

**The Magazine for the Parish of Cheviot Churches:
Church of Scotland**

CHEVIOT



Spring 2021

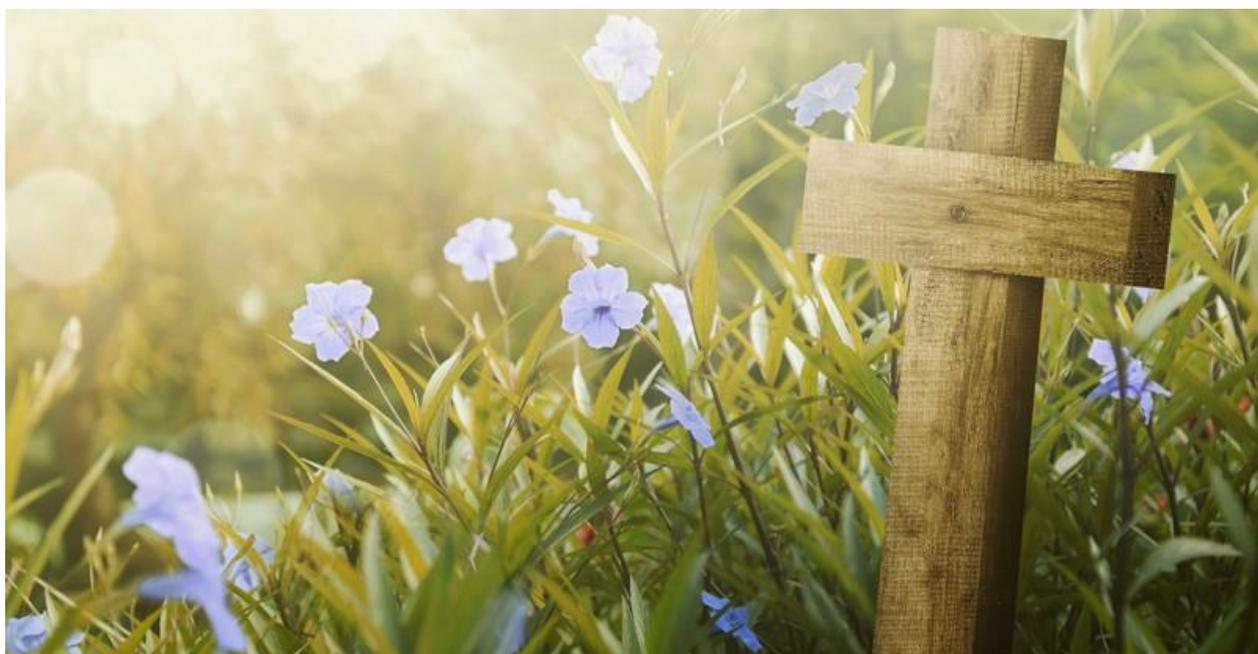


Prayer Corner

Easter 2021 Spring

Heavenly Father we thank you that whatever our circumstances, we can come to you in prayer. We know that your love for us is truly amazing, as we see revealed in the Easter story. Thank you that we are able to live a fulfilled life through faith in Jesus, who said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full". (John 10:10)

Amen



Jesus Christ Our Lord died on the cross to cleanse our sins and rose from the dead that we may have eternal life through Him.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" ~ 1 Peter 1:3

Rejoice in the salvation and blessings we have been given through the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ! Easter prayers offer a practical way to show thanks and praise to God for the new life and eternal salvation offered to us through his grace and mercy.

Take some time away from the commercial aspect of the holiday with Easter eggs, Easter baskets, and the Easter bunny to reflect on the true meaning of Easter. Praying is a simple way to worship God and experience the joy and blessings of a grateful heart.

“Come all the faithful, let us worship...for through the Cross, joy has come to all the world. Ever blessing the Lord, we sing His Resurrection, for having endured the Cross for us, He has destroyed death by death.”
(Oxford Prayer Book)

From the Manse

Rev Birdbath’s gentle musings have been a feature of *The Cheviot* for a number of years. I now know what he is talking about, as a few weeks ago I bought a bird feeder, and suddenly my garden has been full of birds of every description. It is a simple thing, but it has brought me a lot of joy. In fact, every morning I look out at my garden and wonder what to expect. Not only are there birds, but two rabbits have taken up residence, while every now and again a pheasant struts around as if the owner of the place. Nature certainly lifts up our spirits.

We certainly need some joy in our lives after the year we have had! We have now lived with restrictions for a year, and so many of us have found this latest lockdown particularly hard, coinciding as it has with the winter months. We have grown tired and miss family and coffee mornings and holidays. It is therefore so good to see the bulbs starting to blossom and add some much needed colour to our lives. Spring is very much on its way!

What’s more, we now have the prospect that restrictions will be gradually eased. The vaccination programme continues apace, and it has been so encouraging to see the children back at school. Meanwhile the First Minister has announced that places of worship will be allowed to reopen from Palm Sunday (subject to the continued decline of Covid numbers), so we hope to hold services in Morebattle and Yetholm, though social distancing will still be in place and numbers will be limited (and still no singing!!). It is fantastic news, particularly as we missed Holy Week last year.

Some of the Covid restrictions will stay with us for a long time into the future, but one of these has been the importance of washing our hands. Handwashing features in the Good Friday story, but in rather a negative way: when Pilate interviewed Jesus after he was arrested, he took a bowl

of water and famously washed his hands of the whole affair. Even though he could see that Jesus was innocent of the charges, it was politically expedient for him to keep silent. But hands were important for Jesus – he healed with his hands; he blessed with his hands. He was a ‘hands-on’ person. His hands also bore the nails that agonisingly held Jesus to the Cross, but they were open hands, welcoming, forgiving, beckoning.

Too often we can wash our hands of many issues affecting our country and our world, leaving it to others, but we are called to be people to get our hands dirty in the work of the Kingdom and for the benefit of the community. Let us hope that the restrictions will continue to ease, as we head towards summer, and let us live as an Easter people, ready to show in our lives the new life and hope that the risen Jesus offers to us. Have a lovely and a blessed Easter!

BIRDBATH’S GREEN EASTER

Lo, the fair beauty of earth, from the death of the winter arising,

Every good gift of the year now with its Master returns.

Daily the loveliness grows, adorned with the glory of blossom;

Heaven her gates unbars, flinging her increase of light.

Christ in his triumph returns, who hath vanquished the devil’s dominion;

Gay is the woodland with leaves, bright are the meadows with flowers.

Such is the vision of Spring/Easter by Venantius Fortunatus, the poet and priest who became bishop of Poitiers in post-Roman Gaul (modern France) in about the year 600. It was a time of violence, confusion, plague and uncertainty.

Venantius knew that Easter was about something far more profound than just the return to life of a dead man. When the stone was rolled away from the Tomb before dawn in a dew-laden garden filled with birdsong, God was affirming the gift of Life to the whole of creation. For him the glory of Springtime echoed Christ’s resurrection in all its mystery and wonder. As we try to cope with a difficult year, perhaps Venantius’ hymn invites us to revel in a re-awakening world, and say, “HE IS RISEN INDEED. ALLELUIA!”



