

Kirkurd & Newlands

Parish Magazine



March

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. howat-jean@gmail.com 01968 660677

West Tweeddale Parishes

<i>Date</i>	<i>Carlops 10 am</i>	<i>Kirkurd & Newlands 10 am</i>	<i>West Linton 11.30 am</i>
06 March 2022	Rev Tony Foley	Mary McElroy	Rev Tony Foley
13 March 2022	Steven Whalley	Rev Tony Foley	Steven Whalley
20 March 2022	Kevin Scott	David Howat	Kevin Scott
27 March 2022	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley
03 April 2022	Colin Herd	Rev Tony Foley	Colin Herd

Welcome: Jean and David Howat

Church Cleaning: Fay Young



<i>Date</i>	<i>Broughton 11 am</i>	<i>Skirling 11.30 am</i>	<i>Tweedsmuir 9.30 am</i>
06 March 2022	Murray Campbell	Mary McElroy	Isobel Hunter
13 March 2022	Fiona Burnett	Rev Tony Foley	Fiona Burnett
20 March 2022	Rev Tony Foley	David Howat	Rev Tony Foley
27 March 2022	Isobel Hunter	Peter Worthington	Isobel Hunter
03 April 2022	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington

In Praise of Holes

Is a hole something or nothing? Looking into a hole one is often tempted to wonder why they became nothing instead of something. The truth is holes, although empty can be full of potential insights just ask an archaeologist. For example, archaeologists use soil analysis to identify the postholes that marked the boundaries of ancient settlements. Archaeologists know that empty spaces often enable us not only to project backwards in time but sometimes forwards in time. In other words, empty holes can contain the answers to the questions of what once was and what might yet be.

The paradox of an empty hole is that absence often points to importance. The poet William Pope L. in a poem about holes makes this observation

*Hole Theory presupposes
That there is possibility
Even in the face of nothing ...*

The Economist magazine recently carried an article entitled: ‘*Religious fervour is migrating into politics.*’ The article noted that while contemporary society continues to reject the role of religious institutions it still maintains an innate religious urge. There is it seems an inherent yearning in human society for moral certainty and communal identity. The writer’s observation reminded me of a quote by the French philosopher Blaise Pascal in his book *Pensées*.

*There is a God shaped vacuum in the heart of every human being
which cannot be filled by any created thing,
but only by God, the Creator, made known through Jesus.*

Now there is a ‘hole’ to look into and wonder about what once was and what might yet be.

Peace,
Tony

Join the Lent conversation on Zoom

Lent will soon be upon us and as a group of churches, we will again be hosting Zoom faith conversations centred around the two books over a 6–7-week period. I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to join in the conversation. Our studies are intended to be grace spaces where you get an opportunity to explore not only the story of the crucifixion but also to talk your own understanding of the Christian faith in an unfiltered open context.

The books are *The Nail* - & *The Things He Did*. They are both by author Stephen Cottrell. Each book includes 6 stories told in the first person from the perspective of those who were there that week. You can check them out on Amazon. We will be hosting the studies / conversations on separate nights. Each study is built around one of the chapters of a book and lasts approximately 45mins. If you wish you are welcome to join us for one session just to sample what they are like. You can also drop in and out as your schedule allows or you can stick around for the ‘whole 9 yards’. These studies are designed with the hope that they will be of use to you. So why not give it a try. If you are interested, please get in touch with myself, or your Session clerk and we will answer all your questions and queries about times etc.

The Things He Did -

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Things-He-Did-Story-Holy/dp/0281076235/ref=sr_1_5?crid=2L7B8OI29VATG&keywords=stephen+cottrell+books&qid=1643737302&s

The Nail –

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Nail-Being-part-Passion/dp/0281066353/ref=sr_1_11?crid=2L7B8OI29VATG&keywords=stephen+cottrell+books&qid=1643737750&s

The times and start dates for the Lent Zoom studies are:

7:30pm on March 1st [The Things He Did] and

7:30pm on March 3rd [The Nail].

The studies are open to all and if people are so inclined they can go to either or both studies. We can offer studies during the morning or afternoon if there is a high demand.

Tony

Stated Annual Meeting

This will be held on Sunday 13th March after the service at Newlands Church. There will be an update on the church accounts and other church activities. We will also be discussing the Presbytery Mission Plan in which the role of church buildings is looked at. If you would like to see a copy of this plan please contact Jean Howat, (howatjean@gmail.com). The Rev Dr Tony Foley will be chairing this meeting. All in the community are welcome to attend.

THE OPEN GATE PHONE-LINE

The Open Gate phone is still being kept available at all times for access by those who would like some counselling help for any sort of problem.

This is a free, confidential service, and offers a Solution Focussed Brief Therapy approach which is really helpful in a short time. It can be useful for all ages. Since March '20, instead of a Friday afternoon in Newlands Community Centre, phone appointments can now be arranged for any time to suit throughout the week, and can be either by phone or video-link.

