

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

# CHEVIOT



Autumn 2019



## Prayer Corner

Your prayers make a difference



## Golden Leaves

We see signs of Summer's passing in golden leaves,  
shortening days, misty mornings, Autumn glow.

We sense it's passing in rain that dampens,  
winds that chill, Harvest's bounty placed on show.

Creator God, who brings forth  
both green shoot and hoar frost,

sunrise and sunset,  
we bring our thanks

for seeds that have grown,

harvests gathered,

storehouses filled,

mouths fed.

And, as your good earth rests

through Winter's cold embrace,

we look forward to its re-awakening

when kissed by Spring's first touch. Ame

## **Birdbath and Humphrey**

Humphrey is an inquisitive young rabbit who recently spent much time in Birdbath's garden, uninvited. He found he could just squeeze through a gap under the fence from the field, where his mother used to become increasingly agitated. He behaved impeccably in the garden, nibbling only grass. He did once eye-up some lettuces, but feigned innocence when Birdbath tapped on the window and wagged an admonitory finger. He also had a bizarre habit of sitting bolt – upright like one of those meerkats who advertise things: maybe he had seen one on the TV in the family burrow?

Then one morning disaster struck. After browsing on some extra tempting grass (he enjoys his five portions a day) he found he had become too portly to wriggle back under the fence. His Mum was going bananas with worry, and Birdbath had no alternative but to escort him round by the road, through a neighbouring garden, out through a larger gap, and back to Mum. As birdbath was wearing a dog collar at the time he felt rather an ass, escorting a young rabbit who gazed confidently up at him as he trotted along at his side.

Then he thought, "So what?" He remembered people who had helped him to stay safe when he was wee – and how anxious mothers can get if kids wander off on their own.

He still waves to them both over the fence, and is convinced that humans and animals are all here to look after each other?

## **Greetings from Rev. Colin Johnston**

I still pinch myself in the morning, as I look out the window and look out over the field of kale to the hills beyond. I feel very fortunate indeed to have been called as minister to the Cheviot Churches and look forward enormously to getting to know everyone and being part of the communities here.

But first let me introduce myself. I was born and bred in Ayrshire (not that I seem to have an Ayrshire accent), growing up in Auchinleck, where my father was minister. I studied at St Andrew's and, after graduating, took a year out in Israel as I prepared to start theological studies at New College in Edinburgh. I preached my first sermon by the shores of the Sea of Galilee. My first charge was Larkhall Trinity in Lanarkshire, and I

spent 7 happy years there and enjoyed chaplaincies at schools and even at a prison. However, I was always fascinated by the World Church and therefore applied to serve abroad as a mission partner, stating at the time that I would be happy to serve anywhere but Africa. Where did I end up – Africa! I discovered that God has a sense of humour, as I, a cold-weather person, ended up serving for 25 years in hot countries!

I was in Zambia, serving as minister in the rural areas and then in the capital, Lusaka (the President of the country and various cabinet members were members of my congregation), before teaching at the Theological College on the Copperbelt. I had gone for 4 years, but stayed 15 years. It was during this time that I first became acquainted with this area, being partnered with Jedburgh Presbytery and visiting whilst on furlough.

I then moved to Tiberias in Israel/Palestine, which was fascinating, though also, because of the politics, very stressful – I always seemed to be walking on egg shells! I worked mainly, though not exclusively, with the Palestinian Christians, and felt committed the plight of Christians in the Middle East. So much so that I moved to Egypt to spend just under three years. During my short time in Cairo, there were several attacks on Christians, but I also experienced lots of positive ways in which the Church reached out to all the community.

After 25 years with World Mission, I felt it was time to put down roots in Scotland again, and after working for several months as locum at St Michael's, Linlithgow, I am now settling into the Manse and looking forward to joining you on your journey as Cheviot Churches. Someone wrote this prayer, which I feel is appropriate for us:

'Take us on our journey, O God,  
From where we are to where you want us to be:  
So that we can become a community  
Where all are welcomed and no one is excluded,  
All are valued and no one is made to feel inadequate,  
All are forgiven and no one is ashamed to belong'.

Many thanks to everyone for the warmth of your welcome. I look forward to getting to know everyone in both church and community. Please stop me and chat if you see me, but please be patient as I put names to faces! Also, please don't hesitate to be in touch if I can be of help in any way.

Peace and Blessings,  
Colin

## From the Interim Moderator

### LOOKING FORWARD

I was going to begin by quoting Frank Sinatra: - “And now, the time has come....” but I’m not sure if I’m quite ready yet for the final curtain! I am, however, very grateful that I’ve had the opportunity to walk alongside Cheviot Churches in the last months of the vacancy, and to get to know so many hard working and welcoming people. And to continue with Frank Sinatra again: - “There were times, I’m sure you knew, when I bit off more than I could chew ....” And that’s you and me both!

However, I couldn’t bring myself to quote the whole song, appropriate though much of it is, for the very title, —“I did it my way” - would not suit this article. We may like to think it’s true in the various roles we each had to play, but I’m sure that we all know that what we wanted to do above all else, was to do it God’s way. I know many of you have said this was the case and the vacancy gave us time to examine ourselves and the nature of our calling to the work and witness of Cheviot Churches.

For myself, I will miss the challenges that arose, and the friendship and fellowship as we had to deal with them. And there was fun too — like the time a gentleman, who will remain nameless, suggested that the catering was fine — the ladies would see to the teas. I don’t think he’ll make that mistake again!

And so now we all move on, welcoming Colin as our Minister, looking forward to what God has in store for Cheviot Churches and those who serve and worship here, and looking forward to serving the communities we represent. Yes, there’s a lot to look forward to and lots to be done so let’s make sure that “through it all”, Minister and congregations together say, “We’ll do it God’s way.”

Winnie Robson

MOREBATTLE PARISH CHURCH  
Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 3.00 pm  
MUSIC *in MEMORY of* DOUGLAS HALL.  
All welcome.  
Retiring Collection will be taken.

## INDUCTION - Colin Johnston

I'm a toonie, here frae Kelso, though it's not too far away  
An'I won't be here much longer—I'll be gaun on my way  
For I've overstayed my contract, which was 3 months I'd been told,  
And eighteen months beyond that date—nae wonder I feel old!

For ye cannae keep on goin' even though they are quite nice  
To work with them's a pleasure—I don't need to say it twice.  
The Session Clerk and elders are nae bad as you can see  
'n the congregation does their bit, whate'er the need might be.

