



*Kirkurd & Newlands Parish Magazine*

*April 2024*

## Sunday Services

All our services are held in church but there is a Zoom link to services in Carlops at 10am and St. Andrews West Linton at 11.30am.

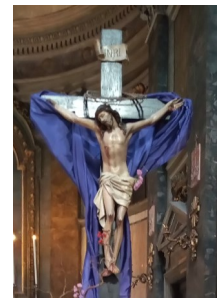


For more information contact Jean Howat. [howatjean@gmail.com](mailto:howatjean@gmail.com) 01968 660677

## *West Tweeddale Parishes*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Carlops 10 am</i>	<i>Kirkurd &amp; Newlands 10 am</i>	<i>West Linton 11.30 am</i>
07 April 2024	Rev Tony Foley	Kevin Scott	Rev Tony Foley
14 April 2024	Sheena Livingstone	Rev Tony Foley	Kevin Scott
21 April 2024	Murray Campbell	Fiona Burnett	Murray Campbell
28 April 2024	Rev Tony Foley	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley
05 May 2024	Patsy Campbell	Rev Tony Foley	Kevin Scott

**Welcome:** Jean & David Howat  
**Church Cleaning:** Ilka Roehe & Joan White



<i>Date</i>	<i>Broughton 11 am</i>	<i>Skirling 11.30 am</i>	<i>Tweedsmuir 9.30 am</i>
07 April 2024	Julian Birchall	Kevin Scott	Julian Birchall
14 April 2024	Fiona Burnett	Rev Tony Foley	Fiona Burnett
21 April 2024	Rev Tony Foley	Fiona Burnett	Rev Tony Foley
28 April 2024	Rev Chris Levison	Isobel Hunter	Rev Chris Levison
05 May 2024	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley	Isobel Hunter

Current worship leader rota is also available on the linkage website:  
[westtweeddale.org.uk](http://westtweeddale.org.uk)

*“Are we wrong about rights?”*

We live in an age when there is endless talk of *rights*, and little said of *obligations*. Are we entitled to our human rights? Can we lay claim to them without first owning our human obligations? Are rights self-existent? Or are they brought into existence through our obligations to one another? Do they spring fully formed from the individual or are they gifted by the community of others who consider themselves to be under obligation to that individual. Rights do not exist as a self-generated entity in a given individual. They are based on common recognitions and agreed upon definitions, and do not exist apart from obligations. They are a consequence of the actions and attitudes of others who consider themselves under an obligation towards that person. A person left alone in the universe would have no rights, but they would have obligations. For Christians, the notion of claiming a right without first owning a primary obligation is to put the cart before the horse. Let me explain.

Once when Jesus was engaged in a debate one of the scribes overheard them debating. ‘Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, *“Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”*

*“The most important one,”* answered Jesus, *“is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”*

*Well said, teacher,”* the man replied. *“You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”* ‘

As Christians, our obligation towards other human beings always comes before any sense of entitlement of our rights. Our rights always come second to our obligations towards one another. The command to love our neighbour is not a suggestion it is an obligation that we owe to others. Moreover, our failure to fulfil our obligations towards each other does not mean that those obligations lose any of their force. They don't suddenly cease to exist simply because they go unfulfilled.

According to Jesus our obligations toward one another belong to a realm situated above all conditions. The fulfilment of these duties result in the kind of behaviour others can expect from us but are not entitled to simply by virtue of their expectation. It is the recognition of our obligation towards one another that gives human rights their substance and thereby makes them effectual. It makes no sense to say that people have rights without the primary existence of obligations.

Peace,  
Tony

### **Pastoral Group**

We are a small group of people who are there to offer a listening ear in confidence. If you know of anyone who might appreciate a visit please do contact our minister The Rev Tony Foley [TFoley@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:TFoley@churchofscotland.org.uk) or

Jean Howat [howatjean@gmail.com](mailto:howatjean@gmail.com)

We are not professional counsellors but rather sympathetic listeners.



