vision the glory that is within you.

With love and prayer,
Sheila



KEEP UP TO DATE

If you would like to know what is going on in our diocese, you can read about it in the printed copy of the fortnightly Diocesan Newsletter – The Communicant – which Jennifer will leave in the Parsonage.

JULY DIARY

- Wed 2nd** **10am Eucharist**
In the Parsonage
- Sun 6th** **PENTECOST 4**
11am Eucharist (1982)
Readings Genesis 24 vs 34-38, 42-49, 58-67
 Psalm 45 vs 10-17
 Romans 7, vs 15-25a
 Matthew 11 vs 16-19, 25 -30
- Sun 13th** **PENTECOST 5**
11am Eucharist (1970)
Readings Genesis 25 vs 19-34
 Psalm 119 vs 105-112
 Romans 8 vs 1-11
 Matthew 13 vs 1-9, 18-23
- Sun 20th** **PENTECOST 6**
11am Eucharist (1982)
Readings Genesis 28 vs 10-19a
 Psalm 139 vs 1-12, 23-24
 Romans 8 vs 12-25
 Matthew 13 vs 24-30, 36-43
- Sun 27th** **PENTECOST 7**
11am Eucharist (1970)
Readings Genesis 29 vs 15-28
 Psalm 105 vs 1-11
 Romans 8 vs 26-39
 Matthew 13 vs 31-33, 44-52

AUGUST DIARY

Sun 3RD

PROPER 18

11am Eucharist (1982)

Readings

Genesis 32 VS 22-31

Psalms 17 vs 1-7, 15

Romans 9 vs 1-5

Matthew 14 vs 13-21

Wed 6th

10am Eucharist

In the Parsonage

Sun 10th

PROPER 19

11am Eucharist (1970)

Readings

Genesis 37 vs 1-4, 12-28

Psalms 105 vs 1-6, 16-22, 45b

Romans 10 vs 5-15

Matthew 14 vs 22-23

Sun 17th

PROPER 20

11am Eucharist (1982)

Readings

Genesis 45 vs 1-5

Psalms 133

Romans 11 vs 1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15 vs 21-28

Sun 24th

PROPER 21

11am Eucharist (1970)

Readings

Exodus 1 vs 8-10

Psalms 124

Romans 12 vs 1-8

Matthew 16 vs 13-20

Sun 31st

PROPER 22

11am Eucharist (1982) With Healing

Readings

Exodus 3 vs 1-15

Psalms 105 vs 1-6, 23-26, 45c

Romans 12 vs 9-21

Matthew 16 vs 21-28

INTERCESSORS AND READERS – JULY

	Server	Intercessor	Reader
Sun 6 th	Joan Shelmerdine	Jan Simpson	Frankie Taylor
Sun 13 th	Richard Oldale	Noreen Thompson	Ernie Cox
Sun 20 th	Joan Shelmerdine	Simon Furness	Brian Payne
Sun 27 th	Richard Oldale	Sheila Cox	Debbie Higson

INTERCESSORS AND READERS – AUGUST

	Server	Intercessor	Reader
Sun 3 rd	Joan Shelmerdine	Jan Simpson	Brian Payne
Sun 10 th	Richard Oldale	Joan Shelmerdine	Ian Taylor
Sun 17 th	Joan Shelmerdine	Simon Furness	Pat Elliott
Sun 24 th	Richard Oldale	Noreen Thompson	Debbie Higson
Sun 31 st	Joan Shelmerdine	Sheila Cox	Susan Struthers

CAUSE FOR CONCERN Drifting Away

Middle-aged people in the UK tend to ‘lose’ their religion as they get older. By their fifth decade, they are drifting far afield. This is among the findings of an analysis of the 1970 British Cohort Study, which has been following the same group of people for more than 40 years. It now shows an apparent decline in faith among the participants who have reached their fifth decade.

Two thirds had a religious upbringing, but just under half still register any connection with any religion and only seven per cent effectively class themselves as active members.

Faith in Action

The Church in Society Committee has developed prayer guides which focus on a different topic each month. July and August guides are shown below. They are also available at

<http://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/faith-in-action>

JULY - CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

About one third of children in Scotland live in poverty. Children and young people across Scotland experience a range of difficulties and hardship: 100,000 live with domestic violence; 40,000 to 60,000 with their parents' drug misuse and another 80,000 to 100,000 are affected by parental alcohol misuse.

