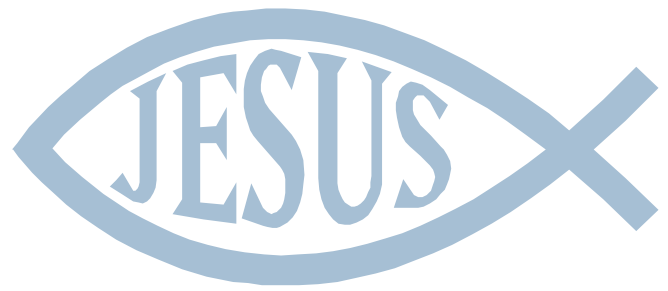


GOOD NEWS!



The magazine of
ALE & TEVIOT
UNITED CHURCH

Summer 2014



Jesus is Lord! Hallelujah!

This article is written still somewhat under the influence of two weeks of pleasant relaxation in sunny Fuerteventura, not forgetting four weeks of square eyes thanks to a little matter of the World Cup! We didn't exert ourselves unduly whilst on holiday – stretching out on the terrace with a good book, going for leisurely walks, feeding monkey nuts to the native population of very tame chipmunks, enjoying a drink in our favourite cafés as we watched the world go by in no particular hurry.

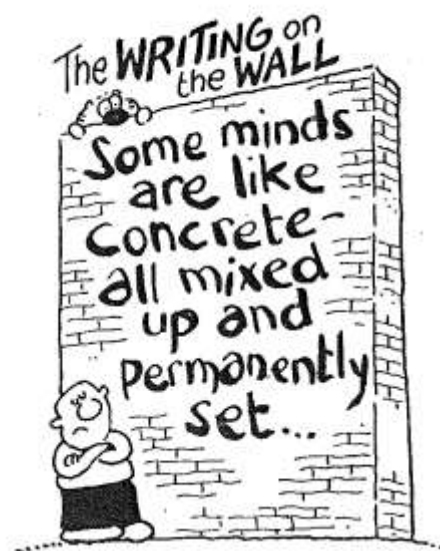
We've been going to Caleta de Fuste now for 10 years, usually twice a year, and the very familiarity of the place is a great comfort – indeed, we look on it pretty much as a second home and were tickled, during an evening shopping trip into the island's capital Puerto del Rosario, to note that we seemed to blend in with local residents so well that the shop assistants spoke to us in Spanish ... the real miracle being that we were able to use our half-dozen or so words of that wonderful language convincingly enough not to be exposed as impostors!

That same familiarity can, of course, be a double-edged sword, leading to a certain reluctance to try something or somewhere new, and we're aware of the challenge to be a tad more adventurous in future years!

Maybe it's a bit like that with our spiritual life. All of us – myself included – are very comfortable with certain beliefs, ways of thinking, songs and hymns, that we've known and been familiar with for a long time, maybe even since Sunday School days. And that's great, up to a point – praise God for those people who introduced us to the stories and songs about Jesus from our youth, and for the blessing these have been to us.

But I wonder – have we unwittingly slipped into a rut, so comfortable with our familiar thoughts and practices that we’ve become unwilling, maybe even unable to embrace what the Lord wants to do, for us, in us, and through us *now*?

Have we reached a point of spiritual stagnation, where we no longer allow the Bible, the living Word of the living God, to interfere with what we think, what we feel, what we believe? If so, there’s a high probability that we’re missing out on something wonderful that God wants for us.



Now, that doesn’t make you a bad person. If you’ve said yes! to Jesus, but never make time to discover and receive God’s wonderful promises, all bought and paid for by Jesus, but instead try to live an adult life with no spiritual input beyond a few half-remembered truths from childhood, you’ll still make it to heaven – but you may get there a whole lot quicker than you need to, and you won’t enjoy the journey the way you should!

Make no mistake, God loves us just as much, and still wants the very best for us, whether we spend time with Him every day or not, but the problem is that if we don’t make time for Him, we won’t be on a position to receive, enjoy and respond to that love. It’s like any relationship – if all the commitment is on one side, it won’t be as good as it should be.

This summer, I encourage you to make time for the Lord whose love for, and commitment to, you is so strong and so powerful that He gave His own flesh and blood to enable you to enjoy life, in abundance, to the full, till it overflows. Make time, even a few minutes each day, to get into the Word, starting with the four gospels and the book of Acts.

Let yourself be surprised and delighted by just how good and generous God is, and you will find the quality of your life, in every way, starts to improve as you draw closer to Jesus and let Him influence you. With love and blessings in the Name of Our Lord Jesus

Frank & Alexis

Cover pic : Old Ancrum Kirk, by Merlyn Horn

21st Century Order of Service

A tongue-in-cheek look into the future, passed on by Tony Rae

Minister : Praise the Lord!

Congregation : Hallelujah!

Minister : Will everyone please turn on their tablet, PC, iPad, smart phone, and Kindle Bibles to 1 Corinthians 13? And please switch on your Bluetooth to download the sermon.

P-a-u-s-e.....

Minister : Now, let us pray committing this week into God's hands. Open your Apps, BBM, Twitter and Facebook, and chat with God.

S-i-l-e-n-c-e

Minister : As we take our Sunday tithes and offerings, please have your credit and debit cards ready. You can log on to the church Wi-Fi using the password 'Lord909887.' The ushers will circulate mobile card swipe machines among the worshippers. Those who prefer to make electronic fund transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church. Those who prefer telephone banking, take out your cell phones to transfer your contributions to the church account.

The holy atmosphere of the Church becomes truly electrified as ALL the smart phones, iPads, PCs and laptops beep and flicker!

Minister : Final Blessing and Closing Announcements

This week's ministry cell meetings will be held on the various Facebook group pages where the usual group chatting takes place.

Thursday's Bible study will be held live on Skype at 1900hrs GMT

You can follow your Minister on Twitter for counselling and prayers.

Please log in and don't miss out.

God bless you and have nice day.

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The price of a miracle

A heart-warming story from Ken Fotheringham

A little girl, named Tess, went to her bedroom and pulled a glass jelly jar from its hiding place in the closet. She poured the change out on the floor and counted it carefully. Three times, even. The total had to be exactly perfect. No chance here for mistakes.