An so I came to Cheviot--an'foond the door locked tight  
At my first session meeting, I hadnae got it right!  
My knees were knocking loudly as I led the opening prayer  
And then—I found—when I sat down—I'd got the squeaky chair!!

For a' these months, there was a lot that kept us on oor toes-  
The Manse, the parish profile, other problems that arose  
But as we pulled thegither, and committees kept us richt  
Well in the end, we've reached the point that brings us here tonicht.

So—121 just help us now and please don't get it wrang  
There's plaques , 'n rails, n money too we've waited for -sooooo long  
It's past the time tae sort things out—we're rarein' just tae go  
There's lots to do, noo Colin's here, to help us all to grow.

The locums did a sterling job—they were well liked all around  
They visited, they helped us,--their advice was always sound!  
But now, as those before her, Liz's work is nearly done  
But for Colin and the rest of you it's only just begun!!

For you must keep on goin, for there's lots for you to do,  
The communities and parishes are waiting there for you  
They look to you to help them, to do whate'er you can  
And, in doing that, together, you'll be fulfilling God's own plan.

Thank you, all.

## **From our Locum Minister – Parting Words**

### **Cheviot – September 2019**

To my friends and Church family at Cheviot.

Wow, where does time go? Its very true that in the blink of an eye – a day, a week, a year goes by. It seems no time at all since I joined you.

I have had a wonderful time. Yes, it was busy, that's true, but still time to come to the odd Coffee Morning; visit those at home, in hospital, those suffering the loss of a loved one, and I hope that I have been able to comfort them all in their time of need. I count in an honour and a privilege to be able to do all this on God's behalf. I have said it before, and I will say it again, - Thank you so much to all of you for your warm welcome, and making me feel at home.

I'm delighted that you now have your own minister at Cheviot Churches, and I am sure Colin will be a blessing to you all, and in turn, you will all be a great blessing to him.

We had a lovely service on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August to welcome Colin, and it was well attended, and the singing was wonderful. After the service we all enjoyed the wonderful spread made ready by the ladies in our churches – thank you all ladies, it was most enjoyable, and much appreciated, not just by Colin's friends who had travelled from various places, but by all who were there.

I would like to say a special 'Thank you' to everyone for my lovely flowers and my cheque from all of you. It was unnecessary, but at the same time, very much appreciated, and it will be well used.

To all who gave me cards and best wishes, thank you too.

I'm having a rest now, but don't be surprised if I turn up on your doorstep one day – no, not to see that you are behaving, but to see that you are all well.

May God bless you all in the years ahead.

Liz.

## **A Story of Cheviot Churches**

We have recently begun a new chapter in the story of Cheviot Churches, but it started hundreds of years ago, when the good news of the Christian Gospel was first faithfully preached here.

The people living at that time responded to God's message of love and forgiveness and began to live out their new found faith. Since those early days, many chapters have been written and many very committed Christian characters have come and gone, most now forgotten and many unknown, but each bequeathing their heritage for us today.

The five beautiful church buildings in our story, each lovingly tended and maintained for the glory of God, are still in use for prayer and worship, albeit some are only used occasionally now. In the past there were four ministers serving our parish.

The story moves along into a different time and culture and sadly some folk have written themselves out of our story. We no longer have regular weekly worship services at all of the five churches and we now have only one minister for this large rural parish. Just a few years ago we joined together to form "Cheviot Churches".

The chapter of the last 3 years, since the retirement of the Rev. Robin McHaffie has been without a full time minister. However God provided the Rev. Una Stewart for 18 months and then Mrs Elizabeth Findlay for a similar time as locum ministers. The congregations have come together in a remarkable way to fulfil the many different tasks needed to make our churches function. We have learned much about unity of purpose, about caring for one another and about the many gifts and talents amongst us all. With God's help, we have been able to "pull together" and continue the worship and witness of our churches to great effect.

Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2019 saw the opening lines of our latest chapter in this story, when the Rev Colin D. Johnston was inducted as minister of Cheviot Churches.

Each one of us now has the opportunity to be written into the current story. Many have prayed long and hard for the beginning of this new chapter and from here on in, the continuing story depends largely on us. What part will we play in this next instalment as we seek to worship and live out our faith in the community? We hope and pray that the future generations will be greatly blessed, as we have been, by the solid witness of Cheviot Churches in this continuing story.

Let us all seek to uphold our new minister Colin in our prayers; to love and support him, and each other; to offer God our time, our talents, our money and ourselves – so that God's work in our community can go forward into the future with a glorious new chapter still to be written.

*Kathleen Bates (Prayer Promoter Cheviot Churches)*

## What can we do to help our planet?

There has been much publicity recently about the damage that we humans are doing to our beautiful planet, in terms of pollution, loss of biodiversity (plant and animal species) and especially the constant rise in carbon emissions which is threatening us with climate chaos. In the past 25 years we have doubled the amount of carbon that we have put into the atmosphere.

The UN's recent climate change report has given us 10 – 12 years to rescue our planet from climate catastrophe. Unless serious changes take place before then, we face runaway heating of the planet resulting in the destruction of all kinds of life.

These issues seem huge and frightening to even think about; and most of us will say that it is up to governments across the world to find solutions. However, as caring people, who are fortunate to live in a (currently) safe environment – unlike those elsewhere who are already losing their homes and lives to climate disasters – we should consider what we as individuals can do to reduce our negative impact. In the past 40 years we have increased our use of fuel and electricity, bought more clothes, gadgets and generally lead much richer materialistic lifestyles. Has this made us happier? Can we learn lessons from our forebears and enjoy a life with less waste, to the benefit of humankind?

**We seriously need to reduce our CARBON EMISSIONS.** Start by calculating your carbon footprint at [www.footprint.wwf.org.uk](http://www.footprint.wwf.org.uk) If you don't have a computer, ask a friend or neighbour to do this with you. You can help to reduce your emissions by trying the following:

***In your home*** *switch off lights and appliances when not in use; when boiling a kettle add only the water you need, saving time and energy.*

Short **car journeys** produce more emissions and cost you more, so *combine your errands and/or car-share to minimize shopping trips; try walking short distances* – it won't take much longer and is good for your health.

