

# Newlands and Kirkurd *Parish Magazine*



November 2019

Date	Carlops	Kirkurd & New-lands	West Linton
3/11	Communion Rev Stewart McPherson	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Chris Levison
10/11	Remembrance 9.45	Remembrance	10.45 Remembrance
17/11	David Howat	Rev Stewart McPherson	Rev Stewart McPherson
24/11	Mary McElroy	Communion and Guild SM	Mary McElroy

Elder's Rota      November    Janette Raeburn & ?

December    Mary Alexander & Sarah Magee

Church Cleaning    November    Sheila Chapman

December    Fay/Sheila

**ROTAS FOR 2020:**    If any Elders know by December any months not suitable to be on duty, please

let me know - thank you

Cleaners do likewise and let me know, otherwise I'll leave the rota as it is -

also could do with an extra couple of names - thank you.    Fay

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**A quicker way to get your parish magazine!**

If you would like a digital copy of the magazine sent to your email please contact Ilke on [nkparishmag@outlook.com](mailto:nkparishmag@outlook.com) or look at the Newlands and Kirkurd Parish facebook page to find out when it is published.

**Next copy deadline is 21st November for the December edition. Please note there is no January magazine, items received after the deadline will go into February.**



In recent items I have mentioned either overtly or obtusely the changing nature of church and society and how change is coming sooner than we may expect to reshape us or even thwart our plans and our need to engage with such change in church life.

### **The Background**

Part of that change is indicated in our Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles which has, along with every other Presbytery, been given the task of reshaping its allocation of clergy in the light of a 20% reduction in ordained ministers. Obviously, that means more congregations sharing ministers along with finding other ways of working together in the future. One option is to close some church buildings (which is happening in some parts of the country), while another is to link or unite more congregations together in clusters under one minister, or to create much larger groups of churches under a team ministry, with closures occurring at a future stage.

Since the General Assembly in May and the more 'radical call to action' all of this has taken on a faster pace. Conversations have taken place across this Presbytery from Carllops to St Boswells and Lauder down to Selkirk to enable local churches to have a voice in creating and shaping this new future.

### **The Proposals**

The team of people who have been leading this will be proposing a plan at the Presbytery meeting in December – the exact detail of which we do not know at this stage – but will certainly include proposals to reorganise the ways congregations are currently established. Some old linkages of churches may be unlinked to form new ones, while some which stood on their own will now be sharing ministry with others. And of pertinent interest to us, may be a proposal to link our three congregations with three neighbouring ones at Broughton, Skirling and Tweedsmuir. Representative elders from all the congregations have met recently on several occasions to talk through what this would mean. Although there remains a desire at the heart of every congregation that it might have its own minister, there is a growing and urgent sense of realism that ministers are going to have to be shared more widely. This also means the financial cost of a minister is shared where no single or two or three congregations could support a minister by themselves. If this kind of proposal goes ahead it means rethinking what we expect from or desire of a minister of word and sacrament, along with that of church leadership from elders especially and of our worship leaders.

All of this is not simply a case of 'the church from above' (be that Presbytery or Church Offices at 121), changing things for the sake of it and telling us what will be, but everyone seeking to grasp the reality of that which we face in our day. These are challenging times for congregations but also for ministers whose role is uncertain and whose 'parish' will cover a larger geographical area and more congregations than that of our predecessors and whose 'job description' will inevitably change.

### **The Planning**

In terms of our period of Interim Ministry it means some of the planning we have been doing will require reshaping and rethinking as we look towards a different outcome to that which was expected when I arrived. We will need to dovetail the ending of this interim period of ministry with the beginnings of conversations with new neighbours whoever they might be. Presbytery sought this Interim Ministry and so have the responsibility of concluding it before any new outcome begins. I am currently looking at how I might be able to remain with you awhile in order to assist in this if that were regarded as useful. A recent conversation with our Session Clerks was helpful, informative, supportive and instructive, and I will further this in speaking with Presbytery and with the staff and Committee which oversees Interim Ministry posts. During this time, pray for one other and your church as well as for our neighbours in the faith that God will show us how best to be His presence in our communities in our generation and in the future.

