

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

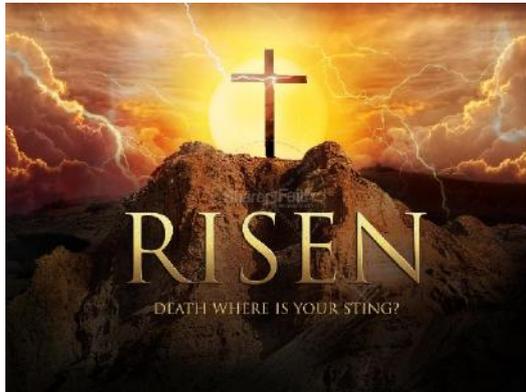
CHEVIOT



Spring 2022



Prayer Corner



Easter Prayer 2022

Let us pray,
on this Easter morning
for the life that never again shall see darkness.
God our Father, creator of all,
today is the day of Easter joy.
This is the morning on which the Lord
appeared to those who had begun to lose hope
and opened their eyes
to what the scriptures foretold:
that first he must die, and then he would rise
and ascend into his Father's glorious presence.
May the risen Lord
breathe on our minds and open our eyes
that we may know him in the breaking of bread,
and follow him in his risen life.
Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen



An Easter Prayer Poem by Helen Steiner Rice

God, give us eyes to see
the beauty of the Spring,
And to behold Your majesty
in every living thing –
And may we see in lacy leaves
and every budding flower
The Hand that rules the universe
with gentleness and power –
And may this Easter grandeur
that Spring lavishly imparts
Awaken faded flowers of faith
lying dormant in our hearts,
And give us ears to hear, dear God,
the Springtime song of birds
With messages more meaningful
than man's often empty words
Telling harried human beings
who are lost in dark despair –
'Be like us and do not worry
for God has you in His care.'

From the Manse

I usually write these letters from my desk, overlooking the Cheviot Hills. However, I am starting this one from a busy Heathrow Airport. I have been in Egypt for a week, my first trip abroad for 3 years. Cairo was chaotic, dusty, polluted, crowded and noisy – the exact opposite of the Borders! However, it was wonderful to connect again with friends, especially one or two in ill-health, and also to rediscover skills, such as the ability to weave my way through 6 lanes of fast-moving vehicles to reach the other side of the road!

After the dust of Cairo, it will be a relief to breathe the fresh Border air again and to see the splashes of yellow and white and purple, as crocus and daffodils and forsythia blossom. Spring is here, and there are signs of new life everywhere with the lambing already begun. It certainly lifts our spirits after a grey winter. However, I cannot help but contrast the new life of Spring with the devastation we see on our screens from Ukraine. We have watched the events unfold there with horror and with sorrow. This unprovoked war has caused so much suffering and has also made us aware of how fragile our world is. I was once fortunate enough to travel in Ukraine and have happy memories of Lviv and Odesa and of travelling overnight by train from the Crimea to Kyiv. In these days there was hope

abounding as the country emerged from the Soviet days. It is so distressing to see so much destruction yet humbling to witness the steadfast defiance of the Ukrainian people.

In the Bible there are many laments (indeed up to 40% of the Psalms are laments), whereby people give voice to their grief. This can be in the face of death or the loss of a battle or the ravaging of a plague of locusts. In lament people are allowed to express their emotions and engage with the difficult questions of life. One commentator likened it to the Saturday of Holy Week, when Jesus is in the tomb and before the joy of Easter morning. With Ukraine, and indeed other troubled areas of our world, it is important to lament.

It has been so encouraging to witness the response to the war in Ukraine. People have given financially and in kind and hoisted Ukrainian flags in solidarity; it is also wonderful that so many are considering offering hospitality to people fleeing from the war. Having just visited the refugee programme which my former congregation in Cairo runs, I am conscious that we need to remember all refugees at this time, fleeing war and persecution.

At Holy Week we remember a tumultuous week. It is a story of betrayal and denial, of humiliation and torture, of people doing the worst to each other; it is a story of death and grief. But it is also a story of forgiveness and grace, of inclusion and acceptance, of resurrection and new life. After the disruption of the past two years, it will be good to resume our Maundy Thursday service at Linton and our Good Friday meditation at Hoselaw. There will be an early morning communion at Morebattle and a joint family service at Yetholm on Easter Day. All are very welcome to come along to any or all of our services.

The government Covid restrictions have eased greatly recently, and now we do not have any distancing in the churches. Covid is still very much with us, and we need to be vigilant and also sensitive to those who still want to distance.

I do hope and pray that everyone keeps safe. Enjoy the Spring.

