

Parish of Upper Tweeddale

KIRK MATTERS



Autumn 2023

“Raise the song of harvest home”

CHURCH'S VISION STATEMENT

The vision of the Church of Scotland is to be a Church which seeks to inspire the people of Scotland and beyond with the good news of Jesus Christ through enthusiastic worshipping, witnessing, nurturing and serving communities

UPPER TWEEDDALE WEBSITE

www.uppertweeddale.org.uk Charity No. SC004728

Part of the West Tweeddale Parishes linkage (www.westtweeddale.org.uk)



@parishofuppertweeddale

SUNDAY SERVICES

Occasionally we hold joint services for instance for a breakfast church. Advanced notice will be given at church services and on the website and Facebook.

In Broughton Church at 11am
In Tweedsmuir Church at 9.30am
In Skirling Church at 11.30am

Occasionally Sunday services are posted to the Upper Tweeddale Website and to the Parish of Upper Tweeddale Facebook page



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Skirling and Tweedsmuir
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www.stewardship.org.uk
For the Parish of Upper Tweeddale



A letter from our Minister

'Do not despise the day of small things.'

All harvests, no matter how large, begin with the small. Those small, seemingly insignificant, sometimes ugly looking things we call seeds hold the key to all harvests. All seeds are sown in faith and covered with hope. All large harvests are reaped because someone chose to sow a small seed. They sowed their seed in faith, and they covered it in hope. Perhaps that is why Jesus compared the rule of God to a seed sown. A seed filled with a God-empowered potential to produce the longed-for harvest of a better world, a world characterised by among other things, *kindness*.



Nothing enlarges human hearts more than the touch of kindness, the heart of those who give and those who receive. In the same way, nothing wilts our hearts more than the wince of unkindness, given or received. Everyone loves the practice of kindness — loves thinking of themselves as a kind person — but somehow, the practice of it has taken a back seat in a culture driven by *'selfing'*.

We are living through a pandemic of *'selfing'* — a rampant self-celebration that mistakes applause for connection, likes for love. We live in a world where social media companies have designed algorithms that prioritize selfies over sunflowers, algorithms that amplify the word *I*, algorithms that are doping us with the dopamine of *'being noticed'*. There must be a better way of doing life — a way to *'unself'* ourselves just long enough to notice the person standing in front of us more than the one we are so desperately trying to be on Facebook. Whatever that better way is, it will not come about because of a new kind of technology but rather through the much-admired habit of kindness. I like the way the poet Rae Armantrout puts it in her poem - *Life's Work*:

*Did I say I was a creature of habit?
I meant the opposite.*

*I meant behaviour is a pile of clothes
I might or might not wear.*

Here is what I suggest to you as a personal experiment, every day for the next month, make the focus of your day the intentional sowing of one seed of deliberate kindness in the real world whether in word or deed. Try it for a month — try it on as the poet says, like you would a piece of clothing and see how it feels. And if you don't reap a harvest of the warm glow of kindness given and received, that good glad feeling of making another's day, then you can always go back to the world of *'selfing'*.

Peace, Tony



A big thanks from Christian Aid

Thank you for your incredible support this Christian Aid Week. Together, Upper Tweeddale has raised to help families around the world transform their own lives.

You only need to look to Esther Saizi in Malawi to see the lasting impact gifts like yours can have. Esther previously struggled to obtain fair prices for her crops. But when she joined a pigeon pea programme run by a Christian Aid partner and started to sell as part of a cooperative, she was able to earn much more. 'I was able to sell the pigeon peas at a better price with a better market,' she explains. 'It provided financial stability.' Esther is doing amazing things for her family with her pigeon peas. She bought tools for her daughter Ziwoone's carpentry business and pays for her daughter Rashida's school costs.

It's thanks to people like you that this transformation has been possible for Esther and her family. Thank you, Upper Tweeddale for your life changing gift.

With heartfelt thanks,

Your Christian Aid Week Team

Ed Note, We managed to raise £1500, mainly through the car-boot sale. Thank you to all who got involved in any way.

