

Kelso North and Ednam  
Parish Church of Scotland

# The Messenger

Spring 2024



[www.kelsonorthandednam.org.uk](http://www.kelsonorthandednam.org.uk)

Scottish Charity Number: SC 014039

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# The Sacrament of Holy Communion

“This is not our Table, and this is not the Table of any one Church.  
This is the Table of our Lord Jesus Christ, and it is He who invites us to come.  
So come, taste and see that the Lord is good.”

A very warm and sincere invitation is extended to everyone to  
celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper.



## EDNAM PARISH CHURCH

**Sunday 3 March 2024 — 9.30am**  
**Fermented (alcoholic) Wine**

## KELSO NORTH PARISH CHURCH

**Sunday 3 March 2024— 11am**  
**Unfermented (non-alcoholic) Wine**

# From the Manse

'I am returning, not departing...'

In January this year one of the lights went out in the church. We were shocked and saddened by the death of Neil Maxwell. For the past 20 years, Neil has been lighting up our Sunday services with his smile.

On the Sunday after Neil passed peacefully away, our Session Clerk, Kate Fish, shared a poem with the congregation. This poem was written by Rev. Horatius Bonar, a very prominent churchman of his time, who was Minister of North Parish, Kelso. Our present church, Kelso North, was built in 1866 for this very congregation and Horatius Bonar was to be its first minister.

Horatius Bonar was once described as the prince of Scottish hymn-writers and wrote many of our much-loved hymns. He also wrote poetry.

This poem reminds us of God's promise to us, that this world is only part of a greater whole.

## **On the Threshold**

by [\*Horatius Bonar\*](#)

I'm returning, not departing;  
My steps are homeward bound.  
I quit the land of strangers  
For a home on native ground.

I am rising, and not setting;  
This is not night but day.  
Not in darkness, but in sunshine,  
Like a star, I fade away.

All is well with me for ever  
I do not fear to go.  
My tide is but beginning  
Its bright eternal flow.

I am leaving only shadows,  
For the true and fair and good.  
I must not, cannot, linger;  
I would not, though I could.

This is not death's dark portal,  
'Tis life's golden gate to me.  
Link after link is broken,  
And I at last am free.

I am going to the angels,  
I am going to my God;  
I know the hand that beckons,  
I see the holy road.

Why grieve me with your weeping,  
Your tears are all in vain;  
An hour's farewell, beloved,  
And we shall meet again.

Jesus, thou wilt receive me,  
And welcome me above;  
This sunshine, which now fills me,  
Is thine own smile of love.

1 Corinthians 15 in the Bible tells us: If it is for this life only that Christ has given us hope, we are of all people most to be pitied. But the truth is, Christ was raised to life.

What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable.

Then the saying of scripture will come true:

'Death is swallowed up; victory is won!

O Death, where is your victory?

O Death, where is your sting?'

As we approach Easter, this message is left ringing loudly in our ears.

**Rev. Anna Rodwell**

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### DEMISSIONS

*By transfer*

JANUARY

- 22 Paul Roberts, 173 Roxburgh Street, Kelso  
22 Karren Roberts, 173 Roxburgh Street, Kelso

### ADMISSIONS

*By transfer*

JANUARY

- 25 Geraldine Strickland, Howden Meadows, Jedburgh  
25 Alan Strickland, Howden Meadows, Jedburgh  
28 John Lewis, Bartlehill Farm, Coldstream  
28 Cherie Lewis, Bartlehill Farm, Coldstream

### BAPTISMS

*"Then he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them, and blessed them."*

NOVEMBER

- 5 Mairi Ailsa Armstrong, Dunbar  
5 Harris John Armstrong, Dunbar

DECEMBER

- 17 William Thomas Charles Fleming, Mosstower Farm



## MARRIAGES



*"Meanwhile, these three remain: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love."*

### DECEMBER

31 Charlotte Agnew and Christopher Hutchens, Eccles

## FUNERALS

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."*

### OCTOBER

31 George Tinlin, 2 Hendersyde Park, Kelso

### NOVEMBER

2 Jacqueline Clune, 2 Mayfield Gardens, Kelso

9 Arthur Dagg, 34 Kerfield Court, Kelso

16 Hannah Wilson, Jedburgh

23 Marilyn McCraith, Grove House Care Home, Kelso

27 Robert Reid, 32 Tweedsyde Park, Kelso

28 Cameron Martin, 140 Roxburgh Street, Kelso

### DECEMBER

4 Jessie Anderson, Duns

20 Ronald Patterson, 111b Roxburgh Street, Kelso

29 Agnes (Nancy) White, 22 The Tofts, Kelso

### JANUARY 2024

8 Ian Crawford, 5 Broomlea Court, Kelso

11 David Lowrie, Lennel Nursing Home, Coldstream

24 Neil Maxwell, 5 Pipewell Place, Kelso

**The deadline for the Summer edition is provisionally:**

**Friday 26 April 2024**

Please use our email: [office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk](mailto:office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk)

If articles need to be typed, please hand them in at the Office. Articles already typed should be sent as an attachment to the email address above, if possible as a Word document.

