

TARVIN &  
DUDDON



St. Peter's &  
Andrew's



GRAPEVINE

August 2025

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## The Vicar writes...

### From the Vicar..... Embracing the Light of August

As the golden days of August unfold, bathing our world in warm sunlight and ripening fields, we find ourselves at a unique cross-roads in the year's journey. Summer's zenith, with its promise of abundance and its gentle whisper that autumn is on the horizon, invites us to pause and reflect. In this season of warmth and growth, let us take a moment to celebrate the blessings that have come, to honour the work of our hands and the gifts of our hearts, and to look forward with hope and purpose.

August is a month that seems to shimmer with gratitude. The gardens we planted in the coolness of spring now yield their bounty. Our children's laughter fills the air as they enjoy the long, bright days before the return of school. It is traditionally a time of harvest in many cultures, a time to give thanks for the fruits of the earth and the labour of our communities.

Within the church, this spirit of thanksgiving is woven deeply into our prayers and hymns. We lift our voices to God, acknowledging the many ways we are provided for—not only with food and shelter, but with friendship, courage, and love. As we gather for worship each Sunday, let us be mindful of the countless blessings present in our lives, both great and small.

While August brings with it the fullness of summer, it also offers a gentle call to rest. Many families find themselves travelling, whether to distant shores or to the homes of loved ones. Others cherish the quiet of gardens and parks, or even the cool embrace of a humble porch swing in the evening light.

This rest is not idleness—it is a sacred opportunity for renewal. Scripture reminds us that even the land is given a Sabbath (Leviticus 25:4), "a season to lie fallow and gather strength for the work that lies ahead". So too must we listen for the still, small voice of God, nurturing our spirits as we prepare for the coming school year, the resumption of activities, and the ongoing work of ministry.

Let us not neglect the importance of sabbath in our own lives. Whether through prayer, reading, or simply sitting in the presence of our Lord, may this August be a time when we are restored

and refilled by the Spirit. Let our rest be purposeful, drawing us nearer to God's heart and awakening a sense of wonder in the world around us.

Although August marks the beginning of summer's end, it is not a time of loss, but of anticipation. The joys of harvest, the preparations for journeys ahead, and the promise of new beginnings remind us that our story is one of hope. God is always calling us forward, inviting us to trust in the provision and guidance of divine love.

As we close this summer chapter, may we do so with grateful hearts, renewed spirits, and a deeper sense of belonging.

May God bless you abundantly this August and always.

Adam

## Weekly Services

### **Sunday Service timetable:**

#### **St Andrew's**

8am Holy Communion BCP (Every Week)

10.45am 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Week Family Worship

10.45am 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Week Family Communion

#### **St Peter's**

9.30am 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Week Family Communion

9.30am 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Week Family Worship

### **Weekly Activities**

#### **Wednesdays**

9.15am Morning Prayer (St Andrews)

10am - 11.30am Coffee Morning (St Andrews)

#### **Thursdays**

7pm Bellringing

#### **Friday**

6.30pm Choir Practice (St Andrews)

## Diary for August

- 3<sup>rd</sup> 8am Holy Communion (SA)**  
**9.30am Family Communion (SP)**  
**10.45am Morning Prayer (SA)**  
**12pm Wedding Rehearsal (SA)**
- 6<sup>th</sup> 10am -11.30am Coffee Morning (SA)**
- 7<sup>th</sup> 12pm Wedding of Chloe and Matthew (SA)**  
**7pm Bell Ringing Practice (SA)**
- 10<sup>th</sup> 8am Holy Communion (SA)**  
**9.30am Morning Prayer (SP)**  
**10.45am Family Communion (SA)**
- 13<sup>th</sup> 10am -11.30am Coffee Morning (SA)**
- 14<sup>th</sup> 7pm Bell Ringing Practice (SA)**
- 16<sup>th</sup> 11am Blessing and Naming Service (SA)**  
**1pm Baptism (SP)**
- 17<sup>th</sup> 8am Holy Communion (SA)**  
**9.30am Family Communion (SP)**  
**10.45am Morning Prayer (SA)**  
**12.30pm Baptism (SA)**
- 18<sup>th</sup> 10am Wedding Rehearsal (SA)**
- 20<sup>th</sup> 10am -11.30am Coffee Morning (SA)**
- 21<sup>st</sup> 12.30pm Wedding of Natalie and Neil (SA)**  
**7pm Bell Ringing Practice (SA)**
- 24<sup>th</sup> 8am Holy Communion (SA)**  
**9.30am Morning Prayer (SP)**  
**10.45am Family Communion (SA)**

