

# The Hird

News for Ashkirk, Ettrick & Yarrow and Selkirk Parish Churches

## June 2022

Websites: [ettrickandyarrow.church](http://ettrickandyarrow.church)      [selkirkparish.church](http://selkirkparish.church)  
[sites.google.com/site/ashkirkparishchurch](https://sites.google.com/site/ashkirkparishchurch)



Locum Minister:

Rev. Scott Guy, Tel: 07805 711148

Selkirk SC 014883 Ashkirk SC 010768 Ettrick & Yarrow SC 034662

## Notes from Selkirk Congregational Board

From the **Stated Annual Meeting 26 March 2022:**

- Elders stepping down from the Board: A Bethune, E Hendrie and G Junor
- Elders appointed to the Board: K Smith, F Holmes and L White
- Congregational members off: S Christer Porteous, G Hamilton and E Robinson.
- Congregational members elected: S Christer Porteous, G Hamilton. 2 vacancies remain for congregational members.
- Treasurer, L McCraw, presented the annual accounts for 2021 and the proposed budget for 2022.
- Property Convener, A Laing, presented a report covering the last 3 years: maintenance of buildings, Covid regulations and the Quinquennial property inspection of 2020.
- D Bethune gave a brief update on the Building for the Future project and answered questions on possible developments, costs, timescales and permissions.
- Reports were presented from Open Door, CAMEO, eco group and study groups.
- Covid regulations have been relaxed again but we are maintaining 1 metre spacing in side pews.
- Coffee after church has resumed. Volunteers for Welcome Team and Coffee Team still welcomed.

S Christer Porteous, Clerk to CB

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### Ashkirk News

On Saturday 7 May, Ashkirk Village Hall came alive with the first coffee morning to be held there for two years, this time for Christian Aid. A table top sale with a great variety of items on offer were lined up along one side of the hall, in front and on the stage. Local honey, African crafts and colourful fabric items, bakery, an art stall and bric-a-brac were all on offer as well as a plant stall outside. Selkirk folk came out in welcome numbers as well as local supporters to take coffee, tea and cake and the happy atmosphere was evident from the start. The funds raised for Christian Aid amounted to £466.50.

Iona MacNeill

May 2022

Dear Friends,

It has been my pleasure to minister to you over the past few months. I have been greatly encouraged by your friendliness and your positive comments about the services and preaching.

At the end of June, Adrienne and I will be heading off to Amsterdam, where I will serve as Locum in the English Reformed Church (part of the Church of Scotland), for three months. We are looking forward to meeting new people, exploring the city and visiting other parts of the country. We will return at the end of September, when I will resume my duties as Locum here in Ashkirk, Etrick & Yarrow and Selkirk.

We will be remembering you in our prayers and know that you will be praying for us also.

Rev. George Shand from Peebles has been appointed as your Interim Moderator and I am sure he will take good care of you over the summer and beyond.

May the Lord bless and keep each one of you,

Scott

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## **Come And Meet Each Other at CAMEO**

The committee has met and put together a syllabus with lots of variety that, all going well, we hope you will enjoy.

It will be so good to get together again. Our first meeting will be on 22 September, in Selkirk Parish Church Hall, continuing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month at 2 pm. On 22 September, there will be music for your entertainment. We have decided that the subs will be £2 for each meeting. We would like to start up our little raffle again, so if you would like to bring a small item such as a packet of biscuits or a tin of something, please do.

Please try to remember to bring a cup, and teaspoon if you need one for sugar. I hope you have a lovely summer and look forward to meeting up again in September.

Take care,  
Marjorie Lawrie



## The Church is not the building!

We know that the church is the people, not the building. Even so, our buildings are important, as they can be a help or a hindrance to our worship, outreach and service to the community.

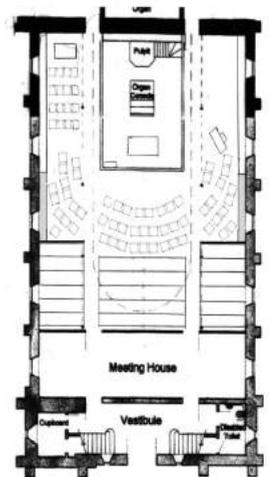
We have been asked by the Presbytery and 121 to complete an AMBA form - a questionnaire about our buildings. What state are they in? How flexible are they? Are they in the right place? Do they have disabled access? and much more. The same questions are being asked of every congregation across Scotland, and decisions will then be made about which buildings should be kept. At Selkirk Parish Church, because our buildings are well located in the town centre and we have developed them over the years, kept them in good condition, and opened them up for community use, we should come through the examination intact.