Carefully placing the coins back in the jar and twisting on the cap, she slipped out the back door and made her way 6 blocks to Rexall's Drug Store with the big red Indian Chief sign above the door.

She waited patiently for the pharmacist to give her some attention, but he was too busy at this moment, speaking to a well-dressed man.

Tess twisted her feet to make a scuffing noise. Nothing. She cleared her throat with the most disgusting sound she could muster. No good. Finally she took a quarter from her jar and banged it on the glass counter. That did it!

And what do you want? the pharmacist asked in an annoyed tone of voice. *I'm talking to my brother from Chicago whom I haven't seen in ages,* he said without waiting for a reply to his question.

*Well, I want to talk to you about **my** brother,* Tess shot back in the same annoyed tone. *He's really, really sick, and I want to buy a miracle.*

I beg your pardon? said the pharmacist.

Tess replied : *His name is Andrew and he has something bad growing inside his head and my Daddy says only a miracle can save him now. So how much does a miracle cost?*

We don't sell miracles here, little girl. I'm very sorry but I can't help you, the pharmacist said, softening a little.

Listen, I have the money to pay for it If it isn't enough, I will get the rest. Just tell me how much it costs.

The well-dressed man, who turned out to be the pharmacist's brother, stooped down and asked the little girl : *What kind of a miracle does your brother need?*

I don't know, Tess replied with her eyes welling up. I just know he's really sick and Mommy says he needs an operation. But my Daddy can't pay for it, so I want to use my money.

How much do you have' asked the man from Chicago.

One dollar and eleven cents, Tess answered, barely audible. And it's all the money I have, but I can get some more if I need to.

Well, what a coincidence, smiled the man. A dollar and eleven cents – the exact price of a miracle for little brothers!

He took her money in one hand and with the other hand he grasped her mitten and said : *Take me to where you live. I want to see your brother and meet your parents. Let's see if I have the miracle you need.*

That well-dressed man was Dr. Carlton Armstrong, a surgeon, specializing in neuro-surgery. The operation was completed free of charge and it wasn't long until Andrew was home again and doing well.

Later, Tess and Andrew's Mom and Dad were happily talking about the chain of events that had led them to this place. *That surgery*, their Mom whispered, *was a real miracle. I wonder how much it would have cost?*

Tess smiled. She knew exactly how much a miracle cost ... one dollar and eleven cents ... plus the faith of a little child.

American Connection

The village of Ancrum has had a link with the United States of America from the very beginning of that great nation, through descendants of its 17th century parish minister, Rev John Livingston. One grandson was a signatory to the Declaration of Independence, whilst another, William Livingston, who became first Governor of the State of New Jersey.

We are pleased to announce that the Governor Livingston High School Marching Band, one of most accomplished of all the American marching bands, will be giving a special performance on Ancrum Village Green on Thursday 7 August at 7.30.pm. This promises be a great evening for all the family, and we hope to see a good turnout from the community to welcome our guests from Stateside.

Ministry in Malta

John & Jenny Shiells, from Ancrum, were recently invited to present a "Ministry in Marriage" for an independent church in Malta. Jenny reports

Friends in Malta (he's Canadian, she's Maltese) invited us to their church to do a Relationship Refresher seminar with their church, which turned out to be a protestant evangelical fellowship with great modern facilities. The church attracts an international congregation as well as the Maltese and 10 nationalities were counted over the weekend, mostly English as their first language. The seminar was aimed at couples who had good relationships and wanted to strengthen them.

We did four sessions over Friday evening and Saturday with 10 couples. The relationships varied from "We met 6 months ago" to "We've been married 42 years" with everything in between. We were using tried and tested material from our church community back in Devon, looking at emotional needs, ways of showing love, listening skills, unhealthy thinking patterns, apology and forgiveness

I thought it would be quite intense for them but they were very open and took part enthusiastically. I was very touched by their openness, maybe I've had too long teaching "too cool for school" teenagers! I don't think the older Maltese couples had ever done a diagnostic worksheet before and they took it very seriously and were fascinated at how seemingly random questions on subjects that were nothing to do with marriage gave them insights on themselves and their relationship together.

Here are some comments I remember :

"I didn't know I needed so much approval - look my top scores are in Approval, Appreciation and Encouragement!" (from a strong macho man who thought he needed nothing)

"What a difference there was in the room when we started listening to each other, real peace and harmony" (in the first exercise they'd been instructed to interrupt each other, in the second they were practicing listening skills)

"I enjoyed the bit where we had to ignore what our partner was saying – normally she would get very cross if I tried to do that!" (Sotto voce to me afterwards)

“That was the first time we’d ever talked about that” (Couple who’d been married over 40 years)

“My husband understands me more than I do myself!” (they’d been married 20 years)

The biggest surprise to me was the depth of the hurt in so many people. I noticed that as we were going through the *Childhood* thinking patterns there was a lot of reaction and chatter. I thought it was just a Maltese/American response to getting a bit tired on a long day but I see now that they were amazed to make the connection between a difficult childhood and the unhealthy thinking pattern they’d just diagnosed in themselves.

Over the shared meal we had, people kept coming to us and talking about the things they’d discovered about themselves. We had shared a little of our past difficulties as we went along which allowed them to share the hurts of their childhood and relationships as well. On Sunday we preached at the morning service, followed by a prayer and ministry time where it was great to see God healing in so many different ways.

John & Jenny are happy to share ministry in the area of relationships – marriage, family, workplace, etc. You can contact them at Ancrum Kirk, via the church website, or the church e-mail : info@aleandteviot.org.uk

Ale & Teviot United Church Coffee Morning



Saturday 16 August, 10.am – 11.30.am

Royal British Legion, Jedburgh

ALL WELCOME : Admission £1

A thought for those tempted to drive too fast

Jack took a long look at his speedometer before slowing down : 73 in a 60 zone. Fourth time in as many months. How could a guy get caught so often? When his car had slowed to 10 miles an hour, Jack pulled over, but only partially. Let the cop worry about the potential traffic hazard. Maybe some other car will tweak his backside with a mirror.

The cop was stepping out of his car, the big pad in hand. Bob? Bob from Church? Jack sunk farther into his trench coat. This was worse than the coming ticket. A cop catching a guy from his own church. A guy who happened to be a little eager to get home after a long day at the office. A guy he was about to play golf with tomorrow.

