

Kirkurd & Newlands Parish Magazine

April 2023



EASTER IMPRESSIONS



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

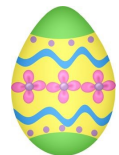


West Tweeddale Parishes

<i>Date</i>	<i>Carlops 10 am</i>	<i>Kirkurd & Newlands 10 am</i>	<i>West Linton 11.30 am</i>
02 April 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley
09 April 2023	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Tony Foley	Rev Chris Levison
16 April 2023	Mary McElroy	Isobel Hunter	Mary McElroy
23 April 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Steven Whalley	Rev Tony Foley
30 April 2023	Kevin Scott	Rev Tony Foley	Kevin Scott
07 May 2023	Peter Worthington	Mary McElroy	Peter Worthington

Welcome: Jean & 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>
02 April 2023	Peter Worthington	Isobel Hunter	Peter Worthington
09 April 2023	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley	Isobel Hunter
16 April 2023	Kevin Scott	Isobel Hunter	Kevin Scott
23 April 2023	Murray Campbell	Steven Whalley	Murray Campbell
30 April 2023	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington
07 May 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Mary McElroy	Rev Tony Foley

West Tweeddale Parishes
Holy Week Services

St. Andrews West Linton - Palm Sunday, 2nd April 2023, 11am

Come and join Moses the donkey on the Green, West Linton.

Tweedsmuir Kirk - Monday, 3rd April 2023, 7pm

The service will be led by Dr. Fiona Burnett and will focus on the wooden beam of the cross that Jesus carried.

Broughton Kirk - Tuesday, 4th April 2023, 7pm

The service will be led by Dr. Peter Worthington and will focus on the crown of thorns that was placed on the head of Jesus at his crucifixion.

Skirling Kirk - Wednesday, 5th April 2023, 7pm

The service will be led by Isobel Hunter and will focus on the seamless robe that they dressed Jesus in.

Kirkurd & Newlands Kirk - Thursday, 6th April 2023, 7pm

The service will be led by Rev Dr. Tony Foley and will include the Maundy Thursday Sacrament of Communion.

Carlops Kirk - Friday, 7th April 2023, 8pm

The service will be a Tenebrae service led by Dr. Murray Campbell.

Please join us for any or all of these Holy Week services, designed to take us to the reality of the crucifixion before we celebrate the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Magnanimity in a graveyard

“To live in a world without forgiveness is to make of life an instant fossil record, each imperfect action instantly ossifying us into a failed promise of personhood.”

Hannah Arendt: (*The Human Condition*)

I love Arendt’s striking use of words like ‘*fossil*’ and ‘*ossifying*’ to describe the impact a refusal to offer and enact forgiveness has on human beings. And if it has this effect on individual human beings think of what it might do to our contemporary society where grace and mercy are becoming increasingly absent in our public discourse. Where the ‘benefit of the doubt’ is rarely given, and people can have their potential futures ‘cancelled’ for past sins. It is ironic that in a world where change is a rapidly increasing constant the one thing, we refuse to allow change in is other people’s character and points of view. That is why I think the world needs to hear more about the message of Easter.

Easter is a consequence of forgiveness. It speaks so loudly and so emphatically of the promise of new beginnings, of mercy overcoming the worst and holding forth the promise of the best. Easter is the embodied truth that evil does not get to have the last word, that sin is not an inevitable, insurmountable end but merely a very much surmountable obstacle. What happened in a Judean graveyard two thousand years ago speaks to us of the joyful, liberating experience that forgiveness bestows on its recipients. Arendt is right when she says: *“Without being forgiven, released from the consequences of what we have done, our capacity to act would, as it were, be confined to one single deed from which we could never recover; we would remain the victims of its consequences forever.”*

Forgiveness is the exact opposite of vengeance. Forgiving is the only reaction which does not merely re-act, [*God does not crucify us for crucifying Him*] but acts in a new way, unconditioned by the act which provoked it thereby freeing from its consequences the one who is forgiven. When Jesus tells us to forgive those who sin against us, he is not encouraging us to engage some kind of a gritted teeth stoic duty but rather revealing to us that this is how life works, this is how life continues. That is surely part of what was bundled up in his declared desire: *“I have come that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”*

It is the promise that God through his wonderfully life-nurturing mercy holds forth in a graveyard to us this Easter. Pass it on.