## FLOODLIGHT FOR LIFE

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REMEMBER A LOVED ONE ON A SPECIFIC DATE  
OR FOR A SPECIAL OCCASION e.g. BIRTHDAY,  
ANNIVERSARY OR FAMILY EVENT,  
THEN WHY NOT SPONSOR THE FLOODLIGHTS AT  
KELSO NORTH FOR £20 ON A DATE YOU WISH TO REMEMBER?**

**Please contact the office with details: Tel. 01573 224154 (on Tuesdays or  
Thursdays) or email: [office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk](mailto:office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk)**

**Dates sponsored will be displayed on the screen in the Church during the  
Sunday morning service & published in the Messenger.**

### Dates which have been sponsored

**Tuesday 16 January – In loving memory of John Anderson who passed  
away on 16 January 2013.**

**‘To a Special Husband, Dad & Grandpa’**

**With Love from Jean, Iain, Margaret & family.**

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Psalm Sunday 24 March: Ednam at 9.30am, Kelso North at 11am

**Stainer’s Crucifixion:** 7pm, Tuesday 26 March in Kelso North

Maundy Thursday: 28 March, 7pm in Kelso North

Easter Sunday 31 March: Ednam at 9.30am, Kelso North at 11am

## Baptism and Nativity

The week before Christmas we were delighted to welcome Will Fleming and his family and friends to Kelso North Church for a service of Baptism.

Our annual Nativity was to be on that day also but none of our Acorns was able to be with us. The children present on the day, however, stepped up to the challenge and the Nativity went ahead impromptu.

We are very grateful to all who helped make the service such a special celebration of baptism and of the retelling of Jesus' Birth.

Well done all!



Photographs taken by  
Jeanette Duncanson



**Rev. Anna Rodwell**

# Christingle Service: Christmas Eve, 6.30pm, Kelso North Church.

We were very pleased to welcome a large number of children and families to this service. Just before the Christingles were handed out by members of the Acorn team and the Growing Young Group, we were entertained by Carly and her young fiddlers. Thank you so much to you all for a memorable evening. A special word of thanks to Sainsburys in Kelso for gifting the oranges.



Photographs taken by  
Jeanette Duncanson



**Jeanette Duncanson**



# Kelso Churches Together Report

We met on the 15 January 2024 at 7pm in St Andrew's Church.

There was positive feedback on the Open Air Songs of Praise, held in the Square on 10 September. Please note next year's date in your diary – 8 September 2024 at 2pm.

Paul Roberts gave the treasurer's report for both KCT and the Foodbank.

It was agreed that the Remembrance Day Service on 12 November had an excellent turn out. The sound system was much improved.

Carol Services in care homes, Kelso Hospital, Kerfield Court and Plenderleith Court continued and went well. We were delighted to return to Kelso Hospital after many years. Since the beginning of the year we have carried out our first service in Poynder Apartments.

Future Dates to note:

World Day of Prayer, 1 March, 11am in St Andrews.

Holy Week Service, 27 March, 10.30am in St Andrew's.

Border Union Show, 26/27 July, KCT Tea Tent.

Lay membership of Kelso Churches Together committee was discussed, as there are some churches with gaps in representation. Each church should have 3 members and the appointment is for 3 years.

Date of next meeting: Monday 8 April at 7pm in St. Andrew's Church. This will be the AGM followed by a meeting.

**Jeanette Duncanson**

## To readers of this magazine:

**If you are enjoying the Messenger we would encourage you to write an article, as it would be good to widen our field of contributors.**

Please use our email: [office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk](mailto:office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk)

If articles need to be typed, please hand them in at the Office. Articles already typed should be sent as an attachment to the email address above, if possible as a Word document.



## Saturday Coffee Mornings

A very successful Festive Fun Coffee Morning was held on 2 December with a good attendance of people of all ages.

