

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

# CHEVIOT



Winter 2023



## Prayer Corner



### May Your Light Shine Forth

Almighty God, who has poured upon us the new light of your Incarnate Word; Grant that the same light enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Book of Common Prayer*

Be Our Light for the New Year, Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Risen Christ, be with us today and always. Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter. Be our Strength, our Courage, and our Sanctifier. Amen

## Letter from the Manse

What does Christmas mean to you? ‘Hold your horses’, I hear you say. ‘We are hardly out of autumn!’. Indeed, this autumn has seen some glorious days – though also the occasional storm. The colour’s of the trees have been breathtaking, and as we move into winter months, we hope that the weather will be benign. The nights are becoming darker, and we close our curtains earlier. Those who work will find themselves leaving in the dark and returning in the dark. The heating is on, and we try not to think of the bills. But as we approach Advent, it is with a sense of anticipation. I love lighting candles in Advent, for as they flicker, I remember the light that pierced the darkness. We need that, for there is an awful lot of darkness in our world at present with the war in Ukraine, the conflict in Gaza and worry about bills. We need the light to pierce our darkness; we need cheering up.

What does Christmas mean to you? For some it means time to go to the sun and relax in the warmth. For some of us, it is a time of carol singing and eating lots of mince pies. For many of us, it is a time for families to come together and eat and share gifts. Home is important. That is what I remember most at Christmas, for in the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, God makes his home among us. He is born as one of us and shares our lives with all the joy and agony, the pain and sorrow. He comes to us as Emmanuel: God with us.

In the novel, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, John Boyne tells the story of the 8-year-old Bruno, who moves with his family from Berlin to a Concentration camp, where his father is the commandant. Bruno is unhappy and lonely, but one day he wanders over to the camp and, behind the barbed wire, meets Shmuel, and they strike up a rather unlikely friendship. Bruno soon finds a secret way into the camp, but in order to fit in, he needs to dress as Bruno and the others dress, so he asks Shmuel to find him a pair of the same ‘pyjamas. Shmuel asks him if he is really sure he wants to do this, and Bruno replies that ‘There is no place I would rather be and no-one I would rather be with’. You will have to read the book to find out what happens, but maybe you can guess.

At Christmas, God is saying to us, ‘There is no place I would rather be and no-one I would rather be with’. God makes his home amongst us, and so with the shepherds and the Magi (another unlikely pairing) we bow down and worship.

Whatever you do at Christmas, I hope it will be a special time. You will be especially welcome at our services - our united service at Yetholm at 11am on Christmas Eve, at 6pm at Hownam and at 11.30pm for watchnight at Linton, before our united Christmas Day service at Morebattle at 10am – bring along your presents! And if Christmas is going to be difficult this year, come along to our Quiet Christmas service on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> in Yetholm.

Advent Blessings  
Colin



**Christmas and New Year Services**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December - 10am Yetholm  
11.15am Christening at Morebattle

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Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Quiet Christmas (for those for whom Christmas is difficult) 4pm in Yetholm Kirk

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December – 11am United Family Service at Yetholm  
6pm – Christmas Eve service at Hownam  
11.30pm Watchnight Service at Linton

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December – **10am** Christmas Day service at Morebattle

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December – 10am at Yetholm and 11.15am at Morebattle

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 11am United Service at Linton (followed by sherry and shortbread).

**Advent Study Group**

Everyone is welcome to attend the study group. We will meet on Thursday mornings at 10.30am during Advent (30<sup>th</sup> November 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> December). The first meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> of Nov will be held at the home of Arthur and Kathleen Bates, 4 The Yett, Kirk Yetholm. Thereafter the meetings will be at Cheviot Manse in Morebattle. This is an informal gathering, so feel free to come along.

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**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Kelso Churches Together will hold an ecumenical service to mark this at Kelso Old Parish Church on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 at 2.30pm. It is always good to come together with our fellow Christians from the different denominations, so please come along.

**Ash Wednesday**

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent. This year it seems to coincide with Valentine’s Day! There will a service at Hoselaw Chapel at 11am. This is always a special occasion, and everyone is welcome to attend.

