

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

CHEVIOT



Summer 2022



Prayer Corner



Creator God we experience the warmth of the sun's embrace, the gentle breeze swept in by the incoming tide, the rhythm of seasons, new birth, death and recreation. All these speak so clearly of your love, power, and beauty. All are expressions of your creativity, and more importantly of yourself. As an artist might share his personality within each brushstroke, so within the myriad colours of a butterfly's wing you share the exuberance of your love.

That we can glimpse you within creation is a beautiful thought, but also tells us that you desire to be seen, to be found and known. Open our eyes, Lord, as we walk through this world, feel the wind and sunshine, and see the majesty of creation unfolding before our eyes. Help us to see you afresh! Amen.

From the Manse

Dear Friends,

It is almost three years since I came to this area, but because of the Pandemic, it is only now that I am experiencing some of the rich local traditions. In Yetholm there was the installation of the Bari Gadgi and Bari Manushi (I spent ages practising the pronunciation!), with their Kirkin' soon afterwards. The church was full with lots of people wearing rosettes and also visitors from some of the other Border towns. It is wonderful to be able to celebrate community life and to see the support given. The same day as the Kirkin', I drove up the beautiful Kale Valley to Hownam, where we had the Vigilante service. The Kelso Laddie and several others had ridden from Kelso, via Caverton Mill to Hownam, and we had a short service, followed by a wonderful spread in the hall. Then a week later, in Morebattle, the Jed Callant and Kelso Laddie met to the sound of pipes and brass bands in a festival atmosphere, and it was all very amicable. They even danced an eightsome reel! Covid has in many ways made us re-assess how we do things (and we will do things differently), but I am so glad that our local traditions are still strong – and I look forward to witnessing others, such as the Rideout to Yetholm in late July.

For the Vigilante service, I was desperately searching my Bible for references to horses and riders, but several the references were negative, like the four horsemen of the Apocalypse. However, I eventually came up with the chariots and horses of fire, which took Elijah up to heaven in 2 Kings, which reminded me of the film of the same name and the story of Eric Liddell. Liddell was a rugby internationalist for Scotland and a top athlete. He famously gave up the chance of glory in the 100m race in the 1924 Paris Olympics, for which he was the favourite, because the heats were run on a Sunday. For Liddell Sunday was a day for worship and not for sport. Instead, he ran in the longer 400m race, won gold and set a world record. He celebrated the gift of speed that God had given him and used it well. He was highly principled, however, and gave up further sporting fame in order to work as a missionary in China, where he died in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp, serving others.

It has been good to have our five churches within the parish open again for people to visit, and from comments in the various visitors' books it has been much appreciated. It has also been good to see so many people walking the St Cuthbert's Way (including the Archbishop of York!) and Pennine Way. They enrich our communities, as well as bringing income to our area. I have only walked a few sections of the St Cuthbert's Way but

hope to walk it all in October in my kilt in order to raise funds for the church.

I hope you all have a marvelous summer. Some of you will travel to faraway places, whereas others will enjoy working in their gardens. Whatever you do and wherever you go, I hope it will be a relaxing time and that you can marvel at God's wonderful creation.

Every blessing
Colin

Harvest of the Lambs

The service celebrating the lambing was held in Hownam in May. The church was beautifully decorated with woolen products, pom-poms, a spinning-wheel and items associated with shepherding, like a crook and even a picture of a collie. There were no live lambs, but rather some incredibly realistic models, which were cleaner and better-behaved! It was a well-supported service, with worshippers coming from all parts of our parish. Our thanks to all who helped make it a success.



Kelso Foodbank

Thanks to all who contribute to the Foodbank. There has, however, been additional demand on it recently due to the cost-of-living crisis. Please do give generously.

For your information, the following is a list of what is included in a 'parcel':

1x Cereal or Oats	1x Dessert (Tinned)
1x Pasta	3x Soup (Tinned)
1x Rice	1x Prepared Pasta
2x Baked Beans	2x Tomatoes (Tinned)
1x Fruit (Tinned)	2x Vegetables (Tinned)
1x Jam (NOT Homemade)	1x Pulses
1x Meat (tinned)	1x Biscuits
1x Pasta Sauce	1x Potatoes (Tinned)
1x Tea or Coffee	1x Prepared Meal (Tinned)
1x Miscellaneous	2x Fish (Tinned)