**Flying** to holiday destinations has become cheap and the norm, but flights produce far more carbon emissions than any other form of transport. *Could you holiday closer to home; or try long-distance trains (which can be fun and more comfortable)?*

By reducing **waste**, we can also reduce our carbon emissions. We throw away lots of food, clothes and manufactured goods (which have all put

carbon into the atmosphere in their production). *Try buying only what you really need; getting things mended before buying anew; giving items you no longer want to charities; re-using and recycling as much as you can.*

Even **modern food production** contributes to climate change. Carbon-emitting fossil fuels are used in importing food and more pesticides and electricity are used to produce foods out of season. Cattle and sheep emit damaging methane. *Try eating seasonal foods that are grown in this country – consider how far things have travelled and whether they have been flown here. If eating meat, buy sustainably grass-fed quality British meat, rather than ‘high carbon’ grain-fed cheaper imports.*

**PLASTICS** – in most cases these don’t break down fully and small pieces are now found in humans as well as animals. To reduce plastic use: *reuse your plastic bags and avoid disposable containers; take your own containers when you shop - many shops are happy for you to do this; use solid soaps rather than liquids in plastic bottles.*

**BIODIVERSITY** – 1 in 3 mouthfuls of food we eat is dependent on pollinators like bees; yet there has been a significant reduction in beneficial insects. You can help counter this. *Try to grow bee-friendly plants; set aside a little patch of garden for wildlife and/or allow part of your lawn to grow long; buy or make a bug hotel; avoid using chemicals on your garden, as they can harm a variety of beneficial organisms.*

We can all make small changes but we need governments and big organisations to make a major difference. *You can contact your MP or MSP to tell them of your concerns; ask your supermarket about their policies on waste and the environment.*

If you would like to help develop a Greener Yetholm, contact Susan White 420270, Lesley Blackthorn 420499 or Alex Davidson 420308.

Lesley Blackthorn

### **Coffee at the Kirk**

This will be held on the following dates: 2nd October, 6th November, 4th December 2019 and 8th January, 5th February, 4th March and 1st April in 2020. All are welcome at Yetholm Church from 10.30 to 12 noon.



## Calling all Ladies and gentlemen

No longer the prerogative of women, The Church of Scotland Guild is approaching the new session. Dates of meetings appear in the Church Events column.

With around 20,000 members, the Guild is one of the largest of Scotland's voluntary organisations. Although women still make up the bulk of our membership, increasingly men are becoming members and taking active roles at local and national levels.

Our motto, taken from Acts 27, verse 23:

**'Whose we are and Whom we serve'.**

Continuing the three-year, themed cycle of work, this session we think of 'Companions on the Road'. The focus of the Guild's work is to journey together with our communities, our nation and our world, both in sharing our faith and resources, and in doing everything in our power to bring about positive change. During the first year, we have raised almost £239,000 to be shared between the six projects chosen for support. A very acceptable amount indeed – and two more years to go!

You will no doubt hear more of our work when our National Convener Marian McIntyre joins us at our joint service in Yetholm on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October. Please feel free to come along to any of our meetings. You will be made most welcome. 'Come taste and see'.

Anne Brown.

### **Cheviot Youth**

**putting children and young people at the very centre of all we do.**

Cheviot Youth a small youth work services charity for young people, young adults and parents aged 8 – 25 years works throughout the Cheviot area bringing a range of much needed youth work services to the towns of Jedburgh and Kelso as well as running a number of rural youth clubs in Ancrum, Stichill and Yetholm.

Our 13 staff and 31 volunteers see anywhere between 110 and 145 children and young people every week as they access our nine drop-ins; 3 youth clubs and our Lifeskills, Training & Employability, Café, Environmental, Emotional Well-Being and Mental Health and our Digital Media projects.

While our drop-in work and the services of the Community Café continue to provide a valuable safe, accessible and welcoming space for our young people and increasingly members of the wider community, it is our projects, all started within the last 18 months which are radically changing the direction of our charity.

Our new projects Digital Media, Emotional Health, Lifeskills, Training & Employability and Environmental aim to work with those young people who most need the small group work and one to one service which are a hallmark of this sort of project work. Young people are introduced to Cheviot Youth from a range of statutory providers such as NHS Borders and Scottish Borders Council and other charities such as Children 1<sup>st</sup>. to help.

It is these young people some of which have experienced a challenging and chaotic home life; have a mental health condition; are struggling at school and who see little hope or joy in a future which appears to offer only more of the same disappointment, rejection and heartache.

To these young people we offer a chance and after that numerous other chances to build confidence; gain certain resilience and an increase in their self- esteem. We do this in a variety of fun, relevant, simple and supportive project modules which are tailored to the needs of the young person all of which are recorded in each person's Individual Learning Support Plan. This records and celebrates all achievements; notes the Dynamic Youth Awards and Youth Achievement Awards gained, the Saltire Award and the Duke of Edinburgh Award completed as well as a wide range of training courses both in-house and on-line and through our training partners at Borders Care Voice, Borders College and Youth Borders.

It is our aim to support all our young people and young adults so that they may at the very end of their relationship with Cheviot Youth look forward to a better future from a better place while understanding the importance of looking for further training, supported employment, a volunteer position, a college place or employment. In doing what we do we aim to fashion a democratic model of youth led youth work always

acting on the opinions and views of our young while championing their achievements and place in our Borders community so that their voices will be heard at all levels of community action.

All of this work would not be possible without our growing band of volunteers to which we are ever grateful and a hardworking and dedicated staff team who work tirelessly for the children and young people of the Cheviot area. But we still need more help, we are in most need of volunteers at our Yetholm & Morebattle Youth Club, we presently have none, and due to retirement and home moving we need three more people to become Trustees of our charity. So if you or anyone you know has a few spare hours a month that they would like to give to helping and supporting our young people please give me, Ian, a call on 07958 277766 and we'll have a short chat.

A Visitor's View of the Borders  
by T. R. "Flash" Gordon

I have been a regular visitor to this lovely area of the Borders since the summer of 1989 when I became intimately familiar with your hills whilst leading Americans on bicycle tours. The small company I worked for was at first based at Lochside on the road from Yetholm to Kelso then later relocated to Cliftoncote Farm in the Bowmont Valley as our base of operation. My long-standing friendship with the Freeland-Cook family continues to draw me back to your corner of paradise. I could spend 100 years here and never get tired of this glorious countryside (although sometimes glad I'm not traveling by bicycle anymore)

My initial exposure to Scotland was in 1983 – 1985 when I was stationed here with the U.S. Marine Corps at RAF Edzell in Angus. Even though I was here for a bit over two years, I had never ventured to the Borders until my cycling stint. I tell people all the time now that the Borders should be on their "don't miss" list.

