

# Ferryhill Parish News

## September 2013

Maxi Edition for delivery by 1<sup>st</sup> September

**W**e are delighted to welcome our new minister, Rev. Peter Johnston, and his family to Ferryhill. Peter was inducted during a moving and joyful service in the church on 8<sup>th</sup> August and was subsequently "preached in" on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August. The family are settling into the refurbished manse and the children into their new schools. You can read Peter's first Parish News message on page 3.

Sixty-six children enjoyed the theme "Ferryhill Festivals" at the **Summer Club** this year. They celebrated Easter, Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas through crafts, games, song and stories. One group went to the Duthie Park each day, playing games on the grass and sharing a picnic snack. Even the snacks stuck to the theme; Easter nests, popcorn, poppy seed cake and Yule logs. On Saturday the Puppet Gang performed two wonderful shows, involving all the children in their fun and laughter. The Santa hats, Easter bunnies and water pistol are now packed away but the songs still sing on.....heard in the local library, quietly being sung by a little boy as he browsed the books.

Many thanks to the 34 helpers for their hard work in the months of planning and throughout the week.

Our **Books 'n' Bakes Sales** have become very successful, so the Fundraising Taskgroup have decided to hold another on **Sat.14th September from 2 – 4pm**, with proceeds going to the Manse Appeal Fund. Afternoon teas with our popular home-baked scones served with fresh cream and Kathleen's special raspberry jam will be on the menu again (gluten-free choice available).....along with tea, coffee or juice. We request donations of books (in good condition please), games, baking and raffle prizes. These can be handed in on the morning of the Sale. Entry will be £2.50 (schoolchildren £1). All are welcome.

Our Locum during the vacancy, **Elsbeth McKay**, has written to express her warm thanks for the generous gift presented to her in June. She has bought herself a Geneva gown and a new black cassock, which she has wanted for a long time.

## SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

### **SUNDAY 1st**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sunday Club and Crèche.

### **WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup>**

**11 a.m.** Cowdray Club

### **SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup>**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sunday Club and Crèche.

### **SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup>**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sunday Club and Crèche.  
**6 p.m.** Informal worship in  
the Memorial Chapel  
with Holy Communion

### **TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup>**

**12.10 p.m.** Service of prayer  
and reflection  
(lasts about 15 mins)

### **SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sunday Club and Crèche  
**6 p.m.** Evening Worship in  
Maryfield East Nursing  
Home

### **SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup>**

**11 a.m.** Worship for all ages.  
Sunday Club and Crèche

**The Co-ordinating Committee**  
meets Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September  
at 7.15 p.m.

**The Kirk Session**  
meets Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September  
at 7.15 p.m.

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## Harvest Thanksgiving

### Sunday 6th October

The Harvest Thanksgiving on 6<sup>th</sup> October will be an all-age Family Service and will again provide the opportunity to make a gift of money towards the Christian Aid Harvest Appeal (envelopes available with next month's Parish News and in the Foyer of the Church) as well as to make donations of tinned and dried foods to the Instant Neighbour Trust.

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## **Message for the Month from the Minister**

My late father had a catchphrase usually employed after a particularly good meal: "Bring on the Baked Alaska!" On one birthday, having uttered the words, my mother disappeared into the kitchen and a few minutes later with a flourish returned with a large Baked Alaska dessert straight from the oven. The pudding was perfectly browned, and the ice-cream inside still frozen. I remember the laughter, though it must have taken place 30 years ago.

Anyone who has made Baked Alaska themselves will know that there is some preparation that goes into it, preparing the cake slices, lining the dish with those slices, preparing the meringue, but all the action happens in a sudden rush at the end as you fill the dish with ice cream, cover it with meringue and then place the dessert in an oven at very high temperature so that the meringue hardens while the ice-cream does not have time to melt. It is not a pudding to attempt as lesson 1 in your culinary skills, unless you are feeling very confident!

The Johnston family know something of this process at the moment, with a long time of preparation for moving, and then suddenly everything happening all at once. How does that always happen? Having got the stress of the move out of the way, we are settling into the manse with all the boxes now unpacked, though some piles of 'things' are still looking for a home! I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the preparations to the manse. A power of work has been done both by the contractors and by all those folks in the church who gave up their time and skills. We are very grateful as a family, and recognise too that this work to the manse is an investment in a valuable property for the church.

Over the next few months I will be on a journey of exploration as I meet with you and grow in understanding of ministry, parish and church life in Ferryhill. I will no doubt ask you to give me your name on numerous occasions; I have many new names to learn so please forgive me as I do this!

Above all, I look forward to what the future will hold for our community of faith as Christ leads us into 'full understanding and expression of the love of God' as Paul puts it. We live in the love of a good and gracious God, and for all that means in our own lives may we give thanks together.

The **Manse Appeal** was launched in the June, July, August 2013 Parish News and at the beginning of August 2013 stands at £10,170. Those still wishing to donate to this Appeal can contact Mary Fraser or put donations in the collection bag on a Sunday addressed to Mary Fraser, Finance Convenor.

### ***GLORIOUS at the AECC***

Souled Out gives women time and space to KNOW who they are in God, to GROW in their relationship with Him and other Christian women in the North East and to GO and live this out in their church and community.

Friday 4 October: 7:30pm - 9:30pm &

Saturday 5 October: 10:00am - 4:00pm

Cost: £25

Tickets available online at

<http://www.souledout.org.uk/events/details/239>

Anyone who would like support to purchase tickets on-line, contact: Pauline Gerrard Tel: 595113

**Bob Batchelor** was a well-known teacher and artist and, for 20 years, an enthusiastic and inspirational Principal Teacher of Art at Aberdeen High School for Girls, which later became Harlaw Academy, until his retirement in 1986. In 1974 he was one of a group of artists who helped to establish Peacock Printmakers, now Peacock Visual Arts, where he produced his colourful screen-prints, mostly of flowers, often from his own garden - an amazing chaotic giant rockery filled with his favourite bearded irises, oriental poppies and peonies. Bob died in April 2010, and since then, a group of Bob's friends have been looking for an opportunity to put together a retrospective exhibition of his life's work, and are delighted that **Clan House** has generously offered space in their lovely building. The exhibition can be seen from 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September at Clan House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen.

The **Coffee Shop** urgently needs a volunteer to work in the kitchen every second Thursday. You must have a current hygiene certificate or be willing to train. If you can help, please contact Edna Sainsbury Tel: 572477.

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