In the meantime, our **“Building the Future”** project is underway. Our architects, Angus Design Associates, are working on some ideas to develop our church and hall to be more welcoming, more flexible, and more practical in terms of usable spaces, storage and energy use. They will come back to us in the next few months with some outline proposals which the whole congregation can see and discuss. We hope they will make some bold proposals that we can take forward over the coming years.

In the shorter term, as agreed at the Stated Annual Meeting in March, we have sent our proposal to replace some of the front pews with more comfortable, flexible seating, to the Presbytery and General Trustees, for their comment. If favourable, we will then have a firm, costed proposal for the congregation to consider.

With no resident minister, the Loanside Manse is currently unoccupied. The property group have surveyed the building and are in the process of identifying improvements that need to be made before a new minister is appointed. These will likely include new windows, additional insulation, a new kitchen and appliances, improvements to the ensuite bathroom and re-decorating most of the rooms.

All of the above must be focussed on making sure our buildings are in good shape and fit for purpose - to allow us, the congregation, to be effective in our outreach to our community with God's love, in word and action.



## Opportunities Zambia

Sukie's scones are amazing - and so is the fact that the proceeds continue to feed over 1200 children in 4 schools in Zambia. Please support her in the pop-up shop, 1 Tower Street, Selkirk, if you can. Follow the smell of freshly baked scones and you will see the queue of customers. As you can see below, there is much more than scones on offer. The last Thursday in the month is Sukie's regular date in the pop-up shop. She is also free to talk about Opportunities Zambia with photos from her recent trip, if you would like to invite her to your group.

Provided by  
Selkirk Regeneration

Finding new uses for empty shops

Selkirk  
POP-UP  
SHOPS

# Sukie's Scones

## Opportunities Zambia – Feeding hungry children

THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> AND THURSDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
ORDERS BY MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> AND MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE

**4 Scones** - Cherry, Cheese, Fruit, Plain, Treacle £2 (freeze well)  
**6 Shortbread, Millionaires, Malteser cake** £2.20  
**Biscuits** - Gingernuts, Anzac, Chocolate chip, hazelnut and almond £1.60  
**Quiche** - Mushroom and Swiss chard, Cheese and onion, Courgette £6 (freeze well)  
**Cakes** - Lemon drizzle, Chocolate, Clementine with lemon icing, Carrot, Cherry and almond, Rhubarb and ginger, Sticky toffee pudding with separate sauce - £5  
**Meals** - Lasagne, Home smoked fish pie, Venison casserole, Lamb sausage casserole, Shepherd's pie - £8.50 Veggie versions - £8 all sold frozen and need a weeks notice please.  
**Jams** - Raspberry, Strawberry, Rhubarb and ginger, Marmalade, Clementine marmalade, Plum.  
**Chutneys** - Marrow and ginger, Runner bean, Spiced plum and apple, Wholegrain mustard.  
**Honey** - from Selkirk thanks to Justin.  
**Bread** - Bill's organic Malthouse, Gill's organic Focaccia with olives and rosemary £3  
**Orders** - e.mail [billandsukie@gmail.com](mailto:billandsukie@gmail.com) 01450 373424  
Please ask for **gluten free options which change monthly.**  
<https://facebook.com/opportunitieszambia>



Visit us on **Facebook** [www.facebook.com/popupselkirk](http://www.facebook.com/popupselkirk)

## Churches Together in Selkirk and the Valleys

Nine Northern Cross Pilgrims were welcomed to a meal at OLSJ hall on the Monday of Holy Week. The pilgrims were weary after the longest section of their journey and were pleased to accept hot showers, comfy beds and a good breakfast. On Tuesday morning, the pilgrims and hosts gathered in church for prayers before continuing on the next stage of their journey. It is always a privilege to entertain strangers in our homes.

The coffee mornings at Ashkirk and in St. John's church between them raised £821 for Christian Aid.