My most recent 'official' engagement in this area was for the christening of Maisie Ivy Merida Freeland-Cook, the beautiful baby daughter of Heather and Daniel Freeland-Cook and granddaughter of Mike and Susan Stewart. I played the pipes outside Yetholm Church as guests arrived and was also honored to be asked to be her godparent. Going back a few years, I played the pipes at Yetholm Church for Daniel and Heather's wedding and also for Alistair and Claire's wedding five years earlier.

In April, I was visiting Cliftoncote Farm during lambing and helping out on simple chores with my limited but increasing knowledge of sheep. Since first arriving at Cliftoncote in 1992, I already know more about

sheep than I'll ever be able to use since I live in Mississippi which is chicken country. My hometown's claim to fame is that it is home to the largest poultry-processing facility in the world, with upwards of 1 million birds per week being processed and shipped to all corners of the planet.

I enjoyed attending Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services at Yetholm Church where I had the opportunity to meet some of you. I love all the history of the various Cheviot Churches, the beautiful buildings and old cemeteries. I had a powerful experience on a recent visit to Linton Church, one that I particularly enjoy for its views over the surrounding countryside and its peacefulness and tranquility for meditation. I was just walking through, admiring the beautiful wood and stone as I have many times in the past. I stepped up into the altar area and the Bible was opened to Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, the verses about "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven ..." I looked at it for a moment, then started crying like a baby. Tears rolling down my face. This was the verse that my sweet mother had requested to be read at her funeral in 2017. She had been with me, inside Linton Church, standing in that very spot, in 1994, during her only trip to Scotland. I believe that Bible was opened to that verse on that particular day, for a very special reason. The sounds of silence spoke very loudly that day.

So after 30 years of return trips to the Borders, I almost feel as though I could qualify for resident status. Although if I have to ride a horse up to the Stob Stanes to gain that status, I suppose I will have to remain a visitor. Yet and still, I continue to find new and interesting places I've never been before, and new and interesting people I've not met before. One of my favorite life philosophies is this quote ... "The true worth of your travels lies not in where you come to be at journey's end, but in who you come to be along the way."

### **Update News on the Yetholm Village Shop**



We want to thank everyone who came to the meeting in the Yetholm Youth Hall on 26<sup>th</sup> August. Since then we have been asked a number of questions by people in the village and we have gathered these here with answers. This update is for everyone who was at the meeting and for

others who could not make it. We intend to keep everyone updated as things progress.

### **How much will this all cost?**

Right now, exact amounts have not been worked out. The cost will be made up of (a) buying the shop premises themselves (b) buying stock for the shop to run the business and (c) extra funds we might need for new fittings and equipment, depending on the business plan we go for. We believe we can apply for up to 95% of the cost of buying the premises from The Scottish Land Fund. The balance plus the cost of buying stock and refitting we will have to raise locally.

### **What is the Scottish Land Fund?**

The Scottish Land Fund is a publicly funded resource open to organisations in Scotland which are community-led, community-controlled and defined by a geographic area. Successful applicants must demonstrate that their project will help their local community to: (a) achieve more sustainable economic, environmental and/or social development through ownership of land and buildings, (b) have a stronger role in and control over their own development, (c) own well managed, financially sustainable land and buildings.

### **How does the Scottish Land Fund decide whether we meet these conditions?**

We have work to do to show this. We need to get independent valuations of the premises and the business done, and a business plan for the future of the shop prepared. We then have to send these to the Scottish Land Fund in a formal application. There's a form for us to fill out. We also need to better understand the level of local interest and support for the community shop. There's more on this below.

### **But how do we get the valuations and business plan prepared?**

That's the first stage. We can apply for some initial "technical assistance funding" from the SLF for those things. We have meetings set up with the SLF to talk about this and make progress. You can see a helpful leaflet on the internet at:

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/media/documents/scottish-land-fund/Scottish-Land-Fund-Guide.pdf?mtime=20190906142702>

### **How do we gather in the local contribution?**

We will have to form a new legal entity to actually run the shop. That entity will offer to buy the shop and will invite local people to apply for shares in it. The most likely entity will be a Community Benefit Society. There are other options, but other communities buying shops have mostly used a Community Benefit Society and we are keen to learn from their experience.

**How much will a share cost me?**

The amount hasn't yet been fixed. We want as many people as possible to join in this opportunity. SLF criteria set an upper limit of £25 for one share. We may set it lower so everyone can join in. People can then put in more if they want but no one will have more than one vote no matter how many shares they hold. The new entity will have limited liability, so no shareholder will have a legal obligation to contribute any more, whatever happens in the future.

**Why don't we form a Community Benefit Society straightaway?**

There is a cost and time factor in forming and registering a Community Benefit Society with a regulatory body called the Financial Conduct Authority. We don't need a Community Benefit Society for the early discussions with the SLF, so right now we have an "unincorporated association" called The Yetholm Village Shop Steering Group. Most other projects have done the same.

**Do I have to put any money into The Yetholm Village Shop Steering Group?**

No. It is not there to raise money locally - just to work out the best way forward, find out what support there is locally, ask people for their ideas and talk to the SLF.

**How do we better understand the level of local interest?**

Right now, we are working on a detailed questionnaire that will be distributed to everyone locally. It is going to cover a lot of matters and will give you the chance to say what you want from the Village Shop.

**Will the Village Shop stay as it is?**

We have to show that the shop will be well managed and financially sustainable. As it is a business and not a charity it must not be loss making. The shop has been affected by broader market trends – supermarkets, internet and online shopping and home deliveries are obvious examples. To be financially sustainable the shop has to find its own niche serving the local community in ways that deliver benefits to customers and the local stakeholders.

**What can I do to help?**

Many people have offered their help. We are still looking for people to work with us and bring their skills to the preparatory stage of the project. If you can help, and have not already offered to do so, please contact us on the email or phone numbers at the end of this article.

