



*Kirkurd & Newlands  
Parish Magazine*

*February 2024*

## 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](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>
04 February 2024	Patsy Campbell	Mary McElroy	Patsy Campbell
11 February 2024	Rev Tony Foley	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley
18 February 2024	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington
25 February 2024	Fiona Burnett	Peter Worthington	Fiona Burnett
03 March 2024	Rev Tony Foley	David Howat	Rev Tony Foley

**Welcome:** Mary Alexander & Joan White/Alistair Hammond-Chambers

**Church Cleaning:** Yvonne Ashforth

<i>Date</i>	<i>Broughton 11 am</i>	<i>Skirling 11.30 am</i>	<i>Tweedsmuir 9.30 am</i>
04 February 2024	Rev Tony Foley	Rev Bill Buchan	Rev Tony Foley
11 February 2024	David Howat	Isobel Hunter	David Howat
18 February 2024	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Tony Foley	Rev Chris Levison
25 February 2024	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley
03 March 2024	Fiona Burnett	David Howat	Fiona Burnett

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

## What business are we in?

Let me ask you a question, “*What as a church have we not noticed lately?*” I know that this is really an odd question, how can you notice what you haven’t yet noticed. Let me illustrate what I mean.

It is the year 1910. This is the age of the big transatlantic steamer. The seas were full of big beautiful ships carrying the thousands of people to and fro across the Atlantic. The dominant companies in this business are Cunard and White Star. If you ask the people who ran Cunard and White Star what business they were in, they would of inevitably responded: “*The transatlantic shipping business*”.

Sadly it was that kind of self-definition that sealed their demise. Locked into a worldview that the future was about bigger, faster ships, companies like Cunard and White Star were busy trying to create ships with bigger engines, more funnels, and iceberg-proof hulls. Yet, only a few years later a disruptive technology came along and sunk the transatlantic shipping business and the White Stars and Cunard’s of the world. That piece of technology was of course, the airplane.

If White Star and Cunard had seen their business from a different perspective in other words not as a transatlantic shipping business, but rather as a transatlantic *people moving business* things might be very different today. Instead of flying in *Virgin* and *BA* and *Easy Jet* planes we might all be flying in Cunard and White Star planes.

How often as churches do we get the question: “*What do you do?*” All too often we respond to questions like this with the ‘*what,*’ and forget to mention the ‘*why*’ we do what we do. We invariably answer the question on autopilot and talk about parishes and worship services, social activities etc. In other words we talk in terms of the logistics church and the location of church buildings.

When Jesus was asked a similar question in Luke’s Gospel (ch15), instead explaining what he was doing he told 3 stories that helped his listeners ‘see’ why he was doing what he was doing. From beginning to end every thing Jesus did was *people focused* – not property or procedure focused. It is good to be able to explain *what* we do but let’s never forget the *why*. Why not take some time this week to read and re-

reflect on how Jesus answered those who questioned him about his activities. Like it Saviour the Church is called to be first and foremost a people-centred enterprise. If we forget to notice that we may like Cunard and White Star find ourselves replaced.

Peace,  
Tony

### *Pastoral Care Training Session*

*We will be holding a training session in Pastoral Care led by Chris Levison on Saturday 10th February at Newlands Church from 9.30-12.30.*

*We will start with coffee from 9.30 and the session will start at 10.00.*

*Everyone with an interest in pastoral care is welcome to attend. Please can you let Jean Howat know if you would like to come. [howatjean@gmail.com](mailto:howatjean@gmail.com)*

## Peeblesshire Youth Trust

### Christmas Hamper Appeal



We are writing to say a huge thank you for your support with the 2023 Peeblesshire Youth Trust Christmas Hampers. With your support, 120 families in the Peeblesshire area received hampers full of essential food, fruit & vegetables, sweet treats and toiletries with a value of up to £100.

We are hugely reliant on the support from the local community to provide donations and goods for the hampers, your support is essential.

We have attached a couple of photos of the hampers just before they went out for delivery which hopefully demonstrates the scale and number of hampers we collectively managed to get to those who most needed some festive cheer (1 hamper = 4 bags) .

