



23rd July 2017

Hexham Abbey News

Volunteers • Congregation • Staff

The Fabulous Flower Team

The Flower Team has been extra busy this week taking part in the Hexham Abbey Flower Festival. Flower arranging is a hobby which we all enjoy and having the opportunity to decorate this Church at not only Christmas, Easter, for Weddings but for other events is wonderful.

Working with a vast array of different flowers and seeing the floral displays created gives us all the feeling of immense privilege of being able to add something of living beauty to this wonderful building. There are those of us who are relatively new to the team (even though I took part in the “Festival of Flowers” held in 1968 and again in 1981) and those who have been part of the team for over twenty five years. Most of the team are retired and ages range from those in their 80’s to the youngest in her fifties but the one thing which binds us altogether is the love of working with flowers in our Parish Church.

By Carol Sanderson



The Flower Team! From left: Marian, Linda, Marion, Maureen, Sheila, Carol, Brenda, Margaret

The Hexham Half Marathon



Last Sunday Dagmar and Matthew took part in the Hexham Half Marathon; they both finished in good time—well done! The 13 mile challenge took them from Beaumont Street, across the Tyne, along the Beaufront Road, around Sandhoe and Corbridge, to the finish near Egger. It was a lovely sunny day but perhaps a little bit too hot to run in!



Ten Hexham Abbey volunteers also helped to marshal the event and were placed around the town to direct and encourage the runners. Hexham Half Marathon Organiser Greg Urwin has donated £500 to the Abbey Roof appeal for the volunteers help. Above: Dagmar and Matthew, happy to have finished! Left: The Hexham Abbey Marshals.

Who's Who at Hexham Abbey?

What is your name and what is your involvement in the Abbey? - Mary Illingworth, I am a steward in the abbey and the exhibition as well as a guide.

What is the best thing about being a steward? - I enjoy meeting visitors, welcoming them, passing on my enthusiasm for the Abbey and showing them the treasures.

What did you want to do when you were little? - I wanted to be a member of an orchestra or work for the Health Service and in fact I did work for 30 years as a Therapy Radiographer treating cancer patients.

Do you have a family tradition? - My favourite family tradition is cooking a special meal on Saturday evening that everyone will enjoy.

What is your favourite childhood memory? - My favourite childhood memory was collecting wild flowers and making bark rubbings with my Father whom I didn't know until I was 4 because he had been fighting in the Second World War.

If you could live anywhere in the world where would it be? - I would like to live in Antibes, France so that I could improve my French, learn more about French culture, and sample the delicious food and wine and swim each day in the Mediterranean.

Favourite food? - I would love to eat on a daily basis a medley of seafood including lobster, scallops and king prawns.

And do you have a hero? - My hero is Dame Cecily Saunders who introduced the hospice system that we know today. I did have the privilege of meeting her and she even showed me around St Christopher's Hospice which she founded!



News



FLOWER FESTIVAL WEEKEND It's here at last! We hope that everyone is enjoying the fantastic displays around the Abbey this weekend. Continue to explore all the events and workshops going on in the Abbey grounds and do come along to the special Evening Worship service today (Sunday 23rd) at 6.30pm to conclude the Festival. The photographs are from the grand opening on Thursday Evening with Lord and Lady Stevens.

Congregation News

THIS THURSDAY: SILVER SCREEN *Cinema & Scones* Classic films with refreshments in the Abbey's North Transept on the last Thursday of the month – begins Thursday 27th July, 2.30pm! Volunteer ushers and bakers needed... Please speak to Matthew if you are interested: E: assocpriest@hexhamabbey.org.uk or T: 01434 611901. Dementia Friendly.



QUIET GARDEN, Tuesday 1st August: 'The Light that dances at the Centre of Life'. Quiet Garden day at Westcroft, Elvaston Road. Please contact Bridget Hewitt for more info or to book: E: bridget.hewitt@btoopenworld.com or T: 01434 602897



SCREEN@6, Saturday 5th August Screen@6 returns this month with a showing of *Minority Report*. Join us in Etheldreda Hall at 6pm for the movie, film chat and conversations. Free, with popcorn! For more information contact Matthew T: 01434 611901 or E: assocpriest@hexhamabbey.org.uk

HOLIDAY CLUB BEGINS The theme for this year's Holiday Club, taking place during the first week of the school summer holidays, is 'Mission Rescue'. The fun begins this Sunday with the 10am opening service at the bandstand and closes with a Service and a family picnic on the 30th July at 4pm again at the Bandstand. In association with Churches together in Hexham (CTiH).