**TALK IN NEWLANDS CHURCH –  
MONDAY 8 APRIL**

Samantha Myers will give a talk about the work of Shelter Scotland

- *What it aims to achieve*
- *What homelessness looks like in Scotland – and ways to fight it*
  - *How we can help*

This talk will take place at 7.30 pm on Monday 8 April. Tea and Coffee provided

For more information contact David Howat  
(01968 660677)

***Every 16 minutes a household in  
Scotland becomes homeless!***





## MESSY CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May.

Please come and join us for our Messy Church picnic at St Mungo's Church and garden, West Linton, on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May. All children from babies to P7 are welcome to come and join in the fun. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

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

**Newlands Kids** is a charity which is a small, rural **Early Years education and childcare** provider for 2 - 5 year-olds.



Newlands Activity Centre  
Romanno Bridge  
Near West Linton  
Peeblesshire  
EH46 7BZ

### What do we offer?

Our rural setting allows us to focus on the Natural world which surrounds our setting.

Going outdoors and bringing the outdoors indoors allows our care team to fully integrate our natural setting with the aims of the Curriculum for Excellence.

We learn and grow fruit and vegetables in our outdoor classroom, poly tunnels and raised planting beds. Our in-house cook creates healthy balanced menus for them to enjoy in our outdoor sitooterie.

### Term time setting

(38 wks a year)

Holiday Club is available for 4 weeks during Summer

### Days and times

Mon - Thurs,  
8:30am - 6:00pm

For more info, or to come for a visit please contact  
Gill Ross, [gill@newlandskids.org.uk](mailto:gill@newlandskids.org.uk)



## CHRISTIAN AID NEWS

Val Brown, head of Christian Aid Scotland, recently posted the following thought provoking article, connecting events in the 18<sup>th</sup> century Highland Clearances with horrific, present day refugee situations around the world. In this period, people were forcibly removed from their land to make way for more profitable sheep rearing. An earlier CA report "Becoming Human Together" vividly depicted the experience of crofters. "Old men and women, too feeble to walk were placed in carts, the younger members of the community on foot were carrying their bundle of clothes and household effects, while the children, with looks of alarm, walked alongside. When they set forth once more, a cry of grief went up to heaven, the long plaintive wail, like a funeral coronach, was resumed....the sound seemed to re-echo through the whole wide valley of Strath in one prolonged note of desolation.(The Crofter's Trail, David Craig, Birlinn)

Take out the words "coronach" and "valley of Strath" and that description could hold true today for Ukraine, Sudan, Gaza, Israel, and so many other places. Across the globe, people are on the move and that often goes hand in hand with lament.

CA was recently awarded a grant from the Scottish Government's Humanitarian Emergency Fund (HEF) to support families from Sudan living in a refugee camp in South Sudan. Many thousands have crossed the border since the conflict started in April 2023. Cash assistance for 4000 of the most vulnerable people will enable them to buy food and essentials.

As the invasion of Ukraine ticks into its third year, millions remain displaced. Another Scottish Government grant will enable CA to work with Heritage Ukraine to repair homes and water sources, as well as giving people seeds to grow food.

Recent reports have estimated that 1.9 million, or 85% of the population of Gaza, have been displaced. Our partners are responding as best they can to provide the people of Gaza with the essentials they need in what are very difficult circumstances.

CA is also supporting Israeli partners to cope with the escalation of violent conflict through the provision of bespoke trauma and wellbeing support. We are calling on the UK Government to work for a permanent ceasefire, without which the foundations cannot be laid for a sustainable and just peace, in which all people in Israel and Palestine can live in security and with dignity.

Lent is a time of wilderness and lament but as we approach Good Friday, we do so sure in the knowledge of the Hope of Easter Sunday. Lament is not just a time of grief, but rather a plea to God for justice.