**Contacts:**

Alastair Hirst – 420214 - [alastair.hirst@yahoo.com](mailto:alastair.hirst@yahoo.com)

Susan Stewart – 420231 - [j.stewart134@btinternet.com](mailto:j.stewart134@btinternet.com)

Graeme Wallace – 420677 - [graemwme@icloud.com](mailto:graemwme@icloud.com)

John Stobart - 07484171097 - [jstobart.home@googlemail.com](mailto:jstobart.home@googlemail.com)



Welcome back to an exciting year ahead here at Morebattle. The children seem to have enjoyed the summer and are back refreshed and ready to learn. We have some great things planned for the coming year and have hit the ground running with a busy and productive first few days back to school. The children are settling into their new classes and our nursery is thriving.

We welcome Miss Brown into the nursery on a Monday and a Wednesday, ably supported by Mrs Thomson who is here to help work with the nursery children over the lunchtime period. They are busily working on building great relationships with our brilliant nursery children. We are delighted to have them on board at 'Team Morebattle'.

We are also delighted to welcome Evie into Primary 4 and ten brilliant youngsters into Primary 1; Martha, Elsie, Iona, Aoife, Lilee, Heath, Jared, Arthur and Riley. It is great to have them with us and we hope they have a great time learning here at Morebattle Primary School.

Teachers and all staff started the year at our In-service days refreshing our understanding of child protection, looking ahead to the priorities this year and sharing some dreams and ambitions for our children this coming year. We agreed we wanted to really focus on decluttering the environment to provide space and the opportunity for children to independently access resources and learning opportunities. We also want to make our recognition of wider achievements better, and to make sure the children are always purposefully engaged and involved in their own learning. We continue to prioritise active learning opportunities, choice, positive behaviour and challenge in learning for all our children. We all want the very best for our brilliant children and will be focussed very closely on teaching and learning that gives them that.



Here we are again, looking forward to a great year ahead at Yetholm. We have some innovative and engaging things planned for the coming year and have hit the ground running with a busy and productive first few days back to school. The children are settling into their new classes and our nursery is officially up and running.

We welcome Mrs Pick and Mrs Cockburn into the nursery. They are busily working on and are very much enjoying the setting up here in Yetholm, providing a calm, positive learning environment for our youngsters, as well as getting to know their new colleagues. They are able supported by Mrs Thomson who is here to help the nursery children over the lunchtime period and Mrs McEwan who is working with us for these first few weeks. We are delighted to have them on board.

We are also delighted to welcome Peter into Primary 2 and Peggy into Primary 1. It is great to have them with us and we hope they have a great time learning here at Yetholm Primary School.

Teachers and all staff started the year at our In-service days refreshing our understanding of child protection, looking ahead to the priorities this year and sharing some dreams and ambitions for our children this coming year. We agreed we wanted to really focus on decluttering the environment to provide space and the opportunity for children to independently access resources and learning opportunities. We also want to make our recognition of wider achievements better, and to make sure the children are always purposefully engaged and involved in their own learning. We continue to prioritise active learning opportunities, choice, positive behaviour and challenge in learning for all our children. Parents recently received a copy of our achievement and aims for the coming year. We all want the very best for our great children and will be focussed very closely on teaching and learning that gives them that.

As always, if there is anything you need to speak about or you want a group within the community to be involved in the life of the school, please feel free to pick up the phone to either school or pop in for a chat.

We will be setting up a surgery with the HT in the coming weeks to allow us a drop-in to hear about things going on in and around school – more details to follow. I hope we all have a positive, respectful and happy term ahead.

### **Kelso Churches Together Food Bank.**

Around six years ago Kelso Churches Together saw the need to establish a Food Bank to serve Kelso and the neighbouring villages. This was duly set up in Kelso North Parish Church. Volunteers were sought and at present the number is 30 people who work on a weekly rota system.

At first donations were sought only from the churches but as some of the Kelso Supermarkets became involved, the bulk of the donations now come from them and are collected weekly. Kelso and district public have been very generous over the years and the food bank could not operate without them. Shortages are shown at the collection points and in our Order of Service sheets each Sunday.

When stocks are looking extra low, an appeal is circulated to all Kelso and district churches and the response has always been generous.

Requests by clients for food are made through several agencies: doctors, Kelso Social Work, Homeless unit, Border Women's Aid, CAB, clergy and police. The number of requests varies greatly from four to eight each week. Each client receives two carrier bags containing 14 tins (a variety of savoury and sweet), 1 packet each of cereal, biscuits, dried rice or pasta, pasta sauce, jam and tea or coffee. On delivery, volunteers add bread, milk and butter spread to these items.

The group are presently considering some changes to the system. Look for an update in January.

Anne Brown.

**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 team by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.**

**[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)**

## **Christian Aid**

The final total for the house to house envelope collection was £833, down over 10% on last year but better than I had feared. There is a lovely video featuring one of the mums in Sierra Leone who was safely delivered of a healthy baby thanks to the work of the partners featured in the CA week publicity. I recently attended a meeting in the Glasgow office and learned that overall it has been a very good fundraising year but because of the state of the pound the money is not going as far when sent to our partners where it is often the \$US which is the acceptable currency. Sadly Christian Aid is withdrawing from several countries including Bolivia. However the success of the Guild solar oven project is good news as it has grown and is now a sustainable project within Bolivia and has spread to several other countries. Also the work in Scotland will now be centred only in the Edinburgh office with staff encouraged and supported to work from home.

**Eco-congregation and recycling.** A reminder that Cheviot churches is an eco-congregation and encourages the use of fairly traded products - look out for the logo - and recycling. There are still boxes in Yetholm and Morebattle churches with explanatory leaflets and I noted an article in the Southern Reporter recently about an initiative in Selkirk which gives other items for recycling that they can accept on certain days. This is run by Selkirk Parish Church which is where I take items placed in our boxes. The extra items include clean crisp packets and toothpaste tubes and postcards. And I note that there is now a Greener Borders Group in Yetholm.

Trish Gentry

## **Life and Work is the magazine of the Church of Scotland.**

Life and Work was established in 1879 by Archibald Hamilton Charteris (1835 to 1908), who was professor of biblical criticism at Edinburgh University. The magazine was inspired by his work on the Church of Scotland's Committee of Christian Life & Work, which he initiated and led.



Hugely committed to Church causes, he later founded the Woman's Guild and the diaconate in order to harness the energies of women in the Church. He formed the diaconate from his experience of similar orders in protestant churches in Europe, where he travelled widely.