Peace & Blessings

Rev Colin

BIRDBATH'S EASTER WISH

As daily more savage and appalling events unfold in Ukraine, Birdbath shares the revulsion that all around him feel at the toll in lives and property, the injuries, the trauma of children and the elderly, the tide of refugees, dead bodies in the streets and mass graves, and the pervading desolation of a brave and proud nation. At the time of writing, Russian forces are closing in on the port city of Odesa with the obvious intention of finally cutting off Ukraine's last access to the Black Sea, and on through the Bosphorus to the Mediterranean. It is a beautiful city, founded in the 1790s by Catherine the Great of Russia and laid out for her by a French nobleman in her service, the Duc de Richelieu, whose statue is today engulfed in sandbags at the top of the famous Potemkin Steps which lead up from the seafront to the heart of the city. Birdbath was fortunate, many years ago, to spend a day in the 'Jewel of the Black Sea' with family and friends. He remembers the kindness of many local people, a sensational meal (caviar!) and a performance at the ornate Opera House. They duly climbed the Potemkin Steps and spent time in the great Cathedral: all onion-domes and mosaic, lamps and banks of Icons, and somewhere a choir practising haunting Orthodox chant. It was a place of awe and mystery, prayer and worship. Birdbath can only pray that whatever death and destruction happen in the meanwhile, the age-old triumphal Orthodox cry will ring out on Easter Day: XRISTE ANESTE, 'Christ is risen' – to be answered by the full-throated roar of a thousand and more voices, 'HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!'

Easter Services

After the disruption of the past two years, we hope that this Easter will be more straightforward. Our services will be as follows:

10th April - **Palm Sunday**. Services at Yetholm at 10am and Morebattle at 11.15. *Palm crosses made in Tanzania will be handed out.*

14th April – **Maundy Thursday** service at Linton Kirk. Time: 6.30pm

15th April – **Good Friday** meditation at Hoselaw Chapel 2-5pm
Feel free to come for 5 minutes or the whole 3 hours! There will be meditations on the hour and half hours.

17th April – **Easter Day**. A short joint communion service will be held at Morebattle Kirk at 9am. A joint family service at Yetholm Kirk at 11am, followed by refreshments.

There will be an ecumenical service, organised by Kelso Churches Together, on one of the lunchtimes of Holy Week. This will be followed by refreshments. Date, time, and venue will be publicised nearer the time.

Platinum Jubilee

Services to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be held at Yetholm (10am) and Morebattle (11.15am) on Sunday 5th June.

Edinburgh Direct Aid

Many thanks to all who donated clothes and educational equipment. Peter Boyd and Colin took up a carfull to the warehouse in Granton at the end of February and saw how the team of volunteers put jumpers in one box and dresses in another and shoes in a third...! The boxes are shipped in a container to Beirut where they are distributed to Syrian refugees in refugee camps in the Lebanese mountains. A school has been set up at the camp, so school equipment (even old laptops!) is appreciated. Colin has still several bags in his spare bedroom which will go up in the near future. This will be an ongoing project.

Peter recently spoke movingly of his experiences driving lorries to Sarajevo and Kosovo at the Youth Hall in Yetholm, which was appropriate in the light of the present war in the Ukraine.

Stamps

The Church of Scotland is appealing for postage stamps from your letters. These can be sold, and the proceeds go to help pastors in our partner church, the Synod of Lebanon and Syria.

A Collect for Palm Sunday

O Christ, you entered the city as a poor man,
Not in style, but simply,
Yet you still caused uproar, and questions everywhere;
You drew the expectations of a hungry crowd
And brought buried conflicts to light.
May we, who are sometimes swayed by the crowd's approval,
And who often avoid conflict
For fear of its cost to us,
Hold fast to the gospel of truth and justice
And follow faithfully in your way of compassion and solidarity
With those who are poor and excluded,
Wherever it may lead us.

Kathy Galloway



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year, we were so pleased to be able to meet together for the World Day of Prayer Service, after an online meeting the previous year because of the coronavirus.

The service was beautifully hosted and presented by Morebattle church on Friday 4th March, when 40 of us gathered from Morebattle, Yetholm, Linton and Oxnam. This year, the service had been written by the British committee, with the theme around Jeremiah Ch. 29 v 11 —“ I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.”

In our multi-ethnic, multi-cultural society, many can feel they have no future or any hope. In Jeremiah’s time, God’s plan was clear. And in our time, God’s assurance of hope still stands. We heard how our prayerful action can bring to life the promises of God, who like a Father or a Mother, cares for each one of us. We were given some seeds as a sign of this hope. A seed, nourished by prayers of intercession and actions of love, bind us together around the world.

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:- (from the service.)

God of the past, the present and the future,

We thank you that you love us faithfully and uniquely. You loved us before we knew anything about you: you care for us in every moment of our lives: you know our deepest thoughts, our highest hopes, our greatest fears. You know the best and worst in us, and still, you love us. Thank you that you never let us go.

Thank you for the plans and promises you have made for us, which gives us hope for today and tomorrow, as we trust in you. God of our past, our present and our future receive our thanks and praise, which we offer in Jesus’ name. AMEN



At the end of the service, we were able to share in this prayer for the appalling situation in Ukraine:-

Lord of all people and all nations,

We lift before you all the people of Ukraine and of Russia,

Each girl and boy, each woman and man, living in fear of what tomorrow might bring.

We long for a time you spoke of through by our prophet Isaiah, when weapons of war would be beaten into ploughshares. When nation will no longer lift up sword against nation. We cry out to you for peace.

Protect those who only desire to live in security and safety. Comfort those who fear for their lives and the lives of their loved ones. Change the hearts of those set on violence and aggression. Fill earthly leaders with great wisdom to find paths of peace.