Blythswood Care Shoebox appeal

The Blythswood Care shoebox appeal started in 1993 and over the last 29 years more than 2.5 million shoeboxes have been distributed. Sadly, in its thirtieth year the need is as great as ever. Checklist Leaflets for this year's appeal will be available soon and boxes will be delivered to schools, hospitals, orphanages, care homes and low income communities as well as those affected by war in Ukraine.



Last year, in the West Tweeddale area we contributed 32 boxes plus donations of money. In addition we also gave 3 boxes of fillers ie items from the checklist that were donated that couldn't fit in the shoeboxes and these are welcomed as well.

If you have any surplus shoeboxes please leave them in any of the West Tweeddale churches as we always need boxes. Collection arrangements for filled wrapped boxes are still to be finalised. This is usually in late October but you can start putting them together now.

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Upper Tweed Community Drivers

A reminder! The volunteer drivers are there to help with transport for anyone living within the Upper Tweed area (Broughton, Tweedsmuir, Drumelzier, Skirling and Stobo) and who has difficulty attending a health-related appointment – such as no one available to take them or bus times not being convenient. The drivers can take you to a hospital or doctor's appointment or other appointments for example, blood tests, opticians, hearing checks, vaccinations, physiotherapy etc. It's a stress free, friendly door to door service, we just ask for a donation.

The scheme picked up again two years ago and we have had financial assistance from the Upper Tweed and Tweedsmuir Community Councils, and the SSE wind farm to help with overhead costs and a First Aid Awareness course for the Drivers. Grab handles were purchased for use on trips to appointments but are also available for trial from UTCD, if you or a family member may benefit from having access to such an aid – see Photo.

Recently, we received a very generous gift from the Roper family who organised a sponsored walk, in memory of Morag, for which the members of the Committee are most grateful. The funds will be spent on a project in her memory.

If you would like to become a driver, particularly in the Broughton area, please make contact. The scheme and demands are very flexible and designed to fit around your other commitments.

Please pass the word around or let us know if there is anyone you are aware of who might need some assistance with a journey. You will be familiar with our little red car logo and leaflets are available locally.

To book a driver or to find out more please contact
utcommunitydrivers@gmail.com or phone 07707 998 044.



Future plans for Skirling Kirk

On Sunday 20th August the Skirling congregation decamped to join morning worship at 10am in Carlops. There was a good reason for travelling 14 miles for an early service, we wanted to experience a small church without pews. Skirling still has almost all of its pews, which are very beautiful but also very constraining. The seating configuration cannot be altered to accommodate smaller groups meeting, or indeed to allow the congregation to see each other rather than always looking at the back of people's heads. The response to the visit was overwhelmingly positive with a couple of small caveats that could be easily overcome.

The other element that constrains the wider use of the church building is the lack of a toilet. We very much hope to install an appropriate closet. There are many options, chemical, composting, macerating or easy flush. The Kirk Session is currently undertaking a deep dive (maybe not the correct image!) into these different types of WC and hopefully we will come up with a design that can work. The church is surrounded by a graveyard owned by the council and has no water supply or waste water provision so as you can see this is not an easy task. If anyone reading this has a deep knowledge of off grid sanitation we would be grateful for any advice going.



If we place the toilet in the vestry, the obvious place, we also need to remove the platform at the front of the church where the pulpit sits in order to be able to offer disabled access. So this whole exercise will take time and careful planning but we hope it will result in a more usable building without losing the serenity of the current configuration. Updates to come!

Isobel Hunter

Farming and Church

A conversation with Susan Brown, Cardon Farm.

We live in a very rural farming area but how much do most people connect with farming around us?

Probably not too much unless they are directly connected. With larger farms and more machinery, there are less people directly employed. But my friends are interested to hear what we're doing. With Covid, I think a lot more people know where their food comes from now, but maybe not so much about the process. People watch Countryfile but it's not so much about farming as about the countryside and wildlife. Landward is more about farming but maybe not so popular. A lot of people watched Jeremy Clarkson's farm programme and although a lot of people don't like him, he was being very educational. Lot of friends have said, "I didn't realise that happened".



And what about your children, are they interested in farming?

