

West Linton St Andrew's Parish Church

October 2025

Scottish Charity No SC003938

Minister: Rev Dr Tony Foley

What we were always meant to do

“He gives you something you can give away, which grows into fully formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way so that you can be generous in every way.” 1 CORINTHIANS 9:11-12 THE MESSAGE

Giving is what we do best. It is how we were designed. Giving is how the world works best, (*taking on the other hand*). We are given to our parents, our families, our neighbours and friends. Our life is a gift to others as theirs is to us. That is the way creation works. Some of us try desperately to hold on to ourselves, to live our lives for us. In doing so we become spiritually poor and emotionally bedraggled as we pathetically hold on to the dead branches of what is *ours*. All the while we live in fear of soaring on the untried wings of giving. So often do we dare not risk living generously in every sense and in every area of our lives, and so we never really try. But the sooner we start the better, for one day we are going to have to give up the lives we were given. The longer we wait the less time we have for doing what we were always meant to do, soaring and swooping in the thermals of giving.

*‘Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I’ve climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
of sun-split clouds,—and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence.
I’ve chased the shouting wind along...’*

***Peace,
Tony***

Kirk Session

The **Kirk Session** will meet in the Old Church Hall on Tuesday 16th September at 7.30pm. Session meetings are open and any member of the Congregation may attend.

Harvest Thanksgiving

Our Harvest thanksgiving Service will be on Sunday 12th October and will be led by Fiona Burnett.

As in previous years we will be collecting non-perishable foods which will be shared between the Peebles and Penicuik Food Banks.

Pasta, Rice, tinned meats (Stew, Ham, Sausages etc), Jam, Chocolate. Also things like toothbrushes. Basically anything which is non-perishable.

Sip and Share — Fridays 2pm to 4pm

Cosy Coffee has restarted under a new name. It will now be known as Sip and Share (slightly less posh than Cake and conversation) but the idea is the same.

Entry is completely free, open to everyone (though under 16s must be accompanied by an adult), dogs welcome if well behaved.

Entry is free although donations are welcome.

West Tweeddale Guild

The first meeting of the new session will be on Wednesday 17th September. This will be a visit to Rosslyn Chapel followed by refreshments in the café.

Further details from Fiona Burnett

Sunday Club

As we now enter our fourth year of Sunday Club at St Andrew's, we are very much looking forward to welcoming the children and their families back after the summer break. We are hugely encouraged by the positive feedback from the families and their children. Many of the parents join in at Sunday Club where their help and support is very much appreciated. Additionally, we would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone in church for continued support of us, in what we are doing with the children and for welcoming them and their families.

Dates For Diaries

Sunday 7th September

Sunday 5th October

Sunday 2nd November

Sunday 7th December

Sunday Club **Christmas Party** - 21st December in the New Church Hall between 2pm until 3:30pm

Details of the Family Nativity Service will be confirmed in due course.

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. This is particularly useful for those who attend the earlier service in Carlops Church. After Sunday Club we bring the children back to the church or they can be collected by parents around 12.15pm.

Thank you

Ann Lyon and Kate Whalley

Newlands Church Harvest Supper

We will be holding our **Harvest Supper** at Newlands church on Saturday 4th 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 a charity which is to be confirmed.

Everyone is warmly invited and if you would like a ticket, contact Jean Howat – howatjean@gmail.com 01968 660677

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

Need some emergency help?

These organisations are nearby: Penicuik Food, Facts & Friends

42 John St Penicuik EH26 8AB www.foodfactsfriends.org.uk

Peeblesshire Foodbank 1 Silverbirch Studios, Cavalry Park, Peebles

EH45 9BU 07413 484174 www.peeblesshire.foodbank.org.uk

Crisis Assistance from the Minister's Barnabas Fund 07943 509906

emergencyfoodbank@standrewswestlinton.org.uk

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.

Guid Blethers

Guid Blethers restarts on Wednesday 10th September at 2.00pm in the Old Church Hall.

The first meeting will be a celebration of Svend who will be missed us all.

At the following meeting on 24th September Sheena Livingston will talk about the work she does in Malawi.

For further information contact **Helen Dry**

Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal 2025

Last year 85 000 boxes were sent to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania and Serbia. Boxes were also delivered to people in Ukraine who are affected by war.

Schools, hospitals, orphanages and care homes as well as households in low income areas receive boxes.

Checklists will be available soon and we are asked to use boxes not bags. Partly filled boxes are welcome. All boxes are checked and topped up where needed.

Any spare boxes can be left in church for anyone who doesn't have a box.

Filled boxes should be in church no later than Sunday 19 October.

Pat Graham



Last June, at the Whipman Market, Girlguiding Upper Tweeddale held a Mystery Box stall – basically an all-ages lucky dip – in aid of the Maggie's centre at the Western General Hospital. The project was born during a Ranger visit to North Berwick, but all sections were involved: every Rainbow, Brownie, Guide, Ranger and leader was invited to contribute a sealed box or boxes, contents a mystery, to the stall; the Rangers masterminded the project, put extra donated items into boxes,

and Bronwyn, Emilia and Morven ran the stall at the Market; Brownies Anna and Katherine produced information posters and bunting, and Katherine replenished and tidied the stall during the Market; and the Rainbows made decorative bunting to trim the table.

The Mystery Box stall raised a fantastic £418.96 from the sale of boxes and monetary contributions. Our thanks are due to all those who donated for the stall – and to those who bought a Mystery Box!