Jumping out of the car, he approached a man he saw every Sunday, a man he'd never seen in uniform. *'Hi, Bob. Fancy meeting you like this.'*

'Hello, Jack.' No smile.

'Guess you caught me red-handed in a rush to see my wife and kids.'

'Yeah, I guess.' Bob seemed uncertain. Good.

'I've seen some long days at the office lately. I'm afraid I bent the rules a bit – just this once.' Jack toed at a pebble on the pavement. *'Diane said something about a date night tonight. Know what I mean?'*

'I know what you mean. I also know that you have a reputation in our police station'. Ouch. This was not going in the right direction.

Time to change tactics. *'What'd you clock me at?'*

'Seventy. Would you sit back in your car please?'

'Now wait a minute here, Bob. I checked as soon as I saw you. I was barely nudging 65.' The lie seemed to come easier with every ticket

'Please, Jack, in the car'.

Flustered, Jack hunched himself through the still-open door. Slamming it shut, he stared at the dashboard. He was in no rush to open the window. The minutes ticked by. Bob scribbled away on the pad. Why hadn't he asked for a driver's license?

Whatever the reason, it would be a month of Sundays before Jack ever sat near this cop again. A tap on the door jerked his head to the left. There was Bob, a folded paper in hand. Jack rolled down the window a mere two inches, just enough room for Bob to pass him the slip.

'Thanks.' Jack could not quite keep the sneer out of his voice.

Bob returned to his police car without a word. Jack watched his retreat in the mirror. Jack unfolded the sheet of paper. How much was this one going to cost? Wait a minute. What was this? Some kind of joke? Certainly not a ticket. Jack began to read:

'Dear Jack, Once upon a time I had a daughter. She was six when killed by a car. You guessed it - a speeding driver. A fine and three months in jail, and the man was free. Free to hug his daughters, all three of them. I only had one, and I'm going to have to wait until Heaven before I can ever hug her again.'

A thousand times I've tried to forgive that man. A thousand times I thought I had. Maybe I did, but I need to do it again. Even now. Pray for me. And be careful, Jack, my son is all I have left.'

'Bob!'

Jack turned around in time to see Bob's car pull away and head down the road. Jack watched until it disappeared. A full 15 minutes later, he too, pulled away and drove slowly home, praying for forgiveness and hugging a surprised wife and kids when he arrived.

Life is precious. Handle with care. Drive safely and carefully. Remember, it's not just cars that are subject to recall by their maker.

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A Thai Diary

Chris Tracey from Lilliesleaf very kindly sent back regular reports from her outing with Tear Fund to Thailand. Here is a second selection.



Team Members: clockwise : Amy, Cheryl, Sarah, Chris, Matt

8 February : I had just completed this email but lost the whole lot except for nd - that would be a bit difficult to expand back out so here goes again! This computer has all the keys but some are well worn and it does seem to have a bit of a mind of its own. I am at the home of Mary and Peter on our day off - Peter is semi retired and an advisor to MMF.

Peter invited us as a group to go to the international school this morning to help with a project to build a raised bed for vegetables. Matt and I took up his offer. When we arrived he showed us a picture on the phone of what he was after – it was a picture of the beds we had made at the beginning of our stay here at the Burmese children's centre.

It was good to talk to some people in English about the country and find out more about their work here - mostly American teachers and parents but a girl from Hong Kong as well. The school itself has many nationalities and has a policy of a small % of children with English as a second language and also has a balance of local and expat children.

Had a really good evening yesterday - I went on my own back to the village and stayed in the same house as before to spend some time with Phet. She is the lady who is heading to the Thai Burma border to set up a children's home. They looked after me so well. She took me for a walk around the village and we first went to the pig farm - well there were 3 enormous black sows, 2 with piglets. It was noisy as it was feeding time and they could only be fed one at a time. The last one to be fed was making her feelings very clear on the matter.

Next we called at her niece's to see the rice mill she is building to make brown rice – that would be good, too much white rice! Not liking to do nothing she decided to experiment with natural dyes and to start a project to build a kitchen. A good looking house but still with the food being prepared outside over a fire and a gas ring. When she says build a kitchen it is not a case of going to B&Q - the first job is to make the bricks with mud, rice husks and sunshine!

Next we ended up just stopping by a house as people were sitting out - I had met one of the ladies before. She is a trekking guide and spoke good English. I was invited to share a traditional Karin meal – this was delicious as I had earlier seen live frogs in the market! *[Ugh!! – Ed.]*

An invitation was extended to breakfast and I enjoyed fried eggs, coffee with sugar and ginger and biscuits in a traditional Karin house. Phet and I had a long talk in the evening and she showed me more pictures of where she is going and her ideas and plans. I was tired at the end – I had to listen hard to understand what she was saying – she must have been exhausted talking in English all the time.

People were so generous and I felt so privileged to have been able to share that time with them - definitely one of the highlights of my trip here. Tomorrow we head for Burma for the day and then back across the Border where we will go to a church service in the evening and then teach English to the children on Monday. We head back to Chiang Ria via the Golden Triangle (Thai, Burma, Laos) border.

OK, I am going to hit the send button before I lose it all again!

The third and final instalment from Chris in our next edition

A Few Words from the Treasurer

First of all, I would like to thank everybody for the cheerful support I have been given as I get to grips with this task. Thanks also to all who have returned the revised Gift Aid declaration. Please, even if you have previously filled in one of the older declarations [with Harold Inglis' address on it] could you find time to complete one of the new forms [with my address on it] which came with the *Giving for Growth* material just before the May communion? This will enable me to get, and keep, my Gift Aid name and address list up-to-date.



By the way, there is no need to send me any Bank Standing Order forms – they should be given directly to your bank. The new Weekly Freewill Offering envelopes are now available from Carmen Martin, John Galbraith and David Harris-Burland. Even if you give by standing order through your bank, I would urge you to consider getting a pack of WFO envelopes.

When you have some loose change you don't need at the end of the week, pop it in the envelope and put it in the plate at the church service. If you pay Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax, and you have completed and given me a Gift Aid Declaration, the WDO envelope pack's number will be noted and your gift attributed to you when claiming Gift Aid.

