

*Kirkurd & Newlands Parish Magazine*



*July & August 2023*

## 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>
02 July 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Mary McElroy	Rev Tony Foley
09 July 2023	Murray Campbell	Colin Herd	Colin Herd
16 July 2023	Fiona Burnett	Steven Whalley	Steven Whalley
23 July 2023	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington
30 July 2023	Isobel Hunter	Kevin Scott	Kevin Scott
06 August 2023	Rev Tony Foley	David Howat	Rev Tony Foley
13 August 2023	David Howat	Rev Tony Foley	David Howat
20 August 2023	Peter Worthington	Colin Herd	Colin Herd
27 August 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Tony Foley

**Welcome:** July: Mary Alexander & Rosie Sim

August: Joan White & Stuart Rose

**Church Cleaning:** Rosie Sim

<i>Date</i>	<i>Broughton 11 am</i>	<i>Skirling 11.30 am</i>	<i>Tweedsmuir 9.30 am</i>
02 July 2023	Kevin Scott	Mary McElroy	Kevin Scott
09 July 2023	Isobel Hunter	Murray Campbell	Isobel Hunter
16 July 2023	Peter Worthington	Fiona Burnett	Peter Worthington
23 July 2023	Fiona Burnett	Rev Tony Foley	Fiona Burnett
30 July 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley
06 August 2023	Isobel Hunter	David Howat	Isobel Hunter
13 August 2023	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington
20 August 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley
27 August 2023	Kevin Scott	Rev Chris Levison	Kevin Scott

### ***'What is a Procrustean Bed?'***

*"The bed is too short...and... the blanket is too narrow." (Isaiah 28:20)*

Among the myths of Greek antiquity, is the story of Procrustes. He was a notorious legendary highwayman of Attica, who tied his victims on an iron bed, and, as the case required, either stretched or cut off their legs to adapt them to its length. Hence, the phrase a "*Procrustean bed*" came to refer to an idea, theory, or system to which facts could and would be arbitrarily fitted to fit the desired outcome. Rather like the pontifications of some of our contemporary political leaders.

Isaiah is not the only Old Testament prophet to use the analogy of a bed to illustrate the dangers of an inadequate faith. His contemporary Amos speaks in his prophecies of, "*Those who sit in Samaria on the edge of their beds and on the corner of their couches.*"

We all know people who tend to perch precariously on the edges of beds and the corners of couches. As though they are afraid to commit themselves to the extent of sitting firmly or fully on the bed or couch. It's the "*I can only stay for a moment!*" attitude; reflective of an apparent unwillingness to become "*Too involved.*" It is seen in a body posture that says, "*Let me just rest ever so lightly on the edge, not get too settled, for fear I might want to beat a hasty retreat.*" Some people go through their whole life with that attitude: minimum faith, minimum involvement, and minimum concern for others.

Isaiah's graphic and humorous picture of a bed with skimpy covering is addressed to a people who although feverish in their religious activities suddenly discovering the all too obvious inadequacy of their religion to cover the facts and to meet the needs for life in a time of real crisis.

It begs the question, is it ever appropriate to reduce our religious convictions to a minimum, to boil them down to a few ethical principles? Surely reduction can never be the last word on the Christian faith. When we speak of music, we don't ask how much we can get rid of and still have it be counted musical.

When we speak of the family, we never dream of considering what parental duties we can evade and still be considered a good parent. Is it not the same with faith? How little of the Christian faith can we do without and still think we have a Christian faith? Is it true of us, as one wit put it, that “Many professing Christians have found just enough faith to cherish their own opinion.”

What Isaiah is trying to say to his devoutly religious audience is that the person who tries to reduce their faith in God to mere religious duty and decency will in the crises of life find that the ‘bed is too short and the blanket too narrow.’ Religious activity whatever its guise comes easily, naturally, and often cheaply to human beings. But according to Jesus, the Gospel, he calls us to believe in and commit to will cost us nothing, except everything we are and own.

Peace,

Tony

### ***Farewell to Michelle and welcome to Mark***

Michelle Fraser, who has worked as the linkage admin assistant for the past year, is moving on to a new job in HR at Edinburgh University. She has done great work in setting up the church office and assisting Tony and the Session Clerks and we will miss her.

However, we are delighted to welcome Mark Hepworth as our new admin assistant. He lives in West Linton and we will pass on his contact details as soon as possible.

Jean Howat

# Newland's community garden

The community garden is open to all  
to enjoy – pop in anytime and help yourself  
to fresh herbs and vegetables.



Potted plants  
and cut leaves  
outside the  
centre entrance  
–please help  
yourself!



Lamancha, Newlands and Kirkurd

Community Council



The Community Council is in recess for the summer but if there is something you would like to highlight before the next meeting, contact us by email or on our facebook page, details below.

**The next meeting will take place at  
the Newlands Centre,  
Romanno Bridge,  
on Wednesday 20 September 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.***

Please email [lnkccchair@gmail.com](mailto:lnkccchair@gmail.com) if you have any comments for the Community Council.

