



Newlands and Kirkurd

Parish Magazine

October 2019

Services October			
	West Linton 11.15 am	Carlops 10.00 am	Newlands 10.00 am
6 Oct	Murray Campbell	Murray Campbell	Rev Stewart McPherson
13 Oct	Rev Stewart McPherson	Rev Stewart McPherson	Kevin Scott
20 Oct	Rev Stewart McPherson	Murray Campbell	Rev Stewart McPherson
27 Oct	Rev Stewart McPherson	Sheena Livingstone	Rev Stewart McPherson
3 Nov	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Stewart McPherson	Rev Chris Levison

Elder Duty

October Ilka Roehe & Rosie Sim

November Anne Goodall & Janette Raeburn.

Church Cleaning:

October Margaret Adamson

November Sheila Chapman

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TURPIE

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A quicker way to get your parish magazine!

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Next copy deadline is 21st October for the November edition. Items received after this date will go into December.

The best laid schemes o' mice an' men

Gang aft a-gley,

An' lea'e us nought but grief an' pain,

For promised joy.

Robert Burns To a mouse

Hesitant as I am to disagree with Burns, not every change of plans or schemes results in grief and pain; some may even result in an unexpected joy.

I have recently returned from the USA where my daughter was getting married. Plans were in place for a marriage in Wilmington, North Carolina, with a blessing the following day at a beach house on Carolina Beach. A beautiful setting. However, Hurricane Dorian had other ideas and Carolina Beach inhabitants were evacuated, including my daughter and her fiancé. So, as we flew across the Atlantic, family and friends were busily reorganising proceedings from the coast to a venue 200 miles inland at the old family home in Virginia. People rallied to organise food, a large awning, chairs, lights, drinks, booking hotels, finding beds and floors where people might sleep. My son had to get a bus from New York to Washington and then a four-hour ride in a car, while others drove six hours to be present. A cake, wine and outfits were packed into a hatchback for a five-hour journey from the east coast. By the time we arrived our anxiety was a little raised, wondering if any ceremony was going to take place at all. But take place it did.

In the sunshine on a blueberry farm, in view of the Blue Ridge Mountains a celebration of love took place and those who rerouted and rescheduled all discovered a time of joy and fun. It did not result in Burns' prediction of grief and pain, but in an occasion which could hardly have been bettered.

In life and in church, we might wonder what happened to our best-laid schemes. There can be disappointment, or a sense of loss or even anger, but if we find the will and imagination to adapt, get involved, and help out, "departed joys" can be replaced with new, unanticipated delights. The storms besetting the national and local church illustrate that, but all around, in parishes, presbyteries and Scotland-wide, people are rallying to the call to rearrange our life together. Some plans will be lost along the way, but new ideas are emerging. We may not be able to avoid some "grief and pain", but the joy that is promised can still be discovered, though perhaps not where we expected it, or how we planned it to be. We all need to desire to make it happen even if the new thing is not what we originally had in mind.

Burns' songs were sung at the celebration and I got to wear my new tartan trews. And even if I return home leaving my daughter across the Atlantic, her discovered joy is enough to gently tend my parental melancholy as a new future is faced.

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. James 1: 1-2

Stewart McPherson



Conversations about future church

In May, the General Assembly adopted the *Radical plan* it had commissioned in 2018. It asked all Presbyteries and congregations to help plan its implementation.

In broad terms, the main elements of the *Radical plan* are:

Minister numbers are falling; about 20% will retire in the next five years; recruitment is poor
Already, some 25-30% of charges are vacant; vacancy periods average two years and are lengthening

The one-church-one-minister model is no longer tenable

Income is declining; administration and costs must be reduced

The 40 presbyteries should be reduced to about 12

Several "121" departments will merge

Some churches are unviable, financially and operationally

Some buildings do not warrant the cost of their upkeep

Assembly decided that planning for such changes should be bottom-up. Each congregation should consider ways of working in the light of these issues and make proposals to its Presbytery. We are asked for our ideas; we should not wait to be told.

