

*Kirkurd & Newlands
Parish Magazine*



December 2022

All Services back in Church

We are now holding weekly services back in church again and everyone is very welcome to attend.

Zoom services are still being held at Carlops at

10am and St Andrews West Linton at 11.30am. For more information contact Jean Howat. howatjean@gmail.com 01968 660677



West Tweeddale Parishes



<i>Date</i>	<i>Carlops 10 am</i>	<i>Kirkurd & New-lands 10 am</i>	<i>West Linton 11.30 am</i>
04 December 2022	Rev Tony Foley	Patsy Campbell	Rev Tony Foley
11 December 2022	Murray Campbell	Isobel Hunter	Murray Campbell
18 December 2022	Rev Tony Foley	Steven Whalley	Rev Tony Foley
24 December 2022 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	<i>Carol Service 7 pm</i> Rev Chris Levison	<i>Watchnight Service 11.30 pm</i> David Howat	<i>Watchnight Service 11.30 pm</i> Rev Tony Foley
25 December 2022 <i>Christmas Day</i>	Murray Campbell 10 am	- -	Kevin Scott 11.30 am

Welcome: Rosie Sim & Fay Young

Church Cleaning: Fay Young



<i>Date</i>	<i>Broughton 11 am</i>	<i>Skirling 11.30 am</i>	<i>Tweedsmuir 9.30 am</i>
04 December 2022	Fiona Burnett	Patsy Campbell	Fiona Burnett
11 December 2022	Rev Tony Foley	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley
18 December 2022	Isobel Hunter	Steven Whalley	Isobel Hunter
24 December 2022 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	- -	- -	Rev Tony Foley 6.30 pm
25 December 2022 <i>Christmas Day</i>	- -	<i>Joint Christmas Service</i> 11 am Rev Tony Foley	- -



Christmas Gift Service. Sunday 11 December

Gifts for children from newborns to 18 year olds

will be distributed in the Borders via the Salvation Army.

New gifts should be brought to the service unwrapped

(wrapping paper is appreciated).

THINKING OF GIVING AN ETHICAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT THIS YEAR?

“BUY A BED CAMPAIGN” IS BACK!

Bethany Christian Trust has just re-launched its successful “Buy a Bed” campaign. In 2021, it raised the amazing total of £94,634 and this year the target is £140,000. Can you help achieve this ambitious total by making a £21 donation? This amount will help someone who would otherwise be sleeping rough this winter particularly over the Christmas season. The Bethany Welcome Centre at Haymarket Hub Hotel provides a safe, warm bed and 3 meals a day, backed up by individualised support to help the homeless move on to stable longer term accommodation.

In return for your donation, you will receive a physical or digital illustrated card that you can gift to your family or friends as an ethical Christmas present.

The current economic crisis with record inflation rates has already led to a 50% increase in the number of homeless needing emergency accommodation. Please join with Bethany to help provide this vital service this winter - and hold them in your thoughts and prayers.

Donate online at bethanychristiantrust.com following the link to buy a bed campaign.

Robert Higgins

“The Queens came late”

Christmas does not just happen. Someone has to make it. According to the Gospels even God needed help to pull the first one together. There are lots of reasons to be grateful at Christmas not least for those who make such selfless and gigantic efforts to ‘*make Christmas*’ for us all. That is partly why I love the poem *The Queens came late*.

I love the poem because without losing the wonder of Christmas it manages to bypass the sentimental and capture the practical aspects of that first Christmas, and indeed of every Christmas since. Practicalities which if we men are honest that are usually overseen by and taken care of by the women in our lives. The poem reminds us to pause this Christmas to step back, to look around and give thanks for, and to those people in our lives who do so much to ‘*make Christmas*’ a joyous occasion and a lasting memory for all of us.