Please Lord, may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. May your peace reign, now and always.

We lift this prayer to you our God, who is able to do more than we can ever ask or imagine. In the name of Christ our Saviour.

AMEN



Finally, it is with great joy, after 2 long years, that we are able to return to the beautiful Kirk at LINTON on TUESDAY 18th APRIL at 6:30 pm.

Please come and join us after Easter, each Tuesday evening for prayer and peaceful, quiet contemplation in this special place. All are very welcome.

Kathleen Bates. Prayer Secretary

Borders Bottletops for Charity. An easy way to give to local charities is by saving your milk bottle tops. Those of you who read Kelso Life may have seen the page about this Rotary Club initiative which sells the tops to a Borders firm who can recycle and process them into useful items. Any tops with a 2 or a 4 in the recycle triangle can be used. I am happy to collect in Yetholm as will be Heather but you can take them to drop off points in Kelso and there is a Facebook page for more information.

Saving is the Best Way to Borrow

Whenever I shop, I see many price rises and more are coming our way throughout 2022. It's clear that the cost of living is set to rise for the foreseeable future, as the cost of fuel outstrips the rises in pensions or earnings. Like most people it's got me thinking about my money.

I have confidence that I am prepared for some of those big bills because I save with a credit union. I have always been a saver; *it is my only good habit!* I have always been a credit union member, putting money into a

bank for people who need it rather than paying for a flashy car. It's who I am.

Credit Unions are a 19th century concept, coming out of pioneers like Robert Owen. (*Robert Own of New Lanark I hear you say? OK, I'll tell you about him later, but you must visit New Lanark!*) Worldwide there are 40,000 credit unions in 79 countries such as America, Canada, Ireland and Jamaica. They gained legal status here in the UK in 1979 and have grown with the benefit of the co-operative movement. Regulation of all the UK's credit unions is by the Prudential Regulation Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority, with complaints handled by the Financial Ombudsman, like every other bank - so you know your money is safe and well managed.

With a credit union you save regularly and can take out small loans from £250 - £20,000 or even a mortgage, and the rates of a loan are competitively low. A credit union is a not-for-profit organisation so the profits don't go out to shareholders, they are held in the bank for the benefit of the members. Members are expected to save regularly and can benefit from loans with low interest rates and free life insurance.

To help you be a saver members can have their regular contribution taken directly from their employer if they are a partner organization, like Scottish Borders Council. There are heaps of partners. Here is a quick ABC: A for Amey, B for Bethany Christian Trust, C for CHAI whatever that is? See if your employer is a partner and can help you get the saving habit.

Capital Credit Union is based in Edinburgh, members are expected to save a minimum of £15 per month, live in several areas including the Scottish Borders.

The rules for membership are all on their website www.capitalcreditunion.com where you will find all the online banking services you'd expect, along with special offers on Eco loans for things that save energy and help the environment.

So, if my oil goes up and I need an extra £1,000 to fill the tank and I know I will need to fill the tank again next year what can I do. I used the online loan calculator to find out. It said I'd need to pay back £91.68 per month for a year, paying interest of £100.16. And I found a reminder that I could take a two-week repayment break during the year if I needed to. How does that compare with your regular bank?

What about larger loans or getting a mortgage on home? See the website! I'm not going to give you any financial advice, I am not qualified to do so, but I hope I have encouraged you to be curious about all the financial options out there.

Melanie Eve



Hello, I'm a volunteer at two local rescues and a Hedgehog Champion with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society/Peoples' Trust for Endangered Species.

How long is it since you last saw a hedgehog? The UK has lost a third of its hedgehog population since 2000, and their numbers are declining as fast as tigers in the wild. They are now officially classed as vulnerable to extinction in the IUCN's Red List for British Mammals. There are many reasons and it's sad to think that, for future generations, such a fate would make this lovely, prickly God's creature only a character in storybooks. Here are some simple tips to help them.

1. Link your garden with a Hedgehog Highway. Hedgehogs travel between 1-2 km a night searching for food and a mate. Leaving a small gap in your fence the size of a CD case will let hedgehogs through but be too small for pets. BHPT/PTES sell snazzy little recyclable Hedgehog Highway signs, for a few pounds. Ask your neighbours to do the same!
2. Create a wild corner in your garden so they can snuffle around for insects.
3. Tidy up netting and litter which can trap hedgehogs due to their spines. Even rubber bands dropped by the postman can become embedded in their skin, causing a slow, painful death.
4. Put out food and water. You can supplement their diet with wet dog or cat food (preferably not fish based). No bread, milk, or mealworms, which are all extremely bad for them. For those who are into simple DIY you can make a feeding station to stop other