If you don't pay Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax, please still use the envelopes as a means of regular giving. As a charity, we can now claim up to £5,000 worth of Gift Aid for all cash gifts of £20 or less for each church! So there is the potential for up to an extra £3,750 per year to be reclaimed from the Exchequer! [Please, no denominations greater than £20 in the plate if you're not "gift-aided"!] We have recently received a little over £5,100 back for gift-aided donations for 2013, and I hope we can exceed this in 2014. If you have completed a Gift Aid declaration, but no longer pay Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax, please let me know

Finally, I've been asked – tongue-in-cheek, I hope! – if there is any link between my becoming church treasurer and obtaining a new car! The answer is NO! My old car was reaching the end of its extended warranty, with its mileage rising, so I opted to exchange it when offered an excellent bargain on the new car! : *Tony Rae*

Friday Club

With an average of 12 children attending each Friday evening, we are delighted that the children going from P.5 to P.6 have asked if they could continue to come to Friday Club. But this has left us with a dilemma. It has become apparent in recent weeks that we need to split the club into age groups for at least part of the evening.

To do this, we need more help on a regular basis. We plan to have a get-together on the evening of Friday 15 August in Ancrum Church Meeting Room and invite anyone interested in the Friday Club to attend. Refreshments will be served and we hope that ideas will be put forward for discussion. It is to be hoped that the momentum and interest that has been built up in the youngsters can be maintained and extended.

Elaine & John Marshall

Fun and games on a Friday evening!



Happy Birthday, dear Church

A message of Pentecost, preached at Ancrum and Lilliesleaf



Pentecost – the birthday of the church, the day when the Spirit came, the fulfilment of Jesus' personal ministry in the world and the start of the age of the church, as God's people took over the day-to-day running of His family business. Right from the start, it was God's will to do His work in His world through human hands. Genesis 1.26-28 :

God spoke : Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature, so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle – and, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth.

God created human beings. He created them godlike, reflecting God's nature. He created them male and female. God blessed them : Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge! Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth

Sadly, by Genesis 3, the wheels had fallen off because human beings had messed up, and it wasn't something major like murder or bank robbery that derailed God's plan. The way the Bible tells it, it was all over one stupid bit of fruit. Let's set the scene. Adam and Eve, made in the likeness of God, walking and talking freely with God like children with their parents, given this massive big orchard the size of Iraq.

Awesome! And they were free to roam around and enjoy the fruit of every tree in the garden. Except one. Now. Think. What happens when you're told you can have everything EXCEPT ... ? What becomes the one thing you take an all-consuming interest in? Lexy's busy working away in the kitchen to do some baking for Harestanes, and I wander in to make a cuppa to be commanded : *Don't touch that chocolate cake!*

Now, I don't *like* chocolate cake! I could go from one year's end to the next without thinking about chocolate cake, never mind eating it.

But the minute I'm told I can't have it, something happens. Something just like in that big orchard. God said – *don't eat from that one tree, enjoy the other 29,583 but not that one!* And a wee voice piped up : *go on, try it, a wee bite won't do you any harm.* Munch, crunch ... oops.

Listen. It wasn't the *scale* of the rebellion that mattered, it was the *principle* – thinking we know better than God. That's not bright! And, as so often when we have what we think are good ideas that turn out not to be God ideas, or just do a daft thing without thinking it through, the law of unintended consequences kicks in. Yes, of course I can get up to clean the top floor windows without someone to hold the laddeeeerrrrr!!!

When Adam & Eve bit off more than they could chew, the collateral damage was way beyond what they ever imagined. By listening to the voice of the devil who as usual was out to steal, kill and destroy, rather than the still small voice of the God and Father who loved them and cared for them and wanted the best for them, they unwittingly handed the title deeds of creation over to the devil, and brought upon the human race the devil's curse instead of the Father's blessing.

So why didn't God just rub out Adam and Eve and start again? Because He had handed over authority over creation to human flesh and blood, it wasn't that simple. Stupid as Adam and Eve had been, they were acting within the authority God had given them. Man had engineered his own downfall, so it had to be a man who would sort it.

Fast forward several thousand years to a stable in Bethlehem, where was born a Saviour who is Christ the Lord. Jesus, as we know, was and is the Son of God, At His baptism, Mark 1.11 says : a voice came from heaven: You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased. But the Bible tells us something fascinating. During His earthly ministry, Jesus did not operate as *Son of God*. You see in the gospels, especially Mark's gospel, Jesus repeatedly describing Himself as *Son of Man*.

For His three years on earth, Jesus ministered as a man. Scripture proves it. Paul writes to Timothy : God our Saviour wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. For there is only one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity – the MAN Christ Jesus. He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone.

Why does that matter? Because what the first Adam threw away by disobedience, the second Adam had to win back by obedience. Because God is just, the damage done in the garden by flesh and blood had to be paid for by flesh and blood. Because God is loving, He arranged to make that payment in the flesh and blood of His own Son.

The story is told of a judge holding court, and before him was brought a man caught in the act of robbery. The judge listened to the case for the prosecution, which was rock solid, and the case for the defence, which was wafer-thin. The jury took 8½ minutes to find the accused guilty as charged, and it was now for the judge to pass sentence.



As he did, correctly imposing a hefty fine and an order to repay what was stolen, together with a stern warning that if this ever happened again it would be jail time. But the judge then did something very strange. He ordered the guilty man and the QC's for the defence and the prosecution to meet him in his private office.

The judge took off his robe and his wig, pulled out his cheque-book, and paid off the fine, and the compensation. He explained – *the accused is my estranged son. This is the first time I've seen him or heard of him since we had words many years ago. I have done my job as an honest judge, and pronounced sentence fairly. Now I do my job as a loving father, and I pay the price my child cannot pay.*

Multiply that amazing generosity millions of times over, and it's still but a pale shadow of what God did, through Jesus, for us. Christmas and Easter are part of the unfolding tale of the Judge who pronounced sentence fairly, and of the Father whose love for His children dictated that He would pay the penalty Himself – in this case a death penalty.