### **Lent Study Group**

All are welcome to come together during Lent for study and fellowship. More details about times, venue and study material will be announced at church and put on the website nearer the time.

### **Sponsored Walk**

Saturday 30th of September saw a small (but intrepid) group from Cheviot Churches meet on the green at Kirk Yetholm to take part in a sponsored walk. We headed over into Halterburn, then along to Yetholm Mains and Venchen, over Venchen hill and then down to Cherrytrees ... finally back to Yetholm. The walk was seven miles all told. The skies were grey, though in many ways that meant conditions were ideal for a long(ish) walk - in any case, whatever the weather, the views were glorious.

Having completed the 14-mile Kiltwalk just the previous Saturday our minister took it all in his stride, though for some reason he didn't give the sermon on the following day from the pulpit - perhaps ascending the pulpit stairs was a step too much? We were all slightly disappointed that he wasn't wearing a kilt either.

Many thanks to Simon Oldham, who organised the event (and provided scones) and to Amanda Barnes, who gave us a cup of tea and some apple cake at Cherrytrees House, before we set off on the final stretch back home. The grand sum of £904.75 has been raised. Thanks to all involved.

### **The Yetholm Village Choir at Christmas 'Repeat the Sounding Joy'**

Last December we were all disappointed when at the last minute we had to cancel our Christmas Concert in the Kirk because of deep-frozen pipes between the building and the road. The Choir had worked so hard with our new conductor, Marion Scammell, to get ourselves up to concert pitch, and we know that the YVC Christmas Concert is welcomed by many as part of a Yetholm Christmas celebration.

Well, this year's festive offering is due to happen on **Sunday December 10<sup>th</sup>, at 5pm in the Kirk!** The Choir is rehearsing hard with Marion every Wednesday morning in the Youth Hall from 10.30 until 12.00, and we are all very encouraged by the lovely effect of our thirty-odd voices blending together to make a good choral sound. Our programme will include old and new carols, and we'll be joined by some familiar friends, such as Geoffrey Emerson and company. There will be an opportunity for everyone to join in one or two carols, and we look forward to a happy time together. Please note the start time (5pm) and watch out for posters everywhere as the day approaches.

Joy to the World! The Lord is come! Let Earth receive her King!

## Latest news from Malawi Fruits.

This is one of the projects that our Guild is supporting now.

### You think we have problems?

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The government in Malawi devalued the currency by 44%. It's hard to imagine what it is like to wake up to find that the small amount of cash you have in your pocket is now worth little more than half what it was the day before. Fuel and electricity prices also rose 45% that day. Some shops closed while they adjusted their prices.

This will affect the work of Malawi Fruits and everything they import - steel and polythene for greenhouses; solar pumps and drip kits for irrigation will cost considerably more.

This is a tough time for everyone in Malawi.

What it does mean is that the team must re-double their efforts to empower farmers to get high yields and high-quality crops to insulate themselves from the worst of the effects of this economic turbulence.

On a lighter note, from previous news, we see how resourceful some women are. It is much more labour saving to carry water from the nearby pumps rather than to wheel the whole machine, plus washing, to the lake and back home again. Well done girls.



*Spot the new type of  
washing machine.  
One of the growers at the  
Peace Co-operative said:  
"Do you like my  
washing machine?  
Much more ECO - friendly?"*

## **Christian Aid**

A copy of the latest issue of the **Christian Aid magazine** is available in the churches. It went to press just before the Hamas attack but there are articles about the work of Christian Aid partners in the occupied Palestinian territories, also in the Ukraine, South Sudan, Bangladesh, and East Africa and looking forward to COP28. You can read the magazine online at [caid.org.uk/magazine](http://caid.org.uk/magazine). You can also buy virtual gifts at [caid.org.uk/gifts](http://caid.org.uk/gifts). And look out for details of a Climate Justice Conference to be held locally in the new year involving Christian Aid, Eco congregation Scotland, the Guild, and the Church of Scotland.

## **About donkeys.**

Everyone has their own special Christmas traditions. Now someone is sure to point out that the nativity stories in the Gospels do not specifically mention any donkey but at Christmas time I like to reread a favourite book that tells the story of generations of donkeys. I must have been given it as a child and treasured it, but I must have lent it to someone who never returned it. However, an internet search procured another copy the same as the original though perhaps a little less 'used'. I was delighted to discover that this edition was the same age as myself but also that the names of two previous owners were marked inside, one with an address in Bradford. Julie and Lynne, I hope you loved the story too.

