

*Newlands & Kirkurd
Parish Magazine*



July | August 2020



Happy Summer Days



Letter from our minister

Sitting down to write this after returning from the supermarket I notice quite a difference out there. Such a difference that I am glad to be home. Roads and car parks much busier as are the aisles where the vegetable section is like the dodgems at the fair where there is always someone trying to bash every car head on to spoil everyone else's gentle fun. Face coverings mandatory (at present) on public transport but not in shops which seems to me a rather strange discrepancy. And there is always someone who clearly does not know what one metre looks like let alone two as they lean over your shoulder to get the last aubergine. Why is it that, as we are now permitted to go that little bit further and more often and meet up with people and go into another person's house to use their toilet, instead of it being a happy outing it becomes an anxious obstacle course?

It was much easier going into Lockdown than coming out of it! But then, of course it would be.

Yet, staying at home until it disappears or until there is a vaccine may be our preference but is not realistic though it will be necessary and advisory for some. For the rest of us we must begin to take the tentative steps out while having the strength not to be pushed, rushed or bumped or have the attitude that I will be OK! You and I will have a better chance of being OK if we take care, look out for one another, make informed decisions, and take actions which not only help me but also keep you safer.

The life of faith is no different. Take care, look out for one another, and make informed decisions while always knowing there is some risk involved. While our church buildings begin to prepare to be open again at some future point, and we look forward to being in the company of family and friends again, remember that prayer is possible wherever we are. And although we may need to go to Tesco for food and sundry supplies, we do not need to go to a church building to obtain spiritual sustenance and nourishment. Of course, we know it offers something Lidl or Waitrose may not, but we do not go to church to purchase something, but in order to be reminded of the God who is with us in and through all things.

So, stay safe and stay blessed as together we begin to emerge with tentative steps, but step out we will in order to see what God desires of us and for us.

Stewart McPherson

Stewart McPherson will be taking some time off over the next few weeks till 12th July. During this time, if there are any pastoral urgencies, please contact:

Rev. Nancy Norman: 01721721699 or

Rev. Pamela Strachan: 01899830423

Stewart will be available on mobile, if necessary.

Zoom Service at Newlands Church

We are continuing to hold our weekly Sunday services at 10am online via Zoom with a hymn, reading, reflection and prayer. Everyone is welcome to join us, so please contact Jean Howat in order to receive the link each week and for more information. howatjean@gmail.com

Re-opening Church buildings

The Church of Scotland has agreed that churches may re-open, initially for private prayer only, and subject to suitable controls. Its guidelines about re-opening discuss issues that should be considered but ask each church to make its own decisions.

The General Kirk Session met via Zoom on 19 June 2020 and discussed the above matter. Opinions were shared and a clear consensus emerged on the following view points:

- * Zoom services have been well received. They are achieving their purpose and will be continued until further notice.
- * We need to be cautious as safety is paramount. We have to do risk assessments on all our buildings. These assessments will need approval from Presbytery.
- * It will be at least several weeks before the church buildings can be opened again.

THE OPEN GATE

We will now make ourselves available throughout the week for counselling support by telephone, using our existing Open Gate contact **07535 898 244**.

These are stressful times, so please use this resource if you feel that you are needing a bit of help in coping.

Tae a virus

Twa months ago, we didna ken,
Yer name or ocht aboot ye
But lots of things have changed since then,
I really must salute ye.

Yer spreading rate is quite intense,
Yer feeding like a gannet
Disruption caused, is so immense,
Ye've shaken oor wee planet.

Corona used tae be a beer,
They garnished it wae limes
But noo it's filled us awe wae fear
These days, are scary times.

Nae shakin hawns, or peckin lips,
It's whit they awe advise
But scrub them weel, richt tae the tips,
That's how we'll awe survive.

Just stay inside, the hoose, ye bide
Nae sneakin oot for strolls
Just check the lavvy every hoor
And stock-take, your, loo rolls.

Our holidays have been pit aff
Noo that's the Jet2 patter
Pit oan yer thermals, have a laugh
And paddle 'doon the waater'.

Canary isles, no for a while
Nae need for suntan cream
And awe because o this wee bug
We ken tae be .. 19

The boredom surely will set in,
But have a read, or doodle
Or plan yer menu for the month
Wi 95 pot noodles.

When these run oot, just look about
A change, it would be nice
We've beans and pasta By the ton
And twenty stane o rice.

So dinny think yell wipe us oot
Aye true, a few have died
Bubonic, bird flu, and Tb
They came, they left, they tried.

Ye might be gallus noo ma freen
As ye jump fae cup tae cup
But when we get oor vaccine made
Yer number will be up.

**Lamanca, Newlands and Kirkurd
Community Council**



Online Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 15 July 2020 at 7.30pm

To attend the meeting you will need to register by email
LNKCCChair@gmail.com with the subject AGM registration

The deadline for registering is noon on Monday 13 July 2020

The monthly face-to-face Community Council meetings ceased due to the Covid-19 virus and it is hoped they can resume after the school holidays.

