

Kirkcud & Newlands

Parish Magazine



Bluebells: Charlotte Square, Edinburgh

May 2025

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>
04 May 2025	Rev Tony Foley	David Henderson-Howat	Rev Tony Foley
11 May 2025	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley	Kevin Scott
18 May 2025	Peter Worthington	Steven Whalley	Peter Worthington
25 May 2025	Rev Tony Foley	David Henderson-Howat	Rev Tony Foley
01 June 2025	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Tony Foley	Rev Chris Levison

Welcome: Janette Raeburn & David Habeshaw

Church Cleaning: Fay Young



<i>Date</i>	<i>Broughton 11 am</i>	<i>Skirling 11.30 am</i>	<i>Tweedsmuir 9.30 am</i>
04 May 2025	Fiona Burnett	David Henderson-Howat	Fiona Burnett
11 May 2025	Peter Worthington	Isobel Hunter	Peter Worthington
18 May 2025	Rev Tony Foley	Steven Whalley	Rev Tony Foley
25 May 2025	Rev C. MacDougall	David Henderson-Howat	Rev C. MacDougall
01 June 2025	Isobel Hunter	Rev Tony Foley	Isobel Hunter

The healing in post-resurrection pain

‘Why do we sometimes act as if God is made of porcelain?’

We profess faith in an almighty God, yet we often act as though we secretly fear for His ego. *‘Will it shatter if our spiritual lives get too complicated?’ ‘Will we break God if we honestly confess to an ongoing sense of rage, or a free-floating doubt, or a nagging sense of despair?’*

The human cost of tiptoeing around God is staggering. I’ve watched so many people I love do this. Who don’t dare for just a moment to name an honest feeling *to* God *about* God. Feelings like *“I’m so furious at you God right now,”* or *“God, my faith is doing nothing for me in the midst of this pain.”* Who is this god we are trying to protect? Is he really so dependent on our shiny pretence?

What helps me here is Jesus. The tears he shed for Lazarus. The anger he expresses in the temple. The fear-filled sense of despair he expresses in Gethsemane. But most of all the wounds he carries with him out of the grave. Jesus’ resurrected body doesn’t carry faded scars. These are fresh wounds, raw enough to allow a doubting disciple to put his fingers into them.

I find it easy to imagine Jesus wincing when Thomas touched him. I imagine it was a pain that to Thomas signalled real presence. A pain that spoke to what Thomas truly longed for: *‘I am here. I don’t float in an artificial, antiseptic reality; I dwell in the heart of things. Exactly where you live’.*

All around us, people are packaging and pummelling themselves into all forms of piety. A piety they can’t sustain because it is not real. Not real like Jesus’ honest expressions of grief, anger, and fear.

At the apex of his resurrection, Jesus won a doubter over with His open wounds. More often than we realise our Christian faith holds its greatest appeal when it demonstrates courage and steadfastness in the face of those pains that scare us and hurt us and ravage us. Our wounds don’t tell the whole story. But like those of Jesus the stories they do tell are holy and worth sharing.

Peace,

Tony

Communion Service – Sunday 11 May

We will be celebrating Communion at our service on Sunday 11 May.

Everyone is most welcome

Stated Annual Meeting – Sunday 11 May

After the church service on Sunday 11 May we will hold the Annual Stated Meeting. The Financial Accounts will be presented along with reports on property, The Guild, and church events. Again, all are welcome.

The Crescendo and Wednesdays Concert

This was a huge success with glorious singing from the choirs as well as soloists to a packed church. £550 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support. Many thanks to all who helped make this evening such a success.



Easter Service

We had a lovely Easter service led by Rev. Tony Foley. After the service, the children enjoyed an Easter egg hunt on the church grounds.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 11th – 17th MAY 2025

DONATIONS



Ideally, donate online at www.christianaid.org.uk

Your money goes directly to CA with no hidden deductions reducing its value.

If you still prefer to use the traditional CA envelope, these will be available to pick up from the church at Sunday services in May – return either to Robert Higgins or place in a plain envelope labelled “FREEPOST Christian Aid” and post.

CA Service St.Andrew’s church Sunday 11th May at 1130am conducted by Isobel Hunter.

CA Cryptic Quiz

The theme this year is “things that can be worn”, 30 teasing questions. Printed quiz sheets can be picked up from the church (optional voluntary donation). Alternatively, an electronic version is available from Robert Higgins at higfam72@gmail.com

Answers by request (but not yet) if you get stuck.

CA Car Boot Sale at Skirling Village Green Sunday 18th May from 2pm. £8 per car, no need to pre-book. Teas served in the hall.

Isobel Hunter would appreciate help from volunteers to set up and take down stalls, help in the kitchen and serve teas. Home baking always welcome. Items to sell on the CA stall also needed.

Christian Aid 80th Anniversary at St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh on Saturday 17th May at 7pm. Guests will be warmly welcomed - No RSVP required. Keynote speech by the First Minister of Scotland John Swinney. Worship will be led by the Wild Goose Resource Group and Siskin Green. Other speakers include Temwa Kasakula, CA’s Global Advisor for Sexual Reproductive Health and Gender and Patrick Watt, Christian Aid CEO.

The unstoppable power of hope is what keeps driving us to work for a world where all can live with dignity, equality and justice. Because we still believe in Life before Death.

Christian Aid Book Sale, New Town Church, 13 George Street, Edinburgh.