Palm crosses are traditionally handed out on Palm Sunday. Here is a blessing for the palms:

We thank you Lord for these palm crosses,
A simple reminder of the love you showed for us.
As we take them into our homes,
May they remind us through this special week
That you gave your life for us upon the cross.
May they remind us of how deep and wide and high
Is the love you have for us.
As we take them into our homes,
So may we take your love into our hearts
And worship you as Saviour and King.
And like the people on that first Palm Sunday,
May we also cry 'Hosanna,
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord'.
Simon Taylor

Prayer for Holy Week

Jesus, Lord of the Journey, we thank you that you set your face firmly towards Jerusalem, with a single eye and a pure intent, knowing what lay ahead but never turning aside.

Jesus, Lord of the Palms, we thank you that you enjoyed the shouts of 'Hosanna!' from the ordinary people, living fully in that moment of welcome and accepting their praise.

Jesus, Lord of the Cross and the Empty Tomb, we thank you that you freely entered the heart of our evil and our pain, along a way that was both terrible and wonderful, as your kingship became your brokenness, and your dying became the triumph of undying love. Amen (*John Harvey*)

Prayer for Easter morning

Jesus Christ, Lord of the morning,
rising with the sun of the new day.
In the garden still damp with early-morning dew
we find an empty tomb – you are not here!
You stand beside us risen and glorified.
You have destroyed death.
You have broken the chains of oppression.
You have gone before us into the darkest places and have made them holy.
Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever, yours is the victory.
In this place, as earth begins to wake,
we welcome you, Jesus Christ our guest.
Be with us this day and for evermore Amen (*David Broom*)

Before God, who loves us with great compassion,

We come with our sorrows.

For the damage to this planet,

We are weeping, Creator God.

For the unequal consequences for the poor,

We are weeping, shepherding God.

For the refugees fleeing war and injustice,

We are weeping, travelling God.

For children alone, abducted or astray,

We are weeping, Mothering God.

For the denials and fears within us,

We are weeping, Holy God.

Loving God, take away the fears that freeze us and give us the courage to
live your compassionate justice. Amen

Thoughts from a Hospital Bed

As some of you may know, I was extremely unwell at the end of last year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart for their prayers and good wishes during my time in hospital and afterwards.

I had a volvulus of the intestines, and was operated on by laparotomy (twice, in fact, as the volvulus recurred while I was in intensive care) which has left a fairly impressive scar on my abdomen. When my notes came through it seems I also had pneumonia and delirium. I didn't really understand the delirium part until I said to Dad how lucky it had been that they managed to perform the second laparotomy on the same day. He

looked bewildered and said “Stuart, you do know it was four days later?” To be honest, I truly didn’t.

But the delirium did give me an adventure packed time. I obviously had a general anaesthetic and then was on a substantial amount of pain medication and was intubated for a time. This was the period when I realised that the nurses were dabbling in Satanism, when I escaped from bed to find our sitting room in the hospital and a bathroom cabinet containing a crystal swan and a glass of wine in it, when I was mummified and made to wear a laurel wreath in order to see Mum, Dad and my brother Gordon at a tea party, when I figured out everyone was secretly made of graph paper and when they moved my bed onto a theatre stage, complete with piano and costumes. I sort of know it was mad, but I wasn’t sane enough not to explain all this to the doctors, in confidence, as they ought to know. What is more scary in retrospect is having memories of meetings with doctors and I have absolutely no idea whether they actually happened or not.

Unlike some patients, I have not experienced any subsequent trauma – but delirium is both serious and necessary. I think of it as my time in the pocket universe, when my body was in such distress my mind went on vacation. Perhaps the best form of healing was when the hospital chaplain, the Rev. Michael Scouler was allowed to visit me, and brought a copy of the Gospels and Psalms. Lying in the bed and re-reading the Psalms was an immense comfort.

The day I was allowed to go home was the day before the ward I was then in registered an outbreak of Covid. I was lucky in terms of the operations and lucky not to be quarantined. We sometimes wonder about whether prayers really work. I would say they certainly did for me.

Kilt Walk 2021

Save the dates – Friday April 23rd – Sunday April 25th and join in this annual event to raise money for Cheviot Churches. Register online and don a bit of tartan, then just do any socially distanced challenge you wish – running, walking, cycling to name but a few!

Any sponsorship you get will be topped up by 50% thanks to the generosity of The Hunter Foundation.

Register at www.thekiltwalk.co.uk

Re-Opening of Churches/ Holy Week Services

Good News! Following the announcement from the First Minister, we hope to reopen Morebattle and Yetholm churches for worship, though this will only be confirmed on the 23rd of March. If all goes to plan, the following services will take place:

28th March -Palm Sunday

10am – Yetholm

11.15 – Morebattle

1st April – Maundy Thursday

7pm - Morebattle

2nd April – Good Friday

2.30pm - Yetholm

4th April – Easter Day

10am – Yetholm

11.15 – Morebattle

11th April and thereafter

10am – Yetholm

11.15 – Morebattle

Hygiene and Safety measures will be in place, with social distancing, hand sanitising and no singing(!). Because of this, **numbers will be limited** to 44 in Yetholm and 27 in Morebattle. We will have to be strict in keeping to these numbers, so please be understanding. Priority will be given to those without internet access. **Only come when you feel comfortable to do so.**

A podcast is recorded each week with the service, and a video of the service will be recorded and posted on YouTube. Both can be accessed on the Cheviot Churches website (<https://www.cheviotchurches.org/>) where you can click at the heading at the top.

We hope to open Linton, Hownam and Hoselaw churches in due course.

BOOK REVIEW.

To the Island of Tides : Alistair Moffat

The deadline for contributions to The Cheviot was 20 March, which just happens to be St Cuthbert's day, - the day on which he died in 687 on the island of Inner Farne.

So, it's appropriate to have just finished Alistair Moffat's recent book (2019) in which he tries to follow in the footsteps of St Cuthbert but not necessarily along St Cuthbert's Way.

He starts at the standing stones on Brotherstone Hill, has a very wet episode trying to ford the Tweed, visits Old Melrose, and journeys down the Tweed and Till before exploring the Kyloe Hills and rejoining the Way to cross to Lindisfarne.

It's a lovely book, full of little details and bits of history - I hadn't realised for instance that all four border abbeys are built in the loops of rivers, for defence, but also withdrawal from the world (no bridges then). He draws on the anonymous 'Life of St Cuthbert' and the Venerable Bede but intersperses personal stories and thoughts on the people he meets with an appreciation of the border lands then and now. A good read!

Pippa Emerson

A brief note from the Treasurer.

As I am sure you can imagine 2020 was not an easy year to be treasurer due to the uncertainties caused by the pandemic. However, our accounts are with the auditor and should be back with us shortly when they can be presented to the Session, the Presbytery, The Church of Scotland and then to OSCR.

The main point of this note is to thank you all for the tremendous effort you all made to ensure that our finances did not collapse completely. In fact, the overall income looks to almost the same as last year. In terms of direct giving such as FWO, Direct Debits our income was up although this was slightly off set by a drop in Open Plate. This latter is unsurprising as you cannot put an offering in the open plate when the church is closed. The other main drop in income was, again unsurprisingly, in fundraising as Covid made this all but impossible.

The overall expenditure was up by around £4000 mainly due to an increase in Ministries and Mission and the money that had to be spent on making the trees in the Dairy Wood site safe.

In total it looks like we had an overall deficit of around £4500 and while any deficit is problematic, I feel that the congregation responded extremely well given the difficulties we, like all churches, faced during 2020.

Keep in mind when reading this that these accounts are still to be approved by the auditor but when that is done, they will be put on the church web site and I will try to answer any questions at that time.

God Bless You All

Brian Kelly

A day in the life of...