The Queens came late

(From the Night It Snowed by Norma Farber)

The Queens came late
but the Queens were there
With gifts in their hands and crowns in their hair.
They’d come, these three, like the Kings, from far,
Following, yes, that guiding star.
They’d left their ladles, linens, and looms,
Their children playing in nursery rooms,
And told their sitters:
*“Take charge! For this
Is a marvellous sight we must not miss!”*

The Queens came late,
But not too late
To see the animals small and great,

Feathered and furred, domestic and wild,
Gathered to gaze at a mother and child.
And rather than frankincense and myrrh
And gold for the babe, they brought for her
Who held him, a homespun gown of blue,
And chicken soup—with noodles, too—
And a lingering, lasting, cradle-song.
The Queens came late and stayed not long,
For their thoughts already were straining far—
Past manger and mother and guiding star
And a child aglow as a morning sun—
Toward home and children and chores undone.

I do hope all of you have a wonderfully memorable Christmas this year and as you do that you will also remember to say ‘thank you’ to those who made it so for you. Not least among them of course is the God whose wonderfully personal gift of His son Jesus started the whole thing. In fact, why don’t you, your family and friends join us in giving Him your own personal ‘*thank you*’ at our Christmas services this year.

Peace,
Tony

West Tweeddale Guild

We next meet in Skirling Village Hall at 7pm on Wednesday 21st December for an evening of carols, mince pies and fun, and all are welcome to come along to share in celebrating the Christmas season.

M Habeshaw





Who are we? We are a group set up by West Tweeddale Parishes in response to the current economic and fuel problems to offer help and support to the whole community.

What are we doing? We're signposting 'warm events' across the 6 parishes where a warm welcome, refreshments and a chance to meet friends is offered. We're also organising a few fun and informative events to help everyone save a bit of cash over the winter. Look out for further posters advertising these events with the Winter Warmer logo. A monthly timetable is posted around the villages and can also be viewed on the West Tweeddale website (westtweeddale.org.uk).

Need some emergency help? These organisations are nearby



Penicuik Food, Facts & Friends, 42 John St, Penicuik
EH26 8AB www.foodfactsfriends.org.uk



9BU

Peeblesshire Foodbank
1 Silverbirch Studios, Cavalry Park, Peebles EH45
07413 484174
Peeblesshire.foodbank.org.uk

Crisis Assistance from the Minister's Barnabas Fund



**The next Messy Church session is on
Sunday 11 December – Messy Christmas!**



The session runs 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!

We will start with a Bible Story and then the children will do a range of craft activities, followed by a song and a prayer and finish off with a meal together. All children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Please do consider joining us for an afternoon of fun activities and a family meal together.

For more information contact Jean Howat howatjean@gmail.com

Christmas Jewels

8 oz. digestive biscuits crushed	1 oz. S.B. sugar
4 oz. cherries	4 oz. sultanas
4 oz. butter	2 oz. flaked almonds
small tin condensed milk	

Method:

Melt butter and sugar over low heat, add biscuits. Press into lightly greased Swiss roll tin.

Sprinkle fruits and nuts on top. Drizzle over condensed milk. Bake in mod. oven for about 20 mins. Cut into fingers or squares.

LAMANCHA COMMUNITY HUB

Due to popular demand the cafe is staying open through January apart from the 4th. We will also be closed for one day on the 28th December.

We will have the usual soups, bacon butties etc. Be assured of a warm welcome.

BBQ hut is available to hire for £15 for as long as it takes and the big room is also available for £10 an hour for parties etc. Kitchen and cafe can be included for an additional charge.

Wishing all our customers and hirers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

info@lamanchahub.org.uk



***** *Save the Date* *****



Pudding Night

Friday 3rd February, 6.30 pm, in Newlands Church.

Volunteers make soup and everyone brings a pudding to share. There will be a raffle. Proceeds to Crisis Assistance from Minister's Benevolent Fund and Practical Action. Tickets (£5) on sale in January, children free.

The Open Gate

Please remember that The Open Gate Phone is still available for anyone to contact at any time. This is a free confidential resource which will help with any behavioural/emotional problem by using a Brief Therapy approach. Problems can be big or small.

Phone **07535 898 244** to leave a message and you will then be contacted to arrange a time for a telephone session.

Lamancha, Newlands and Kirkurd
Community Council...