All three are very keen and want to help out as much as possible. They are already talking about being farmers when they grow up. Yes, the lifestyle is hard work and you can't get away when you want to but they are out in the fresh air and learning all the time. Someone said to me "you are a farmer's daughter, you know how to work from an early age.". That is certainly true with our kids, they have chores to do but they love feeding the animals and helping Mum and Dad outside.

And their friends at school?

Not many of their friends are directly involved in farming but the school helps a lot with linking things to the countryside. For example, when Emma was in nursery, she took in a bag of newly combined barley. They made pictures with it and looked into what barley is used for. Also RHET (Royal Highland Education Trust) helps a lot. They are doing a good job in the schools. They do a big event in Kelso every year which the P5s go to. They also do competitions like design your own farmhouse breakfast, Broughton won last year and got a trip to a farm. P 1-3 went to Corstane during lambing time and the older classes went to the Bush estate near Penicuik

What do you think are the difficulties facing farmers today?

Finance, loneliness and the weather!

More and more jobs are being done by machines which is very expensive

so farms have to be bigger and employ fewer people to justify the machinery. It means we work alone for most of the time. A lot of people go all day without speaking to anyone. Then when the time comes to sell our produce, we have very little control over prices, Supermarkets seem to have that. And then of course there is the weather. This summer has not helped in getting the work done. Farmers are known for complaining about the weather but 3-day dry spells are not enough time to get things done like making hay.

Sounds like a stressful job?

Yes it can be. It's not that farmers don't believe in stress, but most realise you just have to get on with it. You can't dwell on it, otherwise you don't survive. They do get stressed out and grumpy, I can testify to that! but that is where wives and partners can help. Also, organisations like RSABI (Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institution) do a huge amount of work to support people who are struggling.

Coming onto thinking about the church. Harvest Thanksgiving used to be a time when the farming community came to church but not so much now, any thoughts?

I don't think it's anything to do with church but more that life's changed and got busier. Parents maybe feel more pressured to take their kids to after school activities. Also Sunday might be the only time that working parents have time to spend with their kids. For lots of working parents the schedule during the week is drop off at child minder, pick up at 6pm, tea, bed. I'm not sure that people think less about God, just that the church is not quite filling the need. Less ministers equals less opportunity to engage with the community at every day level and it is missed. You have to somehow fit into the community and listen to the people. Also interact with the children which Tony does very well.

As a member of Manor Church but living in Upper Tweeddale, is there something we are missing about being a church community?

You look at other countries like South Africa America and church is such a big thing, but we've lost that here. I can still remember songs from Junior praise at school assemblies and they are still some of my favourite songs. Part of the problem is that we are frightened to say that we are Christians or even have some sort of faith. We worry that we are going to offend someone if we say that. Maybe we just need to be more open about what we believe in.

Thanks Susan for your time for this chat and all that you do within the Upper Tweeddale community.

Fiona Burnett

Harvest Supper does Breakfast

The Upper Tweeddale Harvest Supper is back and this time we're doing breakfast! At the end of last year, the school asked if the Parish of Upper Tweeddale would be interested in helping the school by running a Breakfast club. This has been running now twice a week during term time since February and proving very popular with nearly half the school attending. Cereal, toast, and fruit are offered from 8am till school bell on Tuesdays and Thursdays. So far, It's been funded by first of all a generous donation from Broughton village Store and then the windfarm. The Parish of Upper Tweeddale has also contributed.



We want this service to continue and I think the pupils and parents would agree that it is a valuable addition to the services the school provides, So we need to raise some money to keep it going, We are therefore inviting everyone to a Harvest Supper with a breakfast theme on Saturday 21st October in Broughton Village Hall from 5-8pm. We'll be serving breakfast items such as bacon rolls, egg rolls, muffins, cereal, toast, you get the idea! There will be breakfast themed activities to keep everyone entertained. Entry will be by donation and all proceeds will be split between the Broughton Breakfast Club and also our friends in Muirhouse Church, Edinburgh who are also involved in running a breakfast club in their area.

Please come along on the 21st October, have fun, support the breakfast club and celebrate Harvest Home in Upper Tweeddale.