*A leaflet will be handed out at later date offering an Update on our Interim Ministry.*

Stewart McPherson



## Artistic Gift

A painting of St Andrew's Church by renowned Scottish artist Ethel Walker has been donated by Barbara Brown and family to the congregation. Ethel is the daughter of Rev Tom Phillips - former minister of St Andrew's linked with Carlops, 1965-84. We intend displaying it where it can be seen and appreciated by as many people as possible. Our grateful thanks go to Barbara – former resident of the village and remembered by many now living in Wiltshire - for such a lovely and much appreciated gift.

*"I hope to encapsulate a visual instant - a sense of immediacy and imminent change but also a sense of enduring place." Quote from Ethel Walker*



**The next sessions of Messy Church are on:**

**Sunday 3 November – Messy Lord's Prayer**

**Sunday 1 December – Messy Advent**

**They are from 4-6pm in the New Church Hall at West Linton.**

All children from babies to P7 are most welcome to come and join in the fun!

After a game to start the children will do a range of craft activities, then have a song and a story and finish off with a meal together. All children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

For more information contact Jean Howat (01968 660677) [howatjean@gmail.com](mailto:howatjean@gmail.com)

## **Remembrance Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

There will be a service of Remembrance on 10<sup>th</sup> November and Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts are especially invited to attend in uniform.

## **Communion**

Communion will be celebrated on November 24 at 10am in Newlands Church. All are welcome to attend.

## **Christmas Gift Service Sunday 8 December**

Please bring new gifts for children aged up to 16. They will be distributed through the Salvation Army to children in the Borders. They should be unwrapped but wrapping paper is much appreciated.

## **Foodbank and Christmas Hampers**

We continue to collect donations of food for the Peebles and Penicuik Foodbanks and there is a box in the church where donations can be made. We are also collecting for the Christmas Hampers which are delivered through Peeblesshire Youth Trust to families who are struggling in the Peebles and Tweeddale area. This year they would like donations of jam and marmalade – these can be left in the box in the church until the end of November or given to Jean Howat. [howatjean@gmail.com](mailto:howatjean@gmail.com)

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### **What's on nearby in West Linton:**

#### **CoSY Café**

**New Church Hall**

**2.00 pm to 4.00 pm**

8th November

22nd November

6th December

#### **Guid Blethers**

**Guid Blethers will resume**

**on 13th November**

With the theme

*“Getting to Know You”*

and also on

**27th November**

#### **Prayer Focus Group**

**Old Church Hall**

**9.30am to 10.00am**

6th November

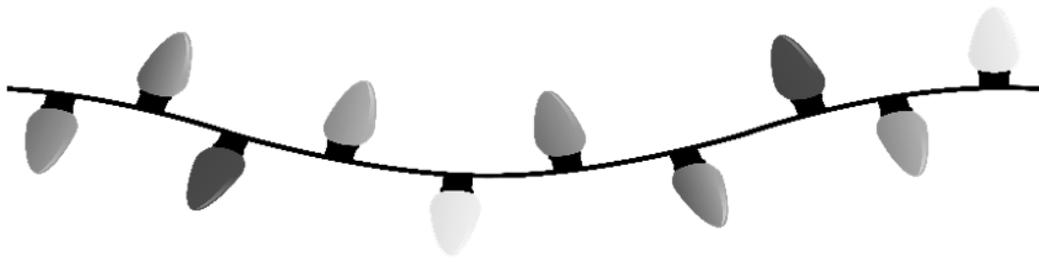
4th December

#### **Baby Brunch**

**Old Church Hall - Fridays**

9.30am to 12.00 noon

*(During school term time)*



## LIGHTS ON NEWLANDS

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2019

5:30pm – 7:30pm

Newlands Centre

Newlands Primary School Parent Council and the Newlands Development Trust will be hosting the Christmas 'Lights On'.



There will be local stall selling their products. Damn Delicious will have a BBQ selling their local home grown produce.