- 27<sup>th</sup> 9.15am Morning Prayer (SA)  
10am -11.30am Coffee Morning (SA)
- 28<sup>th</sup> 7pm Bell Ringing Practice (SA)
- 31<sup>st</sup> 8am Holy Communion (SA)  
9.30am Family Communion (SP)  
10.45am Family Communion (SA)

## September

- 1<sup>st</sup> 7.30pm Welcome Service for New Methodist Minister (TMC)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 10am Craft Group (SA)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 9.15am Morning Prayer (SA)  
10am -11.30am Coffee Morning (SA)  
7pm St Andrews Women's Group (PR)
- 4<sup>th</sup> 10.10am Collective Worship (SP)  
6pm Choir Practice (SA)  
7pm Bell Ringing Practice (SA)
- 7<sup>th</sup> 8am Holy Communion (SA)  
9.30am Family Communion (SP)  
10.45am Morning Prayer (SA)

## Diary notes

On 28th September at 10.45am it is the Celebration of Rev. Canon Donald Marr's 60th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. Come and celebrate with Donald at this very special service.

Toddlers and Singles Luch are taking a break until 8th September.

Wednesday Morning prayer will be taking a break until 27th August.

The Choir will not meet during August.

## Notices

**TODDLER GROUP** meet on Mondays (term time only). 11am - 12pm in the parish room next to St Andrews Church. This is open to anyone caring for children.

**SINGLES LUNCH** - for those who eat on their own. We have lunch, and a domino game and conversation. This will be 12.30pm - 2pm on Monday's in the parish room. If anyone would like to know more, or express an interest in coming, please contact Adam on 01829740354, if you would like to come and need a lift, please contact Adam on the same number.

**CRAFT GROUP** meets on the first Tuesday of each month ( except August ), from 10am till 12 midday in St,Andrew's. So far we have played with clay , made a quite tricky card and tried some Christmas ink stamping. You can join in with the activity provided or sit and knit and crochet with June or bring your own ideas along, or just come along for a chat, though it does get very quiet at times when people are concentrating! If you are able to give a small donation towards the cost of the materials, great, but it is not essential! Just come! Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

**COFFEE MORNINGS** at St Andrews Church every Wednesday morning 10.00 to 11.30

**LEGO CHURCH** meets every Monday in School Term time at St Peters Church, Duddon after school at 3.30 and is open to all Primary age children.

**CONFIRMATION SERVICE** We welcome Bishop Julie on the 28<sup>th</sup> September at 4pm for a confirmation service. Anyone who would like to be confirmed at this service, please get in touch with Adam the Vicar. There will be some classes beforehand explaining what it means to be confirmed in the Christian Faith, and the public declarations of belief that you will make within the service.

## St Andrews Womens Group

Our July Meeting hit the hightime in party mood as we joined together to enjoy wine, cheese and chocolate and test our memories with June's chocolate quiz.

In very competitive mood and our glasses refilled we were all able to complete the quiz in a happy relaxed atmosphere. Our final scores were all so close but congratulations were duly given to the team lead by Mairi and Thelma. A worthy win since Mairi had provided such lovely baking

A happy evening enjoyed by all who took part.

Our thanks to Barbara and June for organising the evening, for liquid refreshments, cheese and chocolate and the artwork to decorate the tables.

We do not meet in August so our next meeting will be on WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD. IN THE PARISH ROOM AT 7PM. Details of the meeting will be posted on tarvinonline and emailed to those who have consented to this.

Should anyone wish to be added to the email list please contact Mairi Levitt, Barbara King or Doreen de Cani.