BIRDBATH DRAWS A LINE

As his readers know, Rev. Birdbath is passionately fond of birds, and is happy to keep open house for everything from Bluetits to Penguins, although sadly very few of the latter visit Cheviot Parish. However, this Spring when the House-Martins returned from Africa he had to be cruel to be kind. A pair of them swooped into his garage and immediately began work on a bijou residence high up on a beam in the furthest corner. If he left the garage door open for more than a split-second, they arrived; and not only they, but a whole extended family of a dozen or more, all helping to build the nest and chattering excitedly, swooping in and out. He only had to approach the garage door, car keys in hand, and they all turned up. Sadly, he had to take a long pole and remove the incipient nest before there was any question of eggs being laid and a family hatched. He kept the door closed except for the briefest necessities, as he could not possibly have left it open for them day and night (and their toilet arrangements, mostly on the roof of his car, left much to be desired). The House-Martins were not pleased, and Birdbath felt very bad about it. Meanwhile he would encourage SBC and any Councillors who may read this, to think seriously about the crying need for affordable housing, in sensible and accessible

places, for the human community – and he puts out lots of extra nuts for the birds to make amends.

A plan was hatched!

If you were passing the Wauchope Hall at 12 noon on Saturday 4th June 2022 you may have wondered what was happening, due to the cheering and clapping. Was a celebrity in the village?

What could possibly cause so much noise and commotion?

The answer was simple, HRH The Queen had arrived at the Platinum Jubilee Tea Party.

Scottish Borders Council were providing Grant funding, up to £2,500, for community events which were celebrating the Platinum Jubilee. Yetholm Festival decided that they would apply for the funding and oversee the event – if successful.

The idea of a Jubilee Tea Party started in mid-February 2022. Amid much excitement and enthusiasm, the plans went from buying a life-sized cardboard cutout of the Queen to “Let’s ask Dot (Lee) if she would dress up as the Queen for us”. The latter was one of the best decisions we made, and we are so grateful to her for agreeing.

Three key decisions were made, one being the Queen, another was to try and keep the grant funding within the Yetholm community as much as possible – for the benefit of the local village economy, and the final decision was to offer a delivery service to anyone who couldn’t come down to the hall to join in.

Estimates and quotes for food, decorations were received. Confirmation from the Primary school that no Jubilee souvenirs were planned, so we included a Jubilee gift for all primary and nursery children. The Floral Gateway team were asked if they would plant a tree in each village – as a legacy – and which they agreed.

The plan and grant application were finalised and submitted: we would be catering for 200 people in a decorated Wauchope Hall between 11am and 4pm on Saturday 4th June, with a delivery service option; there would be Jubilee souvenirs for the primary and nursery children; two trees would be planted – one in each village – as a lasting Jubilee legacy.

To our amazement, and joy, willing volunteers came forward to ask if they could help. We were in a position of having 14 bakers from within the village eager to be involved.

And so we waited for a response to our application. And we waited and waited. Due to the high number of applications, it was taking much longer than anticipated to assess all grant applications and make the final decisions to award funding. Eventually, the long-awaited email arrived to

confirm we had been successful, and the full funding was to be made available to us.

A Platinum Jubilee account was established at the village shop and all bakers were encouraged to get their ingredients from there. Additional supplies of milk, sugar etc. would also be purchased from the village shop – all to help with the village economy.

The day arrived, and the hall was decorated with bunting and balloons. The table of food was a feast to the eyes, and with more behind the scenes, the village bakers had exceeded expectations. Our “helpers”, who had agreed to help serve the teas for an hour, were mainly with us for the duration of the day. The atmosphere in the hall prior to the Queen arriving was wonderful, but from her arrival it was on a different level completely. She was greeted at the door by our Principals, Alex and Poppi, and shown to her table. After a few words, she was seated enjoying a cup of tea and a selection of food.

Special thanks must go to Dot Lee (HRH the Queen), James Jeffrey (her chauffeur), Geoffrey Emerson – who played a trumpet fanfare marking her arrival, our team of 14 bakers and many helpers who also prepared the “picnic” boxes and delivered them to our local residents.

This was truly a moment in history which many of us will never see again and was so special to be a part of.

Fiona Thomson



QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AT MOREBATTLE

A Small Group started off proceedings with a meeting to decide what we could do to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. A Grant was made available from SBC and Kalewater Community Council applied for this. On Saturday 4th June a large turnout of all ages made their way to the first ever event held in the New Recreation Ground behind the Hotel and Hall – which had been decorated with bunting, some of which was made by Morebattle Primary School. A Jubilee Bake-Off created great interest when Best Decorated and Best Tasting Victoria Sponge was judged. Best Decorated 1st Jenny Thomson, Runners-up – Keira Cleland and Jubilee Cottage Girls.

Best Tasting 1st Jen O'Mara, Runner-up Andy McIntosh. Jenny and Jen also had the pleasure of unveiling the New Commemorative Bench made by Mark Jones.

The afternoon proceeded with Bouncy Castles, inflatables and games. A BBQ was on offer supplied by the Templehall Hotel.