animals having a free supper - details on the BHPS website/YouTube

5. Stop using chemicals especially slug pellets. Hedgehogs are a gardener's best friend as they eat slugs as well as many other beasts which would otherwise be devouring your prize flowers and vegetables
6. Check before mowing or strimming. Hedgehogs often sleep in long grass or hedges during daytime and won't run away if they hear a mower, resulting in horrific injuries or death. Use gloves to move a single hog to safety. If there's a family, call the BHPS for advice on 01584 890801, the SSPCA on 0300 999 999 or Google to find your local Hedgehog Rescue.
7. Be careful with bonfires or simply burning leaves. Piles of debris are irresistible to a hedgehog looking for somewhere to hibernate or nest – build it on the day of burning to avoid a tragic end, or if you have to build it before then check carefully with a pole or broom, not a spade or fork. They are usually in the centre.
8. Make a home for hedgehogs. A log pile is one of the best features for encouraging all kinds of wildlife, and easy to make. It will encourage insects and provide nesting opportunities all year around. Alternatively, you can make your own hedgehog house – download instructions from the BHPS website.
9. Keep an eye out for hedgehogs when driving at night, and let it get over the road safely if you see one. If you see it too late try to steer so it will pass under the middle of the car where it is least likely to be harmed.

10. Make your pond safe. Hedgehogs are adept swimmers but if they can't climb out of steep-sided ponds or pools they will drown. Use a pile of large stones or piece of wood to create a simple ramp.
11. Record hedgehog sightings, including dead ones, on The Big Hedgehog Map website. This is important in building up a picture of where they are most active & how we can encourage local populations. A hedgehog seen during the day is usually in need of help and you should contact one of the organisations above. If you'd like to do more, you can become a Hedgehog Champion by registering on the Hedgehog Street website, where you can find lots of resources to make your gardens, neighbourhood and Parish hedgehog-friendly zones.

**Moira Grant
Falkirk**

Christian Aid Week 15-21 May. Yes I know that there are some weeks to go before this event but this is my chance to give an early reminder. I am also aware that there are increasingly many calls on your money, but any size of gift will be put to good use by the partner organisations around the world supported by Christian Aid. The partners know best what is needed to help people live in a more sustainable way especially those suffering the greatest from the climate change crisis. This year the stories will feature women of Zimbabwe. Volunteers are needed to deliver the gift envelopes but it is not necessary to go back and collect them as they can be taken to the local collection points written on the envelopes. Remember too that Christian Aid is a partner in the Disasters Emergency Committee and that the organisation began over 75 years ago by helping refugees in war torn Europe. Anyone willing and able to help can get more details from Trish Gentry.

The Art of Easter

During the past two pandemic years our opportunities for getting involved in community events reduced drastically, and now they are growing again. Remember when you could not even ask in a neighbour for a cuppa? Thankfully we have learned a lot since then, we can get out of the house for more than just an hour's exercise and we can talk to each other with more confidence.

Spring 2022 gives us a chance to make ourselves anew, get back to the things you really value or make changes. It got me thinking it is like being reborn. Being reborn is part of becoming a Christian, and Easter is a distinctively Christian event. It's hard for Christians and non-Christians to understand the death and resurrection of Christ our Lord. There is a mystery to it that spans two thousand years.

To help engage with this mystery I will be doing something. It could be called a piece of performance art, but some might call that an exaggeration. I will be doing a very simple thing, a simple thing I want to share with you. I will be making, and decorating a cross each afternoon on Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Sunday.

It's not a big event, no dressing up, no music, no lines to learn, it may even look small and a bit sad. But what I want is to talk with you about Easter and all that stuff! So come and talk to me when I am on the bench outside the shop struggling with my little bits of material, and my big Easter cross.

Melanie Eve.

Eco-congregation Scotland is still busy following on the very mixed and often disappointing outcome of COP26. They have planned a new programme of video conferences on various topics connected with climate change and our part in it in cause and solution. Included topics include: Charity begins at Home; Houses and Heating; Your Garden for the world; Refugees; Holidays and Restoration. In April there will be a workshop with Zero Waste Scotland on "Love your clothes". You can get details from the website especially if you sign up for the regular emails. If you are interested you can also contact Trish Gentry who will forward the relevant links on request. These sessions are informative and fun and a way of sharing ideas and experiences.

The Eternal Wall. Over 20 years the Church of Scotland Guild held a banner making competition in which each area was asked to depict a book of the Bible. Jedburgh Council area was given Nehemiah and several of the local guilds used the story of wall building. Today planning permission has been granted and access made and ground works begun to build a wall of answered prayer. This is a huge undertaking in more ways than one but the idea is to build a monument in Warwickshire which will be highly visible and in which each brick will contain the story of an answered prayer and become a testimony to faith and hope. It is hoped a proportionate number of every community will respond. For more information go to eternalwall.org.uk/testimony where you will also find a virtual representation of the finished monument.



Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers... and Trefoil Guild!!

There can be very few women reading this who weren't once a Brownie or Rainbow, or whose daughters, nieces, granddaughters, and even great granddaughters are, or have been, members of Girlguiding. We tend to think that Guiding is for youngsters, with adults on board as Guiders or helpers.....