Fiona Burnett

Introducing our new Linkage Administrative Assistant Mark Hepworth

I was born in Newcastle Upon Tyne and spent the first few years of my life in South Shields and Somerset. My family came to Scotland when I was eleven years old, and I was educated at Stranraer Academy and Peebles High School. I have had a variety of occupations since leaving school. These include: a year spent in Bordeaux as an English teacher; in London pubs; a tourist guide in France; fuelling aircraft at Edinburgh Airport; working for a stockbrokers; and seven years as a croupier in casinos, including five years spent at sea on various cruise ships.



I am married to Natalija and we lived in Edinburgh before coming to West Linton in 2014. We have two children, aged ten and eight. Our family regularly attend services at St Mungo's in West Linton and delight in living in the beautiful surroundings of the village. Aside from the usual pleasures of life, I am passionate about reading (anything which sparks an interest), eclectic music, the French language, creative writing, and attempting to hone my parenting skills! My greatest ambitions are to see my novel published and to visit the painted monasteries of Bucovina. I am greatly looking forward to my new role as administrator in West Tweeddale and hope to be of service to the linkage. Mark Hepworth

Mark can be contacted by emailing cos1560.tweed@outlook.com
or by phoning 01968 733112.

Mark works part time so you may need to leave a message



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What's happening in Upper Tweeddale this Autumn

Listening Hour

Rev Dr Tony Foley is available in the Laurel Bank Tearoom on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 10:30 – 11:30am if you wish to drop by and have a chat.

Bite and Blether

Broughton Village Hall

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday from 10 – 12.

Hot roll, home baking tea/coffee. Suggested donation £3

September

Well Prepared Course starting Thursday 7th September at 7.30 pm in the New Church Hall in West Linton. For further information see article on page 16

Guild Outing to Dawyck. Wednesday 20th September at 2:30pm. Members new and old are most welcome to join us. For more details please see article on page 17

Presbytery Autumn Conferences. Friday 22nd September, 5 marks of Mission, Jedburgh Old and Trinity Church Hall. Saturday 30th September, Music, Mission and Worship, opportunities and resources, Longniddry Parish Church. For more information see article on pages 18/19

October

Newlands Harvest Supper. Saturday 7th October, 6.30pm in Newlands church. It will be a potluck supper, where everyone brings food to share and there will be a collection in aid of SOS Sahel, a charity which is working in Sudan. Everyone is warmly invited and if you would like a ticket, please contact Jean Howat howatjean@gmail.com 01968 660677. Can you also indicate if you will be bringing a savoury or a sweet dish.

Skirling Lunch Club Thursday 12th October, Skirling Village Hall from 12-1:30

Soup, roll, traybake and tea/coffee. £2. All welcome

Stobo Community Coffee Morning Saturday 14th October Stobo Village Hall 10:30- 12. Speaker is Jim Lindsay on the pleasure of keeping bees. £2 donation, children free. All proceeds to Peeblesshire Food bank

Tweedsmuir Harvest Celebration Sunday 15th October 10:00am in Wee Crook. A joint Harvest Thanksgiving Service followed by food, fun and activities. Watch out for more details nearer the time

Guild Meeting Wednesday 18th October, 2:30pm in Broughton Village hall. For more details please see article on page 17

Harvest Supper does Breakfast Saturday 21st October 5-8pm Broughton Village hall. A fun evening with a breakfast theme to raise money for the Breakfast Clubs in Broughton and Muirhouse. For more information see the article on page 10

November

Skirling Lunch Club Thursday 9th November, Skirling Village Hall from 12-1:30pm Soup, roll, traybake and tea/coffee. £2. All welcome

Stobo Community Coffee Morning Saturday 11th November Stobo Village Hall 10:30-12. £2 donation, children free. All proceeds to Peeblesshire Food bank

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 12th November Various locations and times.

Tweedsmuir 9:30am Service in Tweedsmuir church and act of remembrance led by Rev Dr Tony Foley

Broughton 10:45 at War Memorial. Service and act of remembrance led by Rev Dr Tony Foley

Skirling 11:30am in Skirling Church Service and act of remembrance led by Dr Kevin Scott

Drumelzier There will also be a service and act of remembrance at a time and date to be advised, please look out for details nearer the time

Guild Meeting Wednesday 15th November, 2:30pm in Newlands Church. For more details please see article on page 17

The Open Gate



The Open Gate counselling service started up in 2019 with financial help from the Church of Scotland's Go For It Fund, and had been available on Friday afternoons in Newlands Centre, Romanno Bridge for appointments, proving useful for helping a range of problems. Since the onset of Covid, it has continued only as a telephone appointment service which was available throughout the week.