In the evening Live Music was supplied by Barny and Friends in the Village Hall which finished off the day's celebrations.

Catherine Mabon

HOWNAM PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

On Sunday 5th June 100 locals attended a Platinum Jubilee party at Hownam Village Hall, which was very suitably decked out in red, white and blue bunting. As it was a lovely afternoon, we held the party outside, enjoyed a hog roast and lots of delicious home-made desserts including the new recipe Jubilee trifle. A beautiful cake, made and decorated by Linda Nairn, was cut by Jean Douglas (Hownam Grange) and Ellora Loder (Upper Chatto), the eldest and youngest people attending. All the children in the valley received a Hownam Jubilee party bauble as a keepsake, a lovely reminder of this very special occasion. Well done and thanks to everyone who helped out to make it a lovely afternoon.

**Ann Redpath
The Yett,
Hownam, Kelso.**

Craft Club

The Craft Club in Yetholm Church will finish at the end of June and resume at the beginning of September (Monday 5th) in Yetholm Church. All Welcome.



CHEVIOT PRAYER GROUP

After more than two years of “lockdown,” our Prayer Group was delighted to be able to actually meet together once again in lovely Linton Kirk on Tuesday 19th April since when we have met there each Tuesday from 6.30 - 7 pm.

All during the time we were unable to physically meet, a “Prayer Letter” was emailed to everyone who wanted it, so we were able to continue to pray for our Community, our Church family, for Colin our Minister and for all that concerned our Cheviot Churches, as well as for our nation and our world during these difficult days.

There were a number of bereaved families we held in our prayers, as well as all our older, “vulnerable” people; our children, missing 2 important years of their school life; and all who struggled in various ways during this very difficult period. If you were here, we prayed for you!

How thankful we were to be able to keep in contact via email and pray together in this way, in our own homes.

Now we are back in Linton Kirk, we spend some time in quiet contemplation and sometime bringing to God those people and things that that are concerning us. We would love you to join us any Tuesday evening if you are able; you will be very welcome — or just ask us to pray about your concerns.

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests “ (Philippians ch 6 vs 18)

Prayers and blessings from Cheviot Prayer Group

Kathleen Bates (Prayer co-ordinator) 01573 420259

My Easter Cross

Faith is a personal thing, a private relationship with God. A relationship that can be deep and long lasting, and one which changes from day to day. One thing faith is not, and that's just for Sundays.

During the period of Covid lockdown I looked forward, living in hope of the day when I could see my friends again and do normal things. When freedom came, it came gradually, cautiously, and at our own pace - I still use a mask on the train!

During that time, I came up with the idea of making my own cross at Easter. I wanted to remember those friends who had died, those days we had lost, the freedoms sacrificed for the greater good. So, I made my preparations.

I gathered a couple of old branches from beside the Kale and put them aside to dry. I made colourful florets with squares of cloth, sewing them, and reflecting on what they could mean, yellow for life and hope, purple for bruising and red for blood. Yellow for the life and hope Jesus has given us, purple for the painful bruises he received during his beating, and red blood for the life blood that dripped from his wounds. Finally, I collected ivy from Linton churchyard, a symbol of everlasting life as it is an ever-green plant.

On Easter Saturday these items were brought together by myself and Trish Gentry into a living colourful cross. Trish brought some daffodils which we put at the centre of piece. We did this in the centre of the village in sight of everyone, as a personal witness of faith. The walkers of the St Cuthbert's

way all asked what we were doing, and so played their part in the faith journey.

Rev. Colin loved it so much he took it into the church as the altar centre piece for Sunday's wonderful service to celebrate our risen Lord.

Let's do something similar next year. Something that shows we have faith enough to share with others. Please let me know your ideas.

Melanie Eve.



HOPE AND HOMES FOR CHILDREN

JUNE 2022 – an update from Heather McNally

Two years ago, Hope and Homes for Children were, like everyone else, learning how to cope with the worldwide COVID19 pandemic – hoping and expecting it to be over very soon. We were doing all we could to mitigate the effects of lockdown, loss of jobs, health problems and everything that we now understand to be the long-term effects of the virus. We, as an organisation, worked hard throughout, with our teams on the ground doing everything within their power to help the families and children who needed us more than ever. Our generous supporters did not let us down, and we were able to keep on with our core business of closing orphanages and rehoming children with their families, foster families, or specialist care, not forgetting the care and guidance we give to teenagers and young people who have left the institutions with no life skills. As the pandemic eased, we were looking forward to moving on, with new projects always on the horizon.