These children, along with others whose parents have mental health problems, are often acting as young carers of needy adults and they are not able to enjoy their childhood as they should. The numbers of children on child protection registers who are suffering neglect has increased by 70% recently, and those suffering emotional abuse have doubled. One in nine children run away every year as a means of expressing their unhappiness.

Prayer

Gracious God,

We thank you for the energy and vitality of young people.

Young adulthood can be a difficult time of change and transition; leaving school, leaving home, finding a first job.

Help young people to know you as a constant presence through all changes, and the church as a place of welcome and rest and refreshment.

Provide them with a deepening knowledge of your love as they continue to mature and grow and allow them to discover their own gifts and talents, discerning your future for them.

Help us to provide examples of Christian life for them to follow, and to offer friendship where it is wanted.

AMEN

Faith in Action (cont)

AUGUST - THE ELDERLY

The elderly are an all too neglected group within contemporary Scottish society.

Although some elderly citizens enjoy an active social life, others suffer from acute isolation and worthlessness. To combat this latter tendency there is a wealth of things that you can do to help.

Prayer

Lord

We thank you for the gifts of Age, the wealth of memories; the peace of prayer; the wisdom that has grown beyond all striving to rest in your grace alone.

When increasing frailty of mind or body threaten, be with us as living water in the desert, a rock to give shelter.

In word and sacrament, in the fellowship of your people give us the assurance of your everlasting care.

And to us give the grace to receive all that your love brings to us.

AMEN



Samaritan's Purse responds to devastating floods in the Balkans

Samaritan's Purse, the relief organisation, has been responding through local partners to the worst flooding on record in the Balkans. In recent weeks, flood waters have ravaged through Bosnia and Serbia, leaving a widespread wake of destruction behind. Tens of thousands of people have fled as their homes have been destroyed, and communities devastated.

Samaritan's Purse asks of its supporters: "Please pray for those who have been hit by this devastating flooding and for our local partners and volunteers. Pray for our staff as we coordinate efforts and assess how we can best respond with resources and help." If you would like to help, please visit: www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

TRAVELOGUE STATESIDE

By the time this newsletter is published, we will have welcomed Tim home. But we couldn't miss out this further update on his travels.

After a quiet week in Matfield, this last week has dominated by two visits to Midwest cities.

Firstly, I spent a couple of days in St. Louis. This city is dominated by the Arch, a monument designed and built in the 1960s to mark the fact that the city – at the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri - was the starting point for many of the west-bound pioneers who had travelled this far west by river. The arch is built of stainless steel and stands 630 feet above the river, with visitors being taken to the apex by two “trams”. These are contained within the structure and are similar to the small pod-like cabs that are used to haul skiers up mountains. They take four minutes to get to the top and three to come down and are not for the claustrophobic – there was insufficient headroom for me to sit straight. But the view from the top through small slatted windows was fantastic, especially over the great river. As always the National Parks service do a great job with the site – known as the Jefferson Memorial – including a video about the construction and a museum about the Jefferson initiated Lewis and Clark expedition, all contained within the “basement” of the Arch.

My second day in St. Louis was spent at two very different locations. Eventually, having driven around the block a few times, I managed to find the National Botanic Gardens of Missouri. This was recommended to me by the host at Bonnot's Mill and proved a great find. The gardens are brilliantly laid out with a whole series of water features, often tucked away in quiet corners. There was an extensive “Gardening at home” area, encouraging people to come and talk about what they can do with their “backyards”. It is difficult to make comparisons but these gardens were as good – if not better – than the Botanics in Edinburgh, with amazing displays of acers, hostas and irises. I could have spent all day there but I went on after lunch to the National Transportation Museum, located a little bit out of town. There were far fewer people here than at the

Gardens where there were a lot of school groups and so I almost had the great collection of old cars, railway engines and carriages to myself.

Leaving St. Louis the next day, I drove just a few miles down the road from my motel to the Cahokia Mounds Historic site. This was something that I had never heard of before but is the largest prehistoric site in the USA. It was built by the Mississippian native culture from 750 to 1300 a.d., and consisted of a large city with over 20,000 population. The 42 mounds – together with the archeological artefacts discovered within them - are all that remains, but one mound is the largest man-made feature in North America, containing 30 million cubic feet of earth, all carried there by basket and built for the chief's house. Again the Visitor's Centre run by the National Parks Service does a great job explaining everything and putting these mounds into a geographical context. Trading from the Cahokia city certainly reached the Atlantic coast, as shells from there were used as a form of high-value currency, and I was left wondering whether there could have been a Cahokia – Viking connection which brought maize back to Europe preColumbus and would explain its appearance on the carving of the apprentice's pillar at Roslin Chapel.

