

Kirkurd & Newlands Parish Magazine

Have a great Summer



July & August 2024

Sunday Services

All our services are held in church but there is a Zoom link to services in Carlops at 10am and St. Andrews West Linton at 11.30am.



For more information contact Jean Howat. howatjean@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>
07 July 2024	Fiona Burnett	Isobel Hunter	Fiona Burnett
14 July 2024	Isobel Hunter	Peter Worthington	Isobel Hunter
21 July 2024	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington
28 July 2024	Patsy Campbell	Isobel Hunter	Steven Whalley

Welcome: July: Mary Alexander & Fay Young

August: Jim Brown & Stuart Rose

Church Cleaning: July: Rosie Sim

August: Sandra Howieson



<i>Date</i>	<i>Broughton 11 am</i>	<i>Skirling 11.30 am</i>	<i>Tweedsmuir 9.30 am</i>
07 July 2024	-	Isobel Hunter	-
14 July 2024	Julian Birchall	Peter Worthington	Julian Birchall
21 July 2024	Steven Whalley	Rev Tony Foley	Steven Whalley
28 July 2024	Rev Tony Foley	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley

Current worship leader rota is also available on the linkage website:
westtweeddale.org.uk

Finding Prophets among the Paperbacks

If you are wanting something to read this summer do yourself a favour and read Lionel Shriver's latest novel *Mania*. Shriver sets her story in an alternative 21st century. The main character, Pearson Converse, is wrestling with the 'latest' major political dogma of her time. And in doing so, she's in danger of losing her best friend; ends up having tense arguments with her husband; is summoned to the dean's office at the University where she teaches; and receives a threatening visit from Child Protection Services. The plot of the story is focused on the last crusade for social justice which isn't racism, or gender equity but "*cognitive discrimination*."

The Mental Parity (MP) movement inspired by the best-selling *The Calumny of IQ: Why Discrimination Against "Dumb People" is the Last Great Civil Rights Fight*, has begun its blitzkrieg through educational institutions. It's no longer permissible to speak about, or even to acknowledge, differences of intelligence. "Smart," "stupid," "dumb," and all similar evaluative terms are placed on the MP Index of forbidden words. The Child Protection Services visit Pearson's home because her youngest child, Lucy, reports to a teacher that her mother uses these insulting words at home.

Smart books and smart movies are censored, because they assume cognitive disparities and make some people feel inferior. Dumb movies—*Dumb and Dumber*, for instance—are preceded by a "warning about offensive representations of cognitive inferiority." *The Simpsons* gets cancelled because of the double transgression of portraying an idiot (Homer) and a genius (Lisa).

In a society where intelligence gets flattened, everything else does too. No one can admit there's such a thing as "being good at." Pearson's daughter Zanzibar is too good an actor to be cast in school plays, and the orchestra director stops her when she plays a stunning Bach melody on her flute. Pearson's tree-surgeon husband, Wade, tries to keep his head down, hoping MP will never touch him, until he's forced to hire an incompetent employee and keep him on the payroll for fear of a cognitive discrimination lawsuit, a decision that leads to disaster. With the American food system and auto industry staffed with dumb people who aren't allowed to be trained, American food becomes toxic and American cars explode on the highway.

Sudoku, crosswords, and all other puzzle games are quietly dropped from newspapers because of how they make the '*cognitively different*' feel inadequate. Pearson's teaching is hamstrung because telling students something they don't know already comes with the forbidden implication that they were ignorant before they learned it. Schools have given up on testing and grading.

Mania is a great piece of satire that pokes fun at contemporary not unlike our own society and of where that society might be headed. It all makes for an interesting and compelling read. In one remarkable passage Shriver lets her characters reflect on the energies of radicalism:

'Radical movements keep ratcheting up their demands because nothing energizes a cause more than success. Crusaders resent having their purpose stolen out from under them by the fulfilment of their quest; reaching the promised land leaves seekers bereft. There's little to do in a utopian oasis but sip coconut water. So, the journey must never be completed. The goal must remain out of reach. To preserve the perfect impossibility of getting there, the desired end point becomes ever more extreme.'

Shriver's humorous tale makes a serious point, like all good authors she may prove to be less of a satirist and more of a prophet.

Peace,

Tony

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 our minister The Rev Tony Foley TFoley@churchofscotland.org.uk or

Jean Howat howatjean@gmail.com

We are not professional counsellors but rather sympathetic listeners.

LAMANCHA HUB COMMUNITY CAFÉ

We are open on Wednesdays from 10 till 2pm. Come and meet your friends and make new ones while enjoying home made soup, scones and cakes and a nice pot of tea or a real coffee.