## Pilgrimages

For some months now, I've been writing about our 'Pilgrimages' whilst we'd been on holiday, and always utilised when either the weather was wet or an eating/drinking establishment was close at hand. I started with the latter A and worked through to E - although as you know, we hadn't been anywhere that started with that letter. So I cheated a bit and used Eboracum, the Roman name for York.

Well, I've cheated again with the letter F.

So this month, F is for Family.

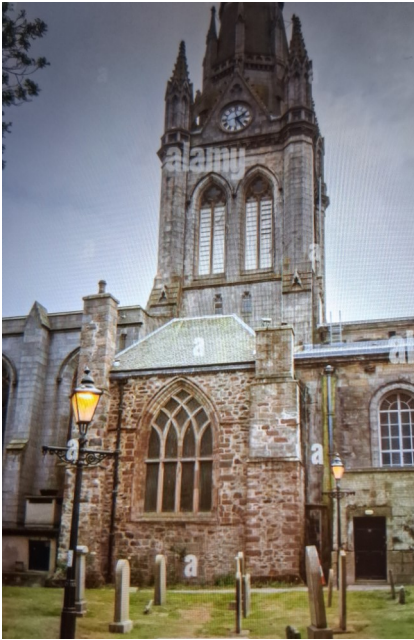
For many years, I've been studying my family's history. Recently, several other family members have picked up this fascinating hobby, both together and separately. It's a lot easier to do these days as so many records have been computerised. I've done the Baileys; farm labourers since before 1750 on various Cheshire farms, until we came to Manchester during the Industrial Revolution. Others have done the Callans, Brenda's side - from Hull to Liverpool, to Eire, back to Liverpool, and finally to Manchester. The common thread in all histories has been chasing jobs and work, wherever that might be.

And so we come to the Smiths - my mother's family, who lived in Aberdeen for several hundred years until moving to Manchester about 1914 ( and what an epic journey that must have been for George, Mary, and their then 3 babies).

Well, 2 weeks ago, my cousin David and I drove the 370 miles from Tarvin to Aberdeen to spend a week studying our Smith ancestry. Why? To turn the dry and dusty computer screens into sights, sounds, churches, graveyards, record offices, tenements, harbours, and even the Gordon Highlanders Museum. Aberdeen boasts 148 churches, with some intriguing variations. There's a German speaking church, a Polish one, a Japanese and who knows what else; helping to make the city one of the most cultural diverse ones in Scotland.

David is a Pastor in the Baptist faith, whereby adding some credence to my claim of a Pilgrimage. His forward planning and meticulous attention to detail once we'd arrived was crucial to making our visit the success it was. After overnighting in picturesque Haddington, encircled by the River Tyne, and boasting the beautiful St Mary's Church.....where Mary Queen of Scots once married.... we continued northwards. Taking in the Falkirk Wheel and the Kelpies, we finally arrived at our Premier Inn on the city

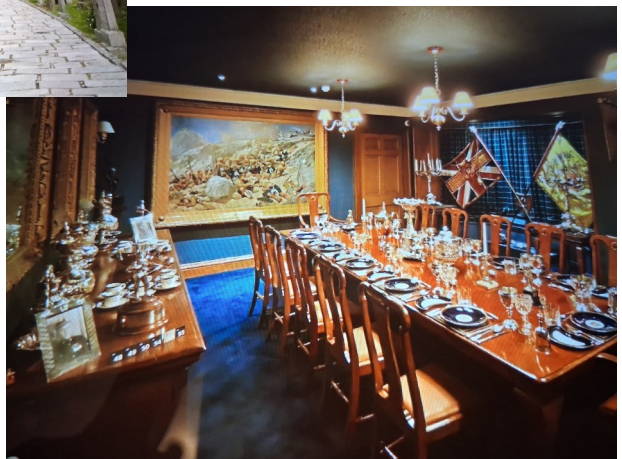




Kirk of St Nicholas  
Skene Parish Church

St Machar's Cathedral

Gordon  
Highlanders  
Museum  
Officers Mess



outskirts. (other establishments are also available).

No rest for us; we were on the early bus next morning heading for the Granite City's centre.

The Kirk of St. Nicholas in Union Street was our first stop. Christened the Mither (mother) Kirk, there was an argument between the congregation during the Reformation. One half built another side on the central tower, and they worshipped separately until the 1980s. Although now closed it boasts an impressive graveyard.