In its early years, Life and Work ran various supplements, including the Guild supplement and the Young Men's Supplement. The only one still running is the Gaelic Supplement, which was begun in 1880 and is read by Gaels all over the world

In 1929 when the United Free Church of Scotland reunited with the Church of Scotland, Life and Work was subtitled The Record of the Church of Scotland in recognition of the United Free Church publication, The Record, but this reference was dropped in 1996 when the magazine was relaunched in full colour.

The magazine was voted best Member Magazine of the Year in 2004 at the PPA Scottish magazine awards and has been shortlisted many times since. Life and Work was also awarded a prestigious Andrew Cross award in 2005 by the UK wide Churches Media Council.

The magazine's own website was launched in the spring of 2013, as part of a digital development project approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Life and Work is the magazine of the Church of Scotland and is editorially independent.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of this publication please contact Jill Mooney. The annual subscription rate for 2020 is £26.

### **Editors**

#### **Life and Work has had 14 editors in its history:**

1879: Archibald Hamilton Charteris

1880 to 1898: Rev John McMurtrie

1898 to 1902: Rev Archibald Fleming

1902 to 1925: Rev Robert Howie Fisher

1925 to 1930: Rev Harry Smith  
 1929 to 1934: William Pringle Livingstone  
 1935 to 1945: Rev George Carstairs  
 1945 to 1965: Rev John Wright Stevenson  
 1965 to 1972: Rev Leonard John Armstrong Bell  
 1972 to 1991: Robert Deans Kernohan  
 1991 to 1994: Peter B. Macdonald  
 1994 to 1999: Rev Dr Robin Hill  
 2000 to 2002: Rosemary Goring  
 2002 to current: Lynne McNeil

### **Yetholm Floral Gateway Update**

2006	YETHOLM FLORAL GATEWAY GROUP[FGG] formed
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Village flower beds and environmental projects adopted.</li> <li>• Hedge [500 plants] planted between Town and Kirk Yetholm.</li> <li>• Gaps in hedge on Dow Brae and by cemetery infilled. Morebattle Road Oak tree planting.</li> </ul>
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SBC provided 3 sacks of daffodil bulbs annually for the following 4 years-these bulbs were planted at village entrances, along verges, between Town and Kirk Yetholm.</li> <li>• Wauchope Memorial, The Old Brewery, Village beds-all adopted for landscaping and planting.</li> <li>• Plant exchange and coffee morning fundraisers established.</li> <li>• Business initiative-planting out hanging baskets and tubs for local businesses.</li> <li>• Entry to Beautiful Scotland and SBC Floral Gateway Competitions-awarded National “Jim Murdie Trophy for Sustainability”</li> <li>• Organised village garden competition</li> </ul>
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dow Brae wildflower bank,</li> <li>• Eco- schools project, Open air classroom and reading hub [Big Lottery Breathing Space Grant aided) litter picking</li> <li>• Regular newsletter distribution</li> <li>• Preservation of village greens, Tree planting at Kip Knowe and Romany Marsh.1200 daffodils,3000 bluebells, 12 Silver Jubilee roses, 59 trees planted at various sites.], Bowmont picnic area established.</li> <li>• Mother’s Day School planting initiative commenced.</li> </ul>

	<p>Honeysuckle Bench project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Prize in SBC Floral Gateway Small Village category</li> </ul>
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commencement of School Conservation area at Dow Brae. Awarded “Highly Commended” in Champion of Champions Beautiful Scotland competition</li> </ul>
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awarded “Silver” in Beautiful Scotland Small Village Category</li> <li>• 2000 native bluebells, 1000 snowdrops and 400 daffodils planted. Hedgerow and Tree Planting survey. SBC chipper arranged for village use</li> </ul>
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wauchope Memorial Railings re-painted and monument cleaned, and one tonne red chips distributed.</li> <li>• Hedgerow planted by children at conservation area</li> </ul>
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaison with Newton Don Nursery, an arrangement which has gone from strength to strength resulting in annual village green sales and sales of plants to villagers at competitive prices. Continuation of maintenance of all FGG project areas.</li> <li>• Village bench survey</li> </ul>
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borders Forest Trust had some involvement with Conservation area and school pupils. Areas of new tree planting were trimmed to help trees become established.</li> </ul>
2015-present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following sites continue to be maintained by the team-Flower beds, rose beds and tubs, village green patch repairs where necessary, all areas with newly planted trees and hedgerow between Kirk and Town.</li> <li>• The School Conservation Area goes from strength to strength. The teachers are provided with regular updates of current features of educational interest to pupils. In 2020, the children are going to work on interpretation boards for flora and fauna species identification. The <b>wildflower</b> area is scythed after seeds have set and the cuttings removed to denude the area and encourage an ever increasing diversity of wild flowers. The <b>bog area</b> is an excellent teaching resource for the teachers when the pupils visit weekly. A <b>tawny owl box</b> has been sited along with <b>bat and bird boxes</b>. A dozen <b>apple trees</b> of different varieties and a pear have been planted to start an <b>orchard</b>. Three <b>quince</b> trees have been donated by a local villager. A <b>new bench</b> has been installed. The hedge is managed and mulched. New <b>notice boards</b> are being commissioned by Kelso Menshed.</li> </ul>

**We are seldom idle! If you would like to become involved in any way with our group, phone Kate on 01573420522 for more information. You would be very welcome to join us.**

FGG Plant Sale and Coffee Morning, Yetholm Youth Hall, Saturday 19th October 10.30-12.00. Plants, home baking, greeting cards, tombola and raffle. Come and join us.

Carols Round the Christmas Tree



**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December** – Carol Singing round the tree and Switching on Christmas Lights in Institute Grounds at 6.30pm with refreshments to follow in Institute.

### **Church Website & ‘What’s On’**

The church’s new-look all-singing, all-dancing website has been up and running now for almost two years – if you haven’t had a look then visit [www.cheviotchurches.org](http://www.cheviotchurches.org) If you would like to publicise a church event – or if you were at an event and have photographs to share – then please get in touch.

We also have a monthly ‘What’s On’ mail-out of church events – services, of course, but also special events. This is sent out (fingers crossed) at the end of the previous month and is a useful reminder of times and dates. Joint services, for example, sometime result in people turning up at the ‘wrong’ church, so it’s useful to be reminded of such things.

If you would like to get in touch about the website, or would like to be included on the ‘What’s On’ mailout, then please contact Graeme Watson at [clayjay@btinternet.com](mailto:clayjay@btinternet.com)

### **What’s On**

In every issue, we will feature news and upcoming events from around the parishes. Email your items to a member of the editorial team (page 20)

Coffee at the Kirk is held on the first Wednesday of each month (October to April) from 10.30am to 12 noon in Yetholm Church.

