

*Kirkcud & Newlands Parish Magazine*



Photography: Nancy Norman: Secret Herb Garden

*September 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>
03 September 2023	Murray Campbell	Rev Tony Foley	Murray Campbell
10 September 2023	Fiona Burnett	Steven Whalley	Steven Whalley
17 September 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Kevin Scott	Rev Tony Foley
24 September 2023	Peter Worthington	Rev Tony Foley	Peter Worthington
01 October 2023	Patsy Campbell	Colin Herd	Colin Herd

**Welcome:** Fiona Dunkley & Ilka Roehle

**Church Cleaning:** Mary Alexander

<i>Date</i>	<i>Broughton 11 am</i>	<i>Skirling 11.30 am</i>	<i>Tweedsmuir 9.30 am</i>
03 September 2023	Fiona Burnett	Rev Tony Foley	Fiona Burnett
10 September 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Fiona Burnett	Rev Tony Foley
17 September 2023	Peter Worthington	Kevin Scott	Peter Worthington
24 September 2023	Murray Campbell	Rev Tony Foley	Murray Campbell
01 October 2023	Rev Tony Foley	Patsy Campbell	Rev Tony Foley

Current worship leader rota is also available on the linkage website:

**[westtweeddale.org.uk](http://westtweeddale.org.uk)**

### **New Admin Assistant**

We are delighted to welcome Mark Hepworth who has recently started as our Admin Assistant. He lives in West Linton with his young family. He will be working in the church office in the Old Church Hall on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning from 9.30-12.30.

He can be contacted on [cos1560.tweed@outlook.com](mailto:cos1560.tweed@outlook.com)

### **Harvest Thanksgiving and Harvest Supper**

We will be holding our **Harvest Supper** at Newlands church on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm. It will be a pot luck supper, where everyone brings food to share and there will be a collection in aid of SOS Sahel, a charity which is working in Sudan.

Everyone is warmly invited and if you would like a ticket, please let Jean Howat or your elder know – [howatjean@gmail.com](mailto:howatjean@gmail.com) 01968 660677

Can you also indicate if you will be bringing a savoury or a sweet dish.

### **Harvest Service**

**The Harvest Service** is on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 10am. Donations of food will be delivered to Peebles Foodbank.

### **Local Church review**

There is going to be a Local Church review by Presbytery of all six churches in the linkage in the next few months. It's not so much an inspection but rather a 'support tool' to focus on what next and how best Presbytery can support us. There may also be an opportunity for churches to share good practice.

A report has been drawn up in consultation with the Kirk Session to describe the story of our church at Newlands over the last 10 years and where we hope to go next. If you would like to read this please email or call Jean for a copy: [howatjean@gmail.com](mailto:howatjean@gmail.com) 01968 660677.

### ***‘A picture is worth a thousand words’ - or is it?***

*‘A picture is worth a thousand words’*, or so I am told. I say that as I think more and more about our compulsively visual culture, which relentlessly reduces everything we see, think, or feel and do to that which can be photographed and self-published on any one of numerous social media platforms. We are its seems a culture in the grip of what one writer called obsessive *‘aesthetic consumerism’*.

The thing about pictures of course, is that they have no real context. They are merely an edited version of a given reality. They may enchant us, but they lack that capacity to convey a sense of the ineffable and the transcendent that words, written and spoken, engaging with, and enriched by our imaginations, can convey to us. Such portals to the transcendent can be found in the captivating words of the poetic and are inherent in the eloquence of great writers. Iris Murdoch’s novel *The Sea, the Sea* is one such example. There she writes:

*“As I lay there, listening to the soft slap of the sea, and thinking these sad and strange thoughts, more and more and more stars had gathered, obliterating the separateness of the Milky Way, and filling up the whole sky. And far, far away in that ocean of silver, stars were silently shooting and falling and finding their fates, among these billions and billions of merging silver lights. And as curtain after curtain of gauze was quietly removed, and I saw stars behind stars behind stars... And I saw into the vast soft interior of the universe which seemed to be slowly and gently turning itself inside out. I went to sleep, and in my sleep, I seemed to hear a sound of singing.”*

The Irish poet and Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney made the telling observation, *‘The biggest change in my lifetime has been the evaporation of the transcendent from all our discourse.’* I agree with Heaney, our public language is almost exclusively devoted to the commercial, the pragmatic; used to sell us something, or persuade us to do something. So engulfed are we by this trans-

actional language that people find it hard to speak publicly about the more mysterious dimensions of the human experience, those liminal moments when we are inexplicably aware of the ineffable. Those who do – the singers and poets - stand out and are even more sought after. King David is one such poet. He manages to capture what it feels like to be caught up in thoughts of God’s overshadowing caring presence in his Psalm 139. Emily Dickinson is another who captures a powerful sense of the transcendent in her poem – ‘*This world is not conclusion*’.