Individual donations were also collected at church. These will

go to the CA week appeal for Zimbabwe.

Church services in our care homes will be restarted soon, once monthly in each of **The Bield, Thornfield and Riverside**, responsibility for services shared between the different denominations. A team is needed from Ashkirk/E&Y/Selkirk once a month.

The **Baptist Church garden of hope** at Connections has been dedicated and will be open for public use at set times.

Joanna Smith is the CTSV **school chaplaincy** contact and is hoping to be invited into our local schools in the new term.

**ConecTots** is the new baby and toddler group open to all, meeting in Connections on Monday mornings at 10.00 a.m.

The **Memory cafe** continues to meet twice monthly in St. John's church, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays.

Peter Birney reported the ongoing increased use of **Selkirk Food Bank**. Currently, there is a once a month donation from Tesco, the collection bin in the Co-op and donations from the churches. He suggested bringing one of the top needed items to church each week. The list can be seen in the SPC Meeting House. Peter is also looking at options for widening the referral system and considering how to ensure the financial viability and future security of the Foodbank. As Christian people, we can be challenging politicians about the need for food banks.



## Amnesty International

As a teenager at an all-girls school to get a friend who was a boy was a real status symbol. At fourteen, through a schools' organisation, I gained a pen friend who was Turkish and sixteen. His name was Ferhan Topcu and he lived in Ankara. We wrote every month for three years and then he left school to go to university to study to be a dentist. I thought he might stop writing but he didn't.

As well as being committed to his career, he was also an excellent artist and drew lots of cartoons. The airmail letters he sent were full of little drawings which always made me laugh. When he was at University in Ankara, his drawings changed and they became quite political but still very funny.

However, after another year the letters stopped. I didn't know why but I kept writing. Six months or so later, I had a phone call from his sister. The news was devastating. Ferhan had simply disappeared. He had last been seen with some men getting into a car after a lecture. The family knew nothing else.

Some months later I had another terrible phone call from his sister to tell me his body had been found just outside the city, burnt and unidentifiable except for a signet ring.

Although there was no proof, almost certainly his death was due to his very amusing political cartoons which were not going down well with the Government of the time.

It was at that point that I knew that the work of a relatively new charity, **Amnesty International**, was something I wholly believed in. They campaign tirelessly for the rights of people to hold their own religious and political views. They have become a Global force for supporting individuals who are imprisoned or tried for their beliefs. As an individual, you sometimes feel it is useless to try, but writing letters to those imprisoned (so they know they are not forgotten) and also writing to Heads of State who are carrying out these things – imagine receiving several thousand post cards about one prisoner – can be a powerful and successful tool.



I have now been a member for 47 years. And I am as committed as ever and all because of a teenage boy who drew cartoons.

Fan Heafield



## Worship in the Valleys

When	Where	Time	Led by
June 12	Kirkhope	10am	Rev. Scott Guy
June 19	Yarrow	10am	Worship group
June 26	Ettrick	11am	Pulpit supply
July 3	Kirkhope	10am	Worship group
July 10	Yarrow	10am	Pulpit supply
July 17	Kirkhope	10am	Worship group
July 24	Blanket Preaching	3pm	Jim Wallace
July 31	Joint Service Selkirk	11am	Pulpit supply
Aug. 7	Kirkhope	10am	Worship group
Aug. 14	Ettrick	11am	Pulpit supply
Aug. 21	Yarrow	10am	Worship group
Aug. 28	Kirkhope	10am	Pulpit supply

## News from the Valleys

Since the last edition of The Hird, we have continued to open up all the Valley Churches. We are back to having services in Kirkhope and Yarrow churches on alternate weeks, reaching out to a wider congregation once again. We are hoping to bring back refreshments after our services soon, as this is a greatly appreciated outreach addition to our worship.