*...would like to wish everyone a Merry
Christmas and a very Happy New Year*

The next meeting will be online at 7.30pm on
Wednesday 18 January 2023
at the
Newlands Centre, Romanno Bridge

*If the weather is bad, the meeting will be online so
check either our Facebook page or the Peeblesshire
News, Community News section the Friday before*

Community Councils give people a voice on issues
concerning where they live. Come along and make
sure your voice is heard. If you would like to know more,
please email lnkccchair@gmail.com



**We have a new Facebook page which
will keep you up to date on meetings
and local issues**

At the November meeting Fiona Dunlop from Peebles gave an excellent presentation about the Gardens of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the gardeners who tend the gardens.

There are approx. 23,000 war memorials and war cemeteries around the world in 150 countries & principalities , many of which have been designed by well know architects and designers.

Most of the gardens are looked after by volunteers using equipment which is available in their own location. She explained the use of the different types of plants and how these vary from country to country.

Fiona is responsible for looking after the war graves in the Scottish Borders area.

Jean Fraser gave a very thoughtful and well deserved vote of thanks.

Sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to the raffle & donations which raised £100. This has been sent to CWG Foundation.

Tuesday 6th. December: Hands on practical night with Margaret Leiper, Biggar
Competitions: Christmas Tea Towel Hand Made Christmas Tree Decoration

Tuesday 10th. January: Cambell's Fudge, Tweedsmuir with Steven Edge
There will be goodies for sale.

Tuesday 7th. February: Soap Matters Christine Blundell, West Linton
Competitions: wrapped tablet of soap 2 cherry scones
Christine will have items for sale.

With very best wishes to everyone for Christmas and all the very best for 2023

Garden Ramblings

As my Granny used to say, the nights are fair drawin' in! This can be a miserable time of year for anyone, let alone we gardeners, but the good news is the snowdrops will soon be popping up as they did last December. That must have been a record for this area, and they were closely followed by the daffodils and then the tulips! In the meantime, we can have a look at all those garden catalogues and purchase some seeds. As my greenhouse is unheated, I tend to sow hardy perennials and have a few packets of seeds ready and also some harvested from plants in the garden. I have germinated a few plants from the pink oriental poppy "Victoria " which will be given to a granddaughter with the same name if they survive the winter. I also have aquilegia and peach foxgloves plus hollyhocks to try.

My Clematis Montana has made it to the top of the rowan tree this year as I forgot to trim it in summer so should be a good show next spring. One Plum tree was so laden with fruit that it is now in danger of keeling over. Who knows its future? Fingers crossed on that one. I have a large hedgehog holly and every year it is covered in flowers but never any berries . I did know there were male and female plants in the holly world but assumed wrongly that as mine had flowers it would bear fruit. I decided to send a question to our Beechgrove Garden crew and was told that my holly was a male plant and to confuse things further I needed to plant a female nearby. The recommended one was Golden King! Eh?

Anyway, that's on my search list so wish me luck!

This leaves me to say have a lovely Christmas and a Happy Gardening Year for 2023.

Cilla Davidson



NEWLANDS SWI

Our November meeting was very enjoyable when we welcomed a few new members and all enjoyed a very informative talk by Callum Greenhow, our very own postmaster from West Linton. Vote of thanks by Marion Storrie.

Our next meeting is on Thursday December 8th at 7.30 in the Lamancha Hub Cafe. This will be a Christmas meeting with a musical quiz by Margaret Habeshaw. Please remember to bring a pen. Janette and Joan will be on tea duty. Competition will be a handmade Christmas decoration and there will also be a raffle.

All welcome. Cilla Davidson

Minister West Tweeddale

Rev. Dr. Tony Foley

Email: tfoley@churchofscotland.org.uk

Tel. 07793294000

Manse: 01968 660221

Church Administrator West Tweeddale

Michelle Fraser

Church Office: Old Church Hall, West Linton

Email: cos1560.tweed@outlook.com

Tel. 01968 733 112

Session Clerk

Jean Howat

Stoney Knowe, Romano Bridge

Tel. 01968 660 677

Church Treasurer

David Howat

Stoney Knowe, Romano Bridge

Tel. 01968 660677

Adventurers

Mrs Jean Howat and Mrs Ilka Roehe

Please contact your elder or Ilka Roehe by email if you would like a digital copy or large-print copy of the Parish magazine sent to your email address.

Material for the January magazine to ilka.roehe@btinternet.com by

Tuesday, 27 December 2022.



Newlands and Kirkurd Parish Church



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