Do yourself a favour this week nurture and nourish your soul by taking the time to reflectively read these poems aloud to yourself and let them revitalise the language and sense of the transcendent in your own life and discourses.

Peace,

Tony

## **Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal**

*By filling a shoebox with simple things*

*You can bring joy this Christmas.*



It’s easy to choose gifts for people that have so little. Shampoo, a pair of socks, a notepad, a small toy, a bag of sweets - things we take for granted will seem like luxuries to people living in poverty.

Shoeboxes will be distributed to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine.

Please contact **Fay Young, 01968 660 374**, for more information and a leaflet.

All shoeboxes will be collected by Blythswood Care in Peebles on October 23, 11.30 - 12.00.

# WELL PREPARED COURSE

## SIX WEEK COURSE ON DEATH & DYING

As a society we're not good at talking about death, and as individuals we may try and avoid thinking about it. Yet as we get older it's natural for us to think more deeply about the issues that face us in our final years.

We may:

- look back over our lives and wonder if we have 'made a good job of things'
- have some memories we really want to pass on
- feel a need to make peace with someone
- finally get round to making a will
- have concerns about what 'the end' will be like for us
- have hopes of being reunited with loved ones after *our death*

The course is primarily to help us have conversations about death and to plan for our own death. The course is not primarily aimed at supporting anyone who is grieving. Of course, talking about death may lead to thoughts of those who we love and whose absence we still feel, in that sense we shall all be sensitive to each other's experiences of bereavement and loss.

**Starting on Thursday 7th September at 7.30 pm** a 6-session course called, 'Well Prepared', (published by the Diocese of Oxford), will be held in the **New Church Hall in West Linton.**

The course will be facilitated by Rev. Nick Bowry (Rector of St Mungo's West Linton) and Rev. Dr Tony Foley (Minister of the West Tweeddale Churches). Notes will be provided

The 'Well Prepared' course will cover the following topics.:

- (i) Making a will and power of attorney document
- (ii) Exploring the story of our life
- (iii) Planning my funeral
- (iv) The last days
- (v) Departing in peace
- (vi) What comes next?

**If you are interested please contact Mark Hepworth at the church office  
cos1560.tweed@outlook.com  
or your session clerk**

# 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!



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

 **newlands kids**  
early learning and child care  
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.

For more info, or to come for a visit please contact  
Gill Ross, [gill@newlandskids.org.uk](mailto:gill@newlandskids.org.uk)



**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  
Friday  
8:30am - 4:00pm

## The Open Gate

The Open Gate counselling service started up in 2019 with financial help from the Church of Scotland's Go For It Fund, and had been available on Friday afternoons in Newlands Centre, Romanno Bridge for appointments, proving useful for helping a range of problems. As you know, since the onset of Covid, it has continued only as a telephone appointment service which was available throughout the week.

However it has been really disappointing that this has been rarely used over the past 2 years, only 2 contacts during this past year!

Knowing this to be a helpful resource, I've been reluctant to close this down. Following discussion at our latest Kirk Session meeting, it was agreed that The Open Gate should continue again back in Newlands Centre on Friday afternoons for face-to-face appointments for a trial period of a few months, and this will start up on a weekly basis from 1<sup>st</sup> September. Early appointments will be arranged by phoning or texting **07535 898 244**.

**Please make the most of this opportunity!** Use it for yourself or suggest it to friends. Everyone has some sort of problem in their life that could be helped in a relaxed and pleasant way. Sessions remain free and confidential and the client decides when their problem has been helped – often after only 1 session. Some problems can't be changed eg death of a loved one, physical impairment etc, but folk can be helped to cope more happily with these issues.

**Use it or lose it!**

Newlands, Kirkurd & Lamancha

# Cottager's Garden Produce Show & Sale



**Newlands Centre**  
**Saturday 2nd Sept 2023**  
**12– 4pm**  
(access to exhibits from 2pm)

**Admission**

Adults: £1 • Children: 50p • Teas: £2 • All exhibits: Free entry

[www.newlandscentre.org.uk](http://www.newlandscentre.org.uk)

Lamancha, Newlands and  
Kirkurd Community Council



**The next meeting will be on Wednesday  
20 September at the Newlands Centre,  
Romanno Bridge at 7.30pm**

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

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

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

***LAMANCHA AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION***

Our cafe will be open on Wednesdays from 10am till 2pm with a choice of soups, bacon and egg rolls, home baking plus tablet and nice coffee or a pot of tea. All welcome.

Sewing classes plus Yoga are available.

Hire of room is £10 per hour.