The garden is lovely just now and there is also a play park so why not bring the kids along too?

Currently we have sewing classes and also Yoga classes on offer so if you are interested you can find out more by emailing info@lamanchahub.org.uk

Cilla Davidson

Newlands Kids is a charity which is a small, rural **Early Years education and childcare** provider for 2 - 5 year-olds.



Newlands Activity Centre
Romanno Bridge
Near West Linton
Peeblesshire
EH46 7BZ

What do we offer?

Our rural setting allows us to focus on the Natural world which surrounds our setting.

Going outdoors and bringing the outdoors indoors allows our care team to fully integrate our natural setting with the aims of the Curriculum for Excellence.

We learn and grow fruit and vegetables in our outdoor classroom, poly tunnels and raised planting beds. Our in-house cook creates healthy balanced menus for them to enjoy in our outdoor sitooterie.

Term time setting

(38 wks a year)

Holiday Club is available for 4 weeks during Summer

Days and times

Mon - Thurs,
8:30am - 6:00pm

For more info, or to come for a visit please contact
Gill Ross, gill@newlandskids.org.uk



Congratulations to Doreen Graham and Prof. Murray Campbell

Doreen Graham, Blyth Bridge, was awarded an MBE for her services to animal welfare. Doreen worked as the chair of Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home (EDCH) and has recently retired.

Prof. Murray Campbell was awarded a BEM in the King's Birthday Honours for services to the Carlops Church and to the community in Tweeddale & Edinburgh.

The Open Gate

Just a reminder that The Open Gate is still available to offer an appointment to anyone of any age who could do with a little bit of counselling. This uses a Brief Solution Focussed Therapy (BFST) approach which is pleasant and helpful for all sorts of problems often after only 1 session.

Phone 07535 898 244 to ask for an appointment in Newlands Centre on Friday afternoons 2-5pm. This is confidential and free.

Margaret Helen Aytoun

Margaret Helen Aytoun, born 31 March 1945, daughter of Ramsay & Agnes (Nancy), formerly of Netherurd & Blyth Bridge, passed away on 1 April 2024.

My mother's ashes were interred in Kirkurd churchyard on Monday, 17 June, at 1.30 pm. My family have strong links with Netherurd, Blyth Bridge and Kirkurd School & Church.

Lyn Egan

Sing in the
SUMMER
CHOIR
with Tom

July 15th - August 8th
Mondays and Thursdays at 7-9PM

Newlands Community Centre
EH46 7BZ

SMASH

Anastasia

Jekyll&Hyde

and more!

Adults £50 (or £8 per session)
Under 16s £30 (or 5£ per session)

07726180600

Lamancha, Newlands and
Kirkurd Community Council



**The next meeting will be on
Wednesday 18 September at the
Lamancha Hub at 7.30pm**

The Community Council does not
meet during July and August but if
you have any concerns regarding
a local issue please email

lnkccchair@gmail.com

**Community Councils give people a voice
concerning where they live. Come along and
make sure your voice is heard and find out what is
happening in your area.**

All welcome

Congratulations to our very own Doreen Graham, who was awarded the MBE in the King's Birthday Honours List.

Thank you to the team who manned the stand at the Whipman, which raised a healthy profit for the funds. Huge thanks to everyone who contributed and all who bought the goodies.

Saturday 13th. July Dalkeith Agricultural Show.

Saturday 13th. August Peebles Agricultural Show.

Schedule for Industrial Section available from Margaret or Federation Secretary, Kirsty Orr

Email: secretarypeebleswi@gmail.com or from the show website.

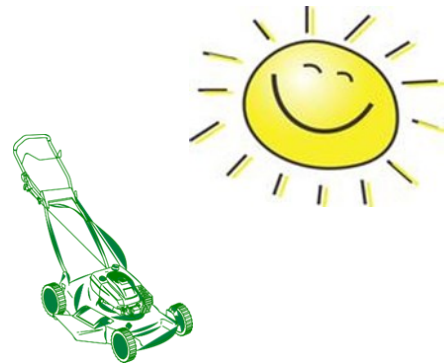
The industrial section is open to all. Entries close 28th. July

Something to think about over the summer: Peeblesshire Federation SWI Spring Show, Saturday 8th. March 2025.

Community Effort – ‘SWI Centenary’ 2 x Home skills, 2 x Handcraft 1 x Floral exhibit.

Tuesday 1st. October: First meeting of the winter syllabus.

Enjoy the summer.