Santa's little elves had transformed the Bonar Room with nativity scenes, fairy lights, Christmas trees, holly wreaths and stockings to create a veritable Christmas grotto. Over their festive fare everyone threw themselves into solving the various seasonal puzzles and activities. For those who tried the number quiz the answer is below! One of our helpers had made a beautifully decorated Christmas cake, the prize for whoever could guess its weight. The winner was Irene Urquhart. Well done Irene !



As promised, our special visitor arrived much to the delight of our youngsters and distributed presents before continuing with his busy schedule.

(Photographs taken by Eleanor Wood & Trish Sansom)

The team again set out to increase attendance and encourage families to come along to Coffee Mornings, contributing towards our goal of Kelso North and Ednam 'Growing Younger'. I think we succeeded and at the same time raised over £120 which will in due course go towards a range of good causes. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way.

By the time this Messenger goes to print we will have held a more traditional Coffee Morning in February. With excellent home-bakes on offer, let's hope it was well supported. We are looking to hold a Spring themed Coffee Morning on 6 April with activities for all. Put the date in your diary and look out for more details nearer the time.

If you are interested in organising a Coffee Morning for a cause important to you, please contact the Church Office for more information.

## **Festive Number Quiz**

What is the total of all the numbers in the answers to these festive questions:

- How many gifts did the Wise Men bring to the baby Jesus? **3**
- How many reindeer are named in the poem The Night Before Christmas? **8**
- According to the carol ,Good King Wenceslas went out on the Feast of Stephen. On which date in December is this feast held? **26**
- In The Twelve Days of Christmas how many ladies dancing were gifted?  
**9 X 4 =36**
- According to tradition how many mince pies should you eat for good luck over the festive period? **12**
- According to the carol how many ships came sailing in? **3**
- 12<sup>th</sup> night is held on which date in January? **5**
- The Christmas Tree in Trafalgar Square has been donated by the people of Norway since which year? **1947**
- What is the missing number in this song? All I want for Christmas is my .... front teeth **2**
- The first song to be broadcast from outer space was Jingle Bells! In 1965 the astronauts of which Gemini space ship treated ground control in Houston to a rendition of this song? **6**

**Total 2048**

**Eleanor Wood**

## **The World Church Group Thanks You For 2023**

Where did that year go?

You might remember the Quiz Night fundraiser for Hope and Homes for Children on 3 March. It turned out to be so popular that we had to squeeze in two more tables. Kate Fish was our dynamic question master, who allowed no dissent over incorrect answers. Many thanks to the Cross Keys who kindly gifted the use of The Dickson Room. Janice Patterson's anagram quiz added to the total raised of £361. The Manse team won, so popular opinion judges that we should run another Quiz Night in the autumn of 2024 at which we will raise more funds for our church charity and beat the Manse team at quizzing.

We are very grateful to the Currie family for keeping alive Sheila Currie's support for Christian Solidarity Worldwide. Before Easter and Christmas they arranged for us to sign cards to send to people imprisoned for their Christian religion. In mid September we held a coffee morning for Hope and Homes for Children. It was the first church coffee morning after a break and the weather very wet so the turnout was low. However, all who served and came felt it was a pleasant morning. We plan to run an autumn one again, perhaps at the point when we would start selling the reasonably-priced and well-designed Hope and Homes Christmas cards. The money we raised that morning was added to the Christmas card sales and the retiring collections at our World Church Group service on 19 November and amounted to £446.50.

We were very pleased to hear Charlotte Arrowsmith speak to us about Hope and Homes for Children at the 19 November service. Charlotte has worked overseas for many years and has supported Hope and Homes since her daughter's Gulf primary school was active in this. Charlotte is an engaging speaker and told us of several aspects that we had not known about in the few years that we have supported the charity. For instance, I had not realised

that Hope and Homes form community hubs to help a number of families in the same area, and that they can arrange for funds originally earmarked by the authorities for orphanages to be diverted to groups that support families. Many children in orphanages are not orphans so can be returned to their family groups if there is help or money to support them. Charlotte had asked us in the services to tell at least one other person about Hope and Homes. Later that day I found that I was spontaneously doing just that. Hope and Homes work in many countries and it is well worth reading their Hope magazine when it is sent to us.

Thank you for all your interest and support in 2023. We receive appreciative thank you cards from Hope and Homes headquarters for all you donate. Do keep your eyes open for another Quiz Night, Christmas cards from mid November, and another service. And, of course, do let us know if you have any ideas for further fundraisers.



Photograph taken by Jeanette Duncanson

## **Elizabeth Raitt**

Convenor of Kelso North and Ednam World Church Group.