Melrose and Peebles Presbytery held open meetings to discuss possible changes and asked its churches to propose potential new groupings of churches within high school catchment areas – stable areas that map well on to population spread and groups of parishes. Our linkage churches are talking to others in Peebles High School's catchment area. The working estimate is that in future, that area may command the equivalent of three ministers.

Topics being discussed include

geography: practicable areas and population groupings

socio-cultural profile of such groupings, eg rural, urban

groupings likely to deliver potentially viable income levels, able to fund the full cost of a minister

Talks are informal, with no decisions yet, but proposals have been made (see next article) and must be decided upon by 2020. Churches will then need to work with the outcomes. Present structures cannot be sustained; change is inevitable. The bonus is that we can help design the change, not just receive a diktat.

If you have ideas about future church patterns or wish to take part in such talks, contact Murray Campbell in the first instance.

From the General Kirk Session
Tuesday 24 September 2019; Newlands Church

The meeting discussed proposals about future groupings of churches in our Presbytery so that views could be submitted to Presbytery this autumn. The preceding article explains context. General Kirk Session convened as three Kirk Sessions meeting individually, but together; thus, they could discuss business together, then each could decide on behalf of their congregation.

The three Session Clerks and Mary McElroy reviewed the context explained in the preceding article and confirmed that decisions and action are required this year. This is personnel- and finance-driven, as well as a General Assembly decision.

Presbytery-wide discussions involving people from the linkage have generated four options for the Peebles High School catchment area in which our linkage sits. All will deliver congregation groupings of viable size and sound finances. All retain our linkage and combine it with the parishes of Upper Tweeddale (PUT). One option keeps Stobo in the PUT clump, others link it to a Peebles church; we believe Stobo prefers the latter. The options differ in their proposed organization of churches in Peebles, Innerleithen and further down the Tweed.

The three Sessions discussed the options together, then each considered its own preferences. All found the proposal to combine our linkage with PUT acceptable, with the rider that Stobo's wishes for its future should be respected. The Sessions differed in their ranking of options regarding the other churches but felt that this does not affect us directly and the views of the churches affected should carry more weight.

Our future may lie in an extension of our linkage that includes PUT; Presbytery will be told that, in principle, our Sessions find this acceptable. Presbytery will generate a further proposal after hearing from its member churches; that will return to Sessions *and congregations* for potential agreement. The process should be complete in 2020.

WEST LINTON SLEEP OUT

part of The World's Big Sleep Out

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

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

**For more information please contact
wlsleepout@gmail.com**



Sunday 3 November – Messy Lord's Prayer
Sunday 1 December – Messy Advent
Sunday 2 February – Love Rules
Sunday 1 March – Messy Spring

St Andrews New Church Hall
4 – 6 pm

Arts & Crafts – Games – Singing
Bible Story – Family Supper

For families with children (babies to P7)

All children must bring an adult

For more information email:
messychurch@standrews-westlinton.org

SSAFA Charity Ceilidh.



CEILIDH WITH TERRIFIC TROUBLE CEILIDH BAND

Newlands Activity Centre
Romanno Bridge, EH46 7BZ
7.30pm to 11.00pm

Join Terrific Trouble traditional Ceilidh Band for a fun night and raise funds for SSAFA the armed forces charity.

Tickets include a buffet supper - a cash bar is available to cheer the evening.

TICKETS £20 - EVENTBRITE.CEILIDH.SAMPLE

Early October sees the **Newlands Centre** host an event on behalf of **SSAFA – the Armed Forces Charity**. The event is a **FUNDRAISING Ceilidh** at the **Newlands Centre on Saturday 5th October 2019**. This event is open to all adults and teens over 16 from 19.30 – 11pm

SSAFA exists to relieve need, suffering and distress amongst the Armed Forces, veterans and their families in order to help support their independence and dignity.

If you would like to attend this event please order tickets via this link www.newlandscentre.org.uk, and use the 'SSAFA Ceilidh' tab. Click on the 'Checkout' button and fill out the details requested to purchase your tickets. If you have difficulties please contact the Newlands Centre on 01968 680980 for your ticket orders.