There was great excitement that we were able to reopen Ettrick on Palm Sunday, the furthest away of our

churches, as it is always very well supported. Our Good Friday evening service was held in Yarrow, both being led by Rev. Scott Guy. We, as a congregation without a minister for so long, enjoy and appreciate a minister-led service, which always seems especially poignant in such an isolated Kirk as Ettrick. Easter Sunday was a first for us having a joint service with you all in Selkirk, which again was an uplifting experience for all those who attended. *(continued on page 9)*

One of the highlights of Valley church life happens not in any of our churches but in the open air! On Sunday 24 July at 3pm we will be holding an open air service, the Blanket Preaching, held at St Mary's Kirkyard in Yarrow valley. (It will be adequately signposted nearer the time). The service is believed to date back to as early as 1275. Why outside, you may ask? In the 17th century, Yarrow was the scene of religious dissent as Presbyterian Covenanter preachers and their followers were forbidden to attend church services, so they were forced to worship outdoors, often huddled in blankets for protection from our inclement Scottish summer weather, hence "the blanket preaching". Today, our service in the ruins of the Kirk and graveyard commemorates this period, though the blankets are hopefully to sit on though an umbrella may be needed!!!



We extend our hand of friendship and would love to see you there! It's a wee climb up but there are a few benches where you can stop and take in the stunning rolling hills of the Borders before continuing up to the graveyard. Allow 45/60 minutes to get from the roadside for a comfortable walk. At the time of going to press, I'm 99.9% sure we will have our fabulous afternoon tea in Cappercleuch Village Hall after

the service which allows everyone to sit and catch up with one another as there are people who travel from outwith the region as an annual pilgrimage.

**On a more personal note:** within the church at this time of the year I'm always missing in action, otherwise known as lambing. The editor thought you might all like to have an insight. (I don't know if I want to relive it yet!)

From a non-farming standpoint, it can appear absolutely idyllic with little white fluffy lambs skipping joyfully in the fields. Yes, that does happen - but that's the end part!

The majority of farmers in the Borders lamb in early spring, often representing new beginnings and the end of a long winter. Many ewes will deliver their lambs unassisted out in the field (a specially chosen field for shelter/bield, water/handiness to farm etc!) But farmers are on hand night and day to keep a close eye in case there are any problems. This can be the lambs not presenting for straight-forward delivery (breech, backwards or even two coming at once ie whose leg does that belong to?); a "gimmer" (first time mother) taking an abnormally long time to lamb or lambing and walking away as they sometimes do; or another ewe (usually imminent) trying to pinch a lamb whilst a twin is being delivered! Eyes in the back of your head would be wonderful at times.*(continued on page 10)*



The sheep in the lambing shed (550 - not that I was counting down!) are put into larger sections. Ewes have only 2 teats therefore 2 lambs is ideal. When triplets are born, they are penned up so when a single delivers (eyes in back of head again!!) we do what is termed “wet adoption”. The birthing fluids from the newborn single lamb are transferred onto one of the triplets so the single’s mother thinks it’s her own. When this happens, we move the adopted pair into a bigger pen with a few others for longer (inside the shed) just to check the adoption really has taken place! These are often lambs with very random signs on their sides (aide-mémoire for farmers!)

Sometimes I have “pet lambs” but hopefully by the time the last ewe has lambed most extra lambs have been adopted. This year I have four: 2 who didn’t get adopted and 2 picked up outside because they were struggling to keep up with field life!

Once we are happy the lambs/ewes have bonded, we move them into

pens of 4-6 pairs in the old lambing shed, ie a nursery, to get them used to hearing each other’s bleat, to check milk is plentiful and that both ewe and lambs are healthy before being transferred into a field where the ewes can graze on the fresh young grass which helps them lactate, with feeding as an additional supplement.

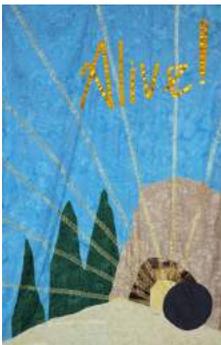
This is the stage everyone likes to observe. By then I’m tired (long days on your feet), grumpy (lack of sleep and the housekeeping fairy has vanished) and sick of wearing wellies 24/7! However, after a few days sleep (and Easter eggs), you always look back in awe and wonder at nature and give Thanks.

Susan White,  
church elder and apprentice farmer



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## Selkirk church banners



Hanging in the church balcony in Selkirk are banners for different seasons of the church year, on display at the front on rotation. Various people at various times have created these to enhance our worship.

The banner on the front page was made about 20 years ago!



If anyone has an idea for a banner or would like to share their skills in joining a small group to make a new one, please contact Elissa Jones or Jacqui Lee.