All well on the home front. Hope everyone is having a nice summer and we are looking forward to some interesting talks and demos in September so watch this space.

Cilla Davidson

Lemon Curd & Blueberry Loaf

(stipulated recipe for the Agricultural Show)

Ingredients

175g / 6oz softened butter

100g Greek yogurt

2 tablespoons lemon curd

3 eggs

Zest & juice of 1 lemon plus extra for decoration

200g / 7oz self raising flour

175g / 6oz caster sugar

100g blueberries

140g / 5oz icing sugar

Edible flowers, e.g. purple or yellow primroses to decorate

Method

Oven 160C / 140C fan / gas 3

Grease 2 x 1lb loaf tins and line with a long strip of baking parchment.

Put the butter, yogurt, lemon curd, eggs, lemon zest, flour and sugar into a large bowl. Mix well with an electric whisk until the mixture comes together.

Divide half the mixture between the 2 tins. Divide the blueberries and scatter half over the mixture.

Divide the remaining mixture between the tins and scatter the remaining berries over the top.

Bake approx. 45-60 min. Allow to cool in the tins.

Sift the icing sugar into a bowl and add enough lemon juice to make a thick, smooth icing. Spread over the cake and decorate with lemon zest and edible flowers.

Peeblesshire Federation SWI

Spring Show 8th March 2025

Class

- 1 - 3 white Hyacinths
- 2 - 3 blue Hyacinths
- 3 - 3 pink Hyacinths
- 4 - 1 bowl grape Hyacinths
- 5 - 10 Crocus any variety
- 6 - 10 miniature Daffodils
- 7 - 5 single Tulips
- 8 - bowl of mixed Hyacinths (any number)
- 9 - 1 Amaryllis
- 10 - 1 pot plant – foliage
- 11 - 1 flowering plant in a pot
- 12 - Spring pot – not exceeding 12in inside diameter and grown by exhibitor
- 13 - Miniature garden in a seed tray
- 14 - Small floral exhibit – “Victorian posy”. Space allowed 12in x 12in
(natural plant materials – to be displayed in water)
- 15 - Large floral exhibit – “Centenary celebration”. Space allowed 24in x 24in
(natural plant materials)
- 16 - Jug of Spring flowers

Community Effort

Theme – “SWI Centenary”

2 x House skills, 2 x Handcraft, 1 x Floral exhibit

Winter’s Work

3 per institute

Individual competition

1. 3 decorated cupcakes (decoration only)
2. 3 drop scones
3. Individual meringue nest – filled
4. Jar of marmalade
5. Knitted twiddle muff
6. Sewn peg bag
7. Item in clay
8. Origami item

Garden Ramblings

A real garden is never finished so the saying goes and "real" or not, mine is a good contender. There are a few outstanding clematis and shrubs in bloom and once again clematis Nellie Moser takes some beating not just in my garden but in others here at Lamancha. The Philadelphus shrub has hundreds of white blooms and a powerful perfume much loved by bees. When we moved here from Penicuik 47 years ago this is one shrub that came with me in a carrier bag!

Back to clematis, there is one yellow flowered one that is a particular favourite and that is Tangutica. This one is trouble free, has yellow bell shaped flowers and also has silvery seedheads in Autumn and those



seeds are so easy to propagate. I have done this and have one or two juniors dotted about.

The roses are just coming into bloom with plenty buds just about to open. Bonica is one that does well here and likewise Celsiana and if you are looking for a thornless rose try Rosa Mundi. This one has pink and white striped flowers.

One native flower we could all do without is ground elder. Hasn't it done well this wet year? I wish it would stay on the roadside verges! Apparently the Romans are guilty as they used it as a type of spinach. I have left a few cow parsley plants in situ as they look similar and are not such a problem. There are a few buttercups about, and on purpose I have left a few nettles and thistles for the butterflies when they appear again. In Spring the orange tip was in abundance but the rain has chased them.

I hope all you garden enthusiasts have a nice summer.

Happy gardening all of you.

Cilla Davidson

Minister West Tweeddale

Rev. Dr. Tony Foley

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Phone: 07793294000

Manse: 01968 660221

Church Administrator West Tweeddale

Kate Whalley

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Email: kate@westlinton.com

Phone: 07973 501 665

Session Clerk

Jean Howat

Stoney Knowe, Romanno Bridge

Tel. 01968 660 677

Church Treasurer

David Howat

Stoney Knowe, Romanno 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 by

Tuesday, 20th August, 2024



Newlands and Kirkurd Parish Church



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

West Tweeddale Parishes

www.westtweeddale.org.uk

Scottish Charity Number

SCO 18087