Once again, thank you for being such an integral part of the **2023 Peeblesshire Youth Trust Christmas Hampers** and your incredible generosity.

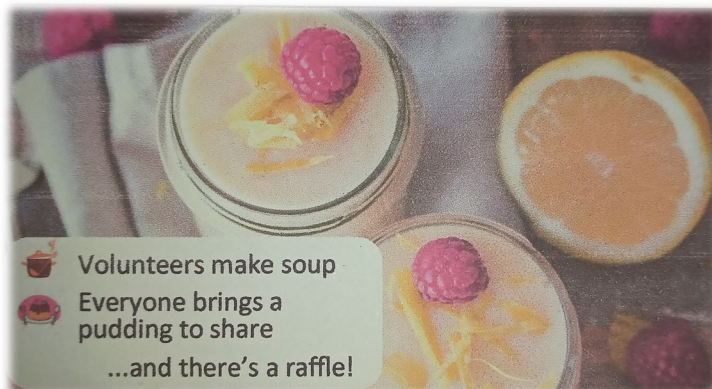
We look forward to working with you again for Christmas 2024.

Hayley & Emma



## ***Pudding Night***

Friday 2 February, at Newlands Church,  
6.30pm



**Proceeds to Christian Aid**



## **MESSY CHURCH**



**The next Messy Church session is on  
Sunday 18 February – Joseph**

**The session starts at 4pm 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](mailto:howatjean@gmail.com)

## LINTON LIFTS [Proposed]

I would like to take this opportunity to update you all on the 'slow but sure' progress being made towards the formation of a voluntary drivers' scheme to take residents of West Linton and surrounding area, to and from health-related appointments. As you will be aware, journeys by public transport are challenging when it comes to getting to the Borders General Hospital and other places patients of the West Linton Health Centre are referred to. It is particularly difficult for cancer patients needing to attend for treatment often several times in one week. The Red Cross did a grand job ferrying people back and forth, using volunteer drivers, but that organisation no longer runs the service, and Linton Lifts hopes to fill the gap. However, as with most not-for-profit organisations, a Steering Group needs to be recruited before we can attract volunteer drivers. To that end, I am looking for the following:

**Co-ordinator/s** to deal with client bookings and communications with drivers, using designated email and mobile phone - these people need to be available during the day.

A **Treasurer** to receive monies from clients, make payments to drivers, and manage funds - using electronic banking with the Bank of Scotland (once an account is set up) and manage insurance.

A **Secretary** to arrange and minute meetings, and keep secure records

**Committee members** - two or three, to help with publicity, social media, press, trainings etc.

Volunteering can be very satisfying, and I would love to hear from anyone reading this who feels they may be able to help fill any of these roles, or indeed may know of someone who perhaps is looking to fill a gap in their lives following retirement or change of lifestyle. I know that some will be wondering about driving – rest assured, I will put the call out for more drivers when we have a steering group formed! As for clients – there will be no shortage! Thank you for taking the time to read this – my email address is *margarettor-rance6@icloud.com* and if you would like to talk to me about any of the above my landline (yes, I still have one!) is 01968 660 678.

Lamancha, Newlands  
and Kirkurd Community  
Council



**The next meeting will be on  
Wednesday 21 February at the  
Newlands Centre,  
Romanno Bridge 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.



**KIRKURD SWI**

At the January meeting Colin Hunwick gave a very interesting presentation about his rewilding project at the Whim.

Sheila Voas proposed the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

Flower of the month: 1<sup>st</sup>. Margaret Adamson      2<sup>nd</sup>. Sheila Voas

Piece of Shortbread: 1<sup>st</sup>. Margaret Adamson      2<sup>nd</sup>. Sandra Howieson

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>. February:** 'Braw Beans' coffee roasters, with Belgin Karakaya, West Linton

Competitions:      Valentine Card      Coffee Cake.