Now, The Open Gate is please to announce that it will continue again back in Newlands Centre on Friday afternoons for face-to-face appointments for a trial period of a few months, and this will start up on a weekly basis from 1st September. Early appointments can be arranged by phoning or texting **07535 898 244**

Use it for yourself or suggest it to friends. Everyone has some sort of problem in their life that could be helped in a relaxed and pleasant way. Sessions remain free and confidential and the client decides when their problem has been helped – often after only 1 session. Some problems can't be changed eg death of a loved one, physical impairment etc, but folk can be helped to cope more happily with these issues.

Pumpkin Traybake

Ingredients

- 1¾ cups self-raising flour
- 1½ cups granulated sugar
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp ground nutmeg
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ cup sunflower oil
- 2 large eggs
- ½ cup water
- 1 cup cooked and pureed pumpkin.

Method

- 1) Mix dry ingredients together in a large bowl.
- 2) In another bowl, mix together oil, eggs, water and pumpkin puree.
- 3) Add wet to dry ingredients and mix till well combined,
- 4) Pour into greased deep rectangular baking tray 20 x 30cm.
- 5) Bake at 180°C (350°F) for one hour until well risen and skewer comes out clean.



Well Prepared - Conversations About Death

Not a subject that we are always comfortable to talk about, but starting on **Thursday 7th September at 7.30 pm** a 6-session course called, 'Well Prepared', (published by the Diocese of Oxford), will be held in the **New Church Hall in West Linton**. The course will be facilitated by **Revd Nick Bowry** (Rector of St Mungo's West Linton) and **Revd Dr Tony Foley** (Minister of the West Tweeddale Churches).

The 'Well Prepared' course will cover the following topics.:

- (i) Making a will and power of attorney document
- (ii) Exploring the story of our life
- (iii) Planning my funeral
- (iv) The last days
- (v) Departing in peace
- (vi) What comes next?

The course is primarily to help us have conversations about death and to plan for our own death. The course is not primarily aimed at supporting anyone who is grieving. Of course, talking about death may lead to thoughts of those who we love and whose absence we still feel, in that sense we shall all be sensitive to each other's experiences of bereavement and loss.

If you are interested in attending these sessions, so we can get an idea of numbers likely to attend, please let your **Session Clerk** know or contact **Mark Hepworth** at the **West Linton Church office**. - cos1560.tweed@outlook.com We will be providing notes for each session.

Ed note. Kirk Matters is going out after the course has started and I am reliably informed that each session is a stand alone event so feel free to sign up for the remaining sessions.



West Tweeddale Guild Autumn Programme

The West Tweeddale Guild will be having it's first meeting of the new session on Wednesday 20th September. This is an outing to Dawyck Botanic Gardens where we will learn a bit more about the garden, its origins and its plans before having afternoon tea in the café. No walking required (unless you'd like to come early and have a walk round the gardens before we meet) and the charge for the afternoon tea is £8. We'd love to see old and new faces for this outing and if you'd like to come, please let Fiona (Tel 07944196234, email fiona@glenholm.co.uk) know for the numbers. Transport from Broughton Village Hall carpark and Newlands/West Linton area can also be organised by contacting Fiona.

The theme for the year is New Wine New Wineskins so for our October meeting we're going to have a cheese and wine party with a difference, all will be revealed on the day.

At the November meeting we hope to have a speaker from Home for Good Project which we are supporting. Home for Good are a Christian charity who are passionate about finding a home for every child who needs one. They work to inspire people to think about fostering and adoption. They also equip the Church to welcome these families and help support people on their journeys.

The December meeting will have a Christmas Festivities theme.

We welcome everyone to any or all of our meetings. Men, women, young and old are all welcome to meet friends old and new, have informative discussions which are always lubricated with a cup of tea and a biscuit. For more information, please contact Fiona.