But on 24th February, the unspeakable happened as Russia invaded Ukraine. Today, as I write, Reuters report that 24,000 Ukrainians have lost their lives, and 11 million people are displaced both within the country, and as a steady stream of refugees fleeing to the countries that border Ukraine. Hope and Homes for Children have worked for almost 25 years in Ukraine, but there were still an estimated 100,000 children in orphanages in the country and no figures for how many children are now homeless, either fleeing with or without family members, or hiding trying to keep safe. With the Russians targeting hospitals, schools and designated shelters with shells, missiles, and illegal cluster bombs, getting these children to safety is of paramount importance. As fighting intensifies, the staff in Ukrainian institutions are fleeing, leaving large numbers of children to face the dangers of war, alone. Our brave colleagues in Ukraine are providing direct, emergency provisions to families and children, and our CEO, Mark Waddington has been in the north of Romania, at the border with Ukraine, setting up emergency reception centres supplying physical and psychological support, and helping to arrange humanitarian corridors to evacuate babies and children; developing a regional response to keep track of the children and try to reunite them with family or carers. Alongside other NGOs they are working to avert a child protection emergency of epic proportions – refugees fleeing, particularly children, are extremely vulnerable to being trafficked or exploited in many other ways. Let me tell you of one group of 63 children, carers and their families. Our teams from Ukraine and Romania worked closely to prepare, evacuate, and safely receive 43 children, plus 11 adult support staff and carers and their

families (9 other children) from the centre in Dnipropetrovs'k to a safe location in Romania. The children had been subjected to bombing for over a week and Dnipro is currently under heavy fire. We deemed it essential to the children's safety to move them. Working with the authorities in both countries, an invitation was sent by the Romanian government which fulfilled all the legal requirements for moving vulnerable youngsters across borders and the children left Dnipro by train for Mukachevo, a three-hour bus ride from the border. A coach met them to cross into Romania; our Ukrainian team had asked for the coach to arrive with hot water to make baby food, motion sickness tablets which are not available in Ukraine, and a doctor. Overall, it took 26 hours to reach the border, where they arrived at 3.49 in the morning. Our Romanian team met them, and customs registration then took 4 hours or so. Our Ukrainian colleague Dasha had all their papers and was invested with the legal responsibility to register them. A 10-hour drive by bus, minibus or car followed to reach a safe refuge in Iasi, where emergency accommodation was waiting for them. The youngsters are now under the care of a multidisciplinary team including a psychologist, therapists and social workers who will identify their needs, supported by our staff. Our spokesman on the ground, Robert Ion says: "We are ensuring that these children get what we demand for every child. They are tracked. That they are relocated to temporary safe accommodation, close to Ukraine. That they are not lost into far away institutions around the world, or at risk of trafficking. That they are relocated with their care- givers (and their care- givers families) – the ones who know best the children's individual needs, treatments, or simply their preferences.

This evacuation is an example of best practice. And we demand the same for the 100,000 children left behind in Ukrainian orphanages."

Those of us who have been part of Hope and Homes for Children since its beginning, in Sarajevo in 1993, are watching the same things happening all over again – and the same people, the children, being the victims. The children of Ukraine were leading normal lives 4 months ago: playing with friends, learning at schools, eating regular meals. Now, like the children were in Sarajevo nearly 30 years ago, they are hiding in basements, fleeing along icy roads looking for safety or standing on chaotic train platforms as their frightened mothers hope they can take them to safety. The bewildered faces are the same, along with the tears and quivering voices. The emergency priority now is keeping such children safe and supporting those who will end up being orphaned and abandoned among the increasing flood of victims and refugees. Our country teams in Lviv, Kyiv and Dnipro are working day and night providing practical, lifesaving support to

thousands of vulnerable children, parents and carers, helping them access food, water and protection. We anticipate reaching 1000 families (approximately 3000 people) in the coming weeks in Kyiv alone. We are working closely with UNICEF and the World Health Organisation as well as our own partner organisations within Ukraine and the bordering countries to use our expertise to ensure border crossings are as safe as they can be for vulnerable children and young people, and to advocate for the safe reunification of families as soon as possible, and where it is not possible, to find secure foster homes and families.

These children can't shout for themselves – they need us to do it for them. They need us more than ever now.

Please help us to help the helpless.

www.hopeandhomes.org

Whose we are and Whom we serve.

Although we were all advised to check our copies of the June Life and Work, I searched in vain for the Guild report which did not appear to warrant a mention despite the plaudits received during the Assembly. While the report itself, superbly presented by our convener, is a detailed account of the work undertaken throughout the year, the comments, I feel, are interesting and ought to be shared to encourage our members. Hope that you agree!