Peace,

Tony

END OF AN ERA

During the 2nd World War (1943) Mrs J.T. Hall (Minister's wife) set up Newlands Woman's Guild. Don't know much about its early history, but seem to remember being told that the meetings started in the Manse, but as the numbers grew, Newlands Hall became the hub.

In the 1960s Mrs Heather Williamson (Minister's wife) and the Guild President, through the National Guild, set up both the Mothers & Toddlers and Playgroup groups. In these days most Mums were at home and likely didn't have transport, so it was a good way to bring them all together. During that period and the 70s and 80s the Guild played a large part in the life of the Church and Community with talks, sales of work, jumble sales, tea parties, outings etc. as well as supporting Guild Mission work, both home and overseas.

In the 90s the National Guild introduced 6 Projects every 3 years (split between home & overseas) and Newlands Guild had talks on these projects and supported 2 of them financially each year, as well, of course as our local Church.

Sadly in 2022 (Our 80th year!) thro lack of support, our numbers had dwindled too much to make it viable, and last year, the numbers left joined Upper Tweeddale Guild. Now, owing to all the recent changes, it is now called West Tweeddale Guild and the meetings and activities will be advertised in the church news and intimations – any topic or event that appeals to you, we would be delighted to welcome you to join us.

On behalf of Newlands Guild, many thanks to all who supported it over the many years, and as the saying goes 'It's time to move on!'

Fay Young



Who are we? We are a group set up by West Tweeddale Parishes in response to the current economic and fuel problems to offer help and support to the whole community.

What are we doing? We're signposting 'warm events' across the 6 parishes where a warm welcome, refreshments and a chance to meet friends is offered. We're also organising a few fun and informative events to help everyone save a bit of cash over the winter. Look out for further posters advertising these events with the Winter Warmer logo. A monthly timetable is posted around the villages and can also be viewed on the West Tweeddale website (westtweeddale.org.uk).

Need some emergency help? These organisations are nearby



Food
Facts
Friends

Penicuik Foods, Facts & Friends
42 John St Penicuik EH26 8AB
www.foodfactsfriends.org.uk



Peeblesshire Foodbank
1 Silverbirch Studios, Cavalry Park, Peebles EH45 9BU
07413 484174 peeblesshire.foodbank.org.uk

Crisis Assistance from the Minister's Barnabas Fund
07943 509906 emergencyfoodbank@standrewswestlinton.org.uk

For further information about West Tweeddale Winter Warmers please contact the church office on 01968 733112



MESSY CHURCH



We have had five Messy Church sessions over the winter months with lots of families and lots of fun! Activities have included crafts, games and even a treasure hunt in church.



We will be holding a **Summer Picnic** on
Sunday 21 May at 3pm in the garden of St Mungos Church,
West Linton.

Families are warmly welcome.

Please contact Jean Howat for more information.

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 Michelle Fraser on email: cos1560.tweed@outlook.com

Telephone: 01968 733 112

She will pass on your name to one of the Newlands members of the pastoral group. We are not professional counsellors but rather sympathetic listeners.

THE OPEN GATE

This is a free counselling service for anyone, young or old, who would like some help.

Phone or text 07535 898 244 for a phone appointment to be arranged.

***** Thank You *****

The pudding night in Newlands Church on Friday, 3rd February, raised the fantastic amount of £ 570. Many thanks to all for volunteering and supporting the two charities, Crisis Assistance from Minister's Benevolent Fund and Practical Action.