When Anne told me that the deadline for this article was around the 20th of March I couldn't help but think that it was an opportunity to reflect on how some things have changed in school over the last year. No one could have imagine at that point what lay ahead of us and everyone has been affected in some way.

I was reminded recently of some of the comments made on the 21st March last year, the day after schools were closed to "normal business". I was asked if that was me on holiday? I'm afraid to shatter that illusion, staff have only had the same holidays as normal and the rest of the time we have produced online learning offers (and aided in the running of the Hub childcare provision offered during both lockdowns). With that in mind I thought it might prove to be insightful to share a little of what life is like for school staff right now.

There is little guidance about what time staff are expected in the school each morning but as many of you will be aware I'm a morning person and like to be in early around 7:30am so that I can hit the ground running and answer any outstanding emails. This sounds fairly normal but in the changed climate of school the volume of emails has grown exponentially with the shift to doing as much as possible electronically. However, around an hour later each morning our young people come through our doors as bright-eyed and bushy tailed as ever; pandemic or no pandemic. Their laughter, games, stories and moans are as much a part of school life as ever before. Although we are maintaining class bubbles as far as possible and avoiding contact between classes in line with SBC policies not much has changed in the eyes of the pupils- they come into classrooms ready to learn; to sit and listen and interact with each other and the staff...and have fun, which I think we are still managing!

On the other hand, my day is now filled with Teams meetings- the plethora of virtual content has opened up many doors for us. My university course has moved to online learning for the 2020/21 session; there is a whole host of continuous professional learning for staff including courses which are normally very limited in number; my head teacher briefings are currently

weekly where they would normally be termly (to reflect the changing landscape of guidelines at the minute). This brings a range of challenges too- the processing time when travelling between meetings has gone- I can be in an online whole school assembly at 1:59pm and an authority-wide briefing one minute later!

Our priorities have always been about the education of our pupils and as part of that their health and wellbeing (including the safe return to school and now their safety within school). Daily I am monitoring ventilation, refining operating systems, reviewing health and wellbeing checks and disseminating PPE supplies on top of the usual classroom work, responding to behaviour and maintenance of resources! Some of this information is logged through online risk assessments which are a requirement although I'm not sure anyone would describe the process as exciting.

Staff are still only allowed to be in one school building per day. This means I am often covering little bits of time in class or in the playground. My current favourite bit of time is the hour I spend covering Nursery staff lunches- there is nothing like being in the setting with our youngest people to remind me what I love about this job.

I'm often in online meetings until 5pm (sometimes I manage to make it home at the end of the school day to continue these, sometimes not). It still surprises me how many people think teachers finish work when the kids leave. I complete weekly staffing and absence data returns on top of the termly attainment collection.

Teachers and school staff are and always have been amazingly versatile- they have the patience of saints and a magical way of making the most mundane things exciting. Whilst the pandemic has caused us to be both creative and inventive with our approaches, I cannot praise staff enough for their resilience and continued effort throughout. I do also want to thank parents and carers for their support too, it can be difficult to please everyone all the time and we cannot keep everyone happy (as often they are hoping for different things from each other) but each day I aim to speak to parents in the playground and my approachability is something I aim to make time for.

Our older pupils finally re-joined us last week and they have spent time settling in. Hopefully by the time of the next issue of the Cheviot magazine I will be able to ask them to share more of their insight on school life with you again. We currently have 9 days until the Easter holidays and whilst we won't be able to celebrate with a service in the church with parents, carers and our communities I would still encourage you to think of us when you think of Easter and give thanks for the continued efforts of staff in

school to offer our young people the best experiences and opportunities that we can.

Jamie Wilson

Acting Head Teacher

Morebattle and Yetholm Primary Schools

Yetholm History Society

Yetholm History Society is hoping to be able to put on our annual exhibition in what would have been Festival Week in June. This year we are going to focus on a remarkable document - the diary, or day book, of a shepherd who lived at Cocklawfoot at the head of the Bowmont Valley. The diary runs from 1911, through the first and second world wars, to 1954 when the diarist, Jim Storie, retired to live in Woodbank Road in Yetholm. The diaries are owned by the family, one of whose members lives in Yetholm. The diaries are a very remarkable record of a hill farming way of life that still followed the rhythms and methods of the previous hundred years but which has now largely disappeared from the valley. Jim Storie and his fellow shepherds regularly drove sheep in all weathers across the hills for days to markets at Hawick and Rothbury and to summer pastures as far away as Rowtin' Lynn and Stichel. Their technology consisted in a shared cart and horse, or a sleigh in winter, a bogie to bring in the hay and a stout pair of, locally-made, shepherd's boots. Milk came from the cow, butter was made at home by hours of churning and, each winter, neighbours collaborated to help with killing each family's pig and take bets on its weight.

The exhibition draws on last year's big exhibition which looked at hill farming life across the Kale, Bowmont and College valleys, but focuses on the detailed eye witness of one particular shepherd. Situated as he was at the head of the Bowmont valley, at the foot of a major track across the Cheviots, the diaries give a fascinating glimpse of the constant traffic across the hills and the far from isolated lives of those who lived there in the first half of the twentieth century.



Yetholm History Society is still providing a series of talks, presently on Zoom. If you are not a member, but would like to become one or be added to our mailing list, contact Elizabeth Watson (eliz.heale@gmail.com or 420 602).

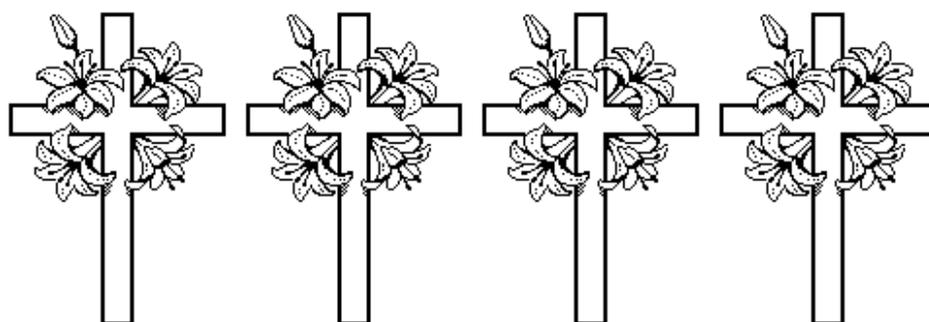
Good Friday
Christina Rossetti

Am I a stone, and not a sheep,
That I can stand, O Christ, beneath Thy cross,
To number drop by drop Thy blood's slow loss,
And yet not weep?

Not so those women loved
Who with exceeding grief lamented Thee;
Not so fallen Peter, weeping bitterly;
Not so the thief was moved;

Not so the Sun and Moon
Which hid their faces in a starless sky,
A horror of great darkness at broad noon –
I, only I.

Yet give not o'er,
But seek Thy sheep, true Shepherd of the flock;
Greater than Moses, turn and look once more
And smite a rock.



Update from Morebattle Community Shop – January/February 2021

Hello to all and we hope you are all keeping well in the current climate. Spring has sprung (or at least jumped a little).