There will be a full professional Ceilidh band (Terrific Trouble) along with caller, for those less familiar with the steps, plus a buffet supper and cash bar. Tickets are £20 per person and all funds raised will go to SSAFA.

Please support this worthwhile cause and order your tickets asap.

Public Access Defibrillators – Will you help save local lives?

Some of you will recall that we ran a fundraising campaign earlier this year to raise money with the aim of installing a defibrillator in each of the main areas of this ward. A big thank you to those people who donated. Following that we successfully purchased a unit to be sited in Blyth Bridge which will be located in the village phone box once the adoption from BT is completed. We are part way to funding the final unit which will be located in Kirkurd but are a little shy of the total funds needed as British Heart Foundation turned down the match funding request on the grounds of the size of the community location it would serve, despite the junction at Kirkdean being an accident blackspot for people travelling through and not living in the community.

We would like to ask you, as our local community, to help reach this final goal and consider making a donation towards this worthy cause.

If you can make a donation, no matter how small, please contact John Currie, chair of NCDT via email (chair@newlandscdt.org.uk) or by phone on 07810 486337 or Sue Unwin, Company Secretary, via email (secretary@newlands-cdt.org.uk) or by phone on 07730 556086.

Tribute to Willie Adamson

We were all greatly saddened at the death of our friend Willie Adamson on Thursday 29th August. He will be greatly missed by his family, his friends and all of the community whose lives he has touched in so many ways.

Willie's roots were already here when he moved to Netherurd Home Farm in 1976, where his mother's family had farmed since the 1940s. He was a countryman through and through and ran a very successful farm, going round the whole of it every morning before breakfast to ensure that all was well with the sheep and the cattle.

He was involved with the Church for many years, first as an elder at Kirkurd and then at Newlands and Kirkurd where he also served as a highly effective property convenor. We were so fortunate to have his good counsel, his practical approach and his sense of humour.

In addition to the church he was president of the local NFU and honorary vice president of the Peeblesshire Agricultural Society. He also served for many years on the Community Council and was a long-standing member of the West Linton Rotary Club and the local Discussion Society. In addition to this he was a great supporter of the Guides at Netherurd House and a trustee of Netherurd Memorial Hall.

Willie understood the privilege of working the land and being a steward of its bounty. He relished the beauty of nature and birdsong, the grandeur of trees and hills and all kinds of weathers. We were fortunate to have known him. He was always interested in what others could teach him and may all that knowledge and country wisdom rest now on our shoulders and may we pass it on – for the good of the land, for the good of the community and for future generations.

He was an exceptional man and our hearts go out to Margaret, to Andrew and to all his family.

Jean Howat, incorporating words from Nancy Norman's tribute at the Memorial Service.

THE GUILD

Our Guild members have been invited to join Upper Tweeddale Guild at their meeting on 16th October at 2.30pm in Broughton Village Hall, to hear Isobel Hunter talk about her visit to Patagonia.

Our own October meeting will be held on Tuesday 22nd October at 7pm in Newlands Church, when we will be joined by members of the senior section of the BBs for an evening of getting to know each other. We're hoping that this will be a relaxed and informal time together. Next session, we expect to arrange for a speaker from the Boys Brigade to update us on the progress of the present Project – 'Faith in Young People'. So far, 180 separate Guilds have already had a presentation. Over £56,000 has been raised in the first year of the National Guild's support, and new BB companies are starting up in Macduff, Calderbank, Edinburgh and Ullapool.

Our Guild is a very small group, and we would love to welcome some new members. Most of our meetings are now held in the afternoons, and timed to avoid clashing with other events where possible.

Margaret Habeshaw

KIRKURD SWI



Meetings are held in Netherurd Hall on the first Wednesday of the month from October to April at 7:30p.m. We are always pleased to welcome visitors and new members to any of our meetings.