# WHY IS THE DREICHEST MONTH SO ROMANTIC?

Alasdair Hutton

The middle of February must be one of the dreariest times of the year, cold, wet and dull, yet it is the time when we celebrate love and lovers on St. Valentine's Day on 14 February.

Little is known about St Valentine so why do we celebrate him at all and at the time of year which, on the face of it, looks most unsuitable? Would not the springtime be much more obvious?

Modern academics have dismissed the idea that Valentine's Day was invented to supersede the mid-February pagan holiday of Lupercalia, which originally celebrated the foundation of Rome but degenerated into something more lascivious. They believe that many of the current Valentine legends were invented in the 14th century in England, notably by Geoffrey Chaucer and his circle, when the feast day of 14 February first became associated with romantic love.

During the Middle Ages, it was believed that birds paired off to produce eggs in mid-February and in his *Parliament of Fowls* Geoffrey Chaucer, the author of *The Canterbury Tales*, wrote:

"For this was on Saint Valentine's Day, when every bird cometh there to choose his mate."

Even William Shakespeare's tragic character Ophelia called Hamlet her Valentine.

So, who was this obscure saint who must be the best known after St. Nicholas?

Saint Valentine was said to be a third-century Roman saint who has been associated with a tradition of courtly love since the High Middle Ages but we do not know whether Saint Valentine was one individual or one name for several different people.

A feast of St. Valentine was first established on 14 February in 496 by the Pope, who included Valentine among all those he said "whose names are justly revered among men, but whose acts are known only to God." As he implies, nothing was then known about Valentine's life.

There are a lot of legends about eleven men all called Valentine, many of which tell of the saint's ability to restore sight to blind people, all young women. But perhaps the most likely story is that he was a Roman priest arrested and executed when he was caught marrying Christian couples and helping Christians who were being persecuted by the Emperor Claudius the Cruel in Rome. Why on earth should that be a crime?

The emperor had to maintain a strong army but he was having difficulty getting soldiers to join his military legions. Claudius believed that Roman men were unwilling to join the army because of their strong attachment to their wives and families. To get rid of the problem, he banned all marriages and engagements in Rome but Valentine privately defied the emperor and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret so that the husbands wouldn't have to go to war. For this Valentine was beaten to death and had his head cut off. That sentence was said to have been carried out on February the Fourteenth.

But is all this just an old legend? It is hard to say, but people in cities all over Europe believe they have relics of Saint Valentine . There was even a Saint Valentine's Church, built in in Rome in 1960 to serve the Olympic Village and it continues be a well-visited modern parish church.

Whatever the truth, celebrating love is a happy thing to do and if we did not have a day already, we would need to invent it. And just like love itself, St. Valentine and his reputation as the patron saint of love are not things you can explain easily but are certainly matters of faith.

## CONGREGATIONAL BOARD

The Congregational Board last met on 29 November 2023. Rev Anna Rodwell welcomed members and constituted the meeting with prayer.

The planned Safeguarding training for all Trustees will take place via Zoom in Kelso North Church on Tuesday 16 January. This is a compulsory and legal requirement for all Kirk Session and Congregational Board members, as the Trustees.

Mr Duncanson, Treasurer, informed members that income for 2023 is down on 2022, but this is because of an overdue payment. A legacy of £5,000 has been left to the church. The increase in Use of Premises income of £13,557, is enhanced by a generous donation from the Food Community Larder.

Expenses:

Replacement Office printer - £352

Copyright Licence renewal - £1,180

New LED lighting in Upper Hall - £627

In the 2024 budget, Church of Scotland Insurance Services Ltd, there is a new premium charge of £10,770, an increase of 12%.

In accordance with the increase in Minimum National Wage, the hourly rate paid to employees will increase from £10.42 to £11.44 in April 2024, an increase of 10%.

Recent retiral Collections raised the following amounts:

Christian Aid (Gaza – Israel) £424

Poppy Scotland £121.70

Hope and Homes for Children (to Sept) £510.10

Following the success of the autumn Car Boot Sale, Mr Ian Henderson reported that it is hoped to hold another Car Boot Sale on 27 April 2024, subject to the site being available, and one in late September. Facebook was a great success in advertising the event. Rev. Anna Rodwell thanked Mr. Henderson and the team for the huge efforts to make the day go well.

Mr Fairfield, Resources Manager, reported that the current projector, used to present our weekly services of worship at Kelso North Church, is no longer fit



for purpose. He has conducted considerable research into options and will report on his findings.