The community shop continues to go from strength to strength and is on course for a sustainable and healthy future. It is very much now the community hub (and source of local gossip) that it was anticipated it would be and has certainly proven to be a valuable point of social contact in the current times. This is thanks in no small part to the efforts of our many stalwart volunteers and also the management team. The new shop management board continue to meet bimonthly and “virtually”

If you have been in the shop recently, you will have noticed a number of changes happening. Possibly the biggest of these is the shop beginning to sell alcohol with new shelving and display areas accommodating this. Sales of alcohol are proving very popular and are very much contributing to the healthy financial position of the shop. The new ranges of products are also proving popular with many people taking the opportunity to “shop local”. This is further facilitating some of the changes to the shop both in retail and non-retail space. We have successfully been awarded a number of grants recently which has allowed us to make the necessary changes required by the pandemic such as hand sanitiser, screens etc. Plans for ongoing renovation work are well underway including new flooring and repairs to parts of the building. The board continue to look at ways to enhance the physical environment of the shop to enhance the experience for customers. Watch this space!

Pop in and see us, have a look at our Facebook page for regular updates, or if you would like to ask us anything by email info@morebattlecommunityshop.co.uk.

Take care folks.



SHOP BUYOUT DATE SETTLED!

We are very pleased and excited to announce that the purchase agreement has at last been finalised, and we can now confirm the proposed date for the ownership of the shop to transfer to the community benefit society. As things now stand, Yetholm will have a community-owned village shop on March 22, 2021!

While we can all take a moment to celebrate this important milestone in our project, we should emphasise that this is also just the start of the next stage of our journey. There is still a tremendous amount of work to be done in order to take the shop forward as a successful community business. We will now be proceeding with the plans for repair and refurbishment and will provide further updates on this in our next bulletin. While in the early days the shop will not look much different, remember that by supporting the shop, you will be supporting our community. As we need to apply to the Post Office to formally transfer Barbara Maltby's role as postmistress, and this will take some time, we are very pleased that Barbara has agreed to continue in an interim role until this has been finalised.

We also have some further news to report. After many years of service as shop manager, Janice Gillies has announced her intention to step away from this role and leave the shop. While we all will be very sad to see her go, we are delighted that she has agreed to stay on for a transition period. Janice has been incredibly helpful to us throughout the buyout process, and we are sure that you will all join the management committee in thanking her for her contributions and wishing her well for the future.

We also wish to thank Karon Phillips for her work on the management committee. Karon joined the committee to bring her fundraising skills to the project. Now that our initial major fundraising goals have been achieved, Karon has decided to step down from the committee.

Finally, we must give a particular acknowledgement to Roy and Barbara Maltby. Not only have they been most collaborative in working with the committee to allow us to reach this point, without them it is very likely that we would have lost our shop some time ago – thank you Roy and Barbara!

WELL DONE YETHOLM – WE HAVE SAVED OUR SHOP!

Covid Poem

When this is over,
may we never again
take for granted
A handshake with a stranger
Full shelves at the store
Conversations with neighbors
A crowded theatre
Friday night out
The taste of communion
A routine checkup
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
The stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself.

When this ends,
may we find
that we have become
more like the people
we wanted to be
we were called to be
we hoped to be
and may we stay
that way—better
for each other
because of the worst.

— *Laura Kelley Fanucci*

Climate Disaster

Christian Aid reports that that one person in Britain generates as much carbon dioxide annually as 212 citizens of Burundi, Central Africa. With a population of 12,000,00 million, it has the lowest annual emissions per capita in the world yet finds itself in the front line of climate change. Are we to blame?

Beast from the East February 1963

In Yetholm Cemetery there is an inscription on a gravestone to a hill shepherd, who along with a colleague, perished in a blizzard whilst looking for sheep in November 1962.

Along with the recent storm and rescues, it brought back memories of the time a group of us became trapped by snow during that terrible winter.

In early February 1963 a group of us; Frances Gibson, Douglas Gibson, Alice Turnbull and myself travelled in the garage dormobile to a woodwork evening class in Morebattle School. There were the occasional flurries of snow as we set of nothing to worry about.

On emerging from the School two hours later the village was obliterated by a raging blizzard.

Frances, the driver, somehow managed to drive blind through the storm as far as Primside Brae when the dormobile became overwhelmed by the driving snow and would go no further. We all scrambled out to push the vehicle with no success; we were quickly being suffocated by the blizzard and had to find shelter back inside.

It seemed hours before we saw lights coming slowly along the Lochside road, Jimmy Jeffrey and Albert Scott, having been alerted by Mrs. Gibson came to our rescue.

We all piled into the land rover, miraculously reached Morebattle where Mr. and Mrs. McDonald proprietors of the Templehall Hotel provided refuge, along with other travelers from the Jedburgh side of the village.

The storm raged all the next day therefore we had to encroach on the hotel's hospitality for a further night.

On the third day the storm had abated, and on a beautiful sunny, but very cold day, we walked the four miles back to Yetholm on fields, as the road was completely blocked, on arriving at Primside Brae we were shocked to see it was completely filled with snow, at least 20 feet deep. I remember how beautiful the Bowmont Valley looked covered in a deep blanket of snow, but how dangerous to man and beast.

In an age before mobile phones, GPS etc. there is no doubt, had it not been for Jimmy and Albert we would have been in mortal danger and perhaps suffered the fate of those unfortunate shepherds in the Cheviots, not three months before.

Carol Butler



Thousands of volumes of historic Church of Scotland records held in the collections of National Records of Scotland are now available online for the first time.

Images of more than a million pages from the kirk session and other ecclesiastical court records containing details of key events in communities across the country between 1559 and 1900 have been added to ScotlandsPeople, the National Records of Scotland's online research service.

These records offer remarkable insights into the everyday lives of ordinary Scots, recording important moments such as births, marriages and deaths. The church also adjudicated on paternity of children and provided basic education, as well as disciplining parishioners for what could be called anti-social behaviour - drunkenness, cursing and breaking the Sabbath.

The newly added records also include accounts of how people dealt with exceptional historical events such as wars, epidemics, crop failures and extreme weather.

Rev Dr George Whyte, Principal Clerk of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, said:

"I am delighted that National Records of Scotland are making available Church of Scotland material in this digitised form. This will allow many more people to look into Scotland's past through the eyes of those in the Kirk who carefully recorded the everyday life of our parishes and wider communities."

The documents can be viewed for free, with a small charge for users who want to save copies of the files.

The records of kirk sessions and of higher church courts, such as presbyteries and synods, are the first in a series of digitised record sets National Records of Scotland will make available via ScotlandsPeople throughout 2021 and beyond.

Paul Lowe, National Records of Scotland Chief Executive and Keeper of the Records of Scotland, said: "We are delighted to make the kirk session records available online for the very first time, bringing ScotlandsPeople users closer than ever to our past.

"This release has been eagerly anticipated by many who use our services. It is part of our ambitious and ongoing programme to use digital approaches to provide access to more of our historic records for the people of Scotland and indeed audiences across the world."

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture, said:

"The kirk session records are a wonderful free resource for amateur and professional historical researchers. Spanning almost 350 years and including both notable historical events and incidents from the everyday lives of ordinary people, they offer a great insight into Scotland's past.

"The addition of these records to ScotlandsPeople is an opportunity for anyone who has an interest in Scottish history to delve into NRS records and discover more about our fascinating heritage."

To create an account and view the newly released records [go to the ScotlandsPeople website](#).

Wauchope Hall Yetholm

Yetholm's Wauchope Hall is managed by a group of local people. On 29 April 2021 the membership will be updated at the Annual General Meeting to be held via Zoom. As Chair of this group, I would like to invite anyone living in the area of the Yetholm Community Council to volunteer to join the group. The duties are not heavy, and we meet just four times a year to arrange the activities at the Hall and to keep an eye on its maintenance.