And if God's grace to us stopped there, it would still be breathtaking. But it didn't. After Christmas and Easter comes the third great Christian festival, the one we don't make such a fuss about, no trees with sparkling lights, no Santa laden with presents, no chocolate eggs full of glorious calories. Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came on the church, is often the forgotten festival, but without it, we miss the full picture. We know of God the Father, we know of Jesus the Son, now we meet God the Holy Spirit. Eh? Let me try to explain via a tour of the kitchen.



Turn on a tap, and out comes fresh clean water. Put some in a kettle and boil it. Soon it billows forth steam. Or pour some into a cup, put it in a freezer, and an hour or so later, you find ice. Steam, ice, water. All different, yet all the same, all H₂O. Likewise, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, all different, yet all the same, all God. The Holy Spirit is the presence, the personality and the power of God with us and in us, now.

Just before Jesus went back to Heaven, He told His disciples : *All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, Baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

Jesus gave the disciples a job to do, and He promised them the power to do it – His Holy Spirit, His own life and being in their hearts. Now, it's our turn. We who believe in Jesus get to carry on the family business – to go around doing good, healing the sick, feeding the poor, taking out the good news of God's love. Jesus said in John 14 : *I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.*

Following Jesus is a commitment. It is a full-time, full-on lifestyle of love. And it is completely and utterly impossible. No-one has a snowball in a blast furnace's chance of doing it. Except by allowing that same thing that happened to that church of just 120 members all these years ago, happen to you, happen to me. We are called to believe in Jesus enough to let His life fill our lives, to let His Holy Spirit take charge of our human spirit, the essence of life deep within us. Christ in you, the hope of glory.

If we don't welcome the Holy Spirit of God into the deepest places of our heart, we'll never fulfil God's call on our lives. The Holy Spirit is not an optional extra for fanatics. He comes with the package of salvation, and we should be very glad, because we need Him!

There's as much chance of Hawick Royal Albert winning the Champions League as there is of us fulfilling God's call on our lives without being filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit! The other day we had a run on the long-awaited Edinburgh tram. How far would the tram get on a battery like the one in my watch? Not far! To do its job, it needs to draw its power from the 25kv overhead cables, not a tiny 3v battery!



Don't make the mistake of trying to be a Christian on the battery power of our own noble intentions. You can't do it. You need to be connected to the mains – that's what the Holy Spirit of God will do for you. Jesus said the Holy Spirit will take everything that belongs to Him and give it to you, so that you can live like Jesus here and now.

1 John 4.17 says that, so far as God is concerned, we are like Jesus in this world. And Ephesians 1 says that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead is in us. That's the almost-too-good-to-be-true news of Pentecost. Enjoy!

Ed's Note : *Because of ongoing computer connection problems, which mean that artwork cannot readily be downloaded, this edition of **Good News** is missing some features, especially the story for the children, for which I apologise. We hope to be back to normal next time!!*

Photography for every occasion

Chris Morrison

**10 Muirhouselaw, Maxton,
Melrose TD6 0RH**

01835-823561

LILLIESLEAF GOLF COURSE

[2½ miles west of Lilliesleaf]

Lilliesleaf Golf Course is a fun course for the less discerning golfer.
Dress is informal, and dogs and children are welcome at all times.

The course is made up of 11 challenging holes, one par 5, seven par 4's,
and three par 3's. In total the course measures 2563 yards.

Hazards include trees, water and bunkers. Occasionally additional
hazards may appear from time to time.

Membership fee : £175 per year

Visitors : £10.00 per person per round ; £15 each per person per day

Visitors (evenings after 5pm) : £5.00 per person

Guests of members : £5 per person per round

Juniors (under 16 on 1st May): half the above prices

Around the local schools ... Ancrum

No fewer than 11 Primary 5 pupils make the step up to Parkside School in August, and we send our prayerful best wishes to a fantastic group : Anya Hislop, Emma Munro, Felicity Cromarty, Georgia Wood, James Hogg, Jasmine Turnbull, Kayley Heard, Logan Flannery, Olivia George, Rory Brown and Tommy Beck.

The end-of-term assembly in church was a day of high, and very mixed, emotions, led by the senior class, who presented their reflections upon five years at Ancrum School in a brilliant rewrite of the Killers' hit song "Somebody Told Me".

We'll also always remember a song composed by Junior Road Safety Officers, Jasmine and Anya, ably assisted by their glove puppets. Here it is, a stark reminder of the need to take care when crossing the road!!

*Stop, look, listen, think
Wait for the pelican crossing to ting
Run across the road, splat upon your face
Now that's the end of you
Now that's the end of you
Now that's the end of you
Stop, look, listen, think
Wait for the pelican crossing to ting
Run across the road, splat upon your face
Now here comes the ambulance!*

Wha's My Neighbour

The Good Samaritan story in the Scots tongue, by George Macdonald, courtesy of Helen Longmuir. But ... just wait till you see the Guild's version of this parable at their Dedication service on 31 August!!

*Doon frae Jerusalem a traveller took
The laigh road tae Jericho
It had an ill name, an' mony a crook
It was lang and unco how*

Oot cam the robbers, an' fell o' the man
An' knockit him o' the heid
Took a' whauron they couth lay their haun'
An' left him nakit for deid

By cam a meenister o' the kirk
"A sair mishanter", he cried
"Wha kens whaur the villains may lirk?
I s' haud tae the ither side!"

By cam an elder o' the kirk
Like a young horse he shied
"Fie! Here's a bonnie mornin's work!"
An' he spangt tae the ither side

By cam ane gaed tae the wrang kirk
Douce he trottit alamg
"Puir body!" he cried, an' with a yerk
Aff his cuddy he sprang

He ran tae the body, an' turnt it ower
"There's life i' the man", he cried
He wasna ane tae stan' an' glower
Nor haud tae the ither side

He doctort his wouns, an' heist him then
Tae the back o' the beastie douce
An' he heild on him till, twa weary men,
They wan tae the halfway hoose

He ten'd him a' nicht, an' o' the morn did say
"Lan'lord, latna him lack
Here's auchteen pence, an' ony mair outlay
I'll settle 't as I come back"

Sae tak till ye, neibours, read aricht the Word
It's a portion o' God's ain spell!
"Wha is my neibour?" speirna the Lord
But "am I a neibour" yersel?