The Clerk read out the report on the November meeting of the Kirk Session. Rev. Anna Rodwell spoke of the recent “Growing Young” conference held at Dalkeith, which members of the group attended. She is encouraged by the interest and enthusiasm of members.

The Board next meets on Wednesday 21 February 2024 at 7pm. Church members are welcome to attend at any meeting.

*Kayte Halliday,*

Clerk to the Board

## MILK BOTTLE. TOPS



A BIG Thank You to all those in Kelso North & Ednam Church who continue to collect washed plastic milk bottle tops. It stops them going into landfill and helps the environment.

Also thanks to Rotary, who collect the bottle tops and sell them by the metric tonne, giving the money they receive to cancer charities..



By collecting you are making a difference to so many people.

PLEASE encourage family, friends and neighbours to collect too and leave the bottle tops in the container in the vestibule on a Sunday morning, or hand them into the church office, open Tuesday and Thursday

**Thank you for your continuing support.**



**Margaret Campbell**

## PRAYER TIME AT KELSO NORTH



Why do we pray and who are we praying to?

Does it feel as if we are praying in a vacuum and that our words are just bouncing off the ceiling?

Very good questions and we need to give them some thought and consideration, as prayer is ultimately a crucial issue for us as a church and for each of us as individual believers in the Gospel of Christ.

We have several main prayer requirements in our church services every Sunday:

**Prayers of Adoration:** praising God for who he is and what he has done;

**Prayers of Confession:** saying sorry for the hurt we've caused God and others;

**Prayers of Thanksgiving:** thanking God for all he has done for us;

**Prayers of Intercession:** for world issues, community concerns and individual needs as we are made aware of them;

**The Lord's Prayer:** usually said at the conclusion of a public prayer.

Opinions may vary and different viewpoints held but essentially these are our main areas of responsibility as a church to express during public prayer to God.

Then there are our own private prayers where we speak to God about our own private petitions in our quiet time and this can and should be a very personal experience for us.

But there is a third outlet for prayer where we come together and have a shared prayer time, united in a sense of purpose to seek specific guidance and communicate with God collectively. It's not a service which we attend, nor is it a private encounter in our own quiet time.

It is a coming together, a gathering of likeminded and humble servants seeking the truth being expressed through us and to us.

We share with God in a time of thanksgiving that is so profound and deep and a blessing to us all who share collectively in fellowship through the simple act of praying together to our God.

Jesus was always praying, in fact in my reading this morning Jesus prayed for Peter who was about to deny him, and Jesus said "I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail." Peter, that rock of a man prayed for in a time of crisis, which he was ultimately unaware of but who came through his trial because he was prayed for by Christ himself.

In Acts we read about the disciples regularly praying together and through the Holy Spirit this eventually brought about an upheaval throughout the whole Roman Empire.

It is an amazing truth that our God who created heaven and the earth gives us access to Him through a simple act of obedience to Him, in Prayer!

If you can join us, know that you are welcome and are invited to come along every other Monday at 7:30pm in the Vestibule at Kelso North for a time of prayer.



**Gavin Currie**

## TAPAS Soirée

The Upper Hall at Kelso North on 9 December was the perfect setting for the Kelso debut of “TAPAS”, who performed an eclectic mix of festive music, readings and poetry in front of an invited audience of friends, family and locals. What with the festive decorations, candlelight, mince pies and mulled wine (for both audience and performers) it was a thoroughly memorable evening and TAPAS hope to be able to entertain you again very soon.

Back in March this year five of us got together over a bottle of wine and tried our voices out together with a few songs – we enjoyed the experience and decided we’d like to do it again. At the beginning of May we recruited two more voices, followed a few weeks later by a third – and this is where we are now—Kelso’s answer to Voces8!

About the name, according to Google Arts & Culture:

The Art of Tapas: Small portions that can be simple or intricate, and which are served with drinks in bars throughout Spain. This particular style of eating is known as ‘tapear’ or ‘going for tapas’ and is based on informal gatherings and socializing with friends and acquaintances. There are various legends surrounding the custom; one has it that during the reign of King Alfonso X in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century, tapas began to be served as an accompaniment to drinks to prevent drunkenness. According to Wikipedia a ‘tapa’ is an appetizer or snack in Spanish Cuisine. Tapas can be combined to make a full meal and can be cold or hot.

So, equate each song to a different Tapas dish, which together make up our repertoire. Our music ranges from traditional to modern, from sacred to secular and from thoughtful to high spirited. Some pieces date from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, whilst others are far more contemporary arrangements from the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

No charge was made for the Christmas Soirée on 9 December but a retiring collection of £170.00 was split between the church and The British Red Cross. Huge thanks to those who donated.