Please check the Parish Magazines for details.

MOTHERS & TODDLERS

Cancelled until further notice.
Enjoy the summer with your family.
Stay safe and well.

Netherurd Memorial Hall

Adhering to government guidelines, the hall remains closed until further notice.
Watch this space for details of AGM.



Lamancha, Newlands & Kirkurd , West Linton & Carlops support groups are delivering food, shopping & support services - if we can assist you please get in touch.

- Evening meal - *delivered daily*
- Lunch - *delivered daily*
- Frozen Meals - *delivered weekly*
- Fruit & Veg Boxes - *delivered weekly*
- Dried Food Boxes - *delivered weekly*

FREEPHONE 0800 121 6212

www.newlandscdt.org.uk



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Kirkurd SWI meets on the first Wednesday of the month from October to April, in Netherurd Hall at 7:30p.m.

The first meeting of the new session should be on Wednesday 7th. October, when we hope to have a belated AGM, tea and long overdue chat and catch-up. However, this will all depend on the guidelines from the Government at that time.

In the meantime, enjoy the summer, keep safe and well.

Carrot and Courgette Soup

1 onion chopped	1 or 2 carrots grated	1 or 2 courgettes grated
2 oz marg or butter	Chicken stock	potato powder or mashed potato

Method: Melt butter and sauté onion until starting to soften. Add carrots and courgettes and coat with the butter. Add stock, bring to the boil and simmer for approx. 30 mins. Stir in potato powder or mashed potato to thicken until required consistency is reached. This freezes well.

Baby Spinach & Bacon Salad

140g fine green beans	4 tablespns olive oil	6 rashers smoked bacon, chopped
2 thick slices white bread, cut into cubes		200g. mushrooms, sliced
1 avocado halved and sliced		250g baby spinach
Dressing: 1 garlic clove, crushed	1 tablespn wholegrain mustard	
1 tablespn red wine vinegar	3 tablespns extra virgin olive oil	

Method: Combine all dressing ingredients with 1 tablespn water and season to taste.

Boil beans for 3 mins and drain.

Heat oil in frying pan and cook bacon till crisp, drain and place in a bowl.

Using same oil fry bread till crisp and set aside (or bake in oven drizzled with a little oil).

Briefly fry mushrooms just to get rid of their rawness, drain and add to bacon.

Add beans, avocado and spinach and toss with some of the dressing.

Serve garnished with the croutons and remaining dressing.

Garden Ramblings

Have you ever wondered how you would get on with a few hens in your garden? I waited years before I plucked up courage especially as I love my cottage garden and didn't want my plants to suffer. Apart from lupins and astilbes for some reason, all my plants are just fine so long as the hens have a bare patch to have a dust bath in they are fine.

After a few years I decided to go for ex caged birds looking to be rescued from slaughter. These hens are still young at 18 months but sadly their eggs get too large and the shells get easily broken when transported so not viable for our supermarkets. My first 3 came from "Homes for Hens", a charity in Dumfriesshire. They were delivered on a Sunday to Clovenfords which was the pick up point. The queue was long and winding with all sorts of vehicles and people from all walks of life. I had a dog crate and others had cat carriers and cardboard boxes. The hens were crammed into crates and were almost bald with pale pink combs. However, after 3 weeks they were thriving but I'll never forget seeing them step onto grass for the first time. These hens live for 4 to 5 years.

My second duo of rescues came via The British Hen Welfare Trust and had been laying eggs for Asda but were discarded after 1 year. They were in an even worse state and could hardly walk. I got them in February 2019 and now in June 2020 they have laid beautiful golden yolked eggs every day since.

On the gardening front I've never seen such rich green grass full of clover not to mention the perennial plants. Time was when I used to buy pelleted chicken manure, now off the shopping list.

Cilla Davidson

LAMANCHA COMMUNITY **hub**

YOGA

Tuesday evenings with Eileen

Thursday mornings with Linda

NEW!!! PILATES

Friday mornings with Kirsten

FRENCH

Wednesday mornings with Yvonne

Knit and/or natter for ladies and gents

Wednesday mornings from 11 am till 1 pm.

Community café open for soup, cakes, coffee, etc.

ALSO AVAILABLE: FIRST AID COURSES

***** COMING SOON *****

First Aid course for dogs given by vet Aileen.

APOLOGIES

***ALL CLASSES
CANCELLED DUE
TO THE CORONA
VIRUS!***

The BBQ hut is for all weathers and as we have lanterns why not treat the kids to a BBQ in the dark before summer appears. Cost £15 to hire for as long as it takes.



The hall has central heating and is available for special events such as birthdays. Contact us on info@lamanchahub.org.uk

Run by the Lamancha & District Community Association, a charity registered in Scotland, no SCO35299 & a company limited by guarantee registered in Scotland, no SC263766. Reg. office is: Old School House, Old Moffat Road, Lamancha, Peeblesshire EH46 7BD