My next stop was the town of Vincennes, just in Indiana, chosen because it was a convenient midway location on this stage of the journey. Again I was in for a surprise, as this little town marked one of the most significant battles in the American War of Independence when George Rogers Clark, a Kentuckian volunteer, surprised the British garrison by travelling across from St. Louis in winter and forced their surrender. As so often, the British were caught out by someone not playing by the rules! Sadly, I was there two days early as the next weekend they were holding their annual celebration of the battle with full reenactment. The only disappointment about Vincennes was the memorial to Clark that was erected in the 1930s is a dreadful piece of architecture, reminiscent of the worse form of Mussolini's Fascist monuments.

A short drive followed to Madison where I stayed over and enjoyed my first view of the Ohio River from the Balcony of my

hotel. Madison is exactly what you do not expect an American town to be like – a vibrant Main Street, streets full of historic and beautiful houses – and not a McDonalds in sight. To be fair, there was probably a Mac but on the hill above the town and out of sight from the centre. There is little wonder that it was given the accolade by National Geographic of being the best little town in America, and it has more buildings on the Historic Register than anywhere else for its size. I just loved wandering around it, poking around in the shops, sitting outside a café with my coffee and getting my hair cut in a shop which doubled up as an art gallery. And of course, they were just warming up for their special weekend, a festival of bluegrass and jazz music.

But I headed on to Cincinnati where I stayed for three nights. The motel I had booked proved to be perfectly located, just beside the Ohio River (actually in the city of Newport in Kentucky – the river marks the border), 3 minutes from the bridge to cross to downtown. So I was able to leave the car behind and walk for the three days – and it is a small enough city centre to get around on foot. While in Cincinnati I did some very touristy – but very American things: went to a baseball game, visited the local Baseball Hall of Fame, enjoyed the three day festival called “A taste of Cincinnati”, with food and drink from all the cafes and restaurants served from stalls out on the streets, with bands and street entertainers, and also did an evening (imitation) steamboat cruise on the river where the Dixie jazz band played “The bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond” in honour (or honor) of having a Scot on board!

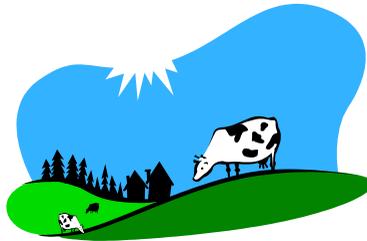
After the buzz of the city, it was good to be back driving again today. I managed to get lost – actually the roads that I wanted to take out of the city were closed for a Memorial Day walk/run to raise money for food relief – and found myself heading out south into the Kentucky countryside. I had been told by someone I met in the west that I should not miss Kentucky, and it was a good tip. It was not that there was anything spectacular or dramatic but the beautifully rolling hills, split up by quiet creeks and submerged in deciduous woodland was wonderful to drive through – the road

was quiet which made it all the better. Crossing the Ohio at Portsmouth, I meandered down a really rural byway to Athens, the home of Ohio State University and again a lovely city, full of parks and trees – which I will explore tomorrow.

Tim



Chased by cows NFU advice



If you are out in the countryside this summer and end up in an unknown field, here is what to do: **STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.**

Keep to paths and be prepared for cattle to react (possibly aggressively?) if you have a dog with you. Move quickly, quietly and calmly.

DON'T hang on to your dog if you are threatened – dogs can run much faster and reach safely quicker if you let them go.

DON'T panic or run. If cattle follow you, just walk on quietly.

NFU Mutual, the insurer who has given out the guidelines, says that about 500 people have been attacked and injured by cows in the past eight years. “Be aware of your surroundings,” urges NFU Mutual. “This is a working environment.”

Jokes for Jocks?



Scots are renowned for their unique and wonderful sense of humour. But for those outside of Scotland, it can often be hard to understand jokes based on the Scots dialect.

Check out this list which perhaps only those familiar with the dialect might understand. But say them out loud if you're struggling!

A Glasgow woman goes to the dentist and settles down in the chair.

"Comfy?" asks the dentist.

"Govan," she replies.

How many Spanish guys does it take to change a light bulb?

Just Juan.

Did you hear about the lonely prisoner?

He was in his cell.

After announcing he was getting married, a boy tells his pal he will be wearing the kilt.