The book is beautifully illustrated with drawings and inside the back cover is a delightful map of the country where all the action happens. It is very sad to look at this it today and reflect on the current situation in that place although in the time of the story it was an occupied country.

There are other animals as well as donkeys, there is an ox and 3 camels. The ox and one of the donkeys have French names but the others have Persian, Arab, Aramaic, and Hebrew names which reflect their characters. The first donkey, which is not named, has a vision of an angel but it is her daughter who comes to be owned by the village carpenter and goes – yes- to Bethlehem and a little later to Jerusalem. But it is her grandson who bears a King and weeps for His death but is then blessed by a risen Christ.

Yes, you could call it all rather sentimental but throughout the book are references to Gospel stories and it is not just a Christmas tale but the story of the life of Jesus told by a family of donkeys which just happened to be around at the time and used their long ears and bright eyes to take notice and their strong bodies in faithful service to their masters and their Lord.

Donkey's Glory by Nan Goodhall first published by Mowbrays in September 1944.

# Morebattle

## Community Shop

Morebattle Community Shop has had a very busy Summer and Autumn with local residents and visitors (from all over the World) using the shop and enjoying the gardens in great numbers.

We have recently added a microwave to the shop facilities to allow customers to heat up food for meals and snacks and now have a range of microwavable snacks available. In addition, the shop has boosted its range of consumable gift ideas in the run up to the festive season and beyond, this is already proving popular with our customers, so if you haven't been in for a while, please pop in and see what's new. Hopefully something for everyone!

As always at this time of year too we are happy to supply fuels: bags of logs, kindling, fire lighters and other winter essentials, de-icer spray and ice scrapers, road salt, hot water bottles, lemsip, throat pastilles, and whisky for the hot toddies! Here to make your lives a little easier.

The shop appreciates all the support it receives from our customers and volunteers and is happy to support all the local fund-raising initiatives it can.

Staff, Volunteers and Shop Board wish all our customers a happy and peaceful festive season and look forward to continuing to welcome them all in 2024.

### **BIRDBATH'S FINAL OFFER (THIS IS HIS LAST APPEARANCE IN THESE PAGES, AND HE THANKS HIS FAITHFUL READERS OVER THE YEARS)**

Rev. Birdbath has a large collection of jam-jars (with their lids) which have accumulated over the years. Some bring back happy memories of breakfast toast loaded with his favourite Frank Cooper's Marmalade; others reflect his passion for Damson, Black Cherry and (when he can find any) Greengage jam.

He would be glad to shed the jars, as his jam-making days are now over, and he has parted with his faithful jam-pan.

Cheviot Jammers and Jelliers, here is your chance!

His phone number is 01573 420323.



## **Guild Christmas at The Temple 2022 by candlelight.**



The empty chair, of course, belongs to Colin - our own special photographer available at all times. This happy band of pilgrims shared a lovely meal in our own little village. We are so fortunate to have such a lovely, friendly meeting place without having to travel and hope to meet again this year for a similar celebration. Thanks to everyone at The Temple for providing us with such excellent service every year. Sent in by Anne Brown.

### **Craft Group Christmas Display**

The craft group will be mounting a small display on Monday, 4th December, between 2 and 4 pm, of items produced by members of the group so please do come along to Yetholm Church to see what we have been doing and perhaps be encouraged to join the group in the New Year. All are welcome, whatever their craft or experience. The exhibition is free and so are the tea or coffee and biscuits!

## **Christmas with Papa Panov.**

Long, long ago in a little village in a far-off country, Papa Panov, the shoemaker lived. He made all the shoes for the people there. Everyone loved the old man. He was very kind. When he was a young man, he had made the most perfect pair of slippers from the softest leather. He was so pleased with them that he decided to keep them for a very special baby. They were on the very top shelf in a little glass case. He often admired them.