The Assembly was once again most generous in its praise for the work and commitment of the Guild movement. Several gentlemen complimented and congratulated 'the ladies of the Kirk' on their amazing achievements. Mention was made of the incredible success of the Project Partners over the years, showing how much ahead of the curve their work in mission has been. Another gentleman stressed that it was high time to ditch the old caricature of old ladies knitting, drinking tea and providing delicious buffets for all kirk functions. That is no longer true. They are creative, innovative, open to change and are doing amazing work in mission, for us, with us and despite us.

All delegates repeatedly urged others to "Let that be known to your elders, your ministers and presbyteries." The Moderator had the final word after the report had been received. The group in his church was disbanding as no one was willing to act as convener. He offered to stand in for a year – which became four. He enjoyed it tremendously discovering the creative, informative, innovative, and exciting work in which the Guild is involved year in and year out. He asked that members should commend this to all elders, ministers, presbyteries, and sessions. "Let it be known..." He then extended the warmest regards, best wishes, and grateful thanks of the Assembly to all members of the Guild for the work that they do.

(Unfortunately, he did not remind delegates that the Guild was reformed in 1997 when it was no longer considered necessary that the work must be conducted solely by women. The new constitution welcomed male members.)

Here endeth the first lesson.

Sales pitch over Time to get down to business - not a lot. Please read on.

The total amount raised for the current three-year projects is £587,155.38.

Since the initiative began in 1969 a total of £7,347,490.32 has been raised.

Quite a remarkable achievement, testament to the outward looking nature of our Guild. Written on behalf of all members of our local Guilds.

Anne Brown.

Christian Aid Week 2022

Many thanks on behalf of the partner organisations supported by Christian Aid to all those who helped raise the total £946.80 this year. Thank to those who delivered the envelopes in the villages especially to Melanie Eve for organising at the Morebattle end. Perhaps next year we can encourage a few more folk to pop the envelopes through letterboxes. Thank you to the 2 community shops for agreeing to hold the collecting boxes but most of all thank you to all those who donated money and returned full envelopes. Christian Aid is an important and much respected international development agency, and the work of the partners helps develop sustainable projects to alleviate poverty and the effects of climate change. It is also a big player in emergency situations being prepared for predicted situations and able to release funds quickly when disasters occur.

Autumn Retreat to Holy Island. An Away Day/retreat to Lindisfarne last happened in June 2019, before Colin came to Cheviot Churches. As the Covid situation has eased people have been asking when we can go again. Finding a day that suits everybody, when the centre is available and most importantly when the tides match with our wishes is tricky. Saturday 22nd October fits criteria 2 and 3 and so it is now up to us. St Cuthbert's Centre is booked for the day from 10a.m. until 5 p.m. so whatever the weather we have somewhere to shelter. The centre has kitchen and toilet facilities and is in the middle of the village and other amenities. Participants share transport and food provision (for lunch and coffee/tea) but no activity is compulsory and time is given to enjoy this special place. We share the cost of the centre hire so the amount will depend on numbers. Details of activities and requirements will be sorted out nearer the time.

Anyone is welcome to join us in a day of quiet fellowship. If you would like to be a part of this day please give your name with contact phone or email (preferably on a piece of paper) to Trish Gentry and indicate if you are willing to drive and take passengers. No one should be left out because they do not have transport.

Heritage Centre

Yetholm Heritage Centre was opened on 21st May with a grand ceremony and with tea and cakes. The Centre was opened by Jan Rae whom many in the village will remember. She is the widow of Bill Rae who was a founder member of Yetholm History Society. Bill collected a large archive of photographs, information, and memories from villagers, many of whom could remember back to the 1920s. Bill was the driving force to find the History Society a building in which to house its archives. Bill lived to see our acquisition of the old Mission Hall but sadly died before its refurbishment as a Heritage and Archive Centre. Before coming to Yetholm, Bill was a well-known journalist in Edinburgh and Jan regaled us with various eye-popping tales of what he had seen and done, including reporting on the last hanging sentence in Scotland and wearing Edinburgh's civic chain of office around his waist in a money belt for safe keeping when accompanying the Lord Provost to a conference in Japan.

As well as our own members, we invited approximately 60 guests –to the Opening as a way of thanking those who have donated photographs, information, and artifacts to the Heritage Centre or who have contributed funding to the Heritage Centre. Our oldest guest was a bronze-age spearhead, part of the famous Yetholm hoard dug up in the 1800s from the boggy land between the Kelso Road and Cherrytrees. The spearhead was lost and turned up again in the grounds of Thirlestane House where it was found by two of our members, Catherine Ross, and John Wylie in 2010. The spearhead is normally kept locked in its vaults by the Borders Museum Service, but as a special concession, the curator, Andrew Tulloch, kindly brought it to the Heritage Centre personally for our Grand Opening.

Guests were also entertained by the Border pipes, played expertly by Matt Seattle, a long-time friend of Yetholm History Society who has assisted our research into aspects of local history with his scholarly knowledge of Border pipe music.