Joining the group this year will be a special opportunity to take part in the reopening of the Hall following a long period of lockdown. If you would like to be considered, please contact Hywel James on 420664 or 07800 739 771.

Winter on the outside, Spring on the inside...

Norway often tips back, in March, to a Narnia spring... Snowdrops, daffodils, crocuses and grape hyacinths have only got as far as poking small green nubs through frozen soil – and that's courageous enough! But my body-clock is missing a whole month of spring, and I lament a lawn that – on a 'warm' day – looks like a Steiff teddy-bear's worn-out fur.

So, this year, the question of spring came with a sense of urgency. *Without a garden sparking joy, with that slight sense of 'life-in-exile', how might I, myself, come back to life...?* The answer to, or focus for, that desire was a little odd. But nonetheless a welcome prescription.

I was in my local library (yes, I'm hugely thankful that Norway's libraries and cafes have stayed open pretty much all of the time), when the idea popped up of translating Inger Hagerup, a Norwegian poet, into English. I work as a support-worker for Hagerup's great-niece, so had started reading her poetry out of curiosity. But now a library employee confirmed that yes, only her children's verse (beautifully illustrated by Paul Gaugin's grandson) had been translated – so... why not have a go, myself...?

This idle thought led me to discover a new 'flow activity'. But, more importantly, to find a form of Spring on the inside – inside of oneself. This has been all the more precious when set against the coldness – and, yes, demoralization, of what's going on outside. (The Norwegian government is rightly preparing us for a third wave of 'pandemonium'.) I've been privileged to find a new hobby which brings me to a place of deep concentration and satisfaction. Feeling the world quieten down around me,

feeling well-suited to a task – it has been good and purposeful to be immersed in the hunt for rhymes and rhythms and rhetorical proxies for Inger Hagerup's playful, and painful, verse. (Hagerup lived through World War II and her life was by no means lacking in challenge and trauma.)

Having experienced an exponential boom in advice-giving over recent months, I hesitate to add to the lifestyle pile of 'what we should be doing'. But I hope it resonates, as I write, to share that I found Spring in a surprising place this year – and that it was a gift, finding it on the inside, even while the garden's still anvil-hard.

Marianne Rustad

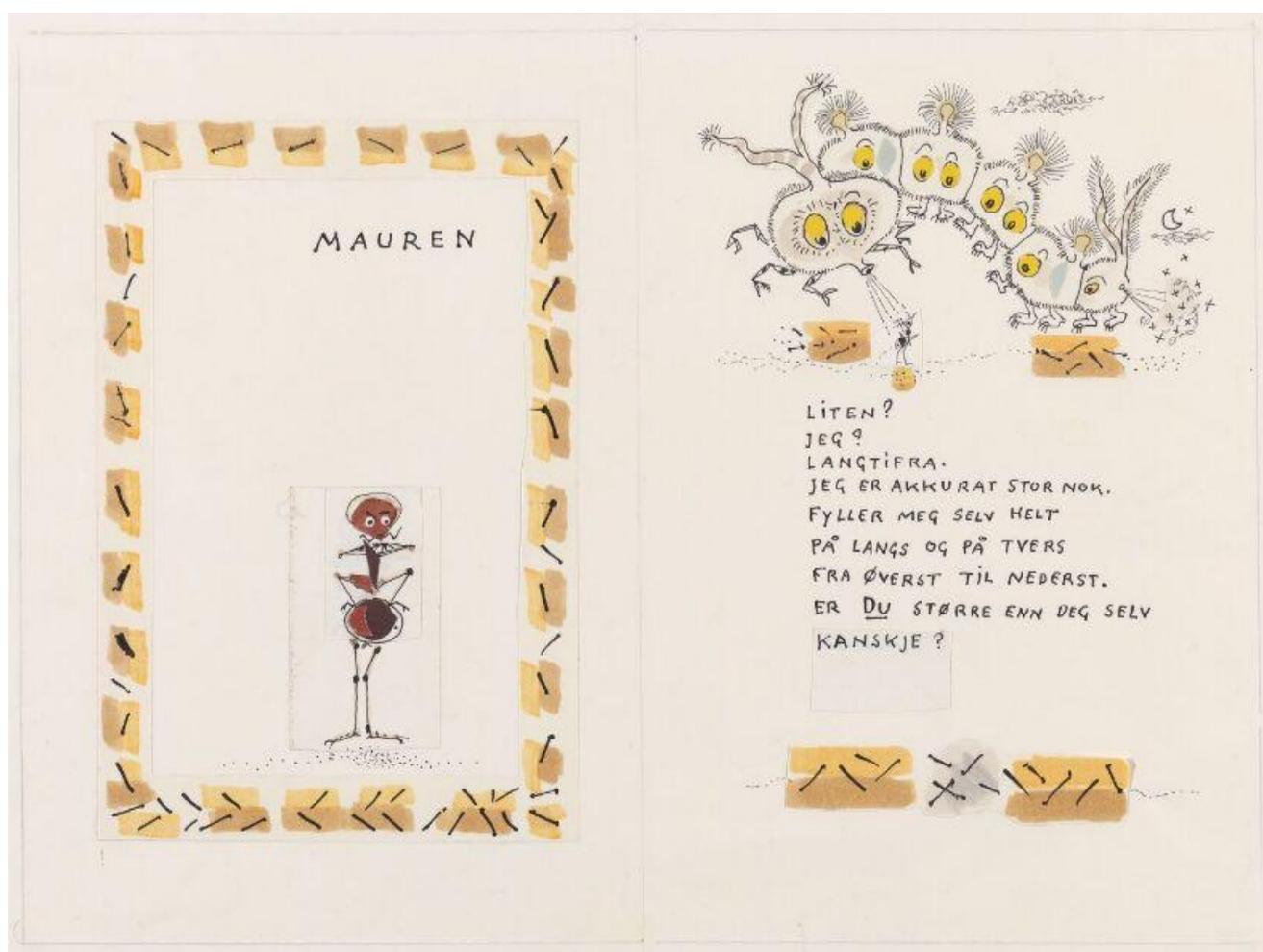


Illustration for Inger Hagerup's "The ant" (from *That Summer*, Oslo 1971). Artist: Paul René Gauguin

The ant

Little?
Me?
Far from it.
I am exactly big enough.
I fill myself entirely
longitudinally and horizontally
from top to bottom.
Are *you* bigger than yourself
perhaps?

Everything is so near me

Everything is so near me
this blessed, blessing day
The rock-glaciers open and resting
in calm contours where I lay.
The sea-breeze is affably rocking
the tangy seaweed in rhyme.
Everything is so near me
for yet one more happy time.

Germinations of childhood
grow in the furrows and cracks
with all their still-familiar
gentle and moving draughts.
Does a little girl walk here
every evening, still,
and is she picking flowers
and talking aloud, at will?

For ever so long, an age,
earth was waste and the heavens void.
Deep in my heart room after room
opens itself up, adjoined.
Everything that is near me
gives me a clear-eyed reply.
Now I can reach out my hand
to she who I was, my 'my'.

Cheviot Churches Spring 2021 Photography Competition



It was the Spring Equinox on 20th March at 9:36 in the morning and Easter Sunday is 4th April. To celebrate the season as a time of rebirth we're on the lookout for your favourite photos of life this Spring in and around the Borders and Northumberland. Hills, rivers and coasts can feature as can village life, Easter celebrations including your hand-painted easter eggs, homemade Easter cakes, the farming year, lambs in the fields, family reunions, friends having fun, interesting scenes of buildings, the effects of light and shade, and the natural world including blossoms, birds, wildlife, flowers and trees.