It was Christmas Eve. As he closed the shutters of his little shop, he could hear excited children laughing and their parents rushing around getting everything ready for the very special day. It was quieter now. He could still hear faint sounds from behind the shuttered windows.

He remembered a time when his wife and children were with him, when they would have been busy too. He missed them. He was tired now. He sat down by the fire and took down the old family bible. Although it wasn't read often now, he read the Christmas story and thought again how sad it was that there was no room in Bethlehem for those poor people. If only they had come here, he would have found a space for them.

He took down the little slippers, thinking how soft they were. He must have fallen asleep as, next thing he knew, dawn was breaking. He stirred up the fire to make a pot of coffee. As he went to open the shutter, he looked along the street. Empty now, but the baker's shop had a light. He wished the baker a happy day as he bought his bread. Oh! There was the road sweeper. He looked old and tired and was dirty as usual. Poor soul. Coffee would maybe help, and a comfy, cozy seat by the fire.

The old man was happy to share the coffee and bread. He was not often welcome in any houses. As Papa Panov began to prepare the soup, he told the old man that he had had a lovely dream that night. Jesus had come in and said that he would be coming back to the shop that day. The old man said that it would be very exciting if he did come, so Papa invited him to come back later for some soup and he could meet Jesus too.

Every so often Papa Panov looked out to see if Jesus was coming but he was not sure what he would look like now. He must keep watch.

As the day went on, no one came who might be his special visitor.

People came to collect shoes that he had mended. They did not have much money, so they brought vegetables that they had grown or milk, butter, and jam. All things that they had made. That was fair payment. He did not need their money. Rich people paid him well as he was the best shoemaker around. Children came too, to warm themselves by the fire and to sup some soup with bread. They loved Papa Panov.

As he put the shutters up that evening. He took a last look along the street. It was empty now. But no, there was someone sitting on a little flower tub

further along. He called for them to come on in. It was a young girl with a little baby. She was cold and tired as she had come a long way to see a friend. She was glad to see the fire and have a hot drink. Papa suddenly thought of a bottle of fine wine that he had saved for an incredibly special occasion. The poor girl had missed Christmas Day with her friend. Maybe this would make her feel better. She did look so happy. He held the baby while she broke bread and sipped wine.

The baby wriggled out of the shawl and tried to catch his toes. As babies do. His feet were bare and cold. He had kicked off his shoes and lost them on the journey here. There was only one pair of infant shoes in the shop - on the very top shelf. He took them down and slipped them on to the little feet. They were a perfect fit. Although the girl said that she could not accept them, Papa Panov insisted that they must have been made for the child as they fitted so snugly.

When he had taken the two along to their friend's house Papa came home alone. One last look along the street. Empty now. Very disappointed, he thought that it had only been a lovely dream. Like Simeon, he had wanted to see the Christ Child. He was tired now. It had been a long day.

He was suddenly aware of a young girl sitting by a manger where a baby lay sleeping. When the baby stirred, the girl lifted him gently. She must be the mother. As the coverlet slipped away. Papa could see that the child was trying to catch the little toes. The feet were bare.

(Papa looked up at the special shoes. Maybe they would fit that little one. When he looked up, the perfect slippers were still there.)

The mother lifted a little box and slipped some shoes on to the baby's feet. They fitted perfectly. They looked so like his special slippers. The baby turned and seemed to smile at Papa. The mother smiled too.

He heard the voice of Jesus say, "Did not I tell you that I would come today.

I was every one of the people who you helped today".

Papa stirred. He must have been asleep. The last crust of the loaf, and a little drop of the special wine, were still on the table. He would have that now.

The baker would soon be open and there was soup to make. A new day had dawned.

"For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35:

*This beautiful little Christmas story was written in French by Ruben Saillens and made popular by the version written translated into English by Leo Tolstoy.*

## **Dates for diary**

### **December**

**Friday 1st** – Craft Fair at Border Hotel 2 – 6pm. Proceeds to Morebattle and Yetholm Playgroup

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Young Lives v Cancer Coffee Morning in Morebattle Institute at 10.30am.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Film Night in Wauchope Hall at 7pm. “The Lost King” (12). Entry £6 at door.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Morebattle Switch-on of Tree Lights with Carols at Institute at 6.30pm.