Opens Saturday 10th May, Sunday closed, then Monday 12TH to Friday 16TH May 10am-330pm, late night Thursday 7pm.

Not just books – music, stamps, postcards, CDs and records, jigsaws, toys, games and ephemera. Further details by email at ca@edinburghnewtownchurch.org.uk

CARLOPS church CA fund raising events

Soup lunch Wednesday 14th May 1230-2pm

Coffee morning and plant sale Saturday 31st May 1030-12pm

ROBERT HIGGINS, CA Chair



Raising Funds for Malawi
Carlops Church - Monthly Talks

Friday 9th May, 7.30 pm
'Running a Village Pharmacy'

Martin O'Dwyer

Suggested donation: £5

Lamancha, Newlands
and Kirkurd Community
Council



**The next meeting will be at 7.30pm
on Wednesday 21 May
at the Newlands Centre,
Romanno Brige**

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

We have a Facebook page which will keep you up to date on meeting dates and local issues. Please email **lnkccchair@gmail.com** with any comments or questions.

Information regarding flooding: The Scottish Flood Forum website is a good source of information. [The Scottish Flood Forum - Supporting Flood Risk Communities](#). The Forum works to support communities and individual property owners with any source of flooding issue whether it's out of sewer, pluvial or fluvial flooding . It should also be able to give advice on any insurance issues faced by customers.

Small grants up to £50 can be awarded by the Community Council to Community Groups. To apply or for more information, email **lnkccchair@gmail.com** .

The annual business meeting was held on Tuesday 1st. April.

In her president's report, Sheila Voas gave a very full account of the activities over the past year, thanking everyone for their continued support and help.

She paid tribute to Peggy Wills, who sadly died in October. Peggy was a long-standing and enthusiastic member of our wee 'rural'.

The highlight of the year was the 100th. birthday celebration in November with past and present members and guests from the other Peeblesshire Federation Institutes. Mary Burney, the national President of SWI proposed a toast to Kirkurd SWI. After a traditional supper we were entertained by Magic Ian.

We have had excellent speakers ranging from witches to an evening on Utube with the BBC Repair Shop Teddy Bear Ladies. Also, practical nights making Christmas cards and pasta.

Sharon Cowle presented the accounts which showed a healthy balance.

Office bearers for 2025 – 2026

President: Sheila Voas, Secretary: Margaret Adamson, Treasurer: Sharon Cowle.

Suggestions for the 2025 – 2026 programme were discussed.

Points Prizes: 1st. Margaret Adamson 2nd. Jean Fraser 3rd equal Lesley Johnstone & Sheila Voas.

Some diary dates:

Wednesday 7th. May: Visit to Pentland SWI, Penicuik, 7:00pm

Sunday 18th. May: Peeblesshire Federation SWI 100th. Birthday afternoon tea, Peebles Hydro 1:00pm

Thursday 22nd. May: A group of Danish Knitters are hosting an evening at the Park Hotel, Peebles. 7:30pm

Friday 30th. May: Afternoon Tea at The Secret Herb Garden 1:00pm

Saturday 14th. June: Sales Table at the Whipman.

This year the proceeds from the sales table will be donated to The Scottish Charity Air Ambulance

The Open Gate

Please don't forget about the presence of The Open Gate on Friday afternoons at Newlands Centre. There, anyone of any age, can receive early counselling help for any problem, large or small. The approach used is Solution Focused Brief Therapy which is pleasant and effective - and free!

For an appointment, phone 07535 898 244

LAMANCHA HUB COMMUNITY CAFÉ

We have Yoga with Linda, Pilates with Kirsten and sewing classes with Alex, so if you need any info just email info@lamanchahub.org.uk

HUB Cafe

Open Wednesdays from 10 till 2pm for choice of home made soups, filled rolls, scones and cakes. Bring your friends or come to make new ones.

HUB Garden

Open to all. Volunteers welcome to do a spot of weeding.

Cilla Davidson

Pastoral Care 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.

Garden Ramblings

At time of writing, towards the end of April, yellow seems to be the colour that predominates. This has been an amazing year for the roadside daffodils and now the Broom which is spectacular at the moment. Dandelions are everywhere as usual and for the first time in years I have goldfinches in my garden feasting on the petals of same! Now having to postpone removing! We will do so though before the clocks start blowing everywhere, something my Granny taught us kids to do when we were tiny tots. How I loved doing that. My garden also has pretty little celandines growing in the lawn and that means lifting the height on the lawn mower!

My favourite shrub for this Spring is the Pieris with its red and green leaves. I have a new one to plant sitting in its pot just waiting in the wings for a space!

Happy gardening All.

Cilla Davidson

NEWLANDS SWI



As this was our centenary year we had a really nice one with a good attendance at all our meetings apart from the stormy January meeting which was cancelled due to safety reasons. Plenty ideas for next year's syllabus were mooted at the April AGM. We still have a summer outing to arrange so something to look forward to.

Our meetings resume in the cosy cafe at Lamancha Hub on the 2nd Thursday of September at 7.30 so hope to see everyone there plus some new members. All welcome.

Enjoy the summer break.

Cilla Davidson

Minister West Tweeddale

Rev. Dr. Tony Foley

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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 June magazine to ilka.roehe@btinternet.com by

20 May 2025

West Tweeddale Parishes

www.westtweeddale.org.uk

Scottish Charity Number

SCO 18087