The Harbour was our next stop, as some of our ancestors were fishermen. Then it was on the bus up to old Aberdeen, specifically to Machar. This one time village has been swallowed up by the city but still rejoices in cobbled streets, parks and ancient tenements. A very kind lady told us of it's history and showed us a granite wall wherein it is said one of William Wallace's bones reside. That wall was part of Old Machar's Cathedral, which had played a leading role in our ancestors religious lives.

That afternoon we visited the Gordon Highlanders Museum where we were treated to a personal guide as our Great Uncle Private Alexander Smith won the DCM in 1914 in a tremendous act of bravery. We also allowed to see their Officers Mess (what a luxurious dining area) and a large scale mock up of a WW1 trench (chilling).

Next day saw us at the Aberdeen Archive in The Town Hall. David had already spoken to the Achivist and there were countless records, maps and photographs laid out for us. These gave us our next target.....the northern suburbs where once we lived. That afternoon we wandered around Windy Wynd, West North St., and Goddard St. with its Baptist Church. We went inside the church and they made us very welcome once David told them of his faith..... and we again got a personal tour. By coincidence our family once lived opposite at no. 16 and probably worshipped there in it's earlier incarnation as a John Knox Free Church.

We spent the evening 8 miles out of the city to the small hamlet of Kirkton of Skene, another ancestral location, where again our ancestors worshipped. Of interest here were the graves that were covered with mortsafes- enclosed iron fences and tops designed to keep out grave robbers.

Exhausted by 2 days of intensive research we spent our last day driving up the coast to a nature reserve and then on to Peterhead, where we turned inland so tjat we could say we've been in the Highlands.

Finally it was the long journey back home; where we'll compare our notes and photos so we can come up with a useful addition to our

family history.

Go again? Why not. It is a livery long way but the city architecture is magnificent, with specks of embedded mica gleaming out of the shiny white granite building facias. Plus everybody we met was very friendly indeed.....

Donald Bailey

## @ Grapevine

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Copy deadline for the August edition is **Monday 25th August**

**Cover Picture: St Andrew's Church, Roker**



**Easy Fundraising** is an add on to shopping online, many retailers allow you to buy the products you usually do and with NO extra cost to you, make a donation your

chosen charity. If you would consider Tarvin Church as a charity you can donate to in this way, please use this link:

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## TALES FROM THE GRAVEYARD AUGUST 2025

### TEAM WORK



The dry summer weeks have given the team a chance to catch up with the grass cutting needed to keep the graveyard neat and tidy. The photos top and bottom show how well the "old" section of the graveyard is looking thanks to the work put in by the

team. The photos right and below show two team members who have recently joined. Right is Linda, our first lady member, and below Martin who joined us towards the end of last year. Both have brought enthusiasm and expertise into the team and their contribution is welcomed. It is great to have new, younger, blood working with the team.



(Average age dropped by about ten years!)



As the grass growth rate slows, the next few weeks will involve the annual hedge cutting which takes around four or five Wednesdays for two team members. The work involves not just cutting the hedges, but removal and disposal of the cuttings. This year the two

battery powered hedge cutters will come into good use, without the noise of the old two-stroke units. Thanks to all the team for what they do each week.





## Flowers

Jane Tully, another new demonstrator entertained us with the subject "Inspired by Ceramics"

Botanic Garden by Portmerion was depicted by mixed coloured flowers and herbs displayed in a basket and like the plates it was bordered by laurels.

Jane used a deep blue painted trough and a parallel design to represent Jasperware by Wedgwood. Jane used various colours of flowers as this ware is produced in many shades but blue is the most popular.

In 2022 Moorcroft produced some special designs for the R.H.S. one of which was called "For the Love of Orchids" and this was chosen by Jane for design 3. Using a large pot she did a Pot au Fleur design with 2 pot plants in soil and test tubes on sticks to hold a variety of blooms and white orchids.