Boys Brigade

We're excited to be returning to Boys Brigade in mid-September for another term of adventure! We meet on Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm in the New Church Hall. We'll be offering a mixed programme of activities for under 11s, suitable for both Anchor and Junior sections.

We're keen to welcome new boys to the group, so if you know of any under 11s who would be interested in joining us, drop the team an email for more information: westlintonbb@gmail.com

The poster features a young man in a blue Boys' Brigade uniform giving a thumbs up. In the top left, the text 'JOIN THE ADVENTURE' is written in large blue letters. To the right is the Boys' Brigade logo with the tagline '>the adventure begins here'. Below the main title, a grey box contains the text: 'Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm New Church Hall Under 11s From mid-Sept'. To the left of the man is a small inset photo of three boys in red uniforms. At the bottom, two boxes represent the sections: 'ANCHORS 5 - 8 Years' in a red box and 'JuniORS 8 - 11 Years' in a blue box. A dark blue banner at the bottom contains the text 'Drop us an email for more information: westlintonbb@gmail.com'. At the very bottom, in small print, it says: 'The Boys' Brigade is a Company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales number 302222 & registered charity in England & Wales number 205880 and in Scotland number SC208196. Registered Office: Station Lodge, North Harrogate, Wetherby, WF20 9BL, UK.'

JOIN THE ADVENTURE

THE BOYS' BRIGADE
>the adventure begins here

Tuesdays
6:30-7:30pm
New Church Hall
Under 11s
From mid-Sept

ANCHORS
5 - 8 Years

JuniORS
8 - 11 Years

Drop us an email for more information:
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Also a huge well done to our boys who finished off the summer term with a first prize win for their Whipman window display!



Emma, Jo and Gillian

West Linton Boys Brigade Leadership Team

Got a problem?

Stressed? Anxious? Depressed?

Parenting difficulties? Relationship issues? Work problems? Trouble at school/college? Etc.

Whatever the problem - large or small, recent or long-standing - Solution Focussed Brief Therapy can help.

Ask for an appointment at

THE OPEN GATE

Fridays 2pm to 5pm.

Anyone who wants help for their problem is welcome, and will be seen locally and in confidence by arrangement.

PHONE OR TEXT 07535 898 244

The Open Gate uses a counselling approach which is brief, effective and future-orientated, building on your own solutions. All sessions are free and confidential, with no long waiting-list.

Church Flowers

The summer flowers in the countryside and in gardens have been quite spectacular this year and it has been so lovely to see some in the beautiful arrangements in church over the past few weeks. Look out for the summer pinks and purples giving way to the rustic autumn colours as we move into harvest time and beyond.

In this month of September, we welcome Cathy Hoskins on to the rota. Cathy who is the newest member to our flower arranging team, will be taking over the September stint from Helen Bruce. Cathy is also part of the Music Group, sings soprano in the choir and volunteers with the Guid Blethers.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service this year will be held on Sunday 12th October. October is one of Nancy Porteous' months and she along with other members of the flower arranging team would like to encourage you to pop in either on the day or indeed at any time during the following week to view and enjoy the harvest flowers.

The flower arrangers are a small team who work hard to ensure that beautiful flowers are in church 365 days of every year. If you would like to join us, we would love to hear from you. You do not require any special skills, cut flowers in a vase of water can look just as beautiful as an intricate arrangement. If you like flowers and would like to join us please do get in touch. My email address is annlyon@live.co.uk and my mobile number is 07702984185.

Thank you

Ann

Contacts

Minister: Rev Dr Tony Foley

Telephone: 01968 660221 email: tfoley@churchofscotland.org.uk

Mobile: 07793 294000

Linkage Administrator: Kate Whalley

Office: 01968 733112 email: cos1560.tweed@outlook.com

Telephone: 07973 501665 email: kate@westlinton.com

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

Joint Session Clerk: Kevin Scott

Telephone: 01968 661744 email: kevin.scott@energrow.co.uk

Joint Session Clerk: Steven Whalley

Telephone: 07525 378187 email: stevenwhalley.westlinton@gmail.com

Treasurer: Michael Knott

Telephone: 01968 660977 email: michael.knott@talk21.com

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Sunday Club: Kate Whalley, Ann Lyon

Telephone: 07973 501665 01968 661347

Flowers: Ann Lyon

Telephone: 07702 984185 email: annlyon@live.co.uk

Sip and Share: Kate Whalley Telephone: 07973 501665

Guid Blethers: Helen Dry Telephone: 01968 660506

Baby Brunch: Mary Turnbull Telephone 01968 661737

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

August/September			
	West Linton 11.30 am	Carlops 10.00 am	Newlands 10.00 am
24th	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Chris Levison	Rev Dr Tony Foley
31st	Steven Whalley	Steven Whalley	David Henderson-Howat
7th	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Colin Herd
14th	Patsy Campbell	Patsy Campbell	Rev Dr Tony Foley
21st	Steven Whalley	Steven Whalley	Isobel Hunter
28th	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Rev Dr Tony Foley	Peter Worthington

Door Duties

September

D Green £	Choir
C Leith	Main
R Higgins	Gallery

October

A Lyon	Choir
S Whalley £	Main
K Dykes	Gallery

Readers

Sept 7th Michael Knott
14th Michael Knott
21st Maria-Angela Hodgetts
28th Maria-Angela Hodgetts

Oct 5th Steven Whalley
12th Steven Whalley
19th David Drummond
26th David Drummond

Material for the October Newsletter should be submitted to the editor by Monday 22nd September 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 September 2025 issue will be available by 28th September 2025.