The first meeting of the new session is:

Wednesday 2nd. October Duncan Arthur will be talking about the Clyde Valley Orchards

There will also be an opportunity to purchase some of their products

Competitions Small Fruit Crumble Outdoor flower of the month

Thursday 24th. October Housewives & Handicrafts Autumn Meeting, St Andrews Leckie

Bakehall, Peebles 7:30p.m.

Irene McFadzen will be demonstrating how to make Rag Dolls

Wednesday 6th. 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

Wednesday 4th. 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

NEWLANDS SWI

The next meeting of Newlands Rural is on Wednesday the 9th October at 7.30 in Lamanca Hub cafe. The talk is on Alpacas and we hope to see old and new members there.

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**

MOTHERS & TODDLERS **Netherurd Hall** **Thursdays 10 to 11.30am**

Due to school holidays there will be no meeting on Thursday 17th October. Enjoy your break.

Adults £2 Children 50p

Peggy 01968 682231

Pat 01721 752205

Netherurd Memorial Hall



Pudding Night

Friday 1st. November

7:00 for 7:30 until the puddings are finished

**Tickets Adults £6 Children up to 12
£4**

Tickets available from committee
or telephone Margaret 01721 752242

Remembrance Sunday 10th November

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

Harvest Celebrations

You are invited to a **Harvest Celebration** at Newlands Church on Sunday 6th October.



All ages are welcome from babies to those in their nineties!

The service starts at 10am.

We will also be collecting food for Bethany Christian Trust, which supports homeless people, so any donations will be much appreciated.

We will be holding the **Harvest Supper** on Saturday 5th October at 6pm and it will follow the usual format of a pot luck supper in the church.

Everyone in the parish is warmly invited to come along to the Harvest Supper and your elder will be distributing invitations. Just let us know if you would like to come, and bring a plate of food to share. For more information contact your elder or Jean Howat. 01968 660677.

Newlands Primary School

We are looking for volunteers to help

With our Poly Tunnel adventures in gardening. It is great fun and all our classes attend.

It is on Tuesdays and Wednesdays afternoons from 1pm - 3pm.

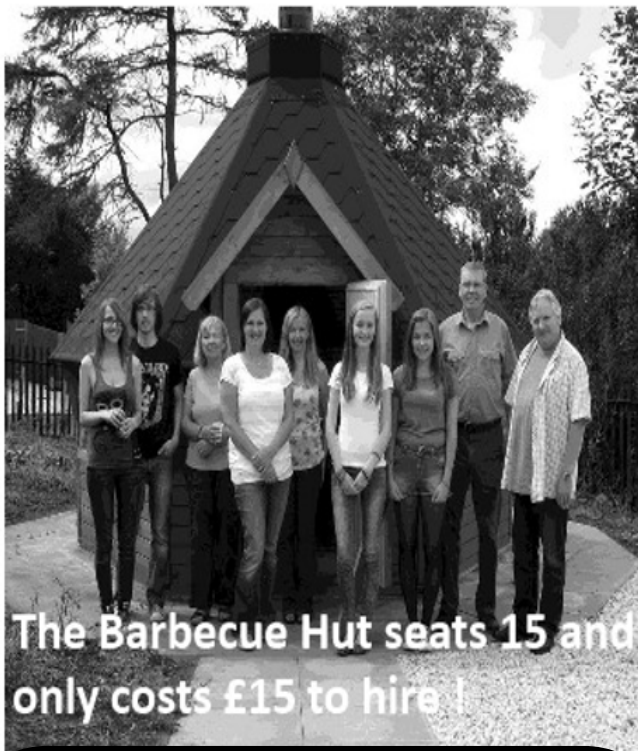
If you can help and only have a limited time available or on a part time basis that is fine any help would be appreciated.

Please contact office or see Mrs Currie for a chat.



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. First 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

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

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Adventurers Mrs Jean Howat and Mrs Ilka Roehe

Scottish Charity Number SCO 18087



Newlands and Kirkurd Parish Church

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



Photocopying of this magazine has been kindly donated by Dr McCann of Castle Craig.