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>. March:** Trekking in the Sahara with Ann Yourston, Dolphinton

Competitions: Cactus / succulent plant      Decorated boiled egg

**Netherurd Memorial Hall**

**E.G.M.: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>. February 2024, 7:00pm**

To update the meeting with activities since the public meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021, at which it was unanimously agreed (by vote) to discontinue with the use of the hall for the purpose for which it was originally intended, in accordance with the governing Deed of Trust.

For the Committee to approve and sign a Supplementary Deed of Trust which amends our charity's "constitution", as described by the original 1969 Deed of Trust governing the Hall, to give the Committee powers to wind up the current charity and dispose of the assets.

To put before the meeting an indicative proposal to put the Hall on the market, and to disburse the free proceeds to other charitable organisations having similar objects to those of the Trust.

QI GONG was the title of our demo by teacher Isobel Frazer from West Linton at the January meeting. Most of us were new to this but found it very enjoyable with lots of gentle exercise and laughter. This was followed by several members reciting the poems of Rabbin Burns. Well done ladies!

The February meeting is a talk on the The Tweed Valley Osprey Project by Dianne Bennett. Date 8th February at 7.30 in Lamancha Hub cafe.

Cilla Davidson

### **The Guild**

The next meeting of our Guild will be on Wed 21<sup>st</sup> February at 2.30pm in Newlands Church. The speaker will be Rev Pamela Kennedy who is Assistant Minister to the churches of Innerleithen, Walkerburn and Traquair, and is also undertaking pioneer ministry at Cardrona. She will tell us about her experiences as the youngest and newest minister in our area of the Presbytery. All are welcome, and as usual, the talk will be followed with tea and refreshments.

### **The Open Gate**

Please remember that the Open Gate counselling service is still available on Friday afternoons at Newlands Centre. Phone or text **07535 898 244** to ask for an early appointment for help with any problem. This is free and confidential.

## *Garden Ramblings*

I must admit to being a fair weather gardener but not long now till the end of January! Hasn't this winter been an odd one with the last few days of gales causing a lot of damage? My greenhouse was in the firing line with the loss of two glass panels and a fence will need replacing but never mind, it could have been worse. I always do the bird count at the end of the month and to me that is the time to begin gardening and deciding what needs to be done first. Weeds haven't stopped growing and also the dead stems of all those lovely cottage garden perennials, which have sheltered all manner of wee insects, will be for the chop.

Snowdrops are all around and living up to their names of "Fair Maids of February" and the daffodils and tulips are to follow. Don't you just love tulips with all those gorgeous colours available?

I have a wee gang of 4 Silkie Bantams and their old bedding will be dug in to the veggie area. I still have a few leeks to dig up. They do well here. Tomato seeds are about to be started indoors.

Onwards and Upwards for us gardeners from now on.

Happy gardening.

Cilla Davidson

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

Coffee mornings are up and running every Wednesday from 10am till 2pm. Come and meet your friends for a catch up and enjoy a bacon roll or a hot plate of soup. Hot drinks and home baking also available.

#### **CLASSES**

We have Yoga and Sewing classes so if you are interested just get in touch. [info@lamanchahub.org.uk](mailto:info@lamanchahub.org.uk)

The rooms are also available to hire for various events @ £10 per hour.

Cilla Davidson

***Minister West Tweeddale***

Rev. Dr. Tony Foley

Email: [tfoley@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:tfoley@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Tel. 07793294000

Manse: 01968 660221

***Church Administrator West Tweeddale***

Church Office: Old Church Hall, West Linton

Email: [cos1560.tweed@outlook.com](mailto:cos1560.tweed@outlook.com)

Tel. 01968 733 112

***Session Clerk***

Jean Howat

Stoney Knowe, Romanno Bridge

Tel. 01968 660 677

***Church Treasurer***

David Howat

Stoney Knowe, Romanno Bridge

Tel. 01968 660677

***Adventurers***

Mrs Jean Howat and Mrs Ilka Roehé

Please contact your elder or Ilka Roehé 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 March magazine to [ilka.roehé@btinternet.com](mailto:ilka.roehé@btinternet.com) by

**Tuesday 20 February 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