The famous Clarice Cliff whose pottery now achieves very high prices was the inspiration for the 4th arrangement. She was

represented with bright colours in a container with 2 red painted coca spades edging yellow, red and orange flowers with dark blue sprayed aspidistra leaves. Clarice Cliff started work in the Potteries at 13 years of age.

The tapestries at Haddon Hall in Derbyshire were where the Minton company had the idea to produce

china in predominately shades of green and pink. Using a green urn Jane produced her final design with foliage and mainly pink flowers.

All the flowers used were in beautiful condition despite the hot weather and we enjoyed the demonstration and the strawberries and cream to follow.

We do not meet in August but will welcome members and visitors to hear about "The Gift of Flowers" by Clare Downing on Sept. 10th at 7-30pm in the Edna Rose room



# All things Duddon

## Duddon St. Peter's CE Primary School

We were lucky enough this year to secure grant funding from the Royal Society which supports STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activities in schools. Chester University is supporting our grant activities as our STEM partner and a few weeks ago after much planning, the school held its first whole school Eco Day to begin the project.

Staff, pupils and our STEM partners worked together on some great activities, as starting points for our further studies. These included hunting for worms (who knew that there were so many different varieties of worms!), identifying different insects, planting wildflower seeds and bulbs to help increase the diversity and looking at life in our pond, although due to the very dry weather this proved to be more difficult. They were all totally absorbed in what they found and developed their language skills and vocabulary as they held their discussions. They

All the children in school, from Nursery age to Year Six were involved and they worked harmoniously in mixed age groups to support each other. They spent the entire day outside in our amazing environment and learned so much from our STEM partner experts. The information gathered during the day will help to establish a baseline for identifying species already in our environment and will be used over time to monitor how we are improving biodiversity in and around our school grounds. The children will be learning how to record their findings scientifically so that they can make later comparisons. We are really looking forward to seeing what a difference we can make and taking part in the next set of activities in the autumn term.



## A country church visited

In June we attended a lovely summer wedding at All Saints Church Hooton Pagnell.

We were lucky to have a hot sunny day. Many of the wedding guests were bussed into the village of Hooton Pagnell, which is quaint and tiny. It is not far from Mexborough and Doncaster.

The church is beautiful and interesting. It dates back to Saxon times. The church is created in rubble and ashlar limestone with red roof tiles. It has a tower, a two bay nave and two bay chancel with a north aisle and south porch. It dates back from 12th 13th and 14th centuries, with a major restoration in 1876.



During the wedding service I could hear the tune "Home Sweet Home" and I was trying to work out where it was coming from. I discovered later the church clock chimes the quarters with Cambridge Chimes and strikes the hours. A carillon plays every 3 hours, a separate tune being provided for each day of the week.

Saturday	Home Sweet Home
Sunday	Pilgrims
Monday	March From Scipio
Tuesday	Aurelia
Wednesday	Eventide (Abide with me)
Thursday	O rest in the Lord
Friday	Drink to me only, a tune set on the parish
hymn appropriate to	Friday 'The cross, the cross, I bid it rise'.

It was enchanting to listen to and so I recommend a visit to this church if you are in the area. It was very welcoming.

Caroline Brierley

## Barbara's bit

I have several books on grief and bereavement and can conduct a funeral well. I have a deep faith and firmly believe we meet up in some way with our loved ones who have died. I believe Jesus is holding them in his care in one of the many mansions.

And yet... with all this belief and faith, and a clerical collar, when a close friend died of cancer last year, I was hit all of a heap. It didn't and doesn't seem possible that she is no longer here, though I am pleased - is that the right word? - that she now has no pain and her passing was gentle and peaceful at home.

Dylan Thomas wrote on the death of his father:

'Do not go gentle into that good night, Rage, rage against the dying of the light.' We may think of rage as anger but it is an overpowering of passion of any kind. The passion of loss, regret, hurt, love and more.

In moments of returning grief - and really there is no need for this grief - I get cross that my mother is no longer here. Oh bless her, she was a good age and poorly and I gave her willingly to God - but she is no longer here! Why? Why isn't she here so I can share the day with her, say prayers together, say all the words of the film 'Pride and Prejudice' (Colin Firth and Jennifer Ehle), which we watched with delight so many times and I can't watch now? I miss her.