Around the local schools ... Lilliesleaf

With Mrs Grace Frew seconded to co-ordinate the asymmetric week for primary schools, Miss Hilary Broatch is now acting Head Teacher, with Mr Jamie Wallace acting Principal Teacher for Lilliesleaf.

The leavers' assembly is always a memorable occasion, and this year was no exception. It followed a theme of "I'm a P7, get me out of here", with some suitably ghastly bush tucker trials for the senior pupils as, with scarcely a dry eye in the house, we traced their Lilliesleaf School career from the early days in nursery right through to the final week.

Moving up to Selkirk High School this year were seven students who had all made a huge contribution to school life, and they go with our fond and prayerful best wishes : Alex Turnbull, Amelia Purkis, Callum Macdonald, Charlie Jack, Jed Bury, Robyn McInally and Tom Forster.

Among the many awards presented at the end of term are two marking good citizenship : the Anne Hope Prize, won by Callum Macdonald, and the Selkirk Rotary Prize, won by Alex Turnbull.



*The dedication of Lilliesleaf War Memorial, conducted by
Rev Arthur Pollok Sym*

Our Historical Heritage

The definitive history of Lilliesleaf was written by Rev Arthur Pollok Sym [1862-1946], minister of the parish from 1888 to 1928. We note that the present incumbent is not the first of that surname to serve Lilliesleaf, following "Roarin Willie" Campbell, whose 44 years in the parish merit a full chapter in Dr Sym's book.

Another story is told of him in Hew Scott's Fasti, which, if it be true, showed that Mr. Campbell was not always free from the convivial excesses of the age, but as the same anecdote is related of the famous divine Dr. Webster, and others, it is very likely a fiction, and we do not include it in our narrative. In one respect he was strangely deficient. He was literally lacking in the sense of taste, and was unable to distinguish by his palate one substance from another.

Possibly for himself there were compensating advantages, but it was sometimes awkward for others. Once when his wife was absent for a few days he was left in charge of the household. On her return she said, *"Why did ye no gie the laddies ony butter for their pieces?"*

"I did gie them butter," he replied. *"Well then,"* she said, *"ye maun ha bocht some, what did ye pay for it?"*

"I bocht nae butter ava' ; I just took what was i' the hoose."

"Noo, guid man, that canna be ; for there's as muckle here as afore I gaed awa. Show me whaur ye got it."

This the minister proceeded to do, when she exclaimed, *"Mercy me, man, ye've gien them the grease for the cairt !"*

We are afraid that Mr. Campbell's lack of taste was sometimes more than physical, and that he fell into the temptation which too easily besets a man of humour. His jests were sometimes ill-timed and gave offence which he did not intend. Thus, after a Presbytery dinner he proposed to Rev. Mr. Hume of Bowden, that he (Mr. Campbell) should preach the other's funeral sermon when the time came, promising that the text should be *"Ichabod, the glory is departed."*

Despite the compliment implied, Mr Hume was very angry, and determined to show his displeasure by excluding Mr. Campbell from a dinner to which the others of Presbytery were invited at Bowden Manse. Mr Campbell, however, resolved to pay no heed to the slight, for he never cherished ill-feeling. On the day of the feast he went to Bowden.

Mr Hume, on being informed by Dr Douglas of Galashiels that the minister of Lilliesleaf was coming along the path by the Damside, went to meet him. Mr Campbell said, *"I've come to dine with you to-day, Mr Hume, for I heard you were having a grand Presbytery dinner."* At once the other replied, "Well, Mr Campbell, you've done more than I could have done ; but let me tell you that there is no one more welcome than yourself ." So ended the quarrel between the two neighbours.

Mrs Campbell was a strict disciplinarian and believed in the soundness of Solomon's advice about the rod. Once she complained to her husband that two of the boys had misbehaved and charged him to punish them severely. Apparently the father did not reckon the offence so serious as the mother. He recollected that he had been a boy himself and had sympathy with their pranks.

He took them to the top of the house, and fetching a stick, smote a bed heavily again and again, bidding the boys roar with all their might, which they did till the maternal heart was wrung with pity for their sufferings, and a voice came up the stairs imploring him to desist, for surely the laddies had been beaten enough.

She was an excellent wife, possessed of great decision of character and herself by no means devoid of humour. These traits are shown by an incident described to the writer in a letter from a great-granddaughter of the worthy pair. *"Mrs Campbell was annoyed by a young naval officer paying attention to two of her girls, but never coming to the point."*

At last, one evening he came to tell them that he was ordered abroad for three years. After supper she sent her daughters out of the room, locked the door, and said, *"Now, sir, will you tell me which of my lassies ye're going to marry?"* He told her at once, whereupon she remarked, *"Well, the minister's there and the ledly's no far aff ; ye'll just be mairrit the nicht!"* Which they were – and very happily too!

Many children were born in the Manse as well as one before the Campbells entered it, and we find that, by and by, the Manse had to be enlarged by the Heritors. There were at least eight sons and six daughters, though some died in childhood. Of those who grew up, Alexander, the eldest, turned out badly and died in early manhood, leaving two sons to be brought up by their uncles, Robert and John.

One of these grandsons, John Campbell, afterwards a doctor in Cawnpore, had several children, one of whom, Colonel John Campbell, became Governor of Calton Prison, Edinburgh. His only son, John, went into a Sikh regiment in India.

Another of the minister's sons, Robert, entered the Navy, and, rising to be Captain Campbell, was successful in capturing a small French fleet in the Mediterranean, for which gallant action he obtained as prize-money about £70,000. Alas! it did not remain long in the family, who are said to have gambled it all away

Still another son of the Manse, John Campbell, became minister of Selkirk. Of the daughters of the Manse, Margaret married Dr William Farquharson in 1793, and from this union have descended, among others, the Right Honourable Dr Robert Farquharson of Finzean, formerly MP for West Aberdeenshire, and his brother, Joseph Farquharson, R.A., the celebrated painter of pastoral landscapes.

Another descendant married Rev. Marshall B. Lang, BD, of Dundee, brother of the Archbishop of York [*Gordon Cosmo Lang, later Archbishop of Canterbury – Ed.*] Marion Campbell married Mr Gillan, minister of Hawick, and their son, Rev Robert Gillan of St. John's, Glasgow, and later of Inchinnan, rose to be Moderator of the General Assembly in 1873. In a very marked degree he inherited the humour of his grandparents, and many are the stories of his ready wit.