In addition to inspecting the Heritage Centre display in Town Yetholm, guests were taken by a shuttle bus to the church in Kirk Yetholm, where the History Society, with the co-operation of the kirk, has mounted a permanent display of interpretative panels and artifacts that tell the story of the church in Yetholm from St Cuthbert's time to the twenty-first century.

The Heritage Centre is open every day of the week, from 10.00am to 4.30pm until the end of September. We have already had visitors from Canada, the United States and Europe as well as either side of the Border. Comments so far have been extremely enthusiastic and complementary.

Elizabeth Watson

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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COUNCIL**



**Garfield Weston
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Dates for diary

July

Sunday 3rd – Yetholm Village Choir Concert at 7.30pm in St Andrews Church Kelso.

Scotland Garden Scheme – Open Gardens in Morebattle 10.30 – 5pm

Tuesday 10th – Morebattle Festival Week Open Meeting in Village Hall at 7pm. All Welcome.

Wednesday 13th – Morebattle Senior Citizens Trip to Peebles. Leave from top of village at 1pm.

Saturday 23rd – Kelso Laddie Ride to Yetholm. Arrives 11.30am.

New Recreation Ground Coffee Morning in Village Hall Morebattle at 10.30am.

Tuesday 26th – Yetholm and District Community Council meet at 7pm in Yetholm Church.

August

Sunday 7th – Friday 12th – Morebattle Festival Week (various events)

Saturday 13th – Morebattle Games at The Tofts at 1pm

September

Thursday 8th – National Theatre Live Screening at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. “Much Ado About Nothing” Entry £12 at door.

Friday 9th – Bingo Night in Wauchope Hall at 7pm.

Wednesday 14th – Morebattle S.W.I in Institute 7.15pm. Sandra Pedlington – Morebattle History. Competition – Old photo of Morebattle memories. Please bring a friend along.

Saturday 17th – Film Night in Wauchope Hall at 7pm. “Belfast” (12) Entry £6 at door.

Morebattle Flower Show in Village Hall. Doors Open 3pm.

Saturday 24th – Macmillan Coffee Morning at 10.30am in Wauchope Hall.

October

Saturday 1st – Yetholm Shepherds Show on The Haugh Town Yetholm.

Thursday 6th – National Theatre Live Screening at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. “Jack Absolute Flies Again” Entry £12 at door.

Saturday 8th – Film Night in Wauchope Hall at 7pm. “Death on the Nile” (12) Entry £6 at door.

Tuesday 11th – Scottish Opera 60th Anniversary Tour at 7.30pm in Wauchope Hall. Tickets available online at Scottish Opera site from July or contact Susan Stewart for further information.

Saturday 29th – The Quiggs Folk Duo Live in Concert at Wauchope Hall at 7.30pm. Entry £10. Refreshments available.

Morebattle Lunch Club meets every Tuesday at 12pm in Institute. Resumes after school holidays on Tuesday 3rd September.

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

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

Coffee in Yetholm Church is back! – every Tuesday from 10.30 – 12noon. All Welcome



Summer has arrived!

Our wee shop continues to be busy with visitors and our community. As COVID restrictions have reduced, festivals and events are opening up again.

It was great to welcome The Kelso Laddie and The Jethart Callant to the Annual Tryst on Sunday 19th June, and all the folk who came along to participate in the day. Our coffee machine was very popular, as was the seating both at the front of the shop and in the garden at the back of the shop.

We have also been busy planning our third AGM, due to take place on the 26th July in the Institute Hall, Morebattle. The shop has been in community

ownership for three years and the time has flown. Over the past few months, since COVID restrictions have been lifted, we have made a lot of improvements to the shop – new chillers and fridges, new floor, painting, shelving, garden shed.

None of this would be possible without our amazing volunteers, managers Pauline and Roddy, Volunteer Co-ordinator Emma and our Board.



Songs of Praise. August 21st 2022.
Hownam Kirk 6.30p.m. We hope to use your favourite hymns. Write your name, the hymn, and a few words as to why you chose it. Hand it to Colin or any of your elders if you would like it to be included.

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 23rd Sept. 2022

**j.stewart134@btinternet.com, johnmabon431@btinternet.com
anne.scottbrown@btinternet.com**

Register

Baptism: Jenny Clair Gilchrist

Wedding: Ashley Tait and William Johnston, Sophie Penman and Darren Cessford.

Deaths: Hilda Dunbar, Stuart Lesenger, Rob Keddie, Betty Cook, Kenneth Sibbald, Ted Thomson, Audrey Gibson, Kenny McLaren.



Interested in Joining our Team?