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>** – Craft Group Yetholm Church Open afternoon from 2 – 4pm

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>** – Kalewater Community Company AGM in Morebattle Village Hall at 7pm

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>** – Live Theatre Event in Wauchope Hall at 7.30pm. “The Ghost of a Smile”. Entry £12 at door or contact Susan Stewart to reserve seats.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** – Yetholm Village Choir Christmas Concert in Yetholm Church at 5pm.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>** – Morebattle SWI Musical Evening – Ukulele Group in Morebattle Institute at 7.15pm. Bring & Share Supper. Competition Christmas Tree Decoration

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>** – Children’s Christmas Party in Wauchope Hall at 2.30pm.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>** – Borders Water Rescue Team Santa Claus Visit to Yetholm and Morebattle 6 – 9pm.

### **January**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>** – Morebattle SWI in Morebattle Institute at 7.15pm. Anita Withers – Talk on Smallholding. Competitions Pig Ornament & Slice of Christmas Cake.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>** – Film Night in Wauchope Hall at 7pm. “Barbie” (U). Entry £6 at door.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>** – Kalewater Community Council at 7pm Morebattle Institute

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>** – National Theatre screening of “Dear England” at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Entry £12 at door.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>** – Cheviot Churches Coffee Morning in Morebattle Institute at 10.30am.

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>** – Yetholm and District Community Council meet at 7pm in Youth Hall.

## **February**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>** – Live production of “Whit like is it” John McEwan in his one man show all about Scotland and its history. Wauchope Hall at 7.30pm. Entry £10.

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Film Night in Wauchope Hall at 7pm. “Oppenheimer” (12). Entry £6.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>** – Morebattle Games Coffee Morning in Morebattle Village Hall at 10.30am

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>** – Morebattle SWI in Morebattle Institute at 7.15pm.

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>** – Kalewater Community Council at 7pm in Morebattle Institute.

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>** – National Theatre Screening of “Vanya’ at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Entry £12.

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>** – Yetholm and District Community Council at 7pm in Youth Hall.

## **March**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>** – Morebattle In Bloom Coffee Morning at 10.30am in Morebattle Institute.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>** – Film Night in Wauchope Hall at 7pm. “The Miracle Club” (12). Entry £6 at door.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>** – Morebattle SWI in Morebattle Institute at 7.15pm.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>** – Kalewater Community Council at 7pm in Morebattle Institute.

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>** – National Theatre Screening in Wauchope Hall at 7pm. Production to be confirmed.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Jo Caulfield as seen at Edinburgh Fringe Live Show in Wauchope Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets £16 – contact Susan Stewart to book.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>** – Yetholm and District Community Council at 7pm in Youth Hall.

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>** – Morebattle & Hownam Guild Coffee Morning in Morebattle Institute at 10.30am.

Morebattle Badminton Club Monday at 7pm in Morebattle Village Hall  
Tea Club every Tuesday from 2pm in Morebattle Institute. All welcome  
Light Exercise Class every Wednesday 10.30 – 11.30am in Morebattle Village Hall.

Morebattle Camera Club – Monthly 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7pm in Morebattle Institute.

Morebattle Bowling Club every Friday at 6pm in Morebattle Village Hall.

### **Church Diary**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** – Morebattle Guild Lunch in Templehall Hotel at 12.00 for 12.30pm

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January** – Morebattle Guild in Morebattle Institute at 2.00pm. Speaker Trish Gentry

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January** – Cheviot Churches Coffee Morning in Morebattle Institute at 10.30am.

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February** – Morebattle Guild in Morebattle Institute at 2.00pm. Speaker Debbie Brown plus Hands on Hand Bells.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** - Morebattle Guild in Morebattle Institute at 2.00pm.

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March** – Morebattle & Hownam Guild Coffee Morning in Morebattle Institute at 10.30am.