The same trait appeared in his son, Rev George Green Gillan, DD, of Carmunnock, who died in 1913, and whose son was Rev David Hedley Gillan, a chaplain in India. It may be added that in 1910 a number of the descendants of Rev. William Campbell combined to present a beautiful oak pulpit to the parish church of Lilliesleaf .

A further extract will appear in the next edition.

Blythswood Care : Uplift of good used clothes etc

Blythswood Care uplift clothing, non-perishable foodstuffs, bric-a-brac and small items of furniture for needy people in Eastern Europe. Larger items of furniture may also be accepted, by arrangement – please call 0141-882-0585 or 07947-617047. Monthly uplift dates are as follows :

MONDAYS : 4 Aug, 1 Sept, 6 Oct, 3 Nov, 1 Dec

Galashiels	Asda Car Park	1.30-2.00.pm
Melrose	Rugby Club	2.20-2.50.pm
Selkirk	West Port Car Park	3.20-4.00.pm

TUESDAYS : 5 Aug, 2 Sept, 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec

Hawick	Morrisons Car Park	9.00-9.45.am
Jedburgh	Bus Station Car Park	10.15-10.45.am
Kelso	Knowes Car Park	11.15-11.45.am

ANCRUM GUILD COFFEE EVENING



Ancrum Village Hall : Friday 24 October : 7.pm

Home Baking : Raffle : Christmas Gifts

ALL WELCOME : Admission £1

Giving for Growth

Many thanks to all who prepared the three churches so beautifully, with excellent displays of local church and community life through the years, for our *Giving for Growth* communion services in May. Thanks also to everyone who returned the blue response forms, and a gentle reminder that there is still time to do so, right up to the elders' visits prior to the October communions. Your responses will be considered carefully and we will get back in touch with you as soon as we can.

Smarties and Coffee Jars

Do you like Smarties? Then please take a packet with our compliments! Enjoy them and then, if you wish, put your spare 20p coins in the empty packet and, when it's full, return it to us. Smarties available in church every Sunday! Also, if you drink coffee, why not use the empty jar to save loose change for the kirk? You can pick up a sticky label for your coffee jar at the church door. Every contribution makes a difference!

Transport Co-ordinators

To help those who live outwith walking distance of the church, and who have no car, to attend Sunday services, Transport Co-ordinators have now been appointed for each of the three places of worship. If you need a lift to church, contact your local Transport Co-ordinator. At Ancrum : Margaret Smith, 864378 ; Crailing : Joe Hannaford, 850779 ; Lilliesleaf : Mary Jones, 870306. A day or two's notice is helpful.

Bible Study

We have been working our way through 2 Corinthians, which has given us much to think about and to encourage us. There has been, on average, six members attending, all contributing to the study. We would like to see more of you joining us. Conscious that Monday may not be the best night for everyone, perhaps you could let Frank know which nights might be suitable and we'll consider a change : *John Marshall*.

BB Camp

Morning worship on Sunday 29 June was hosted by the 42nd Dundee Boys' Brigade, enjoying their annual camp at Ancrum Football Club ... and in fine weather! Dorothy Cain led the service, with a talk given by Joe Hannaford. This was one of three united services led by the elders during Frank & Lexy's annual summer holiday – many thanks!

Ancrum Church Guild

Doesn't time fly when you're having fun? It seems no time at all since our closing meeting in April and it's now almost time for us to prepare to restart after the summer break. We hope you had a good summer holiday and are ready to get back into normal routines.

We had a successful Presbyterial Council Spring Rally in June, at which Mrs Liz Findlay was guest speaker. This meeting was attended by Guild ladies from all over the Council area and was, as ever, an inspiration to us all. Miss Rhianne Miller sang, and her choice of song "*Somewhere over the Rainbow*" was especially apt due to the torrential rain we had that evening! Our thanks to all who helped, in any way, to make the evening the success it was.

On 31 August, we have our Guild Dedication service in Ancrum Kirk at 10.am and then on Monday 1 September we start our new session with a talk by Miss Jennifer Smith about her work in Uganda, which works in very well with the Guild theme for 2014-15 of "A World to Serve".

Our meetings are held in Ancrum Kirk Meeting Room on the 1st Monday afternoon of each month, at 2.pm, to which everyone, male and female, is cordially invited. We look forward to seeing you then, new faces and familiar faces alike. You will be most welcome! *Margaret Dorricott*

Tuesday Girls

The girls meet on alternate Tuesdays, from 7 September to May, from 7.pm to 8.30.pm in The Manse, to share from the Word of God, and to encourage and minister to each other, especially in the area of health and wholeness. For more details, contact Alexis, or just come along!

Keswick in the Borders

This is an inter-denominational Bible teaching conference, to be held in St Boswells Church, featuring Very Rev Albert Bogle, former Moderator of the General Assembly, with the theme *"Facing the Challenge – Studies from Ephesians"*. Sessions on Friday 26 September [7.30.pm] ; and Saturday 27 September [9.45 and 11.30.am].

Bored with TV?

Have you notice how easy it is nowadays to go through a day without contact with a real live human being? Get on the phone, and you face a marathon encounter with an electronic answering system inviting you to press various buttons offering you every imaginable option except the one you want – to talk through your situation with a human being!

Or you find yourself sitting in the house, on your own, flicking your way through the 600+ TV programmes available on your satellite system [at least 595 of which, at any given time, are so bad that you'd rather watch washing dry!] And, not to put too fine a point on it, you're bored!



And you think ... how nice it would be to meet up with a person in a similar situation, have a cup of tea or coffee, and enjoy a good blether! Can we help you with that? Your parish church would be only too happy to try to put you together with someone else ... just let us know if you're interested. By the way, you DON'T have to be a church member to take advantage of this, nor talk about churchy things!!

Interested? Contact Dorothy Cain, 830710, or on dotcain@yahoo.co.uk

Thank You ...