We have all been affected by the coronavirus restrictions but with the prospect of life getting back to normal there are ample opportunities for going outdoors and enjoying nature in the wonderful places where we live. Having been in lockdown for some time, old familiar scenes may take on a new meaning for you and the prospect of release from the tensions and worries we have all felt in the last few months will give us all a chance to enjoy life. So, get out your smartphone or camera and make the most of this wonderful place.

During the year Cheviot Churches plans to carry out a themed programme of happenings in the Cheviot Churches area so we need your help to start it off with what you see from behind the lens of your camera or smartphone. Perhaps your photo could be of Spring flowers appearing after the long winter or of a walk with fond memories or of the Bowmont or another river with a dipper darting in and out or of a babbling hillside burn where a magical moment was captured. It can be anything you choose - tell us your special memory or story of that place or time.

In simple terms:

- the photos must be taken between 20th March and 20th May this year.

- you can use a **camera or a smartphone**.
- images can be landscape or portrait orientation.
- **“Spring in the Borders and Northumberland”** must be relevant to the photo.
- a brief story of no more than 50 words should accompany each photo – just a few words are really fine.
- the date the photo was taken should be stated.
- your ticket number and Category colour (Red, Green or White) should be stated.

The overall winners’ photos and those of all runners up will all feature on the Cheviot Churches website. Photograph may be featured on a seasonally relevant calendar or other materials later in the year.

Entries should be submitted by email in the first instance to clayjar@btinternet.com

Closing date for entries is 5pm on 20th May 2021. Please read full terms and conditions on the website before entering.

The editorial team would like to thank all of you who have contributed articles, photographs and information for this edition of The Cheviot.

At the present time all events and groups remain in limbo. The Halls in our areas are slowly and carefully reopening for limited activities – contact your local Hall for further information.

Deadline

Please submit articles (including photographs) for the next edition of The Cheviot to a member of the editorial team by 26th June 2021
j.stewart134@btinternet.com, johnmabon431@btinternet.com
anne.scottbrown@btinternet.com

Christian Aid week will soon be here (May 10-16) and this year it is planned to have a house-to-house delivery, so please consider volunteering. The more folk, the less each has to do and all it entails is popping the envelopes through doors with a note on it of where they can be returned. This will be agreed when I have a list of people. (Trish Gentry on 420580). Christian Aid is very active in support of those battling the climate crisis. You can also donate by post or on-line. For how to do this and read the stories, especially about Rose who lives in Kenya and for other ideas about fundraising go to christianaid.org.uk/Scotland. Maybe sign on for the on-line quiz on May 8th at 7 p.m. caweek.org/quiztianaid.

Christian Aid has been active too along with many other organisations in webinars and workshops leading up to **COP26** and just in case you are wondering COP stands for Conference of Parties. This gathering of leaders from all over the world will take place in Glasgow in November having been postponed from last year. It is not yet certain what form it will take due to Covid but there are lots of ways you can get involved.

Eco-Congregation Scotland is an environmental charity addressing climate change and the environment. Over the period of the pandemic, it has held many on-line workshops and discussions on many topics using a wide variety of resources with excellent speakers and presentations. I have learnt a lot, especially in the sharing sessions, about things I thought I already knew about. Zero Waste Scotland presentations were very useful and local networks throughout Scotland have shared meetings about a number of practical measures such as tool libraries and planting orchards. The website has great links to other environmental organisations and to COP26 and things you can do in this climate emergency. Remember too (we won't be allowed to forget!) that there is an election approaching and time to tackle our MSPs or would be MSPs about environmental matters. At our lastly monthly meeting we talked about keeping warm and this month the topic will be coasts and waters.

Fairtrade Fortnight happened virtually for the most part and delivered a number of interesting sessions, from fun stuff, stories about fair trade partners, to serious lectures and one telling photo presentation which really highlighted some of the problems faced by producers in Central America. I had not realised just how many different items come with the Fairtrade Logo which ensures that production has been done using carefully monitored practices and that a fair and just price is paid. There is a good reason for the price we pay for these goods and foodstuffs and at home and abroad we should be aware of the true costs of production. Fairtrade also enables disadvantaged communities in support of education and healthcare by encouraging sustainable methods and good labour and environmental practices. You can find the Fairtrade Foundation website and those of Eco-congregation and Christian Aid on the Cheviot Churches website under Links.

World Day of Prayer 2021

The ecumenical World Day of Prayer this year was held on Friday 5th March. Normally we would have a united service in one of our parish churches. As you know, this is not a normal year, for we are not allowed to meet together, because of the Covid regulations. But good old Internet came to our rescue.

There was a live Zoom webinar from United Reform church in Edinburgh, with various people from across Scotland taking part, and a thousand people logged in to it. As I write, that service is still available on YouTube, as are a national and an international service, through World Day of Prayer website

The service was written by the women of Vanuatu, a group of islands in the South Pacific Ocean, south-east of Papua New Guinea (once called New Hebrides Islands) “In God we trust” is the motto on its coat of arms, and the theme of the service was “Build on a Strong Foundation,” taken from Jesus’ parable of the wise man building on the rock, not sand in Matthew ch 7 vs 24-27.

Choosing the land on which to build the house is important for the people of Vanuatu, for the idyllic looking islands are prone to earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and rising sea levels. In Jesus’ story, the wisdom of the builder of the house comes from hearing and acting on the word of God, which is a word of love. This is the foundation on which the women of Vanuatu call us to build our homes, our nations and the world.

They praise God for fertile land, sweet birdsong and for the sound of children. In their struggles with the production of food, the education and wellbeing of their children and care for their environment, they find the source of their strength is God.

We listened to the stories of Rheto and Mothy, who both had a very difficult start in life, but who both found God’s love for them and are now living fulfilled lives in God’s strength. We watched a video of a man on a beach considering the differences between the formless sand and the solid rocks there. And we prayed for the islands of Vanuatu, our own nation and for the world.

In the service we usually take an offering for the work of WDP and the people of Vanuatu, using the charities of “Feed the Minds” and “Scottish Bible Society”. A huge, huge “thank you” to all who have already contributed —and there is still time to donate, using the WDP website, or via Catherine Mabon (Morebattle) or Kathleen Bates (Yetholm)

The sending and blessing at the end of the service (a lovely prayer that we can often use) was as follows:

God's dwelling presence is in and with us.
Let God guide us, lead us, restore us, and heal our nation.
Let God's will be done in our houses, as it is in heaven
Let us go, and build your house wisely, according to Jesus' words
Let us go with these blessings in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ,
our Lord and King.
AMEN.
Kathleen Bates.





Church of Scotland Guild – “Whose we are and whom we serve”

That was the year that was. It’s gone now, let it pass. Oh, how we have missed our friends, speakers, cups of tea and fellowship within the community. Unable to invite our neighbours to join us in fundraising efforts for more than a year has been particularly frustrating as our theme for the session was ‘Go the extra mile’. How can you go the extra mile during lockdown when you are told to stay at home? In some ways there has been much more evidence of an increase in the strength of “community spirit not always by Guild members”?. Many of us had to rely on others much more than usual. It was wonderful to see so many folks looking out for neighbours and strangers alike and greatly appreciated.

It is reported as having brought out the best and the worst in people. Around here it seems to have brought out the best. We have learnt to communicate and keep in touch in so many different ways.