Staff Vacancy

We are looking for an additional staff member to join our team on a temporary basis. Working as part of a rota system, with the support of volunteers, you will gain experience of all aspects of the shop from morning papers and serving customers to assisting with stock management and stacking shelves. There is also the opportunity to train as a Post Office Assistant as part of the role.

This is a temporary part-time position, minimum 10 hours each week with additional hours as required, for 3 months. The work includes some early mornings and weekends, and applicants must be over 18 as we sell alcohol and tobacco. Training will be given.

Yetholm shop has just moved to temporary premises in the village while the existing shop is completely refurbished so it is an excellent time to get involved in this community project.

If you would like to apply please contact Louisa O'Brien at yeshsecretary@gmail.com with a brief summary of your experience and interests.

June 2022

Support Colin's Kiltwalk – 08 October 2022

The Minister is on the move again! Building on his most successful fundraising Kiltwalk in 2021, our minister, Colin Johnston is planning another local walk as part of Kiltwalk's 'Virtual weekend' on Saturday 08 October.

Colin is planning to walk sections of St Cuthbert's Way, completing the section between Morebattle and Yetholm on the 8th of October. Once again Colin will be raising funds for Cheviot Churches and, thanks to the generosity of The Hunter Foundation, all sponsor money will topped up by an additional 50%.

So, let's get involved and support Colin for this fundraising challenge. Anyone can register directly with Kiltwalk at www.thekiltwalk.co.uk and then get sponsors to support Cheviot Churches.

Alternatively, you can sponsor Colin via his JustGiving page at <https://virtual.thekiltwalk.co.uk/fundraising/ScotlandsVirtualKiltwalk2022-ColinJohnston>

Some of us will be supporting Colin by joining him for the walk between Morebattle and Yetholm so why not join us? This section of St Cuthbert's Way involves a strenuous climb via Grubbit Law and along the ridge to Wideopen Hill and then on downhill to Yetholm. At 400m this is the highest point on St Cuthbert's Way. The hard climb is well worth it though for the views of both Cheviot and Eildon Hills.

Walkers should meet at Morebattle shop at 10.00hrs on Saturday 08 October. The walk will take approximately 3 hours. Please bring whatever refreshments you require. Wear some tartan if you can!

For further information, contact Simon Oldham – simonoldham@freeuk.com / 07778 772351

Volunteering Opportunity

Ever thought of joining the team on Iona?

We have a few short-term volunteer spaces, for specific roles, at Iona Abbey this summer.

You'll find details on our website www.iona.org.uk/about/vacancies

The Abbey team welcomes guests from many countries to Iona each week to explore issues of common concern - including the environment, peacebuilding, poverty & inequality, racism, refugees, inclusion & diversity, interfaith dialogue. We work together, we worship together, and we share meals as part of our common life.

We look forward to hearing from you

Get in touch with us, VolunteerApplications@iona.org.uk if you'd like to find out more.



As the end of another academic year comes and goes it is the point where we reflect and plan ahead. This year has not been without its challenges, but we have persevered and tried to keep a smile on our faces.

On behalf of both schools, I want to extend a huge thank you to our children, their families and our communities- your support and engagement with us is valued and appreciated.

Mr Jamie Wilson, Head Teacher

As a staff we wanted to share some of our highlights from this year- there have been so many!

Wild Wednesdays- the outdoor learning has been brilliant. Seeing everyone from ELC to P7 grow, develop and learn new skills

We have seen lovely changes in the outdoor space. We are growing potatoes, leeks and some lovely flowers. We have developed a new sandpit and the children love it!

Being able to go out into our local community and visit our surrounding farms with P4-7. We have seen so much diversity in land use around us. It brought learning alive again.

Spread Your Wings

This year has been so special
We've watched you learn and grow
But now the time has come for you
To spread your wings and go.

So hold your head up proudly
We know that you'll go far
You'll be a shining beacon
Just being who you are!

Taking part in some of the different activities after-school. We took a team to netball and 2 teams to basketball. Hopefully next year there will be even more opportunities!

Oktoberfest was a highlight. The community came together to support the school and raise money. It was a lot of fun and is something to look forward to

The virtual Christmas Show- "Wonkey Donkey". Primary 1-4 recorded the whole show to share with our families which was so funny!

Our Nursery getting awarded ratings of "very good" from the Care Inspectorate when they came to visit. To have this validation was amazing and reflects how much hard work we put in to getting it right for our children, they are amazing!

We have enjoyed the chances to work and share with families more again: Sports Day, the Summer Fair and the upcoming Prize Giving. We have really missed having families involved

Jolly Jubilee at Morebattle Primary School

As a school we celebrated the recent Queen's Jubilee in a few different ways. On Thursday 2nd June we were all allowed to come to school dressed up in nice clothes if we wanted- the teachers said that it was a Royal Celebration! They came in looking like they were going to a wedding, not in their normal school clothes.