However, no-one has contacted The Open Gate for some weeks.

With so much publicity at present being given to the rise in mental health issues, and the lack of services, it is sad that this available service is not being used as it could be. It is unlikely that there are no children or young people or adults in our area who could do with a bit of help with their anxiety, low mood, or coping with behavioural or relationship difficulties

*So – please help to keep the phone-line in place -
let others know about it.*

TEXT OR PHONE 07535 898 244 to ask for an appointment

Update on the new linkage

We held our first General Kirk Session Meeting as a new extended linkage. Three linkage wide teams are being formed: a pastoral team; a communications team; and a teaching elders' (or worship leaders) team. There will also be a new church office in West Linton in the coming weeks.

Tony Foley outlined his vision for the new linkage which he sees as a 'garden with 6 individual raised beds' which are all different. He stressed the importance of spiritual growth, mission and outreach in the work of the church.

Jean Howat

Sunday Evening Group

Alongside the Lent studies of the Stephen Cottrell books that Tony has organised, our Sunday evening group is looking at a book called **God With Us** which is a book of bible studies and other resources on the theme of refugees, migration and sanctuary. The book can be downloaded from:

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/connect/scottish-faiths-action-for-refugees/god-with-us>

We meet by Zoom for one hour from **7PM** and the first session on this book will be on Sunday **6th March**. Everyone is welcome and as with the Stephen Cottrell sessions it will be possible to drop in and drop out week to week without getting lost. For more information and/or the Zoom link, please contact Neil Robinson at neil@glenholm.co.uk

LAMANCHA COMMUNITY HUB

Our Wednesday cafe is still going strong. Choice of home made soups, filled rolls, cakes and tablet made by John. Open from 10am till 2pm.

Wednesday is Knit and Natter day from 10am this month. All welcome.

A new Yoga class called "Gentle " yoga suited to older people has started following on from the usual Yoga on Friday mornings. There are places available. Just email info@lamanchahub.org.uk for more info.

Cilla Davidson



Planning is underway for Whipman 2022!
Friday, 3 June – Saturday, 11 June

On Friday, 25 March in the Graham Institute we are having a different kind of Introduction Night this year to re-introduce our Whipman and Lass Elect, Gregor Brown and Lucy Martin and our Presenting Lady, Nancy Porteous.

The 2022 Barony Herald and Flower Girl will also be introduced.

If you would like to come along and support your Whipman Principals on that evening please contact Calum Murray on 07828 166459 for tickets or e-mail sheila.forsyth6@btinternet.com

7 – 9 p.m. Family Ceilidh with Drum Maw Ceilidh Band

(everyone of all ages very welcome) – Tickets £3

8 p.m. Introduction of 2022 Principals

9 p.m. – midnight - Disco (over 18s only) – Tickets £3

Ceilidh and Disco ticket - £5

Note for the diary :

To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the Whipman Play will be making the Marquee on the Lower Green available on Friday, 3 June from 10 – 2 p.m. for a Brunch/Lunch for everyone in the community (bring your own food).

WE NEED YOUR HELP

There is need for more people to join the church cleaning rota. Please contact Fay for more information.

Tel 01968660374



NCDT NEWS

Newlands Activity Centre | Newlands Memorial Hall | Newlands Renew Crew

Newlands Activity Centre

Centre Manager, Neil Clunie, is working with Club, Class and Event organisers as we reopen the Centre.

www.newlandscentre.org.uk

Newlands Kids

Our new Healthy Cook is in place and we are planning our Summer Club 2022.

www.newlandskids.org.uk

Renew Crew

Laptop & Desktop Refurbish and Rehoming is proving very popular along with our IT and Electronics Repair service.

www.renewcrew.org.uk

Newlands Community Gardener

Volunteers required to work with our Community Gardener, Pippa Lobban, to manage, tend and expand the newly planted Community Orchard and 'Grow Your Own' Polytunnels.

info@newlandscdt.org.uk

Community Transport

Our 13-seat EV Minibus has finally arrived and our VendElectric EV Chargepoints at Newlands Activity Centre and Newlands Memorial Hall are fully operational.

The Minibus is heading off to have graphics applied in the next week - if you or your company would like to sponsor our project do please get in touch!

Volunteer Driver Recruitment and MiDAS driver training will be

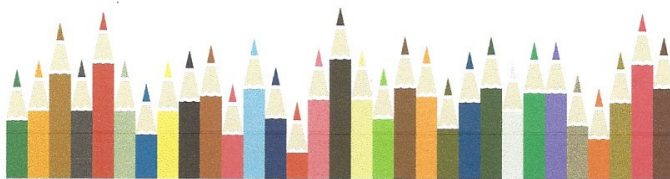


Community Climate Asset Fund



starting in March 2022.

The NCDT website is being updated as we roll out our plans for local Clubs, Groups and Venues to utilise the EV Minibus and help shape our Community Transport plans.