## Carry on Recycling and/or Upcycling

Reporting from last issue: thanks to Recycling for Good Causes your "rubbish" was worth £148 which goes to Traidcraft, our nominated charity.

The **recycling** collection points in the Meeting House are open again so you can bring used stamps, postcards, milk bottle tops, old watches, mobiles, tablets, foreign currency and unwanted or broken jewellery (please see full list in MH) knowing your "rubbish" **will not** go to landfill and **will** raise funds for various charities. There are also donation boxes for Fresh Start Borders and the Foodbank.

**Upcycling** is an alternative way of making our belongings last longer.

### Read on....

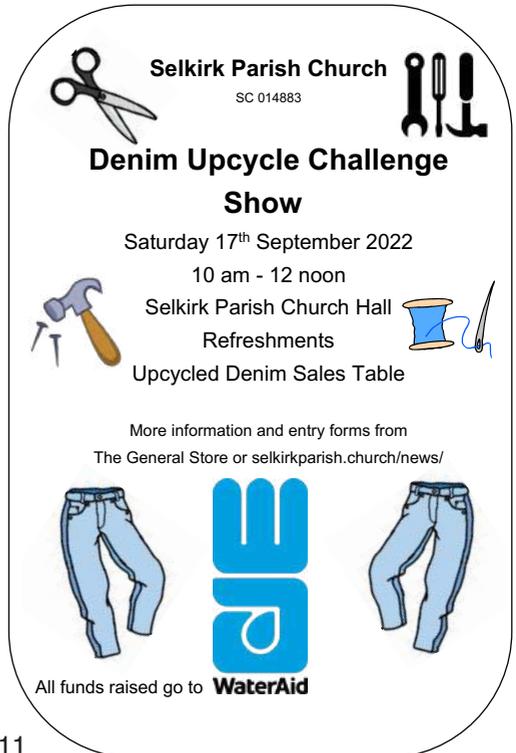
According to the UN, one pair of jeans takes **7,500 litres** of water to make – a number that includes the water used to grow the cotton, make the denim and get the product shop-ready. Frequently jeans are thrown away because the knees or bottom is worn through, but much of the water-expensive fabric has lots of useful life left.

Your challenge, if you wish to accept it: ***can you make something useful or decorative from this good fabric?***

The Denim Upcycle competition, open to all ages, with 9 different classes to enter, celebrates the durability of denim. Pick up an entry form with all the details from the Selkirk Parish Church hall or download from here: <http://selkirparish.church/news/>

The show of entries will take place in the church hall on 17<sup>th</sup> September. Entries will be judged by our friends from The General Store.

Come along and admire the skill and imagination that has gone into these creations, enjoy some refreshments and raise funds for WaterAid. If you entered some items - you may even have won a trophy!



**Selkirk Parish Church**  
SC 014883



**Denim Upcycle Challenge Show**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
10 am - 12 noon  
Selkirk Parish Church Hall  
Refreshments  
Upcycled Denim Sales Table



More information and entry forms from  
The General Store or [selkirparish.church/news/](http://selkirparish.church/news/)



All funds raised go to **WaterAid**

## Book Review

### Benefit of the doubt: he fled, danger followed by Les Cowan

I first came across this short series of books in a magazine while I waited at the hairdresser, where I read that **Benefit of the doubt** was a bit of a thriller, set in Edinburgh with a pastor/detective. So, I thought I would give it a go and duly bought a copy. When I got the first book, I noticed in the acknowledgements Thanks to a friend of mine. Well. Surely this was going to be a good read.[And, where exactly was that photo of Edinburgh on the cover of the book...? Simple, but I puzzled for a while!]



The story is mostly set in Edinburgh with events also taking place in Spain. The pastor, David Hidalgo, was born in Edinburgh but has been living and working, and then ministering, in Spain. Tragic events after David's getting caught up working against gang crime have seen him return to Edinburgh, where, exhausted, he takes on the role of pastor in a church in Newington. He starts to build relationships with his new, small congregation and with their families, which leads him from Morningside to Pilton and Muirhouse. People's lives are changed and some are threatened as the tale moves along, transferring to Spain where David labours to try to find and free a young girl.

A bit grittier than I would usually read, but excitement, adventure, reflection, spiritual pondering and a bit of romance made for a great read.