In the morning we did some art but then something exciting happened. Excitedly, we gathered outside on the front grass where we planted a tree. It is a commemorative tree to mark the jubilee. When it is in season the tree produced leaves which are red and heart-shaped which we cannot wait to see. Our oldest and youngest children had a big part to play. For lunch we gathered in the Hall like we do at Christmas. The tables had all been set out with red, white and blue table clothes and the bunting which we had all helped to create was strung across the hall. It really felt like a party.

As a gift our Parent Council gave all of us a special coin. It is a commemorative coin for Queen Elizabeth to mark her platinum jubilee.



A Right Royal Celebration: The Platinum Jubilee at Yetholm Primary School

We had been building up to the Jubilee for weeks before the big event. Across the school we spent time talking about it with the children in class and as a staff we thought about how we can celebrate it together.

Nursery started off first designing bunting as part of a competition through the Bank of Scotland. It was designed for the theme of sustainability and highlighted lots of different ways we can look after the planet at school and at home. We are keeping our fingers crossed that we might win something!

In the morning we made crowns which the Primary 1-7 wore to lunch. We then came together to share in a story which was “Paddington at the Palace” which Mr Wilson read. Then we watched some of the Trooping



of the Colour before lunch. Our lunch was a big buffet in the hall which we had decorated with bunting and flowers. In the afternoon we played potted sports in mixed age groups. The day ended with a piece of cake which the Pop-up Café had donated to us and we were given a special present- a jubilee coin. It was a commemorative silver 50p with an



information booklet about it. Our teachers told us that is it something special to keep hold of for years to come!

Slides in Yetholm Church

One of my unexpected pleasures has been assembling the slides for Yetholm Church, even when it is sometimes frustrating to realise the computer thinks it knows better than me and “his” had become “him”, “gave” turned to “have” or “since” are now “sins”. It’s always salutary as well. It puts a niggler of humility in me – how could I have read this over and not realised? Well, in some ways, what we write and compile and draw and play are the places where our own errors are always least evident to us. It is always some other idiot that would muck up, but we are in our own eyes perfect. Christianity teaches us otherwise. We are the worst judges of what we do and say. If we were without flaw, we would not only not be human, but would not require grace.

There are times when I wince and think “but that’s not the translation of the Bible I was using!” To be fair, I’ve never tried to put the words up in koine Greek or Vulgate Latin or Lorimer’s Scots. And it doesn’t matter. The word speaks through the Word, and if there are differences, that is because at all times and in all places God speaks in a manner appropriate to his creation. It is only because of tears of proofing that I get annoyed at myself. Not as annoyed as when one colleague wrote about “Jane Austin” not “Jane Austen”.

But the images are the joy. I have been delighted that so many people have been curious, glad, mystified, annoyed or even just asking questions. It’s what every writer hopes for, and audience that doesn’t respond in the same

way each and every time. But most frequently I am asked about how I choose them. There are two answers. Sheer dumb luck is one, personal partiality is the other. I use tools like Google Images and Wikimedia Commons since I don't want us landed with a copyright infringement bill. So I then choose some words, or references, or ideas that Colin has mentioned and what I do is noodle and dawdle and see where such and such might take me next. It has taught me about Russian icons and how moving abstract art can be (Mark Rothko tipped his pictures to one side to let the paint run; they are usually rectangles in striking colours but retain a glimpse of a human having done this). I sometimes find it really difficult not to have Jesus as a blond, white man – and theologically irked, since after all the disciples are surprised at his white clothes at the Transfiguration. Which means he either didn't usually wear white, or Elijah and Moses brought along a twin tub to clean the dust and grime and sand off his cloak). Just allowing myself to wander over the vast history of Christian iconography makes me think, and think, and think again. If you ever have a question, a complaint, an idea, a preference, please speak to me. It will teach me something.

There is one deliberate typo in this article. One year's free church attendance if you can spot it.

Stuart Kelly

I received a folder of poems and fun verses from Janice Harvey which her Mum Netta had compiled over the years. I thought I would try and share some of these with you in each edition – space permitting.

Home Truths - Anon

The joiner's wife complaining that the door is off the straight
He'd be happy to repair it Ah but when! she'll have to wait

The plumber's wife's complaining the hot is running cold
She hopes that hell repair it but he's busy, so she's told

The painter's wife's complaining that the living rooms a sight
Her man is keen to do it but he's busy day and night

The Doctors wife's complaining that he's curing other folk
Yet he doesn't even listen – her rheumatic is no joke

For the wives of certain experts, it really is a life
But the one who's not complaining is the undertaker's wife

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:

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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