Although there was no door-to-door collection for Christian Aid this year, donations of over £500 were received. Well done, and very many thanks, to all concerned! Also, the family of the late Marguerite Sinclair would like to thank all Ancrum residents who kept a watchful eye out for, and generally, were good neighbours to, Marguerite over the years.

Not just on Sunday mornings ...

In all our churches, there is a **Prayer Box** near the door, and Prayer Cards are provided for prayer requests, anonymously if you prefer.

A **Devotional Diary** is produced monthly, available at the church door, with a prayer point for every day, accompanied by three suggested Bible readings. You can also download this on-line

The Church of Scotland's magazine "**Life and Work**" is available in each of our church buildings for anyone to take away for a leisurely read at home, and then to pass on to anyone else.

Also available, **free of charge**, are regular newsletters from various anointed ministries worldwide including Joyce Meyer, Creflo Dollar, Kenneth Copeland, Andrew Wommack and Joseph Prince. Enjoy!

On-line Sermons : You can download and print Sunday sermons from the website. Go to the "news" page and browse "sermons".

CD recordings of our morning services can be supplied on request. Please contact the minister or any member of the Kirk Session.

Healing : Alexis and Frank will gladly make ourselves available to offer healing ministry – please e-mail or phone.



Check the weekly Church News or the website for more information.

Hospital visits

Many thanks to all who have kept Frank up-to-date with local residents who have been admitted to Hospital. Because of infection control issues at the local hospital, it hasn't always been possible to make these visits. However, please do keep letting me know, as there is no mechanism in place now for ministers to find our admission details from the hospital.

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Parish Registers

Up to 31 July 2014

Baptisms

20 April <i>Ancrum</i>	Rebecca Hill <i>and</i> Rachel Hill, <i>daughters of</i> Gary & Laura [Turnbull], 1 Forthill Avenue
20 April <i>Lilliesleaf</i>	Riley Diego Henderson, <i>son of</i> Rob & Katie [Long], Swindon
4 May <i>Ancrum</i>	Amber Hall, <i>daughter of</i> Craig & Emma [Heard], 32 Howden Road
25 May <i>Crailing</i>	Sophie Grace Redhead <i>and</i> Beth Finlayson Redhead, <i>daughters of</i> Scott & Lynne [Finlayson], 8 The Knowe
	Eden Rose Hill, <i>daughter of</i> John & Leigh [Finlayson], Normanton
1 June <i>Ancrum</i>	Hayden Kenzie Holmes <i>and</i> Arya Liesel Holmes, <i>daughters of</i> Stuart & Maria [Young], 32 West Myres Croft
8 June <i>Lilliesleaf</i>	Jack Robert Begley, <i>son of</i> Joanne [Mitchell], Kirkside
15 June <i>Lilliesleaf</i>	Paschar Richard Misou Kennedy, <i>son of</i> Alexis & Rosie [Johnston], 2 Riverview Cottages

Weddings

3 May <i>Ancrum</i>	Paul Wood & Stacey Munro <i>now living at</i> : Palacehill
21 June <i>Ancrum</i>	Allan Ferguson & Kay Gilfillan <i>now living at</i> : 31 Priors Road
26 July <i>Lilliesleaf</i>	Andrew Marsh & Laura Johnstone <i>now living at</i> : St Helens

Admission of New Member : Certificate of Transference

Mrs Lesley Humble, 23 West Myres Croft, Ancrum

Funerals

24 March <i>Ancrum</i>	Mr Les Orr 18 Myres Croft Road
26 March <i>Jedburgh</i>	Mrs Nellie Spence 15 Lothian Road
28 March <i>Ancrum</i>	Mrs Maureen Elliot Barry Australia, <i>formerly</i> Allerley Crescent
10 April <i>Jedburgh</i>	Mrs Betty Gallagher Priors Road
17 April <i>Jedburgh</i>	Mr Wattie Jackson 31 Queens Court
30 April <i>Crematorium</i>	Mr Sandy Henderson Queens Court, Jedburgh <i>Service conducted by Rev Graham Astles</i>
21 May <i>Ancrum</i>	Mrs Margaret Turnbull 16 Milfield Gardens
29 May <i>Jedburgh</i>	Mrs Patricia Lauder Ryecroft, Ulston Road
13 June <i>Jedburgh</i>	Mr Steven Frater 23 Priors Meadow
16 June <i>Crematorium</i>	Mr Jim Gregory 140 Bongate, Jedburgh
2 July <i>Peebles</i>	Mrs Flora Bruce Shawbrae, Shawpark Road, Selkirk <i>Service conducted by Rev Samuel Siroky</i>
30 July <i>Crailing</i>	Mr Jim Hope 10 Allerley Crescent



**ALE & TEVIOT UNITED
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**
Scottish Charity No : SC 016457
Website : www.aleandteviot.org.uk

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22 The Glebe ; Ancrum ; Jedburgh ; TD8 6UX
Voicemail : 01835-830318
e-mail : jedburgh@cofscotland.org.uk

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24 Cotgreen Road ; Galashiels ; TD1 3SG
Phone : 01896-754817
e-mail : B16ESS@yahoo.co.uk

Treasurer : Mr Tony Rae
Wildcatcleuch, Lanton Road, Jedburgh TD8 6SD
Phone : 01835-863372
e-mail : tonygrae@sky.com

TIMES OF SUNDAY SERVICES : August to November 2014

Ancrum Every Sunday, 10.am **except** 5 October
31 Aug : United Service with Guild Dedication, 10.am
12 Oct : Communion, 10.am [no evening service]

Lilliesleaf Every Sunday, 11.30.am **except** 31 August
26 Oct : Communion, 11.30.am [no evening service]
5 Oct : United Harvest Thanksgiving, 11.30.am

Crailling **10.30** : 10 & 24 Aug ; 14 & 28 Sep ; 12 & **19** Oct ; 23 Nov
10.am : 9 Nov [Armistice]
19 Oct : Communion, 10.30.am [no evening service]
6.30.pm : Songs of Praise : 3 Aug ; 7 Sep ; 5 Oct ; 2 Nov

Armistice Day : Sunday 9 November

Ancrum : 10.am, then to War Memorial
Crailling : 10.am [please note earlier start], then to War Memorial
Lilliesleaf : 10.55.am at War Memorial, then tea & coffee in church
before morning worship at 11.30.am