**Coffee at Yetholm Church every Tuesday from 10 30 – 12noon. All very welcome.**

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

### **Deadline**

**Please submit articles (including photographs) for the next edition of The Cheviot to a member of the editorial by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**[j.stewart134@btinternet.com](mailto:j.stewart134@btinternet.com), [johnmabon431@btinternet.com](mailto:johnmabon431@btinternet.com)**

**[anne.scottbrown@btinternet.com](mailto:anne.scottbrown@btinternet.com)**

### **Register**

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**Deaths: Alan Calvert, Joyce Burns, Pat Young, Margaret Gibson**

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### **The Ghost of a Smile – Live Production**

Coming to the Wauchope Hall Town Yetholm on Thursday 7th December after a successful run at this year's Edinburgh Fringe - The Ghost of a Smile. Two of Charles Dickens' creepy tales – with a comic twist. Tales with a tingle, but also a giggle! Two yarns to chill and charm: a traveller encounters a ghostly chair, and, in a deserted Edinburgh carriage works, a tipsy reveller is spirited away by, well... spirits! Like The Woman in Black – but funnier, with fewer people! Adapted and directed by Gavin Robertson and performed by Nicholas Collett. Tickets £12 cash at door or contact Susan Stewart on [j.stewart134@btinternet.com](mailto:j.stewart134@btinternet.com) to reserve your seats.

**Thursday 1st February at 7.30pm - John McEwan in his one man show – Country: Scotland. Whit like, is it?** - Professor Stramash conducts a headlong dash through the entire history of Scotland and Scottish Literature as he invites the audience to answer the question, Whit like? What is Scotland like? Is Scotland like anything? What, indeed, is Scotland? **Tickets £10**

**Jo Caulfield as seen at Edinburgh Fringe 2023 Saturday 23rd March at 7.30pm Wauchope Hall. Tickets £16 contact Susan Stewart to book.**

Voted 'Comedians' Comedian of The Year 2022', Jo has appeared on Mock the Week, Have I Got News For You, The John Bishop Show, Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow, The Royal Variety Performance, and Richard Osman's House of Games. Nominated as "the best female Stand Up in the country" (Chortle) and "one of the Top 100 Comedians" (Channel 4), Jo is a regular on Radio 4 and a returning guest on Breaking the News. Jo's first book, "The Funny Thing About Death" was published in August 2023.



**Here Comes Trouble** is 90 minutes of razor-sharp observations and scandalous one-liners, as Jo gets her claws into everything.

From stories about arguing with strangers on trains to dealing with over-enthusiastic supermarket staff and trying to recapture the magic in a long-term relationship to “helping” organise her newly divorced friend’s dating life, this is pure stand-up, delivered with nothing more than a microphone and a bad attitude. Packed with brilliant lines, embarrassing anecdotes and hilarious insights, *Here Comes Trouble* “will have you absolutely helpless with laughter.” – “The Herald”

### **What a pickle of a Pilgrimage.**

What is a pilgrimage? Does the word mean the same to everyone or are there many different opinions regarding that single word? Who knows! I would like to share a few, confused and confusing, thoughts on a walk that I considered to be a pilgrimage. One evening in 1978, if my memory serves me correctly, though I may be wrong, a group of folks in Morebattle Players joined many other fellow pilgrims beside the River Tweed near Roxburgh. We were making our way to Kelso Abbey following in the footsteps of the monks from Melrose. For many of them it was possibly the first journey along that path. They were thought to be on their way to establish a new abbey.

Many of us were in costumes that we thought peasants wore at that time. I remember vividly that I was a servant lassie. I still have the little mob cap, made from the remains of an old pillowslip. I still have it. Don’t know why. Just one of the things that I do. There were groups of lepers ringing handbells, shouting ‘Unclean’. I have very vague memories of flaming torches but that may not be true. Perhaps that was another pilgrimage.

My memory appears to be very selective tonight.

There was a great deal of chattering, singing, and capering around. We were young then. No trouble. That rarely happened around here at that time. All of this stopped as we neared Kelso. Walking along the banks of Tweed, we could see Kelso Abbey lit up in all its splendour.

That silenced everyone. Many of us had never seen such a building floodlit before. As television had not yet taken over, we had no experience of such wonders. It was a mysterious and magical illusion. It seemed that way to us. We walked in silence for the rest of the way, a strange eerie silence. Even the lepers stopped ringing their bells.