"And what's the tartan?" asks his mate.

"Oh, she'll be wearing a white dress," he replies.

Ten cows in a field. Which one is closest to Iraq?

Coo eight.

A man takes a pair of shoes back to the shop and complains that there is a lace missing.

"No", argues the assistant, "look at that - it says Taiwan".

EYEMOUTH HERRING QUEEN FESTIVAL



The next Eyemouth Herring Queen Festival will be held from 26th July to 2nd August 2014. This will be the 70th crowning since the Festival began and promises to be an unmissable event.

2014 is an important year for Scotland. Glasgow hosts the Commonwealth Games, Gleneagles hosts the Ryder Cup and, of course, there is that all-important referendum.

It is also the year of Homecoming Scotland 2014 and some fifty previous Eyemouth Herring Queens will be doing their part for the Homecoming.

Former Herring Queens will travel from as far as the USA and Australia while close family members will make the trip from the USA, Dubai and both ends of the British Isles.

Eyemouth's first Herring Queen, Mary Craig, sadly passed away a few years ago but the second, 1946's Anne Rosie (Collin), will assume the mantle. Anne will make the journey to St Abbs Harbour accompanied by her son who is flying in from the USA to escort his mother along the pier. She will accompany Ailsa Landels, EHQ 2014 elect, and Ailsa's grandfathers who will be escorting her.

Arriving in Eyemouth on the Eyemouth Lifeboat, Ailsa's entrance to the harbour will be heralded by an RAF flyover and the past EHQs will line the pier to welcome her in. After photographs on the steps of Gunsgreen House, the parade, together with the past EHQs, will process along the High Street led by a lone piper.

A moving and memorable occasion without doubt. For more information go to www.ehq.org.uk and pick up a 2014 programme for full details.

CHURCH CONTACTS

Priests	the Revd Sheila Cox	01890 771764
	the Revd Jennifer Edie	01890 750169
	the Revd David Smout	01890 771220
	the Revd Tim Morris	01289 386615
Lay Rep	Irene Morris	01289 386615
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

www.stebbas.org.uk

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.



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.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

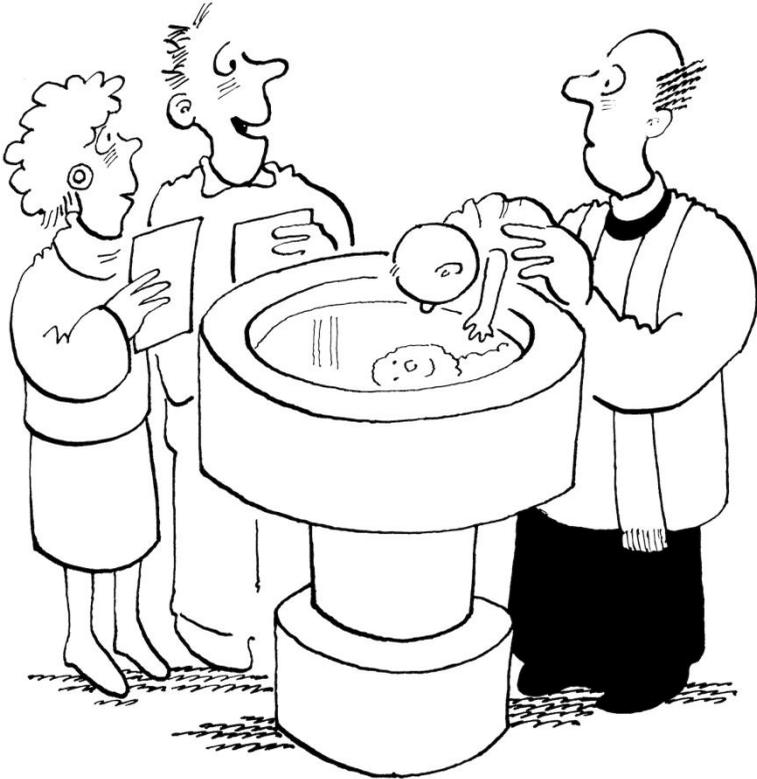
As ever, many thanks go to those who have contributed to this month's newsletter which is a double issue for July and August. All contributions – great or small – are very welcome to help keep your newsletter lively and in touch.

Please send your thoughts, comments and ideas to me by the 15th of August for inclusion in September's issue.

Enjoy your summer!

Pat

Pat Elliott, info@thebordersdesignhouse.co.uk 01890 761271



'Narcissus' - please...