

West Linton St Andrew's Parish Church

January 2025

Scottish Charity No SC003938

Minister: Rev Dr Tony Foley

'Don't live the same year 75 times over and call it a life.'

I like that, don't you?

Each New Year is full of things that have not yet been and might never be. But a lot of what will be, will be determined by the decisions you and I make. In other words, a lot of what this New Year brings will be determined by what we bring to it. Every New Year we walk through our lives with our New Year resolutions as though we were walking through a house with a list of repairs and improvements. In other words, doing maintenance on what already is and has been. Maybe this year we could try focusing not on our faults and lacks and focus instead on our potential. I like what Emerson said, *'The person you are destined to become is determined by the person you decide to be.'*

So, what kind of person are you going to be in 2025? What kind of good things will you decide to bring into being in the lives of others by the decisions you make in 2025. Everyone of us has the power to make a positive difference in somebody else's life in 2025, we just have to decide to make, and maybe be that difference. According to St Paul in one of his letters God has made it possible for us to make a positive difference in someone else's life by 'preparing in advance good works for us to do'. What are those good works God has prepared for you to do? To be honest I don't know, you will have to ask God about that. This coming New Year things around us may or may not get better, but we can be better.

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I wish you and yours a peaceful and Happy New Year.

Peace,

Tony

Sunday Club

December was an exciting time for the children, who enjoyed hearing all about the birth of Jesus and playing with our beautiful nativity set at the beginning of December. This formed the basis of our preparation for the Sunday Club Nativity Service on 15th December.

Thanks to everyone who helped to make it such an enjoyable and happy occasion. We are hugely encouraged by the positive feedback from everyone, and in particular, the parents of the children. Thanks for your kind messages.

Sunday Club meets on the first Sunday of every month in the Old Church Hall during school term times. We leave from church during the service and walk the children to the hall and for those who wish to meet us at the hall we suggest 11.45am.

We look forward to welcoming the children after the holidays.

Ann Lyon and Kate Whalley

Kirk Session

The Kirk Session will meet at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th January in the Old Church Hall.

Kirk Session meetings are open meetings and anyone may attend.

Church Flowers

Christmas is almost upon us and how lovely it is to see colourful lights in the streets and the windows of houses in the village, to cheer us on these long dark nights.

We would like to express thanks to all who continue to donate to the Flower Fund, all contributions are very much appreciated. If you would like to donate to the Flower Fund you can use the envelopes available in church. Please put your name and 'Flower Fund' on any plain envelope which you put into the offering bag or pass on to your arranger or any Elder. To pay direct into the Flower Fund please use the details below:

Account Name: St Andrews Kirk Session

Sort Code: 80-09-39

Account number: 0081782

At the beginning of December our arranger was Jill Green, thanks Jill. Thanks too, to Nancy Porteous who has taken over the arranging of the advent wreath from Ruth Herd who had done it for many years, thanks to you too Ruth. As I write this, Sheila Forsyth, Fiona Hessey and Kate Dykes from the Flower Team are preparing to decorate the church for Christmas in the next few days. If you would like to join the flower team, please speak to any of us, we would like to welcome you.

The Flower arrangers for January and February are Lillian Slater and Ann Lyon.

We would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year.

From the Flower Team



The next Messy Church session is on

Sunday 19 January – The House Built on Rock

The session starts at 4pm in the New Church Hall at West Linton.

All children from babies to P7 are most welcome to come and join in the fun!

We will start with a Bible Story and a song; then the children will do a range of craft activities, followed by a prayer and finish off with a meal together. All children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

For more information contact Jean Howat - howatjean@gmail.com
01968 660677

Guid Blethers

January 15th

Welcome Back

January 29th

Scots/Burns songs with Charlie & George

Meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from **2.00 pm to 3.30 pm** In the Old Church Hall.

Following a talk on an interesting subject or an activity (non strenuous!) we enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and some wonderful tasty nibbles

Further information from Helen Dry 660506

Dates for your Diary in Upper Tweed

Monday 6th January - Contemplative Prayer Inspired by Julian of Norwich

Come and Pray with us. Join us on the first Monday of the month at 9.45 am in the small meeting room at the back of Broughton Village Hall (entry by the ramp next to the entrance to the car park). Each session lasts one hour and includes prayer and discussion. For the next few months we will be praying for the future of Broughton Kirk using contemplative prayer inspired by Julian of Norwich.

Thursday 9th January - Wanderings at Broughtonknowe Woods

Wanderings is a new project being run in partnership with the Church of Scotland parish of Upper Tweeddale. We have an initial plan to meet twice a month, once on a Saturday afternoon and once on Thursday or Wednesday mornings followed by an option to join in a community cuppa. If you would like to join a Wander just turn up at Broughtonknowe woods main carpark with warm, waterproof clothing and stout boots with good grip. The wandering for Thursday 9th January starts at 10.30am and is followed by lunch at Skirling Village Hall.

Saturday 25th January - Wanderings at Broughtonknowe Woods

The wandering for Saturday 25th January starts at 2.30pm.

Wednesday 15th January - Guild Meeting at Broughton Village Hall

At the first Guild meeting of 2025 on 15th January at 2.30pm in Broughton Village Hall we will be hearing about the new programme of Wanderings from Nicola Campbell. Everyone is welcome.

Coffee Club

at the Old Church Hall,
West Linton



Tuesdays 10am – 12pm, every month!

FREE HOT DRINKS, CAKES and BREAKFAST.

All are welcome and it's an opportunity to meet your friends or have some company and a good blether.

Citizens Advice Bureau will also be there and can help with everything including benefits, money worries, housing, work and family issues.

**Come along on 17th Dec, 21st Jan
and 18th Feb**



Funded by Scottish Ministers in conjunction with Scottish Borders Council, as the Lead Partner for the Local Action Group

Contacts

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(Most of the time Kate will be working from home therefore use the contact details immediately above)

Joint Session Clerk: Kevin Scott

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Guid Blethers: Helen Dry Telephone: 01968 660506

Baby Brunch: Mary Turnbull Telephone 01968 661737

Boys Brigade: Emma Lyon Telephone
Email: westlintonbb@gmail.com

Services January

	West Linton 11.30 am	Carlops 10.00 am	Newlands 10.00 am
5th	Patsy Campbell	Patsy Campbell	Rev Dr Tony Foley
12th	Murray Campbell	Murray Campbell	David Henderson-Howat
19th	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Rev Dr Tony Foley Communion	Steven Whalley
26th	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Dr Tony Foley
2/2	Kevin Scott	Keven Scott	Fiona Burnett

Door Duties

January

A Lyon	Choir
N Calvert £	Main
Calum Greenhowe	Gallery

February

C Leith (£)	Choir
K Scott	Main
M Turnbull	Gallery

Readers

Jan	5th Mary Turnbull
	12th Helen Dry
	19th Helen Dry
	26th Elaine Robinson
Feb	2nd Elaine Robinson
	9th Daryll Green
	16th Daryll Green
	23rd Christine Leith

Material for the January Newsletter should be submitted to the editor by Monday 20th January 2025. Please include 'Newsletter' in the subject of your email. All submissions should be in MS Word or equivalent. Please do not embed in an email.

The February 2025 issue will be available by 26th January 2025.