The Guild magazine, sent by e-mail each week, has helped those of us who have access to it to feel part of the national movement. Our thanks go to Colin & his team for helping us to worship together each Sunday.

We have supported individuals and schools who have found ways of raising funds with some spectacular results. Many folks have made extra contributions to charities that they normally support annually. When charity shops open, they may well be inundated with donations of goods and cash as we have tried to prioritise our essential possessions and declutter our homes.

Let us end with the words of a beautiful hymn. Although written in a slightly different format, I’m sure that you can manage to sing along. Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair, Lord, in the suffering this is our prayer.

Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset your kingdom increase.

God of the poor, friend of the weak, give us compassion, we pray, melt
our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain.

Come, change our love from a spark to a flame.

Blessings to everyone from Hownam, Morebattle and Yetholm Guilds.

Yetholm Village Choir

Just over a year ago the sky was blue, the weather set fair, everything was fine and dandy and nobody had the faintest idea about what was going to happen. Remember?

Well, it did happen, with knobs on. But then we had no idea how long it could last, nor what might subsequently happen. We're all a little bit wiser now, and perhaps it's time to consider the long-term consequences for the village.

Before and during retirement, my favourite activity is, or was, making various sorts of music happen. There hasn't been a great deal of job satisfaction lately, alas.

Founded by Margaret Rustad, our Yetholm Village Choir became something of which we could all be justly proud. Eventually numbering over 70 on a good day, it sang a wide variety of sorts of music, from the complete Fauré Requiem (with orchestra) to excerpts from West End musicals, and in the process brought great pleasure to audiences and choir members alike.

Singing together has been scientifically proven to be good for us in a surprising variety of ways - physically, mentally, spiritually and socially, which could explain why some members of the choir travelled from places as far away as Berwick and Hawick. I'm greatly hoping that we shall soon be able to meet again and enjoy our weekly sing on Wednesday mornings in Yetholm's Youth Hall. The Yetholm Village Choir is something very special. The largest of any local group, it also has the lowest subs. There are no auditions, and we're a very friendly lot. Look out for posters announcing our rebirth, and give us a try, why don't you.

For further information, please contact

Geoffrey Emerson, 01573 420279, or by

e-mail: gwemerson@orpheusmail.co.uk

Register

Wedding: Mark Forsyth and Louise Borthwick

Deaths: Jock Todd, Jim Mallen, Stuart Keddie, Jonathan Parsons

Greek Orthodox Easter. Holy Friday



Marching through the streets of Athens carrying flaming torches was an incredibly moving and unforgettable experience. We met outside the church after the Lamentations service. There was a great deal of laughter and banter as we queued to purchase our tapers and torches to be lit from the altar candles. The atmosphere changed completely as the figure, removed earlier from the cross, was carried out and laid in the bier. We heard the sound of soldiers marching as they approached, in combat uniform, lining the streets carrying upturned rifles. Church officials appeared, followed by drummers and members of the choir, all in official dress. As the drummers beat a slow march the soldiers struck the pavement with the butts of their rifles. All flags flew at half-mast. The beat continued.

When we had marched in silence for some time, the choir began to sing one verse of an Easter song in Ancient Greek. Voices ceased and the only sound was that of the drums and rifle butts. The pattern was repeated. We struggled for a time to join in the verse but, after around 150 attempts, we may have come close to the original version. As we turned left into the main street, we could see a similar group emerging from the next side street which we would later enter. After three further left turns, we arrived back at our church. The figure was then placed in the underground sepulchre until midnight on Saturday. As we went home and reached the apartment block, I refused to enter a small lift with three other people carrying flaming torches. I was told that all torches must be carried into the home to light the house candles with flames from the alter. I took the stairs.

Greek Easter is unlike any other. It is by far the most important celebration in the Greek Orthodox Church as it is associated with the Resurrection of Christ. It began for us at 6.00 a.m. on Palm Sunday when every church bell in the city began to ring. As there are a great many churches in the city, it was a cacophony of discordant bells which lasted for 30 minutes. It happened daily until Thursday. You get used to it. In church we were

surprised when one of the officials picked up a large cross and walked down the aisle followed by all the other men and the choir. We followed continuing to sing a single verse of a hymn as we processed round the church. Unfortunately, when we returned, the choir and the organist were no longer together. Since neither would concede, we were making a very strange noise by the time everyone was back inside. It might have resembled a round but did not. During the obligatory one hour coffee session we were each given a palm cross. The walk home was strange. Everyone we met carried crosses which they offered to others. Every church had loudspeakers on the outside of the building. You heard very clearly the words of the person reading the texts in Ancient Greek. As one voice faded you were within earshot of the next one continuing the same reading. Had we been able to understand we would have heard the whole passage. When I asked why the traditional text was used when few could understand it, I was told that the important thing was that you were hearing the words. That was the reason that everyone had all radios and televisions in their houses playing on certain days. The words must come into your home.

You could not walk through the streets without being aware of the coming celebrations. Every shop was decorated for the festive season mainly with hard boiled eggs dyed red, even in loaves of bread and cakes. Not a chocolate egg in sight. Gift shops had red eggs of every size in a variety of materials, ornaments, trinkets, jewellery and icons. Cards, pictures and transfers were on sale everywhere. Food shops served special Lenten dishes. It was a mystical and magical spiritual experience never to be forgotten. I felt privileged to have enjoyed that unique atmosphere.

I asked about the red eggs – but that's another story.

Anne Brown

A Time of Growth... Spring, Optimism and BEYOND

Wednesday 18th March 2020 is still raw and personal. It was the day we decided to cancel some 80 bookings at the Friends of Nature house until... who knows when? So began 12 months of what seems on reflection overly optimistic rescheduling of visits, further delays, refunds, heart-warming donations and mutual support both from within the organisation and the local community. It was also meant to be a time of celebration with the 125th Anniversary events planned across Europe and USA. Some events happened online but the main cause for celebration is that in the face of adversity, links were perhaps strengthened, and new friends gained across the 48+ countries that make up the organisation. Next year (2022) we also celebrate 80yrs of the former 'Ragged School' building in Kirk Yetholm

opening its doors to walkers, cyclists, families and groups from the UK and around the world. With planned reopening end of July... things are looking up!!

So, what of the future and what are we about? We still get asked what is this organisation Friends of Nature with its relatively low profile in the UK. Potted History: Friends of Nature, or 'Naturfreunde' in German, grew out of the working-class movements of the 1880's with the need to escape dire urban conditions and explore the countryside and travel for health, recreation and social cohesion. Originated 1895 in Vienna with a group of mountaineers and academics setting up the first group, which then rapidly spread across the country and beyond. By the 1920's there are autonomous groups across Europe and the USA, each country differing in outlook and organisation but with a common theme of nature conservation, social justice and sustainability. A network of 'houses' (in UK think 'hostel') were built from the early years by local groups and which total some 800 to this day. Attached photo is of the first house opened in 1907, 'Padasterjochhaus' at 2,300 metres in Austrian Tyrol - the site is still in use today after a couple of rebuilds. The network today ranges from simple mountain hut to fully serviced eco-hotel offering ski, mountaineering or water sports. In Austria many villages will have a 'Naturfreunde' noticeboard displaying activities from gung-ho rock climbing, canyoning or via ferrata to more social activities along the lines of perhaps those offered by the WI in the UK.