From the end of September the large room is free on Fridays so if you are looking for somewhere to hold a class let us know.

Cilla Davidson

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

Lamancha, Newlands and  
Kirkurd Community Council



## **Would you like to help plan the future of your area?**

The Community Council would like to invite you to an informal gathering to discuss plans and capture your ideas for our area.

**Come along to the Lamancha Hub on  
Wednesday 27 September, 7pm to  
9pm.**

Refreshments provided

**Everyone welcome.**

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

## CHRISTIAN AID CUTS TIES WITH BARCLAYS OVER FOSSIL FUEL FINANCING

International development agency Christian Aid has recently approved plans to move banking provider from Barclays to Lloyds. CA had an income of £78.4 million last year. The following press release explained their decision.

“Following a review of banking arrangements last year and a competitive tender process, the Board of Trustees have approved plans to move from Barclays to Lloyds.

With Lloyds, we will continue to be able to transfer funds to high risk countries such as Syria, Myanmar and Afghanistan as we currently do with Barclays. This global banking network is essential for CA to continue to support those people who are the hardest to reach.

Whilst Barclays was able to provide banking services to fragile contexts, their record on fossil fuel finance and their weak commitment to future improvements in this area meant we had to seek a more suitable provider.

CA has ambitious environmental commitments over the next few years, as set out in our recently launched Environmental Policy. The transition to Lloyds will take place over the next few months”.

The move was welcomed by former chairman of CA, Dr. Rowan Williams, as well as other charity leaders, experts and campaigners who called on other charities to follow suit. Tony Burdon, executive director of Make My Money Matter, added “we hope all organisations follow CA’s lead and make sure their money is complimenting their values, not contradicting them”.

Further details can be found on CA’s website.

ROBERT HIGGINS, CA Chair

28<sup>th</sup>. July members and friends enjoyed a morning at Errington's Cheese Farm at Walston.

Errington's specialize making cheese from sheep's milk and goat's milk.

Craig gave a brief history of cheese making then escorted us around the farm to view the milking parlour and introduced us to some of the milking goats and sheep. Also the pigs which are fed with the whey from the cheese making process. From the viewing windows we could see some of the cheese being produced from that morning's milking. This was interspersed with sampling lots of cheese.

To finish off we enjoyed a lunch of platters of cheese, chutney and oatcakes, rounded off with coffee and homemade biscuits.

Over the summer members judged at some agricultural and horticultural shows. Members have also participated at several shows. Congratulations to all who took part and won prizes.

Looking ahead, the first meeting of the winter programme will be: **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>. October** when Danielle Gentile will tell us about poisons.

Competitions: Interesting glass bottle                      Homemade Halloween creation.

Meetings are held in Newlands Centre, Romanno Bridge at 7:15pm.

We are always pleased to welcome new members and visitors to our meetings,

contact Margaret 01721 752242 or Sheila 077 30 410 555.

## *Garden Ramblings*

Be careful what you wish for is a favourite old saying as you know, but little did I think when I wished for rain back in sunny old June that it would rain for forty days and more! At least life is easier with the watering can when one arm was longer than the other in past times.

The outdoor tubs wherever you look have been superb and Lamanca Hub must thank LNKCC for their contribution of giant Begonias which have withstood the rain.

The perennial plants have stood up well especially the white Phlox which has reached 5 feet in height so in Autumn it can be split up with a few cuttings for friends. Shrubs are fine as well with top marks going to the Potentillas, Spireas and Hypericums. The yellow shades of potentilla are simply glowing. I have one Hydrangea struggling a bit but that's probably due to lack of peaty soil. I did purchase some peat free compost for some tubs and was disappointed with the quality as it had lots of twiggy bits in it.

I am now about to order bulbs for Autumn planting and can't resist the many tulip varieties and all do well in our area. I especially like the lily flowered ones and also the peach shades go well with the black tulips. I will also order more of the large white petalled daffodils as they stand out well in the late winter gloom and cheer me up no end.

Happy planting everyone.

Cilla Davidson

**Newlands WI**



Looking forward to seeing you all again on 14th September at 7.30pm in Lamanca Hub cafe. Subscriptions for 2023 / 2024 are £25.

First speaker will be Fiona Dunkley demonstrating how to make fabric thistles.

Cilla

***Minister West Tweeddale***

Rev. Dr. Tony Foley

Email: [tfoley@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:tfoley@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Tel. 07793294000

Manse: 01968 660221

***Church Administrator West Tweeddale***

Mark Hepworth

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***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 Roehé

Please contact your elder or Ilka Roehé 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 October magazine to [ilka.roehé@btinternet.com](mailto:ilka.roehé@btinternet.com) by

**Tuesday, 26 September 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