LAMANCHA AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Members of the LDCA are invited to the Annual General Meeting to be held in Lamanca Hub on Monday, 17th April, at 7pm. Cilla Davidson

Lamancha, Newlands and
Kirkurd Community Council



**The next meeting will take place at the
Lamancha Hub (café area)
on Wednesday 19 April 2023
at 7.30pm**

Community Councils give people a voice on issues concerning where they live. Come along and make sure your voice is heard.

COMING UP SOON - We are looking for volunteers for two community projects.

- The first is to paint and repair the four planters at the entrance to Blyth Bridge.
- The second project is to paint the bus shelter in the village.
- **Paint for both projects will be supplied.**

Please email lnkccchair@gmail.com if you have any comments for the Community Council or if you want to take part in the painting!

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

At the March meeting we were joined by Aileen Neilson and Michael McCreadie from Strathaven who are both wheelchair curlers and medal winning Paralympians. Michael has also played wheelchair basketball at the highest level and was coach for the British wheelchair basketball team for 10 years, before moving back to Scotland and taking up curling.

They shared with us their story from childhood illness to their progress through life and into their respective sports and medal-winning achievements. We were thrilled to see some of their world championship medals and paralympic medals.

Truly inspirational speakers.

Sheila Voas gave a very well deserved vote of thanks.

The Federation Bulb Show was held at Newlands Centre on 11th March.

Thank you to everyone who gave up time on the Friday evening to help set up the hall.

Congratulations to everyone who participated and won prizes.

Kirkurd was placed 4th in the community effort and runner up to most points in the bulb and plant section.

Margaret won best exhibit in the bulbs and the floral art section.

The next meeting will be the **AGM on Tuesday 4th April, 7:30pm, Newlands Centre.**

Please bring suggestions for future meetings, demonstrations and competitions.

Peeblesshire Federation SWI outing to Dumfries House Tuesday 30th May.

Garden Ramblings

Time marches on and we are now past the middle of March and haven't those snowdrops done well? A few tete a tete mini daffodils are showing face and yesterday while walking the dog I spotted my favourite little wild flower, the celandine in bloom by the roadside.

When I moved to Lamancha many years ago I was dismayed to learn that this district was not the best of places for roses as I think a garden is not complete unless it has at least one rose in it. Over the years I discovered through trial and error there are a good few that ARE tough enough. Here are a few of my stalwarts... "Rosa Rugosa" pink, a good all rounder as a shrub or hedging as it flowers all summer, has huge rosehips even whilst still flowering, alive with bees and feeds the birds too. Climbing roses do well and here are my favourite two. "New Dawn", pink(and she doesn't mind the rain) , and "City of York" which is white and regal looking.

Talking to neighbours and finding out which roses they have growing in their gardens we have a few matches doing well in several gardens. Bonica is one such rose that seems to be bomb proof. This rose won an award of garden merit and should be readily available. Others are "Rosa Mundi" which is striped pink and white and also Rosa Moyesii. Peter Beales Classic Roses and David Austin Roses are good places to purchase from if our local garden centres can't supply.

The community garden at Lamancha will also have perennial and bedding plants for sale in a few weeks time so hoping you all have some spaces to fill! Meanwhile , I've just seen two collared doves on the feeder so better not trim the huge conifer just yet.... Happy Gardening Everyone. Cilla Davidson

NEWLANDS SWI

Our AGM is on April 13th at 7.30 in Lamancha Hub cafe.

Please bring your voting papers and some ideas for next year's syllabus. Teas are by the committee this month.

We had a good turn out of members who participated in the recent Federation show at the Newlands Centre where there was a very high standard of needlework, floral art and paintings plus some stunningly beautiful plants. Many thanks to all for a most enjoyable afternoon. Cilla Davidson



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David Howat

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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, 25th April 2023.



Newlands and Kirkurd Parish Church



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

West Tweeddale Parishes

www.westtweeddale.org.uk

Scottish Charity Number

SCO 18087