As we come into the spring and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, let us keep on as we journey towards a just peace for all.

REMINDER – CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 12-18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024

Robert Higgins, CA Chair

Lamancha, Newlands and  
Kirkurd Community Council



**The next meeting will be on  
Wednesday 17 April at the  
Newlands Centre at 7.30pm**

Please email [lnkccchair@gmail.com](mailto:lnkccchair@gmail.com) if you have any comments for  
the Community Council

**Community Councils give people a voice concerning where  
they live. Come along and make sure your voice is heard  
and find out what is happening in your area.**

**All welcome**

We have a Facebook page which will keep you up to date on  
meeting dates and local issues.



At the March meeting Ann Yourston from Dolphinton who supports Alzheimer's Scotland, took us on a fascinating trek in the Sahara, where they experienced a sand storm and temperatures reaching 40 degrees.

Lesley Johnstone proposed the vote of thanks.

Competitions: Cactus or succulent plant:	1 <sup>st</sup> . Sheila Voas
	2 <sup>nd</sup> . Margaret Adamson
Decorated boiled egg	1 <sup>st</sup> . Sheila Voas
	2 <sup>nd</sup> . Margaret Adamson

**Next Meeting Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April AGM**

Please bring suggestions for meetings and competitions.

Peeblesshire Federation Spring Show

Kirkurd had a very successful day at the show.

Congratulations to everyone who participated and helped in any way to make the show such a success and to all the prize winners. Our wee 'rural' won four trophies. A great achievement.

Kirkurd won the Community Effort Trophy. Sheila won the best article of winter's work and Margaret won the best in bulbs and plants and the floral art sections.

On 14th March we did very well at the Spring Bulb Show held at the Newlands Centre. What a feast for sore eyes with so much colour and a very high standard of entries from all the "Rurals "in the Peeblesshire area. Our branch won the cup for most points and also a special thanks to member Mary Darling for winning the cup for an individual item of her handiwork. Two cups in total to be engraved!. Well done all as we had a plenty of stiff competition.

11th April is our AGM and will be at the usual venue of Lamanca Hub Cafe. Suggestions for speakers will be welcomed.

See you all there and best wishes for a Happy Easter.

Cilla Davidson

**WE NEED YOUR HELP !!!**



**CHURCH CLEANING**

Please contact Fay Young if you can help with cleaning the church during the summer months.

## *Garden Ramblings*

The sun is shining brightly, lambs are in the field behind the house and the birds are flying around in pairs so it can only mean one thing. Spring is Sprung! I keep seeing bluetits busy with their house hunting and hoping they will choose my garden.

My purchases this month are a Pussy Willow and a couple of plants for the rockery, namely a purple heuchera and a very pretty red aubretia. I am tempted to hunt for more hellebores as they seem to have improved over the last couple of years. I keep seeing some beauties in other folks' gardens! Dare I say that they were on the boring side other years?

The poly tunnel in the Hub garden is filling up with bedding plants so there will be some for sale, probably in May plus enough for the community planters.

Happy Gardening and a Happy Easter to all you gardeners.

Cilla Davidson

## ***LAMANCHA AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION***

Happy Easter to all our customers and just to remind you we are closed on Wednesday the third of April but will be open again the following week on the 10th.

The hall is still a reasonable £10 per hour to hire for all sorts of events. We have Yoga and sewing classes regularly.

Please visit the community garden soon. The BBQ hut is still £15 for as long as it takes to have your party.

Cilla Davidson

***Minister West Tweeddale***

Rev. Dr. Tony Foley

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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 April magazine to [ilka.roehe@btinternet.com](mailto:ilka.roehe@btinternet.com) by

**Tuesday 16 April 2024**



Newlands and Kirkurd Parish Church



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

West Tweeddale Parishes

[www.westtweeddale.org.uk](http://www.westtweeddale.org.uk)

Scottish Charity Number

SCO 18087