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

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our sales table at the Whipman, which realised a healthy profit.

Thanks to the team who manned the stand and everyone who purchased the goodies.

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>. July** some members will be judging at Carnwath Agricultural Show.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>. August** Peebles Agricultural Show.

Schedule for Industrial Section available from Margaret or Federation Secretary, Kirsty Orr, or from the show website.

Email: [secretarypeebleswi@gmail.com](mailto:secretarypeebleswi@gmail.com)

The industrial section is open to all. Entries close 30<sup>th</sup>. July.

Reminder: When going to drop of entries on the Saturday, set off in plenty time as there will be increased traffic due to major bike event.

Something to think about over the summer: The Bulb Show, now to be known as 'The Spring Show', Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>. March 2024. Venue to be confirmed.

Community Effort: 'Show Day' 2 X Handcraft items, 2 X Home skills items, 1 X Floral Exhibit.

Something new for next year, there is also going to be a section for individual classes:

Child's decorated birthday cake (decoration only to be judged)

3 plain oven scones     6 single meringue kisses     jar of marmalade

Knitted bobble hat (using Aran wool), sewn oven gloves, item in clay,  
Child's birthday card.

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>. October** First meeting of the winter syllabus.

Enjoy the summer.

This is the supplied pattern for Class 25 of the industrial section,  
Peebles Agricultural Show.

Blankets will be donated to charity.

**Knitted Blanket –Basket Weave**

With 4mm needles (UK size 8) cast on 140 sts.

Rows 1 -10 Knit

Rows 11-20 knit 10 \*Knit 10, purl 10\* repeat \* to\* until last 10 sts, knit 10

Rows 21 – 30 knit 10 \*purl 10, knit 10\* repeat \* to\* until last 10 sts, knit 10

Continue with this pattern until blanket measures approx 24”

Knit final 10 rows, cast off.

This is the supplied recipe for Class 5 of the industrial section.

**Vegan Courgette Cake Recipe**

**Ingredients**

80g vegan butter block, softened, plus extra for the tin

175g golden caster sugar

2 lemons, zested, 1 juiced

100ml plant milk (we used oat)

100g ground almonds

175g self-raising flour

½ tsp baking powder

175g courgettes, coarsely grated

**For the icing** 200g icing sugar

**Method**

**STEP 1**

Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Butter and line 2 x 450g loaf tins. Beat together the vegan butter block, sugar and lemon zest until combined. Add the plant milk and beat slowly to combine. Add the ground almonds, flour and baking powder, along with the grated courgette, and stir to combine. Spoon the batter into the prepared tin (it will be quite thick) and level the top. Bake each cake for 40-45 mins until a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean. Transfer to a wire rack and leave to cool completely in the tin.

**STEP 2**

To make the icing, sieve the icing sugar into a bowl and add 1 tbsp of the lemon juice and stir to combine. Add a little more lemon juice if needed, ½ tsp at a time, until you reach your desired consistency. Remove the cake from the tin and drizzle over the icing, allowing it to drip down the sides. Leave to set for 20-30 mins. Cut into slices to serve.



### *Garden Ramblings*

Every year at this time I can't help singing the Nana Mouskouri song "Till the white rose blooms again" as my favourite white rose "Rosa Alba Maxima" (which has a claim to fame being the rose on the bonnets of Bonnie Prince Charlie's supporters) never fails to be covered in sweetly scented semi double white flowers. This is a show stopper with dozens of blooms, trouble free. With a height of 6 ft this is a large shrub but takes well to pruning if need be. Mine has been in the garden for years here at Lamancha. I use comfrey as ground cover under it so I suppose it gets fed from that as I never use any other fertilizer.

Hasn't this been a glorious few weeks of dry weather? I have been doing my bit saving water by washing the dishes in a basin and letting the water cool and then using it to water the clematis. I've never seen so many flowers on clematis tangutica.

The gooseberries are due to be picked so are on the list of "to do" next. I did have some redcurrants but our resident wood pigeon beat me to it at 9 o'clock last night. I could only laugh as she was so clumsy hurling herself at the bush to dislodge them!

I have sown some white foxglove seeds plus some hollyhocks and there are more lupins on the go too so already looking ahead to next year.

Have a lovely summer in your gardens and just ignore the weeds!

Cilla Davidson

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

The community cafe is popular and is open every Wednesday from 10am till 2pm. Seating is provided outdoors if weather is nice.

Hire charge for hall is still £10 per hour for parties etc.

BBQ hut is available for £15 for as long as it takes.

Community garden is open all the time for kids play area and picnics.

[info@lamanchahub.org.uk](mailto:info@lamanchahub.org.uk)

Cilla Davidson

***Minister West Tweeddale***

Rev. Dr. Tony Foley

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***Session Clerk***

Jean Howat

Stoney Knowe, Romano Bridge

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***Church Treasurer***

David Howat

Stoney Knowe, Romano Bridge

Tel. 01968 660677

***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 September magazine to [ilka.roehe@btinternet.com](mailto:ilka.roehe@btinternet.com) by

**Tuesday, 22 August 2023**



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