BED AND BREAKFAST If any one would be prepared accommodate the four male *Handlebard* performers on the night of Saturday 12th of August please could you get in touch. They are to arrive in Hexham on the afternoon of the 12th and will receive food at the Abbey before their evening performance so it is just overnight accommodation and breakfast that would be required. If you could house them for the night please could you let Jane know: E: jane@hexhamabbey.org.uk or T: 01434 611904

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED We are currently evaluating our work with children and young people. We would like to offer monthly Messy Church in the Autumn Term. For this, as well as Junior church (and other potential plans afoot!) we urgently need additional volunteers. Please contact Matthew if you are interested T: 01434 611901 or E: assocpriest@hexhamabbey.org.uk

Upcoming Events

LUNCHTIME CONCERT Altrincham Choral Society Concert, Sunday 30th July, 1pm Enjoy a 45 minute lunchtime recital of choral favourites in the tranquil setting of the Abbey. Free entry, retiring collection.



THE HANDLEBARDS PRESENTS A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, Saturday 12th August, 6.30pm The *HandleBards* are the world's first cycling theatre company. This summer they are returning to Hexham Abbey to perform their hit all-male production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in Prior Leschman's Garden (outside the Refectory café). Light refreshments will be available from the café, before and during the performance. Tickets: £12-15, (under 16's free with an adult) available from www.handlebards.com/tickets.

AWESOME AUGUST: FAMILY ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT AUGUST Get ready for a crafty August with a new activity every Thursday from 2pm - 4pm. Beginning with Soap carving on the 3rd, activities include Glass painting (10th), Curious clay faces (17th), Illuminated letters (24th) and Misericord masks (31st). Drop in to the Abbey and try something different! £2 per child.

HEXHAM & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, Monday 14th – Sunday 27th August A stunning exhibition of photographic in the North Transept.



Sunday 23rd July *Sixth Sunday After Trinity—Green*

8.30am Holy Communion Officiant Matthew Hunter

10.00am Opening of Holiday Club Service at the Bandstand CTiH

6.30pm Evening Worship to Conclude the Flower Festival

Led by Dagmar Winter

Voluntary Lefébure-Wély *Sortie in E flat*

Abbey Services Diary

9.00am Morning Prayer and 5.00pm Evening Prayer (Unless Choral Evensong)

Tuesday 25th July 12.00m Holy Communion (Nigel Warner)

Wednesday 26th July 9.30am Holy Communion (Matthew Hunter)

10.15am Tots' Praise

Thursday 27th July 9.30am Holy Communion (Dagmar Winter)

9.30am Prayer Group (Elizabeth Fish tel.01434 601142)

11.00am Funeral Service for Joyce Christie

Saturday 29th July 2.00pm Marriage of David Fraser and Rebecca Foxon

Sunday 30th July *Seventh Sunday After Trinity—Green*

8.30am Holy Communion Officiant Dagmar Winter

10.00am Parish Eucharist with Baptism President Matthew Hunter & Preacher Dagmar Winter

Reader Chris Porter

Intercessor James Arkless

11.45am Morning Worship with Baptism Officiant Matthew Hunter

6.30pm Said Evensong with Hymns Officiant & Preacher Matthew Hunter and Reader Richard Snow

For Your Prayers

We pray for those who are unwell or who have asked for our prayers:

Edna O'Neil, Stan Batey, Sheila Jackson, Yvonne Roberts, Doreen Beniams, Alan Currie, Peter Barclay.

We pray for those who have died and all those who mourn:

Ethel (Pam) Priest, John McIntyre, Derrick Mynard, Rachel Clissold, Joyce Christie.

SUPPORT WEST NORTHUMBERLAND FOOD BANK

With the school holidays about to start, they are running short on most items.

Contact the Parish Office T: 01434 602031 / E: admin@hexhamabbey.org.uk

or visit the website: www.hexhamabbey.co.uk

WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL MEAL DEAL at The Refectory Café Every Wednesday between 3pm and 5pm the Refectory Café offers a NEW 2 course children's menu with a FREE filter coffee/tea for one adult. £4.95 per child. For more information contact Owen Mills: T: 01434 611908 or E: gm@hexhamabbey.org.uk

FRIDAY NIGHT TAPAS at the Refectory Café Every Friday the Refectory Café will be running Tapas nights featuring authentic dishes and weekly drinks offers. Come along for a relaxing atmosphere, great food, and good company. For more information contact Owen Mills: T: 01434 611908 or E: gm@hexhamabbey.org.uk