Traidcraft orders can be placed and there is a play area for children. Everyone is welcome, especially newcomers and visitors to the area.

Badminton every Monday at 7pm Village Hall Morebattle.

Morebattle Lunch Club meets in the Institute each Tuesday from 12 noon for lunch and a chat. All Welcome.

Light Exercise Class every Wednesday, 10.30am to 11.30am in Morebattle Village Hall. All Welcome.

Morebattle Camera Club meets first Wednesday of each month in the Institute at 7pm.

Scrabble Club in Youth Hall every Wednesday 2 – 4pm.

Youth Club in Youth Hall every Wednesday from 6pm.

Scottish Country Dance every Thursday in Youth Hall 2 – 4pm.

Art Class every Friday in Youth Hall 10 – 12noon.

Use Your Talents Craft Group will meet every week from September 2nd on a Monday afternoon in Yetholm Church from 2 – 4pm. All are welcome. £2 per session.

Toast Club on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8 – 9 am in Yetholm School. We have a separate fund to purchase bread, butter and juice and donations to support this worthwhile service are always welcome.

Yetholm Village Choir meets every Wednesday in Youth Hall Town Yetholm from 10.30 – 11.30am. New members always welcome. Resume August 21<sup>st</sup>)

Bowling every Friday at 7pm in Morebattle Village Hall.

Bowling every Friday and Monday in Wauchope Hall, Town Yetholm. Afternoon and evening sessions. (Resume October)

Badminton every Tuesday in Wauchope Hall Town Yetholm at 1.30pm. (Resume September)

## **October**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>** Yetholm History Society 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lecture in **Wauchope Hall at 7.30pm.** “Yetholm, Yeaving and the Anglo Saxon Kingdom of Northumbria” by Max Adams.

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>** Yetholm Shepherd’s Show on The Haugh from 8.30 -5pm.

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>** – Morebattle SWI 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations in Village Hall.

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>** Quiz Night in Plough Hotel at 8pm. Proceeds to Murray House Kelso.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>** Guide Dogs for the Blind Coffee Morning in the Village Hall at 10.30am.

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>** Kalewater Community Council Meeting in the Institute at 7pm.

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>** National Theatre Screening “ A Midsummer Night’s Dream” at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Entry £12.

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>** Floral Gateway Coffee Morning at 10.30am in Youth Hall.

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>** Film Night in Wauchope Hall “Green Book” (12A) at 7pm. Entry £6.

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>** Yetholm Village Choir Concert In St Andrew’s Church Kelso at 7pm.

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>** Quiz Night at 8pm in Plough Hotel. Proceeds to Borders Search and Rescue.

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup>** Yetholm Community Council meet at 7pm in Youth Hall.

## **November**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>** Craft Fair in Village Hall 10am to 4pm.

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>** History Society meet at 7.30pm in Mission Hall. Ian Killie will talk on The Geology of the Cheviots.

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>** Quiz Night in Plough Hotel at 8pm. Proceeds to Yetholm Primary School.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>** National Theatre Live Screening “Hansard” at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Entry £12.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>** Film Night “ Mary Queen of Scots (15) in Wauchope Hall at 7pm. Entry £6.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>** Morebattle SWI AGM in Institute at 7.15pm – Mini Hoop Embroidery & Hands On – Susie Finlayson. Competitions - Small Article in Cross Stitch and Favourite Earrings.

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

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>** Quiz Night in Plough Hotel at 8pm. Proceeds to Kelso Cougars Mini Rugby.

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>** Village Lunch at 12noon in Wauchope Hall. Proceeds to Wauchope Hall.

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

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>** National Theatre Screening “Present Laughter” at 7pm in Wauchope Hall. Entry £12.

## **December**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>** Carol Singing round the tree and Switching on Christmas Lights in Institute Grounds at 6.30pm with refreshments to follow in Institute.

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>** Quiz Night in Plough Hotel at 8pm. Proceeds to K.A.O.S

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>** Festival Week Bingo Night at 7pm in Wauchope Hall.

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>** December – Clic Sergeant Coffee Morning in the Institute at 10.30am.

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>** Film Night “Stan and Ollie” at 7pm in Wauchope hall.

Entry £6.

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>** Hearing Aid Clinic in Wauchope Hall 10 – 11am.

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>** Morebattle SWI in Institute at 7.15pm, Festive Fair – Taste & Swap.

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>** Quiz Night in Plough Hotel at 8pm. Proceeds to Wauchope Hall.

## **Register**

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**Baptisms:** Struan Andrew McIntyre

**Deaths:** Alastair Turnbull, George Cessford, John Elliot, Brian Young, Robert John Warner

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## **Church Diary 2019**

### **October**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>** Morebattle Guild in the Institute at 2.00pm - Rev. Sandy Young. Life as a Hospital Chaplain.

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>** Morning Worship Yetholm Church 10am

Harvest Service Linton Church 11.15am.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>** Morning Worship Yetholm Church 10am. Joint Service with Mrs Marion MacIntyre Guild National Convenor.

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>** Joint Harvest Communion 11.15am Morebattle Church.

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Yetholm Guild at 2.30pm in Yetholm Church. Ninette Edwards – Northern Cross.

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>** Berwick Male Voice Choir at Yetholm Church 7pm. £10 on door or from Village Shops.

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>** Joint Harvest Service followed by Lunch Yetholm Church 11am.

### **November**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>** Morebattle Guild in the Institute at 2.00pm - Gordon McNally. Hope and Homes for Children.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>** Morning Worship Yetholm Church 10am.

Harvest Service Linton Church 11.15am.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** Remembrance Sunday 9.45 at Yetholm War Memorial followed by Morning Worship at 10am in Yetholm Church.

Morebattle War Memorial at 10.45 followed by Morning Worship in Morebattle Church at 11.15am.

Hownam War Memorial at 11.30am.

Linton War Memorial at 12noon.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>** Morning Worship Yetholm Church 10am.

Morning Worship Morebattle Church 11.15am.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>** Yetholm Guild in Yetholm Church at 2.30pm. Rev. Una Stewart – Around Shetland.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>** Communion Service Yetholm Church 10am.

Communion Service Morebattle Church 11.15am.