I have little thought of what happened afterwards. There was music. There must have been. It was called ‘Son et Lumiere’. There were most likely speeches too. My memory fails me there. Maybe Jimmy Mabon came



along in Adam's bus to take us home. Maybe it was a dream. I have tried to find anyone who shared the experience with no success. The folk I walked with are no longer around. Like so many other tasks, I have waited too long before making a start. I will continue to research this event, if indeed it did happen. Someone somewhere must remember it. Maybe even some of our readers. If we unearth any true reports, or even other memories, perhaps we should record it.

Others in future might be interested to learn just another little part of our local history.

**Anne Brown.**

## **Remembrance Sunday at Yetholm War Memorial 2023**



**Thanks to all who donated and helped in Poppy Collections in our area this year. Your help is much appreciated.**





### **Fantastic Fun Friday for Children in Need!**

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November it was Children in Need and our Pupil Council decided they wanted to support this very worthwhile cause. This also happened to be at the end of our anti-bullying week and international kindness day, so it was perfect timing!

We decided that we would do a few things this year: come wearing spotty or sports clothes or even just odd socks; we would complete a burpee challenge in PE with Mr. Sutton; and we would host a bake sale.

The bake sale was great- pupils baked with Mrs. Luke, Mrs. Thomson and Mrs. Dyet in the Hive using our oven that came from the parent Council. They made cupcakes (including gluten free varieties) mars bar crispie cake and top hats- all with a Pudsey bear spotty theme.

Everything was a great success, and everyone seemed to have a lot of fun. It was a great reminder that helping others and giving to charity is such an important part of life. We thought about how some children are not as fortunate as ourselves and that this small act of kindness can make a big difference.

At the last count we had raised £85 which is brilliant- well done to everyone involved and thank you to our families for supporting us and the Pupil Council to make it such a success.



## **Cheviot Churches Elders and Districts**

<b>Leslie Thomson</b>	West of Morebattle, Eckford and Crailing.
<b>Keith Cleland/Jenny Flannigan</b>	Main Street, Heughhead and Renwick Gardens Morebattle.
<b>George Lees</b>	Mainsfield Avenue, Morebattle Mains and Whitton.
<b>Anne Brown</b>	Kale Valley and Hownam.
<b>Brian Kelly</b>	Linton
<b>Trish Gentry</b>	Bowmont Valley.
<b>Graeme Watson</b>	Woodbank Road, Braeside Road, Cheviot Road.
<b>Pippa Emerson</b>	Grafton Road to Mission, Grafton Bank, Main St from Old Manse to Cheviot Place, The Crescent, Duncanhaugh and Hayhope
<b>John Stobart</b>	Grafton Corner, Yewtree Lane, Road and Bank to Romany House
<b>Susan Stewart</b>	Deanfield Place, Court, Road and Bank. Back Lane and Dairy Wood.
<b>Stuart Kelly /Tom Tokely/Rae Redpath</b>	School to butcher and Dow Brae, Morebattle Road from top to Cheviot Place
<b>Carol Butler</b>	Kirk Yetholm Village and Halterburn.
<b>Arthur Bates</b>	The Yett, Shotton, Yetholm Mains and Harelaw.
<b>Ann Harvey</b>	Hoselaw, Cherrytrees, Lochside, Lochside farms and cottages, Old Graden, Graden, Hoselaw.
<b>Simon Oldham</b>	Mainhouse, Bankhead and Linton Hill.
<b>David Lang</b>	Teapot Street and Bank. Thimble Lane.
<b>Jimmy Fleming</b>	Kelso
<b>Debbie Brown</b>	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 always open for private devotion and hosts occasional services.  
Prayer Service will be held in Linton Church at 6.30pm. All Welcome.

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## **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](mailto:revcdj60@gmail.com)

### **Session Clerk:**

Susan Stewart, 22 The Yett Kirk Yetholm, Kelso TD5 8PL  
Tel: 01573420231 Email: [j.stewart134@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto:bjkelly@uwclub.net)

### **Safeguarding Co-Ordinator:**

Vacant – appointment pending.

### **Roll Keeper:**

Pippa Emerson 01573420279

### **Committee Convenors:**

**Mission and Outreach:** Melanie Eve 07807 148496

**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

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[www.cheviotchurches.org](http://www.cheviotchurches.org)