We'd like to correct that impression! Roxburgh Trefoil Guild consists of sixteen active women with varying backgrounds, ages, and interests, united by a common cause: Girlguiding. For one of our members this is a completely new experience, whilst others have been in the organisation for longer. One or two of us have disabilities which don't stop us being involved. We've maybe been in Brownies, Guides or Rangers; we've perhaps been warranted leaders of units – some of us are still in fact leaders. We meet monthly when possible and have an astonishingly varied programme. One month, last year, we walked the Abbotsford woods last year and then the following month got together (in a responsibly distanced way) for a campfire. Last summer there was even a 2-night camp (not compulsory) in a quiet sheltered garden. We take buses all over the Borders and further afield, and mini-bus mystery tours, and car-shares to swim in posh pools or be 'ladies who lunch'. Recently we met at the Scottish Tapestry, and at our March meeting we're planning to get on-line qualifications so that we can help with Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, and be a support to their wonderful Guiders. We also get crafty with Christmas ideas. Somehow, every outing seems to involve coffee and scones or a meal – we could probably write the definitive guide to Borders coffee stops!

We wear our woggles with pride – or our scarves and badges. The Guide Promise, common to every girl and woman in the Movement, underpins what we do, and we continue to enjoy everything that Guiding can offer. Yes, we'll wash up after a big event if we're needed, or see little girls across busy roads, but we also do a lot as an independent branch of Guiding which we wish other women could experience. And not just women – many members bring their partners or husbands.

At present we feel sad that in Yetholm there are no young girls enjoying Rainbows, Brownies, or Guides in our excellent Youth Hall, which was

modernised for that very purpose. But there is a Guiding presence here, with two Trefoil Guild members – you may have seen us dipping the colours at the village Remembrance Day ceremony?

We hope that reading this article has brought back happy memories or re-kindled a spark: those silly camp-fire songs, that Gang Show, a visit abroad to a special camp; representing your county or country at a national celebration.... Or just apple-dookin' and dressing up.... tossing pancakes, learning first-aid. We would love to hear from you! Those times are still within reach even after we become sensible (?) adults! It's never too late! Do get in touch Our chairperson, Manxie, can be contacted at roxburghshiretrefoil@gmail.com or on 07740 683 223. We look forward to hearing from you!

FGG News from Yetholm-Spring 2022

We continue to be enthusiastic about the appearance of the green spaces around the village and in maintaining the biodiversity of the areas that we work on. We are lucky to have various sites that are accessible to the villagers and visitors, and we are concentrating on making these areas of interest and restful places to experience.

The Wildlife Area [just below The Kirkfield caravan site]

The number of flowering plants is gradually increasing (50 different flowering plants in 2020 and between 30 and 40 in 2019). Bird and butterfly life also seems richer than on the surrounding Haugh. One of our school parents has kindly offered to do a survey of both bird and butterfly sightings.

Apart from regular strimming of paths during the growing season, there have been several work parties.

- We cut the wildflower meadow in September and cleared away the cut grass.
- Andrew Rowe cut the hedge adjoining the haugh with the help of our team members, the cuttings have been piled up to provide a habitat for insects, beetles and small mammals and hedgehogs.
- We put wire netting around most of the apple trees to prevent a repeat of last year's damage by one or more deer. During this session, some of us sowed wildflower seed. We have continued to plant plug plants from time to time.
- The dam has been rebuilt and refashioned and some heavy-duty pond liner was provided to extend the ditch of the Goat from the dam towards the bridge. In early March this filled with water and inundated the 'scoop' area, hopefully restoring that habitat and, with

luck, creating an area with enough lasting water to attract frogs and spawn.

Work to be done in the coming year includes,

- Regular strimming of paths
- Purchase of more wire netting to protect young and more mature oak trees.
- Clearing of the pond above bridge from weeds
- Planting of a couple of coppiced willows on near side of Goat to replace a couple overwhelmed by trees on the far side of bridge.
- Assaults on nettles and spreading blackberry briars.

We think that we are creating something rather special at this site. We can always do with more help, especially from the young and fit, and from parents of schoolchildren. Please contact eliz.heale@gmail.com if you are willing to help.

The Bowmont picnic area, village greens, previously planted hedgerows and trees are all being maintained and monitored.

It has been an unusual two years and work has been ongoing behind the scenes. Fundraising plans are afoot: Namely, a **Hamper Raffle** [tickets available in the village shop,] **A Pub Quiz** and **Village Green Plant Sale** are also being planned. The **PLANT SALE Date** has been finalised for **Saturday 21st May 10am till 12.30** outside the village shop. More details will appear on the noticeboards and Village Facebook page.

We also hope to plant two trees to celebrate the **Platinum Jubilee** of Her Majesty, The Queen.

Thank you in anticipation of your ongoing support.

The FGG Team [01573 420522]

Yetholm Heritage and Archive Centre

As many of you will know, Yetholm History Society has been working for three years to convert Yetholm's Mission Hall into a Heritage and Archive Centre for the villages and for the surrounding Cheviot hills. Our Mission Hall, one of the few surviving tin tabernacles in excellent condition, has been thoroughly refurbished with help from generous funders, including the Fallago Environment Fund, Scottish Borders Council, and our own Apple Fund. This work is now nearing completion and the Heritage Centre will be opened to visitors at the end of May.