## **December**

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>** Morning Worship Yetholm Church 10am.

Morning Worship Linton Church 11.15am.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>** Morebattle Guild – Christmas Lunch – Templehall 1.00pm.

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>** Morning Worship Yetholm Church 10am.

Morning Worship Morebattle Church 11.15am

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>** December – Roxburghshire Guilds Together Christmas Celebration. Kelso North 2.30pm.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>** Yetholm Guild at 2.30pm in Yetholm Church. Nativity Scenes and their History.

## **Traidcraft**

For many years Traidcraft products have been sold through Yetholm Kirk and used to provide fairly traded biscuits, coffee, tea and sugar for events at the Kirk. We chose to use Traidcraft because it was unique among fairtrade organizations – indeed it was a founder member of the Fairtrade Foundation. Unlike the fairtrade products available in supermarkets and elsewhere, Traidcraft built up a long-term association with its partners in third world countries in order to develop and market their products for a western market and to offer advice and support to local farmers. With Traidcraft's help in trading their products and their assurance of long-term investment, partners were able to form successful cooperatives, build schools and develop sustainable technology for their communities. Alas, at Christmas 2018, Traidcraft found it was no longer able to support its trading arm as fully as it once had. It has perhaps been a victim of its own success in that fairtrade products are now easily available in supermarkets. Traidcraft largely sold its products through volunteer agents in churches, schools and community groups throughout the UK. However, it continues to market a limited range of products, including sustainable palm oil products, coffee, tea and biscuits, and sells charity Christmas cards. These are available through its catalogue, a copy of which is on the table at the back of Yetholm Kirk - if you want to order

by snail mail - or on line at the Traidcraft site:  
<https://www.traidcraft.co.uk/>

Traidcraft Exchange, the partner charity of the Traidcraft trading company, continues to work to eliminate poverty through fair trade and bring people together to fight injustice in trade. If you want to contribute directly to its work, you can go to <https://traidcraftexchange.org/> or write to Traidcraft Exchange, 5th Floor, 7 – 15 Pink Lane, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 5DW

### **Yetholm History Society 25th Anniversary Lecture**

Tuesday Oct 1st, 7.30 in the WAUCHOPE HALL. Max Adams will speak on 'Yetholm, Yeavinger and the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumbria.'

Max Adams is a celebrated historian, author and broadcaster. He has written several highly acclaimed books on Northumbria and the Dark Ages.

This is a Buchan lecture for 2019, funded by  
the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland Regional Fund.

Membership of Yetholm History Society for the year is £6.00. Non-members £2 per lecture.

### **Report from the Acting Session Clerk.**

It seems no time at all since I had to prepare the last report for the Cheviot and yet the time for it has come round again.

First let me deal with some of the nuts and bolts of the Session meeting.

In terms of the fabric of the buildings:

1. Morebattle Church has had the exterior painted.
2. The new manse has been partly re-decorated.
3. The quinquennial reports have arrived and will need a lot of digesting over the next few months.
4. The plaque in Morebattle Church and the rail in Yetholm Church are still on-going projects.
5. The asbestos surveys have been completed at a cost of £12000.
6. An estimate of over £3000 has been received for the repairs to the floor and joists of the clock tower and this will mean that a new a decision to be made fairly urgently.

The Ways and Means committee continue to work hard on behalf of the church but sadly the proposed concert by Andante, the Sponsored walk and the opening of Cherrytrees gardens will not take place this year; so we are looking for suggestions for other fund raising events.

The church will once again be taking a stall at the Yetholm Shepherds' Show and we are looking for donations of jams, chutneys etc. to sell. Donations should be given to Diane Gittus.

In August the Church was again happy to host the visit of the pilgrims from Norway with a meal being provided on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and their Pastor leading worship on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Graeme Watson for organising this and to all who donated towards the meal.

With the Induction of our new Minister Rev Colin Johnston on 30<sup>th</sup> August we now move into a new era in the life of Cheviot Churches. Our grateful thanks are due to Presbytery who organised an excellent service of Induction in Morebattle Church and to all who helped with the food etc. at the Social afterwards. It really was a super evening.

We have been very lucky over the past three years with the support we have received during the vacancy. Three excellent Interim Moderators in Rev Lisa-Jane Rankin, Rev Michael Scoular and Mrs Winnie Robson and two first class Locums in the Rev Una Stewart and Mrs Elizabeth Findlay. Our sincere thanks and God's blessing on all of them. I have to say, also, our thanks to those members of the Session, the Church Committees and the congregation in general who have worked tirelessly and successfully over the past three years to ensure that our Church continued to flourish.

Now it is time to move on and we welcome Colin to our parishes and ask for God's blessing on him to help in leading us forward.

“Hope” is the thing with feathers -  
That perches in the soul -  
And sings the tune without the words -  
And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -  
And sore must be the storm -  
That could abash the little Bird  
That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chillest land -  
And on the strangest Sea -  
Yet - never - in Extremity,  
It asked a crumb - of me.

Emily Dickinson (1830 – 1886)

## **Cheviot Churches Elders and Districts**

<b>Leslie Thomson</b>	West of Morebattle, Eckford and Crailing and various outlying.
<b>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>Dot Halliday</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 Vennel before shop.
<b>John Thompson</b>	Morebattle Road/Main Street to White Swan inc Cheviot Place and The Crescent to Vennel after Shop.
<b>Susan Stewart</b>	Deanfield Place, Court, Road and Bank. Back Lane and Dairy Wood.
<b>Diane Gittus</b>	Romany House to Yewtree Road, Lane and Bank, Grafton Corner to Mission Hall, Duncanhaugh and Hayhope.
<b>Tom Tokely</b>	Main Street, Yetholm from butcher – School, Dow Brae, Venchen, Mindrum, Howtel, Downham and Wideopen.
<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 (part)
<b>Alan Calvert</b>	Kelso (part)
<b>Margaret McTavish</b>	Postal.

## Church Services (Normal)

**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 from April 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)

### 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:

Dot Halliday  
Tel: 01573440220

### Role Keeper:

Diane Gittus Tel: 01573 420524

### Committee Convenors:

**Mission and Outreach:** Diane Gittus 01573 420524

**Children and Youth Ministry Team:** Graeme Watson 01573 420602

**Ways and Means with Stewardship:** Amanda Barnes 01573 420660

**Worship Committee:** Arthur Bates 01573420259

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

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