Moira Mitchell (willing to lend out a copy of this book)

Bless to us, O Lord,  
The sun that is above us  
The earth that is beneath us  
The friends who are around us  
And the day that lies before us.

Dear God of moments,  
Open our eyes and ears.  
Open our hearts and minds.  
Open our lives and communities  
To your amazing hope and life.  
Amen

*Lily Cathcart,  
Sensory Church At Home*

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you  
wherever He may send you.  
May He guide you through the wilderness,  
protect you through the storm.  
May He bring you home rejoicing  
at the wonders He has shown you.  
May He bring you home rejoicing  
once again into our doors.

*Northumbrian blessing*

Preserve us, O Lord, while waking  
And guard us while sleeping  
That awake we may watch with Christ  
And asleep we may rest in peace.

## Borders Talking Newspapers (BTN)



I have volunteered since the mid 1990s for Borders Talking Newspapers. Initially only reading, I eventually graduated to editing as well, when I retired from teaching. It is very rewarding knowing that you are helping others who are unable to read the local news. Our AGMs are big events and it is lovely to meet up with listeners and other volunteers.

My interest started way back in the mists of time when I remembered my Granny getting talking books from R.N.I.B. Knowing how much she got from that experience made me want to contribute in some way. More recently, my Mum used the services of B.T.N. and received the weekly memory stick, keeping her up-to-date with the local news. One particular article she listened to was about a Martial Arts group in Kelso looking for new recruits, particularly looking for females to join them. So my Mum decided that this was a perfect opportunity for me!!! I think the teenage lads were quite bemused and I was a challenge for the instructor....I lasted 6 months!

I have also done quite a bit of fundraising for B.T.N. over the years – Charity Fairs, Car Boot Sales and the like. I have a place booked for Selkirk Farmers' Market on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July on behalf of Borders Talking Newspapers. Come along and see me – we are always looking for volunteers! Help support a worthwhile charity.

Jill Freshwater

**Book Now!**

**Midsummer Cluster**

**3 course dinner  
Celebrating our church linkage  
Friday, 24th June 6.30pm  
Selkirk Parish Church Hall  
£6, BYOB**

**Book your place with Anne,  
anne@dbethune.com or 01750 21703  
by 17/6/2022**

PIC•COLLAGE

**Don't miss it!**

## In at the Sharp End

'In at the sharp end', a familiar phrase indicating 'in the position of greatest difficulty, danger, stress, etc' (Chambers Dictionary)

Some prayers, then, for Christians 'in at the sharp end'.

- In **North Korea**, several dozen Christians were executed on Tuesday, May 17th after a secret gathering was raided by security officials; their relatives (about 100 people) were sent to political prison camps. Ask God to fill our imprisoned family with supernatural peace, strength and courage in their ordeal. Pray that believers in North Korea will experience God's protection as they are confronted with danger daily.
- In **Nigeria**, it was alleged that a student at one of the colleges of education, Deborah Samuel, had made derogatory remarks about Mohammed on a Whatsapp platform which she shared with fellow students. In spite of her hiding herself and police intervening but unable to restrain the mob, she was stoned and beaten to death; her body was then set on fire. Pray for Deborah's family in their loss and that the perpetrators of this shocking crime be convicted (Their arrest has already provoked rioting.)
- Human rights abuses in **Eritrea** continue on a huge scale, with thousands of Eritreans arbitrarily imprisoned, often subjected to degrading conditions, forced labour and torture - many of these are Christians, who are regarded by the country's communist government with suspicion and hostility. Pray that the government of Eritrea will stop persecuting believers and that God will strengthen and comfort our church family in Eritrea - especially those in prison.
- Only the Lord knows how many Christians remain in **Afghanistan**. Believers there are at risk of being killed as apostates from Islam - they must hide their faith from the Taliban, of course, but also from their neighbours and even from their family and friends; many keep moving from place to place to avoid detection; they also share in the wider suffering of the country - poverty, hunger and malnutrition. Ask God to protect, strengthen and sustain His people there, send the food they so desperately need and provide a safe haven for those who have been forced to leave their homes.
- Often Christians are caught up in the woes, economic or otherwise, affecting the country they live in, such as **Syria**, where the country is described as 'bleeding and financially exhausted' A big city on the Turkish border has electricity for 30 minutes every 24 hours. Pray for the crops in that region, that they might be safely gathered in this year and not set on fire by Turkish troops just before harvest-time.