In refurbishing the Mission Hall, we have had three purposes in mind. We wished to provide secure storage for our extensive collection of photographs, documents, and voice recordings, all kindly contributed by local people. This archive will preserve the local history of Yetholm and the hill farms of the surrounding Cheviots into the future. We have also

equipped the Hall to provide comfortable space for our well-attended talks and events. Finally, we have equipped the Hall as a Heritage Centre, complete with a display cabinet for some of our artifacts, and with beautifully illustrated panels explaining the history of Yetholm and the area from earliest times up to the present. The Hall will be open during daylight hours, free to visitors, from the end of May to the end of September. We hope the Hall will be a focal point to share the history of the area with residents and the numerous visitors.

In addition to a Heritage Centre in the Mission Hall, we have been allowed to create a permanent exhibition in the Upper Room of the Kirk, telling the story of Christianity in the area. As well as illustrated interpretive panels, there is a display of some of the carved stonework from the original twelfth-century church building. We hope that this display in the Kirk will be open to visitors and pilgrims as soon as COVID rules allow.

Please come along and view the Heritage Centre in the Mission Hall once it is open at the end of May. And please point visitors to the Centre. Our hope is that it will help to attract tourists to the village and persuade them to linger longer, visiting local sights and spending money in the shops and hotels.

Meanwhile, the richness of our archives depends on contributions from villagers and local people. If you have any historic photographs or documents, or have memories of Yetholm and the area that you would like to have recorded, please let us know by leaving a note in the Hall, by contacting us via our website (yetholmhistorysociety.weebly.com/) or by phoning Elizabeth Watson (420602).

Membership of Yetholm History Society is only £6 per year, and everyone is very welcome. Come along to one of our talks, which take place from October to May each year, or contact us via our website.

Yetholm Macmillan Committee present 10th Anniversary Screening of “The Forgotten Workers” on Thursday 19th May at 7.30pm. Entry £5 and refreshments will be on sale.

All proceeds to Macmillan Fund.



Yetholm Heritage Centre

Mission Hall, Grafton Road

**With panels telling the story of Yetholm and
the surrounding Cheviot hills**

**from
prehistoric times to the present day.**

All Welcome!

**Normally* open, free of charge, 10.00am to
4.30pm,
every day from the end of May to the end of
September.**

***Check Yetholm History Society website for occasional closures.**



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Garfield Weston
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The Hugh Fraser Foundation



NEWS UPDATE – MARCH 2022

Next week marks another important milestone for our shop - the first anniversary of trading as a community owned enterprise. This could not have been achieved without the support of our investors, donors, staff, and grant funders, nor indeed without the thousands of hours contributed by our volunteers. A big thank you goes out to all. We are also pleased to be able to provide some exciting updates on what has been happening since our last bulletin:

Planning consent given

We are delighted to confirm that consent has been received from the Scottish Borders Council to our planning application for the refurbishment and extension to the premises. This is an important step forward in allowing us to transform the shop into a more attractive, functional, and efficient space.

Tender for the works completed

A large part of the funding for the renovation works is being provided by a grant from the Scottish Government, which requires that a public tender be issued for the works. A number of contractors were approached for bids, and we are now working towards finalising a formal contract before the end of this month, as stipulated in the terms of the grant award. More information, including details of when the work will commence, will follow soon.

Business Development Manager hired

As we have previously reported, another important step in the journey of transforming the business was to advertise for and recruit an individual to manage and grow the shop business to the levels necessary to achieve sustainability. We are very pleased to announce that Louisa O'Brien will be assuming this role from March 21. Many of our customers will already know Louisa; she has been on contract with us since last December and brings a wealth of experience from leadership roles with a major supermarket chain, as well as with a number of community projects. Reporting to the management committee, Louisa will be working closely with the committee, staff, and volunteers in this new position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the shop, expansion of our product range, and marketing. Please join us in welcoming Louisa into her new role.

Management Committee Yetholm Community Shop Limited

Dates for diary

April

Saturday 9th – Morebattle Village Hall Coffee Morning at 10.30am in Village Hall.

Wednesday 13th – Morebattle SWI meets in Institute at 7.15pm – Amanda Barnes – Spring Flowers. Competition - Bud Vase.

Tuesday 19th - Kalewater Community Council Meeting at 7pm in Morebattle Institute

Thursday 14th – Bingo Night in Wauchope Hall at 7pm. Proceeds to C.H.A.S

Thursday 21st – National Theatre 7pm Wauchope Hall. Henry V. Entry £12

Wednesday 27th – Wauchope Hall A.G.M in Hall at 7pm. All welcome.

May

Friday 6th – Installation of Yetholm Principals at 7pm in Wauchope Hall.

Wednesday 11th – Morebattle SWI meets in Institute at 7.15pm – Sheila & Rhona – Making Paper Flowers. Competition – Teacup/Saucer.

Tuesday 17th - Kalewater Community Council Meeting at 7pm in Institute.

Saturday 21st – Official Opening of Yetholm Heritage Society Venue.

Thursday 26th – National Theatre Live at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Straight Line Crazy – Entry £12.

June

Saturday 4th – Morebattle - All Day Celebration for Queen's Platinum Jubilee - Picnic in The Park, Fun, Activities followed by Ceilidh in Village Hall (evening).

Saturday 4th – Jubilee Event in Wauchope Hall Yetholm from 10am. All Welcome.