Lamancha, Newlands
and Kirkurd Community
Council



The next meeting is online at 7.30pm on

Wednesday 16 March 2022

Please register to attend by emailing

lnkccchair@gmail.com by noon on Monday 14 March

with the subject heading Meeting Registration

MINUTE SECRETARY: LNKcc is looking for someone to produce the minutes of our meetings. We meet on nine months of the year (no meetings in July, August and December) and our AGM in May means we hold ten meetings. We can offer an honorarium of **£10 per meeting which is £100 a year**. The meetings are interesting and if you would like to know more, email **lnkccchair@gmail.com** with the subject heading Minute Secretary.

JOHN'S PATH MAINTENANCE: We are looking for volunteers to help clear the pathway when the weather improves. Interested? Please email with the heading John's Path.

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

At the February meeting Sara Roberts gave a very interesting presentation how she and her husband started up their business of healthy snack vending machines. From very small beginnings they now have vending machines from Aberdeen to London. After entering a few dietary details these clever machines will give you a choice of products which will be suitable for you.

After several questions, we enjoyed sampling many of the snacks on offer in the machines. Mo Lamb proposed the vote of thanks.

Tuesday 1st. March Open Night with Citizens Advice.

Newlands Centre 7:30p.m.

This meeting is open to all. Admission by donation.

Saturday 12th. March Peeblesshire Federation SWI Bulb & Craft Show, Newlands Centre.

There will be competitive displays of spring bulbs and plants, floral art and handcrafts.

The community effort 'Recycle, Remake, Reuse' will include handcraft and homeskills items and a floral art exhibit.

Members are asked to deliver entries to the show between 8:30 and 9:30, ready for judging at 9:45am.

Doors open to the public at 1:30pm. Raffle and sales table. Entrance fee includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

Tuesday 5th. April Business meeting

Lemon Chicken, Crispy Vegetable and Noodle Stir Fry

3 or 4 skinless chicken breasts, cut into thin strips

1 tablsn oil 2 teaspns cornflour 1 teaspn caster sugar (more or less according to taste)

juice of 1 lemon 1 tablsn soy sauce ½ red pepper sliced

½ courgette sliced 1 x 300g pack straight to wok noodles.

Method:

Cook chicken in lightly oiled frying pan or wok. Remove from pan and keep warm.

Mix together cornflour, sugar, lemon juice, soy sauce and 6 tablsps water.

Cook pepper and courgette in lightly oiled pan for a minute. Add chicken and sauce ingredients and cook to heat through. Add noodles and allow to heat thoroughly.

Garden Ramblings

At the time of writing --mid February, it has been snowing and blowing a "hoolie" all day. There are no birds at the feeding station as all are sheltering somewhere. In recent weeks the feeders are emptying fast as the rosehips and berries are long gone.

Hopefully in another few days I can commence pruning. Starting with the roses which are showing signs of coming back to life. Good to see the sap rising. I have also noticed green leaves appearing on my Potentilla shrubs. I can always find room for another one as they are small and easy to prune in March. They flower all summer from June and usually up until November. You can also take cuttings in March and just push them into the ground as far as they will go. No need to use rooting gel or grit. Going back several years when I was gardening on a shoestring I happened to be in Winston Churchill's garden at "Chartwell " and I thought I'd help myself to a cutting as a souvenir of my visit. However it refused to budge. Then someone appeared round the corner and that was the end of that.....

Lamanca Hub Gardeners will be selling plants grown here later on in the year and so far we have Delphiniums, Rudbeckias and Sidalcea. All hardy Perennials.

Happy gardening everyone. Roll on Spring and Oh, by the way, Monty is back on the telly in March with his doggies in tow.

Cilla Davidson

NEWLANDS SWI



Peebles Federation are back live holding their annual Bulb and Craft Fair in the Newlands Centre on Saturday 12th March. Our group are busy planning how to display our table top team effort as competition is strong in these parts. We have been given an intriguing but trendy title of re-make, re-use or re-cycle. Lots of ideas there. Will be lovely to see all the colours of the tulips and daffodils and beautiful arrangements. Hope you can make it!

A warm welcome was given to May and Carol who have joined our group at last night's mini meeting.

Our next meeting is a prep meeting for the bulb show and will be held on Thursday 10th March at 7pm in the cafe at Lamancha Hub.

Cilla Davidson

Minister for West Tweeddale

Rev. Dr. Tony Foley

Email: foley.tony@gmail.com

Tel. 07793294000

Session Clerk

Mrs. Jean Howat

Stoney Knowe, Romanno Bridge

Tel. 01968 660 677

Church Mr David Howat

Guild President Mrs M Habeshaw

Treasurer StoneyKnowe

Damside

Romanno Bridge

Romanno Bridge

01968 660677

01968 660887

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 by Tuesday, 22 March 2022.



Newlands and Kirkurd Parish Church



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

Scottish Charity Number

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