Singing from Newlands School  
Pupils and The Wednesdays Choir



**Come along to a fun night for all the family**

# WEST LINTON SLEEP OUT

part of The World's Big Sleep Out

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## **When**

Saturday 7 December 2019

## **Where**

St Andrews Church Manse Garden (adverse weather venue: New Church Hall)

## **Gathering**

Sleep Out participants will gather in the New Church Hall at 9 p.m. for talks, music, yoga and a bedtime story.

## **Sleep Out**

Everyone will bed down for the night around 11 p.m.

## **Breakfast**

Coffee, tea and bacon rolls will be served in the New Church Hall at 7 a.m. on Sunday morning (non-Sleep Out friends and family welcome)  
– donations on behalf of the West Linton Bethany Care Van Team

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**Raising funds for the Bethany Christian Trust  
& to tackle global homelessness**

**For more information please contact  
[wlsleepout@gmail.com](mailto:wlsleepout@gmail.com)**

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## CHRISTIAN AID NEWS

Christian Aid welcomes the new Scottish Climate Change Bill.

For many years, CA Scotland has been campaigning for the Scottish Government to take climate change seriously for the benefit of those around the world who are adversely affected by it. Since 2017, our supporters have met their MSPs, signed petitions, demonstrated outside the Scottish Parliament and taken to the streets in their

Here is an update on what our campaigning has achieved.

### Emission targets

This Bill sets a strong long-term target to reduce emissions to net- zero by 2045 and drive action in the crucial next decade. We were particularly pleased to see all parties coming together on the day to increase the 2030 target to 75%. The last minute increase in ambition from Parliament was thanks to extensive public pressure, particularly

### Climate Justice

Around the world, the adverse effects of climate change are felt most acutely by people who are least responsible for causing the problem. Climate justice recognises that wealthy industrialised countries like Scotland have a historical responsibility for causing climate change and a moral responsibility to act faster and go further in cutting emissions. One of our campaign successes was the Government agreeing to put its own version of the principle of

Of course we don't stop here. A bill can only take us so far, it's what comes next that counts and we hope that you will join us on the next stage of the journey in pushing for immediate and rapid action on emissions and delivering climate justice. With the UN Climate talks coming to Glasgow next year, the world will be watching.

Thank you again for taking action - together we are making a difference.

Robert Higgins, CA chair

## **MOTHERS & TODDLERS** **Netherurd Hall**

**Thursdays 10 to 11.30am**  
**Members new and old most welcome**

**Adults £2 Children 50p**

**Peggy 01968 682231**

**Pat 01721 752205**

## KIRKURD SWI

On 2<sup>nd</sup>. October Mo Lamb, president, welcomed members and friends to the first meeting of the new session. After some points of business, Mo introduced Duncan Arthur from Kirfieldbank, who gave a fascinating presentation about the Clyde Valley Orchards. Looking back to the Romans and the Normans and into the Victorian era, he discussed how fruit growing had become established in the Clyde Valley. After many years as a major industry the fruit orchards started to decline in the late 1960's and early 70's and many became overgrown and neglected. However there is now a small group of volunteers resurrecting some orchards and planting new trees. They are producing apple juice, which is available to buy in several local shops.

Madison Prady proposed the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

Outdoor Flower of the Month 1<sup>st</sup>. Sheila Voas 2<sup>nd</sup>. Margaret Adamson  
Small Fruit Crumble 1<sup>st</sup>. Sheila Voas 2<sup>nd</sup>. Margaret Adamson

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>. November** Cookery Demonstration with Tweed Valley Venison. They shall have some of their products for sale at the meeting.

Competitions: Small portion pate Cushion / cover

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>. November** Lights On at Newlands 5:30 - 7:30

Once again Kirkurd will have a sales table of home made goodies at this event.