Wednesday 8th – Morebattle SWI – Annual Summer Outing.

Saturday 11th – Morebattle Institute Coffee Morning at 10.30am in Institute.

Sunday 12th – Saturday 18th – Yetholm Festival Week 2022.

Tuesday 21st - Kalewater Community Council Meeting at 7pm in Institute

Morebattle Badminton Club every Monday at 7pm in Village Hall.

Light Exercise Class every Wednesday 10.30 –11.30am in Morebattle Village Hall.

Church Diary

Thursday 7th April – Morebattle & Hownam Guild AGM in the Institute at 2pm.

Tuesday 26th April – Yetholm Guild meet at 2pm in Yetholm Church.

Coffee in Yetholm Church is back! – every Tuesday from 10 – 12noon. All Welcome



MARCH 2022

Spring has not quite sprung yet and since the last article we have been continually buffeted by various named storms beginning with Storm Arwen. The destructive nature of Storm Arwen brought down countless trees and cut off power supply to those living in the Kalewater Valley and surrounding rural areas for many days. The Shop once again proved what a vital resource it is to our community by providing essential provisions and a friendly face to those of us who were seeking a bit of warmth and light at that time.

We are now looking forward to Spring and the return of walkers and visitors alike. We continue to source as many products as possible locally and are currently exploring more local options. The shop has recently installed a new coffee machine which offers a wonderful 'bean to cup' experience and we will be adding to the outdoor seating facilities as part of our aim to provide a community hub for all our customers both local and from further afield. We intend to extend our opening hours from 1st April

as the days lengthen and the weather improves. More details will appear in store and on the Shop Facebook page shortly.

Also thank you again folks for your donations of essential items supporting aid for Ukraine. Good news, the aid has arrived safely in Poland a few miles from the Ukrainian border.

Finally, a big thank you for the hard work and commitment of our Shop Managers, Volunteer Co-Ordinator, Volunteers, the Board and our community, all central to the ongoing success of our wee shop.



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 24th June 2022

j.stewart134@btinternet.com, johnmabon431@btinternet.com

anne.scottbrown@btinternet.com

Register

Wedding: Shannon Anne O'Brian and Hayden Gavin Laing

**Deaths: Helen Deans, Margaret Notman, Alexander Williamson,
Jean Fleming, Doug Turnbull, Liz Brown, Chris Archer,
Jean Weatheritt**

Morebattle Primary School Celebrates World Book Day!

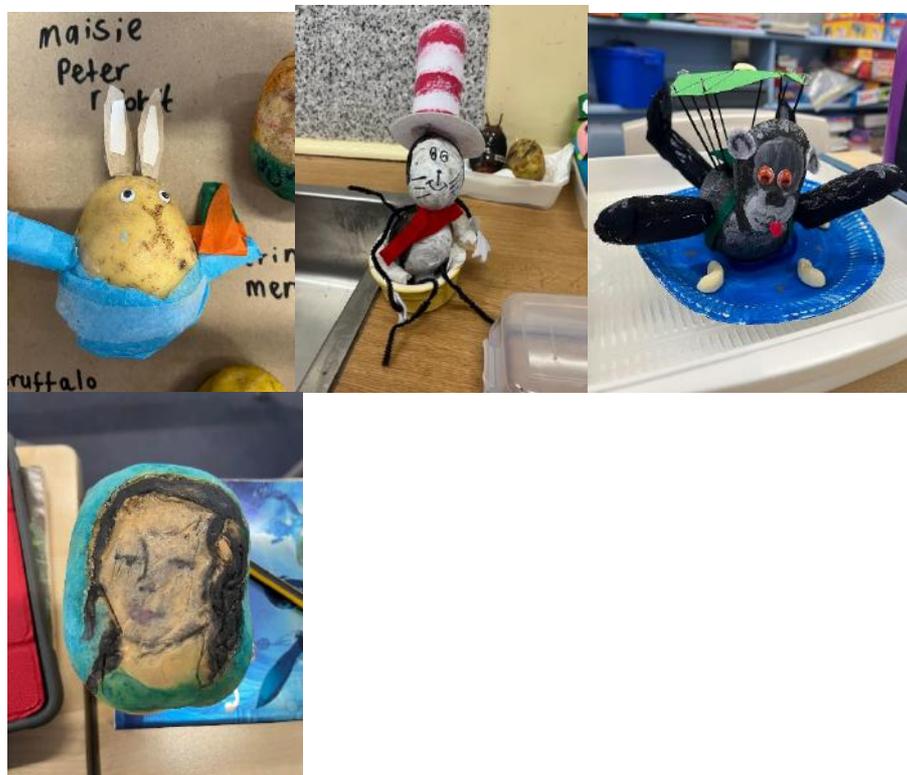
On Thursday 3rd March it was World Book Day. This has been going now for 25 years and we wanted to celebrate in style this year. We spent the week (not just a day!) focussing on reading and how important and fun it is.