TAPAS members are:-

Ruth Dorward (sop), Jan Sunderland (sop), Kate Fish (alto), Kate Tynan (alto), Roy Ledsham (tenor), Jon Aldridge (tenor), Jamie McKenzie (bass), Mike Sunderland (bass)



**Ruth**



**Jan**



**The 2 Kate's**



**Roy**



**Jon**



**Jamie**



**Mike**



Photos taken  
by Ian  
Durwood  
and  
Clare Tyler

**Jan Sunderland and Kate Tynan**

## Men@KNE

Kelso North and Ednam Men's Group usually meet for a 7pm start on the last Wednesday of each month, with details published in the weekly notices or on the church web site. New members and guests are always welcome. For further details please contact the Convenor, Ian Henderson, on 224357.

The Men's Group enjoyed a splendid evening of fellowship at the Royal British Legion for their annual Festive Meal in early December. We are thankful to have had an excellent guest Quizmaster in Andrew Townsend who put together an eclectic mix of questions making it a very entertaining and competitive competition. Needless to say, the best team won but all went away with seasonal prizes.

At the time of going to print but before the next issue of The Messenger, the group will have heard parts 1 and 2 of "Astronomy and Religion" from the excellent speaker Gordon McKay. As the spring approaches our activities will become more outdoor based so we will be hoping for some settled weather.

The Men@KNE has never been exclusive to members of the congregation of Kelso North and Ednam and we continue to welcome anyone who is interested in our activities and a time of Christian fellowship.



## TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Meetings continue weekly in the Bonar Room at 2.30pm.  
Come along for an hour of friendship, some fun and a cup of tea.

Transport can be arranged by contacting :-

Elizabeth Bruce on Tel: 226731

## “LOONY DOOK”

We were certainly blessed with glorious weather for this year’s Loony Dook at Coldingham Bay. More people than ever took the chance to throw themselves into the freezing waters of the North Sea. The “Loony Dook” is an informal annual event on New Year’s Day in which people gather together in groups around the coast for the sole purpose of getting cold and wet but having a good time and, believe it or not, feeling wonderful afterwards. There are few activities remaining that are good for your health, communal, free and make you feel as if you are eight years old again. The sheer volume of people “dooking” is matched by (usually rather smug) onlookers clad in fleeces, bobble hats and gloves etc who have come to wonder at the whole spectacle when, at the stroke of noon, hundreds of people (including whole families and dogs), many in fancy dress, launch themselves screaming wildly into the briny sea. Plenty of folk came from Kelso so perhaps we will see you there next year...! I even spotted our Minister taking part!



Photograph taken by Terni Jhooti

**Kate Tynan**

# FIFTY YEARS AGO IN 1974

Alasdair Hutton

As we head into 2024 a look back fifty years to 1974 shows that while some things have changed there is an eerie similarity to what we are seeing today.

The media constantly reminds us that we can expect a General Election later in the year and in 1974 we faced two in the same year.

The country had seen coal miners going on strike in the previous couple of years and went into 1974 with the threat of another miners' strike looming. To conserve energy and to help curb inflation the Conservative-led government began the year with a three-day working week. In the end the Government decided to go to the country in February with an election on the theme of "who governs Britain?" (the Government or the National Union of Mineworkers). The outcome was a hung parliament and after the Government could not form a coalition, the Labour opposition took power but looking for a clear mandate went back to the country in October and won with a three-seat majority.

In the end this government faced the winter of discontent when there were more widespread strikes which led up to the 1979 general election and the return of a Conservative government.

We still face the constant threat of terrorist attacks in 2024 but 50 years ago the threat came from closer to home. While the country faced inflation and industrial unrest, terrorism had been brought to mainland Britain by the Provisional Irish Republican Army which killed 12 off-duty soldiers on a bus on the M62, set off car bombs, killed a number of people in public houses, targeted prominent figures in assassination attempts and damaged Westminster Hall in the Houses of Parliament in a bomb attack.

The Middle East was still a troubled area with Israel trying to recover from another attack on its territory from Syria and Egypt followed by Iraq on Yom Kippur, the Holiest Day of the Jewish calendar, on 6 October 1973. In 1974, after the Israeli public criticised the country's lack of preparedness and the heavy Israeli casualties the Prime Minister, Golda Meir, bowed to the pressure and resigned.