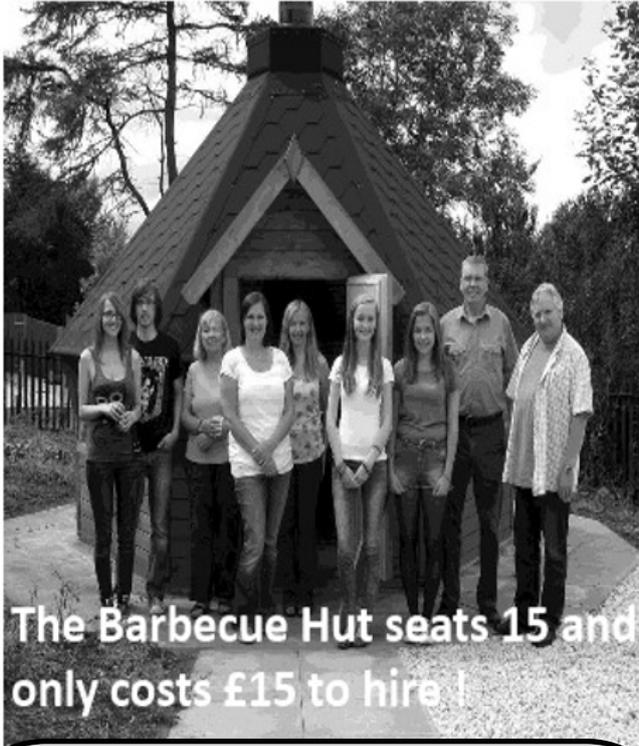
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>. December** Upcycling with Sheila from Droopy Dandelion, Innerleithen. This is a practical evening and Sheila will have all the materials we shall be using.

Competitions: item of home made jewellery old buttons

**January 8<sup>th</sup>.** Dementia Friends Scotland. This is an open meeting open to everyone.

# LAMANCHA COMMUNITY **hub**

Lamancha Hub is a family-friendly community centre which has two multi-purpose halls (recently re-decorated), a community garden, a children's play area and a Scandinavian Barbecue Hut. Recent events at the Hub include a Christening Party and birthday parties where the BBQ hut was included in the package. We also have first-aid courses organised by a fully qualified paramedic.



The Barbecue Hut seats 15 and only costs £15 to hire!

By popular request we are holding a **knit and/or natter** group every Wednesday morning. The cafe is the place to meet at 11am till 1pm. No charge but there will be home made soup, hot drinks and bacon butties at a nominal charge if required. All welcome including beginners.

## What's on at the hub

**Tuesday:** Mindful Yoga  
7.30pm

**Thursday:** Hatha Yoga 9.30am

**Thursdays Pilates!** Beginners and intermediates. Starts 6.15pm  
7.15pm

Start date to be advised

**Drumming lessons:** call Ian  
07847 486074

Games night. 7pm. 1st and 3rd Friday of the Month.

Adults £2 KIDS GO FREE!!!

Pool, darts, table tennis, board games and more!

[info@lamanchahub.org.uk](mailto:info@lamanchahub.org.uk)

Run by the Lamancha & District Community Association, a charity reg in Scotland, no SC035299 & a company limited by guarantee reg in Scotland no SC263766. Reg office is: Old School House, Old Moffat Road, Lamancha, Peeblesshire EH46 7BD

## THE OPEN GATE

Just a reminder that The Open Gate is available every Friday afternoon between 2 and 5pm in Newlands Community Centre. This is a counselling service which is available for any age, and is free of charge. Please encourage anyone you know in the community who would like some confidential help with an emotional or behavioural problem to make contact to ask for an appointment.

Phone or text **07535 898 244**

Final note from this Editor!

This is my last magazine as Editor, I will now be handing over editing duties to Ilka Roehe who will be a wonderful editor. Please give Ilka a warm welcome as she takes the reigns of this wonderful little (but very important) magazine.

I will continue to maintain the facebook page so if you have any posts that just can't wait for the magazine or you think would benefit from being on social media please do not hesitate to contact me at [aturpie@live.co.uk](mailto:aturpie@live.co.uk)

Thank you to everyone who has supported me in my role as Editor over the years, I wish you all good health and happiness for the future.

Please also make sure your magazine submissions are addressed to [NKparishmag@outlook.com](mailto:NKparishmag@outlook.com) where Ilka will be able to pick them up.

Goodbye for the last time Your Ed.

Alison

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**Scottish Charity Number** SCO 18087



Newlands and Kirkurd Parish Church

<http://www.newlands-kirkurd.org.uk/>



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