One of the challenges we had was to really think about a book character we liked and turn a potato into that person. There were some amazing creations! These are the winners-

ELC- Maisie Bryce (Peter Rabbit)

P1-4- Isla O'Brien (Cat in the Hat)

P4-7- Sophie Ralston (Code Name Bananas) and Rowan Brownlie (Artemis)



Throughout the week classes did lots of interesting activities. Primary 1-4 spend time in the library being Book Detectives and having to use the books to complete an amazing Treasure Hunt. Mr Wilson was also very impressed to see them accessing books independently using QR codes on their iPads.





Primary 4-7 and Mrs Cowe carried out a literacy quiz over a few days and it was quite tricky! Some people found that even though they had read the book answering questions about it was hard! Here is a picture of Hamish Barbour sharing a part of a story with the class- we never really get too old to share a story together do we?

**Hownam and Morebattle Church of Scotland Guild.
Annual coffee morning will now be held
on Saturday 23rd April at 2.00 p.m.
In Morebattle Institute.
Admission £2.00**

Yetholm Primary School News

Pancake Day: On the 1st of March (Pancake Day) we got to make and eat our own pancakes with Mrs Thomson and Mrs Luke- they were delicious!

World Book Day: On the 3rd of March (world book day) Yetholm Primary decided to celebrate in multiple ways, such as dressing up, dressing up a potato and going to Wild Wednesday to read the Gruffalo and eat s'mores around a fire. The potato winner in P5-7 was Dobby from Harry Potter made by Joycelyn, P5 and in P1-4 the winner was Hedwig from Harry Potter made by Isla Whitson, P4.





Nursery: On world book day, nursery acted out scenes such as “The Bear Hunt”, “Supertato” and “Bug Collector”. They also did some cooking, and they made Hungry



Caterpillar Fruits, Owl Ice Cream and Supertato vegetables. They also had an art week and made some nice artwork.

P1-4: They decided to go to the wildlife area and make stick insects and spiders inspired by Louise Bourgeois, they also tried to measure trees but their technique was questionable and didn't quite work. In maths they've also been measuring and weighing things around the classroom. P1-4 have also been building things out of Lego, Jenga and Magnetic Shapes.

P5-7: They have done weaving and been learning about how different fabrics are made. They've also made frames and paper maché for castle paintings they have done. They've been reading Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone for their topic and have decorated their classroom too look like a castle.

By Emily and Emily from P7.



The Church of Scotland

MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

This email is being sent to: Presbytery Clerks, Ministers, OLMs & Auxiliaries, Interim Moderators & Locums, Readers, the Diaconate, MDS, Ministry Candidates & Probationers, and Session Clerks

Dear Colleagues,

***Thy Kingdom Come Global Prayer Initiative:
Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday 2022
(Thursday 26 May – Sunday 5 June)***

I write to you at a time when we are especially conscious of the need for action in response to the situation in Ukraine. It is beyond the capacity of any one of us to fully comprehend the enormity of the situation and the consequences of what is taking place. Many people in our country have put concern into action by supporting agencies bringing aid to those in need in time of war and I encourage you to do so.

Alongside this, there is an accompanying action that we can all take: Prayer.

If, like me, you find it difficult to know how to pray at such a time as this, we may recall the words of the Apostle Paul and the assurance they bring:

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words. (Romans 8: 26)

As we pray with frail words, the Spirit intercedes for us 'with sighs too deep for words'.

It is with a concern for prayer that I write to you to commend the *Thy Kingdom Come Global Prayer Initiative 2022*:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

In November 2018, the Church of Scotland committed 'to encouraging all its parishes and people to join in *Thy Kingdom Come*' and we have done so in the years since then and I gladly do so once more.

In 2022, *Thy Kingdom Come* takes place from Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday: 26 May – 5 June and I should wish to highlight the Prayer Journal commissioned for this year and the other new resources available: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/new-2022>

This is complemented by high quality youth resources: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/youth>

...and by resources for younger children: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/cheekypandas>

May I commend *Thy Kingdom Come 2022* and encourage you to consider participating in this global prayer initiative at a time when our world stands in the need of prayer.

Wishing you every blessing,

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Lord Wallace of Tankerness QC
Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

Rt Hon Lord Wallace of Tankerness QC
121 George Street • Edinburgh, EH2 4YN
Tel: 0131 225 5722 • Email: moderator@churchofscotland.org.uk • Web: www.churchofscotland.org.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC011353

Cheviot Churches Elders and Districts

Leslie Thomson	West of Morebattle, Eckford and Crailing.
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 Cheviot Place, The Crescent, Duncanhaugh and Hayhope
John Thompson	Grafton Corner, Yewtree Lane, Road and Bank to Romany House
Susan Stewart	Deanfield Place, Court, Road and Bank. Back Lane and Dairy Wood.
Stuart Kelly /Tom Tokely	School to butcher and Dow Brae, Morebattle Road from top to Cheviot Place.
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)
Debbie Brown	Postal

Church Services – Yetholm, Linton and Morebattle.
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)

Minister:

Rev. Colin Johnston
The Manse (formerly The Old Police House)
Main Street, Morebattle, TD5 8QG
Phone No. 07492705275 or 01573440539
Email revcdj60@gmail.com

Session Clerk:

Susan Stewart, 22 The Yett Kirk Yetholm, Kelso TD5 8PL
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