Summary of Autumn Meetings (all meetings start at 2:30pm)

Wednesday 20th September, Dawyck Botanic gardens Talk and afternoon tea

Wednesday 18th October, Broughton Village Hall. Cheese and wine 'party'

Wednesday 15th November, Newlands Church. Talk from Home for Good Project

Wednesday 20th December, Broughton Village Hall. Christmas Festivities



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What is Presbytery?

The Church of Scotland is a Presbyterian church. This means that its decisions about how it operates are entrusted to Ministers and Elders drawn from local areas but all the while attempting to follow God's direction and plans for His church. Elders are appointed by the Kirk Session and they make decisions locally. Each Kirk Session also elects one elder, who together with their minister are members of a bigger governing body, called in Church of Scotland speak, a Presbytery. Each year a percentage of these presbytery elders and ministers meet in Edinburgh for what is called the General Assembly. This is where decisions are made about how the church of Scotland operates which affects both the work of the presbyteries and the local churches. We pride ourselves in being a democratic body but it does mean that things can take a while to happen!

Recently the Parish of Upper Tweeddale has become part of a large Presbytery which stretches from Tweedsmuir to Eyemouth and all the way up to the Firth of Forth with over 90 ministers and their multiple congregations. Four times a year we meet to hear what is going on from the various committees and make plans for how we organise and develop the church in our area. Being such a large group brings its own challenges such as the long distances that have to be travelled to meet and a danger of disconnection because we don't meet very often, But it has its advantages too including being able to appoint full time Presbytery staff that are there to help our congregations and also the larger pool of ideas and skills that we can call on to help each other.

The Mission Committee, which I chair at the moment, is tasked with encouraging and facilitating local congregations to reach out to their communities and demonstrate how much God cares for each and every one of us, even if the church doesn't always get it right. We need to learn to listen more, not just to God but also to our friends and neighbours who deserve to hear more about why our faith is important to us. We also need to work together to share ideas and make things happen that will strengthen our community and make the world a better place.

Being a bigger Presbytery means we have lots of people to call on to help us. And if some people are already doing things that are helping to grow the church in their area, why not ask them for help? So 'Missional groups'

are being formed all over the Presbytery with different areas of interest. Things like Forest Church, Justice, Refugees, Café church to name but a few. These groups meet to encourage each other and share ideas. But they also become a resource, a go to group if others want to think about doing something similar in their area. And if you are not too sure what something involves we're running seminars online (we're calling them Zoominars) so you can hear more about something before you decide to take it further.

We're also running some conference days at the end of September to explore some ideas further. The first will be held in Jedburgh Old and Trinity church hall on Friday 22nd September and will have as the theme the five marks of mission. The main speaker will be Rev Tommy MacNeil, the minister of Martins Memorial Church of Scotland, Stornoway and in the afternoon there will be a choice of seminars looking in more detail at the different marks of mission. The second conference is being held at Longniddry Parish Church on Saturday 30th September and will take the theme of Worship, Music and Mission: fresh opportunities and key resources with the help of the Heart & Soul Swing Band and in the afternoon, the seminars will be exploring other aspects of worship.

We'd like to welcome everybody who has an interest in either of the subjects to come along on the day. It's free of charge and bring your own packed lunch. If you'd like more information email me (fiona@glenholm.co.uk) or visit the Lothian and Borders website (labp.org.uk) for more details. Just some ways that this new, larger Presbytery is trying to help local churches like ours grow the church in our community.

Fiona Burnett

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Windfall plum sponge traybake

Those high winds in late August managed to bring down two heavily laden branches of our plum tree. The plums were still very green and so were destined to be made into chutney. However, before this could happen they ripened on a sunny window.

Ingredients

The weight of 4 eggs of each of: margarine, caster sugar and self-raising flour

2 tsp baking powder

4 eggs

1 tsp vanilla extract

A dozen or so of ripe plums, halved and stones removed.