Missing my friend was different. We were a prayer trio, 'The Unholy Trinity' I called us- and now with two when we meet there is always the empty chair. I said the prayers at her funeral which were not formalised words but rememberings. It is the first time I had a laugh during prayers as I spoke of our unholy trinity and of regular meetings of pizza, prosecco and prayers! She was a single mum, a teacher, worked to get her Doctorate, taught at a University to teach others how to teach, loved music and literature and had a wicked sense of humour but she never, in all the times



we shared somuch, spoke of the elephant in the room. That wasn't important, living was.

I have a new plant in my garden that shares her name. I am so glad, blessed, that I knew her. We miss her terribly and have struggled to answer the un answerable why? That why that hovers at every death, the why that rages, the why that cries out in pain and loss.

And that pain isn't for her, she is singing with the angels, but for ourselves left behind to carry on. Which is what we do. There is no manual for grief, it might be easier if there was, so we cope as we can and through it all there is the gentle hand of God holding us and saying, 'You are my child and I love you.'

And so you don't dissolve in tears, healing though they are (and any time you wish to cry with me just say) a poem by Jane Upchurch:

They say we have three needs.

To be loved absolutely, unconditionally,  
accepted for who we are and not who we should be.

To love, for love can't just be taken, it should be given:  
learning to live for others not just for self, a flowing heart .

To have a purpose, to know that without us this world would not  
be the same, to have a goal to attain,  
to work be satisfied, to fill our name.

Three needs and a three-dimensional God.  
God to love, be loved and to inspire.  
(© Inner Wellies by Jane Upchurch

Love and Prayers  
Barbara

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Curate	Revd Barbara King 01244 300756	
Readers	Mary Burgess 740716 Jo Richards 741474	Colin Haworth 07584 419348
Pastoral Worker	June Willis 07950 121078 01829 749382	
Parish Wardens	David Ferguson, 39 Deansway, Tarvin 741192 Paul Mercer, 4 Fairfax Ave, Tarvin 309306	
Director of Music	John Williams	07702
St Andrew's Verger	Sandra Turner	305709
Bell Tower Captain	Fiona Panton	749310
		07855
PCC	Treasurer Gary Feldman	
	Secretary Jane Holmes	740564
Safeguarding	Mary Morgan	740450
Women's Group	Rev Barbara King	01244 300756
Grapevine	Paul Mercer tarvingrapevine@gmail.com	309306
Gift Aid	David Caddell	740554
Z Team	Mark Wyatt	740909
(Tarvin Churchyard)	Ron Fuller	740559

Tarvin Parish, St Andrew's and St Peter's takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at [www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding). If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues of a safeguarding matter then you can find useful contact information at [www.chester.anglican.org/social-responsibility/safeguarding](http://www.chester.anglican.org/social-responsibility/safeguarding)

# St. Andrew's Coffee Morning

*Date for your Diary....*

★HAPPY★  
BIRTHDAY!

Come and join us on

Wed 13th August

10am-11:30am

as we celebrate our

**4th birthday**

and over 200 coffee mornings!



Everyone is welcome!

## Reflection, quotes and a prayer for August 2025



I don't know about you, but it tends to be the summer months when I catch up with friends around the country and I look forward to it every year. I love the well known CS Lewis quote which explains that just as Jesus chose his disciples, God is instrumental in choosing our friends. It is no mere accident!

***" You have not chosen one another; but I have chosen you for one another"***

**So let us remember our dear friends in prayer and thank God for  
bringing us together and for the love that we share:**

*Lord Jesus,*

*we thank you for the gift of friends near and far....*

*For their willingness to listen.....*

*For the helping hand they offer.....*

*For their doubling of our joy and their sharing in our sorrows*

*and the trust and happiness we share.*

***AMEN***

The best vitamin for making friends is B1

Friends are those rare people  
who ask how you are and then  
wait to hear the answer.

Good friends are like an excellent wine,  
they get better with age.

Every memory of friendship shared is a  
treasure, like sunshine and warmth in our  
lives.

"We'll be friends for ever, won't we,  
Pooh?" asked Piglet. "Even longer,"  
Pooh answered.

Sue