However, 1974 also saw the signing of the first of two Egyptian-Israeli disengagement agreements providing for the return of portions of the Sinai to Egypt.

But it was not all horrible news. There were some enduring surprises.

On 6 April, the Eurovision Song Contest was held at the Dome in Brighton and was won by the Swedish group ABBA with their own song Waterloo.

In travel, a household name was created when British Airways became the unified brand for BOAC, BEA, Cambrian Airways and Northeast Airlines.

The year closed with a mystery which has still not been solved; Lord Lucan disappeared in November after his children's nanny was found murdered. Then the former Labour Cabinet Minister John Stonehouse, who faked his own death in Miami, was found living in Australia and was quickly arrested by Australian police, who initially believed that he was Lord Lucan.

So, 1974 had some surprises up its sleeve. Now we wait to see what surprises 2024 will deliver.

## Smile Time

An elderly priest said to the young priest, "Your idea of replacing the first four pews with plush bucket seats worked like a charm. The front of the church fills up first now. And you told me that adding more beat to the music would bring young people back to the church, so I supported you when you brought in the rock 'n roll gospel choir. Now our services are packed to the balcony."

"Thank you Father," answered the young priest. "I'm pleased that you are open to new ideas." "But," said the elderly priest, "I'm afraid you have gone too far with the drive thru' confessional!"

"But Father," said the young man, "my confessions and the donations have nearly doubled since I began that."

"I appreciate that," was the reply, "but the flashing neon sign, 'Toot 'n Tell or Go to Hell' cannot stay on the church roof!"

(taken from Kelso Country Churches Newsletter 2023 with thanks)



## LIVING WITH ALZHEIMERS

The Alzheimer's diagnosis didn't come as a complete surprise to me when my husband was officially diagnosed just over a year ago. Looking back, there had been signs for a while - maybe even years - of changes in his personality and a withdrawal from our normal activities. The pandemic didn't help of course, in fact we went into lockdown on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday! We have moved around the country with job changes, ending up in the Borders almost twenty years ago after living in the Lake District for eight years. We love living in Kelso and have made many new friends since we have been here.

Alzheimer's is something that happens to other people! - not us - but here we are - facing an uncertain and maybe a little bit terrifying future. I have to say that we have had excellent support from several sources - maybe not quite joined up (yet) but several opportunities have been given to us for help, for both my husband and myself. We have met people whom we would never have met under normal circumstances and a whole new circle of friends is emerging - all with the same thing in common - Alzheimer's.

Alzheimer's cannot be cured, but can, with medication, be slowed down which affords us a reasonable way of life with me being able to join in some activities with my husband. There is an art group which meets in Galashiels on a Wednesday afternoon, but the most exciting group we are attached to is a group called "Music on Fridays" which is held in Langlee Community Centre in Galashiels. It is a well known fact that music and singing is something that Alzheimer's sufferers enjoy and they can often recall songs and tunes from their childhood - it gives my husband and me great pleasure to sing along with some of our new friends. It is on a Friday morning 10.30 - 12.00 - it is free (just a donation towards the hire of the room if you feel like it). My husband really enjoys singing - and in fact has a lovely voice - and I cannot say enough how much pleasure it gives me to hear him sing and we sing in the car all the way home! The contact for the Music on Friday's group is [pruepullen@hotmail.com](mailto:pruepullen@hotmail.com).

I know there are difficult and sad times ahead but I am willing to take advantage of every opportunity that is given to both of us to tackle this together - and it is very rewarding. We are so grateful to so many people for the help we are given - none of it is taken for granted and I certainly feel that I am not in this alone. Our Church family in Ednam is very important to both of us and the support and help we get from them is very much appreciated.

**Helen Payne**



## Music on Fridays

*for people living with Alzheimer's and their  
partners or carers*

**LANGLEE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

from 10.30-12.00 on Fridays

in the blue room.

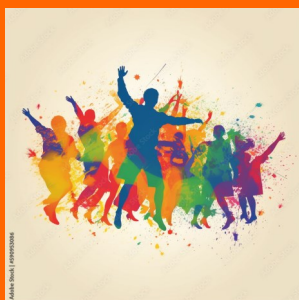
We want to offer fun, lively sessions of singing and music making in a relaxed friendly atmosphere.

If you care for someone with dementia or would like to give it a go yourself, come and join us and give it a try!

Email me at : [pruepullen@hotmail.com](mailto:pruepullen@hotmail.com)  
or ring 07806619989



## Growing Young [er]



Kelso North and Ednam Church and the Country Churches are part of a cohort from the Church of Scotland, who are engaged in a two-year programme to look at how inclusive we are as congregations, and how our church culture welcomes and nurtures all people, but in particular younger people.