2 tbsp demerara sugar

Deep sided baking tray approx. 20x30 cm



Method

- 1) Break eggs into large mixing bowl and add in caster sugar, margarine, flour, baking powder and vanilla.
- 2) Beat thoroughly until mixture changes colour and starts to become paler. This is easier with an electric mixer.
- 3) Grease baking tin then scoop mixture into baking tin and smooth over surface
- 4) Place plum halves, cut side down on surface of mixture to cover, not quite touching each other.
- 5) Sprinkle with demerara sugar and then place in middle of heated oven (180°C, 350°F) for approximately 30 mins. Test readiness with a skewer which should come out clean if ready. Top should be golden and plums not to be seen.
- 6) Serve warm or cold.

Tweedsmuir Update Autumn 2023

Tweedsmuir Kirk welcomed the opportunity to join with Broughton and Skirling to form The Parish of Upper Tweeddale, sharing administration and after 7 years of temporary signage – we look forward to our new Parish sign at the bottom of the hill. Tweedsmuir raised funds through donations to repair our roof last year and the contribution from Upper Tweeddale to treat and repaint the mould caused by previous water ingress has been much appreciated as we are soon to host a Christening and a wedding. Indoor lighting has been replaced with new LED bulbs and we have a beautiful new hand crafted table lectern to support our minister and worship team who prefer to use the communion table to deliver services amongst the congregation. Doug Roper crafted the much admired lectern using wood from a local tree at Mossfennan.

The Kirk is opened daily by volunteers, and it is heartwarming to read comments from visitors who have travelled from all over the world to visit family graves or who have previous connections to Tweedsmuir or the Kirk – or visitors who have just discovered the door open. We have a small area behind the organ for Kirk history and a QR code to the www.tweedmuir.scot website on signage outside the Kirk. Our regular congregation is small, but we have recently welcomed visitors from other kirks within our new linkage of West Tweeddale. I would encourage our community and visitors to visit other Kirks if our service time of 9.30am is too early or the hill up to Tweedsmuir too steep. Information about who is leading the service and service times are available on our website www.westtweeddale.org.uk

“Music and reflection”, “friendly”, “welcoming”, “relaxed and a bit informal”, “catching up with news” are some of the things that people have said about Tweedsmuir services – please feel very welcome to join us at Tweedsmuir Sundays at 9.30am or pop in to have a look anytime...

Christine Parker.

Pastoral Update

Birth

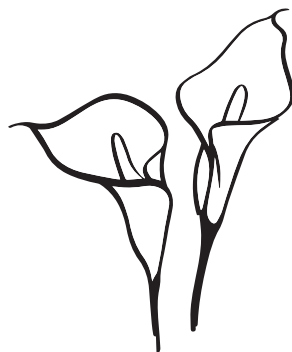
To **Laura and Joe Harper** of South Mains, Skirling on 31st August a son, Arthur, a little brother for Freya and William

Death

We offer deepest sympathy to the family assuring them of our prayers

Anne-Patricia Shaw, Tweedsmuir died on Sunday 20th August aged 92 years. An elder of Tweedsmuir Kirk and sadly missed by family and friends.

There will be a service of Thanksgiving in Tweedsmuir Church on Saturday 30th September at 2:30pm to which all friends are welcome. We hope to publish a fuller tribute to Anne-Patricia in our December issue of Kirk Matters



Harvest Word Search

See how many words you can find hidden in the grid.

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

| | |
|---------|---------|
| Barley | Seed |
| Trailer | Field |
| Farm | Harvest |
| Autumn | Tractor |
| Bread | Toast |
| Plough | Apple |
| Rain | Berry |

PARISH OF UPPER TWEEDDALE

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Your community-owned shop

BROUGHTON VILLAGE STORE



Hours of business
Monday-Saturday 7am – 6pm
Sunday 9am – 2pm
01899 830465
<http://broughtonvillagestore.co.uk/>



BROUGHTON SHOP NEWS

A reminder that Broughton Village Store's Welfare Fund is still active, and exists to help those in the community who are struggling with grocery bills. With a tough winter ahead, if you could do with a helping hand please contact our manager Jen in confidence, either in person or by email manager@broughtonvillagestore.co.uk . There are no forms or means tests: those who ask will be given a pre-loaded store account card which can be used with complete discretion.