The “1930s” were perhaps the darkest times for Friends of Nature. Many early members were 'freethinkers', academics, libertarians and sadly persecuted with the rise of fascism. Historians may well have heard of George Elser, the watchmaker who single handedly attempted to assassinate Hitler prior to WW2 by blowing up the Munich beer hall, unfortunately failing by just a few minutes as the rally ended earlier than scheduled. The house networks in Austria and Germany were confiscated and either handed over to the Hitler Youth or put to other dubious uses. (Interesting that the Youth Hostel Movement (Jugendherberge) which started 1908 in Germany from the need for school outings became part of the fascist regime and took over some of the Friends of Nature houses. It was not until the “1960s” that the German YHA were allowed back in the fold of International hostelling). From these low points, the last half of the 20th Century has seen Friends of Nature flourish and expand ever outwards. Sustainability and Responsible Tourism has been at the core of international campaigns from the early days but more so since the “1960s”.

Our small UK group hosted the International Congress in Brighton in the “1970s”- the highlight being a group abseiling from London Bridge with the banner 'The North Sea Must Live!'. Notable highlights such as the Policy Office in Brussels, 'Landscape of the Year', and the promotion of 'Natura Trails' have encouraged cross-boundary and social cohesion between countries and communities. With BREXIT we hope that UK will truly become more global in outlook and it is heartening that membership of our UK group has increased in the first months of this year.

Of the future... Our small Borders group have planted 125 trees to mark 125 years via Borders Forest Trust at Talla & Gameshope reserve (nr. Selkirk) and 140 trees, and counting, in the Highlands courtesy of 'Trees for Life'. Our house at Kirk Yetholm has an anniversary Mountain Ash planted and now becoming established in its second year. Bookings are finally coming in for a delayed opening and sees us at least hopefully able to salvage some of this 79th year. We hope that 'new normal' will continue to see guests old and new passing through the village, enjoying food and drink at the Border and Plough, purchasing supplies at the Community Shop and Valley Meats, fuel up at Gibson's Garage and help keep the Kelso bus service going.

Wishing you and yours Easter Greetings, the Joy of Spring and Renewed Hope for the year to come

Simon, Maureen and all at Borders Friends of Nature



Food for thought.

Enough food is produced to ‘Feed the world’. Unfortunately, around one third of it is wasted. (Most of the food crops grown in Scotland are fed to animals.)

Human food purchased here accounts for 20 – 30% of greenhouse gas emissions. We take third place in the worldwide table showing countries

with the highest emissions and fifth in the place of fattest people, way ahead of the rest of Europe. One third of the food purchased in Scotland is said to be wasted, mainly by households and food outlets. Did we notice their demise?

A story from Kenya.

We are told to wash our hands frequently but when I do that, or clean my teeth, or take a long hot bath after a day in the garden I remember people like Rose. Rose lives in Kenya. When she was a little girl there was plenty of rain – and at the right times and they were able to grow ample nutritious food. But now when the rains do come, they can be too heavy and lead to flooding, doing damage to the soil and crops or they don't come at all and there is drought.

Remember last Summer when it got really hot, and everyone had to water the garden and maybe filled the paddling pool for the children or the dog? I know when the water pressure drops in Yetholm because I see Scottish Water park up at the farm road end and lower a big pump over the dyke (without damage if they are lucky) and get it going to pump the water in the main pipe up the hill to the reservoir up on Yetholm Law.

Not far from where Rose lives there is an earth dam which should collect rainwater to help her withstand unpredictable weather but it runs out too quickly and then Rose has to walk long and exhausting journeys to fetch water for her grandchildren so they can wash their hands in order to help stay safe in this time of the pandemic and she is unable to grow fresh vegetables and improve her livelihood. Coronavirus is one more burden in an area where the people have been battling climate chaos for years. I save rainwater off my shed roof for watering the garden but during the last couple of summers I have sometimes had to make it stretch or prioritise or resort to carrying from the house supply.

With a little help from organisations such as Christian Aid partners supported by folk like us in the UK, better earth dams can be built and the growth of more drought tolerant crops and ways of alleviating the damage of extreme rainfall can be improved and developed. May be pop a coin in a box every time you turn on a tap and see how it mounts up. After all, as the slogan goes “Every little helps”

Trish Gentry

Easter trivia

Around 90 million chocolate bunnies are sold for Easter.

A surprising 59% of people eat the ears first!

More than 1.5 Million Cadbury Creme Eggs are made every day.

Easter clothes used to be considered good luck.

Cheviot Churches Elders and Districts

Leslie Thomson	West of Morebattle, Eckford and Crailing and various outlying.
Jenny Flannigan	Main Street, Heughhead and Renwick Gardens Morebattle.
George Lees	Mainsfield Avenue, Morebattle Mains and Whitton.
Anne Brown	Kale Valley and Hownam.
Brian Kelly	Linton
Trish Gentry	Bowmont Valley.
Graeme Watson	Woodbank Road, Braeside Road, Cheviot Road.
Pippa Emerson	Grafton Road to Mission, Grafton Bank, Main St From Old Manse to Vennel before shop.
John Thompson	Morebattle Road/Main Street to White Swan inc Cheviot Place and The Crescent to Vennel after Shop.
Susan Stewart	Deanfield Place, Court, Road and Bank. Back Lane and Dairy Wood.
Diane Gittus	Romany House to Yewtree Road, Lane and Bank, Grafton Corner to Mission Hall, Duncanhaugh and Hayhope.
Tom Tokely/ Stuart Kelly	Main Street, Yetholm from butcher – School, Dow Brae, Venchen, Mindrum, Howtel, Downham and Wideopen.
Carol Butler	Kirk Yetholm Village and Halterburn.
Arthur Bates	The Yett, Shotton, Yetholm Mains and Harelaw.
Ann Harvey	Hoselaw, Cherrytrees, Lochside, Lochside farms and cottages, Old Graden, Graden, Hoselaw.
Simon Oldham	Mainhouse, Bankhead and Linton Hill.
David Lang	Teapot Street and Bank. Thimble Lane.
Jimmy Fleming	Kelso (part)
Alan Calvert	Kelso (part)
Margaret McTavish	Postal.

**Church Services – Yetholm and Morebattle only at present time.
Please see notices for opening times for private prayer and reflection.**

Yetholm every Sunday at 10.00 a.m.

Morebattle every Sunday at 11.15 a.m. except

1st Sunday when we meet at **Linton**.

Hownam is now irregular. Please check notices.

Hoselaw is open for private devotion at all times and hosts occasional services.

Prayer Service will be held in Linton Church at 6.30pm. All Welcome.

Cheviot Churches: Church of Scotland (Charity No SC003023)

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Rev. Colin Johnston

The Manse (formerly The Old Police House)

Main Street, Morebattle, TD5 8QG

Phone No. 07492705275 or 01573440539

Email revcdj60@gmail.com

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Tel: 01573420231 Email: j.stewart134@btinternet.com

Treasurer:

Brian Kelly, The Haven, 5 Morebattle Road, Town Yetholm, Kelso TD5 8RL

Tel: 01573 420221 E mail: bjkelly@uwclub.net

Safeguarding Co-Ordinator:

Heather Freeland – Cook 01573 420480

Roll Keeper:

Pippa Emerson 01573420279

Committee Convenors:

Mission and Outreach: Elizabeth Watson 01573 420602

Children and Youth Ministry Team: Graeme Watson 01573 420602

Ways and Means with Stewardship: Rae Redpath 01573 420451

Worship Committee: Rev. Colin Johnston 01573 440539

www.cheviotchurches.org