### **Our aim is to:**

Take Jesus' message seriously.

Fuel a warm community.

Be the best neighbours.

Empathise with today's young people.

Prioritise young people and families everywhere.

Unlock keychain leadership [Instead of centralizing authority, empower others – especially young people.]

To this end we have been listening to those in the congregation and those outside it. We have been listening to our younger people in the church and those outside.

We have experimented with different ways of worshipping and making time for fellowship together and these have had interesting results.

We have had some fun joining in the Civic Week Parade and we are planning a year of more special services, including a celebration of Baptism, inviting those who have been baptised in Kelso North and Ednam to come and say 'hello'. We will keep you updated with what is happening but do keep an eye on Facebook and the website too.

**Rev. Anna Rodwell**





# EASTER WORDSEARCH

P K R O F N W H A C  
O L Z Y A B G Y N P  
E A N B I B L E G A  
V M K D T N O C E J  
T B P J H O R R L X  
B W A X V R Y O I T  
G K L W A X P S G J  
K K M J E S U S O P  
G K J E Q H D T D U  
Z D H O L Y K H N L



## WORD LIST

ANGEL	GOD
BIBLE	HOLY
CROSS	JESUS
FAITH	LAMB
GLORY	PALM



*Homemade*  
GIFTS MADE EASY

I came across this poem in another church magazine and share it with you.  
Make sure you read right to the end !

## Refugees

They have no need of our help  
So do not tell me  
These haggard faces could belong to you or me  
Should life have dealt a different hand  
We need to see them for who they really are  
Chancers and scroungers  
Layabouts and loungers  
With bombs up their sleeves  
Cut-throats and thieves  
They are not  
Welcome here  
We should make them  
Go back to where they came from  
They cannot  
Share our food  
Share our homes  
Share our countries  
Instead let us  
Build a wall to keep them out  
It is not OK to say  
These are people just like us  
A place should only belong to those who are born there  
Do not be so stupid to think that  
The world can be looked at another way

***Now please read each line from bottom to top***

How everything changes when we look at things from a different  
point of view!

**Eleanor Wood**

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

Minister	Revd Anna Rodwell	<a href="tel:07508810237">07508 810237</a>
	anna.rodwell@googlemail.com	
	<u>The Manse, 20 Forestfield</u>	224248
Session Clerk	Catherine Fish, 21 Barony Park	07774622883
Board Convener	Rev Anna Rodwell	224248
Clerk to the Board	Kayte Halliday, 6 Abbey View	226129
Treasurer	Ian Duncanson, 14 Forestfield	
Gift Aid/FWO	Colin Carruthers, 27 Kerfield Court	223344
Fabric Convener	Co-ordinator required	
Resource Manager	Bruce Fairfield	07596468167
Organist (Ednam)	Grace Payne, 34 Broomlea	219298
Organist (KN)	Jamie McKenzie	07907335648
Church Flowers (KN)	Evelyn Meins, Edinburgh Road	223544
Church Flowers (Ed)	Denis Sweenie, 1 Stichill Road	223320
“Acorn”, Sunday Club	Revd. Anna Rodwell	07508 810237
Safeguarding	Margaret Mills, 4 Mercers Court	224937
Saturday Coffee	<i>Refer to Church Secretary</i>	224154
Social Committee	Jamie McKenzie	07907335648
Women Together	<i>Refer to Church Secretary</i>	224154
Tuesday Fellowship	Elizabeth Bruce, 21 The Tofts	226731
Men@kne	Ian Henderson, 31 Broomlea	224357
Life and Work	Margaret Aitken	07493158067
Eco-Congregation	Co-ordinator required	
Welcome Convenor	Kathleen Binnie, Cairnbank, Sprouston Rd.	224915
World Church Group	Elizabeth Raitt, 37 Pinnacehill Park	224494
Church Office:	42 Bowmont Street, Kelso, TD5 7JH	224154
Church Secretary:	Janice Paterson	
	<a href="mailto:office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk">office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk</a>	

Office Hours – Tues & Thurs – 9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Kelso North & Ednam Parish Church



Kelso Racecourse Car Park

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Public access 10am – 2pm

Seller's entry from 9am – Cars £15, Vans £20 – **Cash Only**

For pre-booking of pitches, contact:

Tel: 01573 224154

email: [office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk](mailto:office@kelsonorthandednam.org.uk)



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Creative

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