*continued on page 15*

*continued from page 14*

Compassion fatigue? Indeed, and it is tempting to think that our feeble prayers can have no effect on these enormous needs - but we just don't know that. 'Remember those in prison as though you were their fellow-prisoners and those who are ill-treated as if you yourselves were suffering (Hebrews 13:3)

**But, some good news...**

- On the 9th February Judge Boulos Eskandar, a Christian, was sworn in as President of **Egypt's** Supreme Constitutional Court, the first time a Christian has been appointed to this position - it makes him effectively Egypt's most senior judge, a rare appointment of a Christian to such a high position in a Muslim-majority country. Pray for him, that God will grant him wisdom and make him a blessing for the people of Egypt.
- On March 4th, Priya Rajan, aged 28, made history when sworn in as Mayor of Chennai, formerly **Madras** (where the curries are red-hot!), India's fourth largest city. She became the city's youngest mayor and the first Dalit Christian woman (!!!) to hold this office. (Normally Dalit + Christian = dirty jobs, cleaning sewers, sweeping streets.) Praise the Lord for her election and ask Him to fill her abundantly with wisdom as she grapples with her new responsibilities. Pray that she will know His Divine Guidance in serving the people of Chennai and inspire India's Christian population, 70% of which is estimated to be from the iniquitous system of Scheduled Caste backgrounds.

PS Not to mention physical protection for both these people from extremists, who, no doubt, will seek to harm them.

David Taylor, Selkirk Prayer Promoter

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**Thank you!**

**Thanks all round**

Gratitude was the theme of the Selkirk service on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and we gave thanks to God for people in our lives for whom we are grateful. You may see the paper chains appearing in the hall.

It was just the right opportunity to say thanks to John Moley as he reached the end of the three year contract as Children and Families worker. It was not an easy three years with COVID intervening and we are grateful to John for what he achieved with the children and families in our church and community. He is hoping to be able to continue some involvement as a volunteer, so we will still see him around.

Grateful thanks also to those who worked most closely with John over the last three years: Louise Raffier, Mo Brown, Elma Hendrie and Mark Corbett.

## Sunday Worship in Ashkirk and Selkirk

When	Where	Time	Led by
June 12	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Jane Peers Rev. Scott Guy
June 19	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Rev. Scott Guy
June 26	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Cafe Style, David Bethune Fan Heafield
July 3	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Pulpit supply
July 10	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Elissa Jones Fan Heafield
July 17	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Pulpit supply
July 24	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	David Bethune
July 31	Selkirk Joint service	11am	Pulpit supply
Aug. 7	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Pulpit supply
Aug. 14	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Fiona Corbett Fan Heafield
Aug. 21	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Pulpit supply
Aug. 28	Selkirk Ashkirk	10.15am 12 noon	Taizé style, Louise Raffier Fan Heafield



### Forward in Faith Summer 2022

Our proposal for this summer is to meet on a monthly basis, and generally outside on Thursdays. We welcome anyone to join in these events. Please contact Jane Peers 07917 128918 with any questions or help with transport.

Thursday	16	June	BBQ	6pm	Myra and Rod's, bring and share
Thursday	14	July	Walk	2pm	venue tbc
Thursday	11	Aug.	Picnic	4pm	venue tbc
Thursday	8	Sept.	Film	7pm	A film to share and discuss?

## Churches Together Holiday Club

We are looking forward to another children's holiday club, Monday to Friday August 8th - 12th. The theme is **Wonder Zone** using Scripture Union material on science, nature and a God of Wonder.



In spite of the success of using the Haining as a venue last year, we are going to host it at Connections but, having developed the adjacent garden on three levels, some activities will be outside. (The main reason is that we need water and power for some of the experiments!)

All helpers will be 'lab technicians' - and all children have a 'lab book' - it should be great fun!! As always, this is a Churches Together project and we would love to hear of folk at the Parish Church willing to help. We are delighted John Moley is part of our planning team and will be our main MC/presenter again.

If you would like to join the team, please kindly contact in the first place Andrew Rollinson on [andrewrollinson@hotmail.com](mailto:andrewrollinson@hotmail.com)

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## Bible Reading

I think reading the Bible for myself regularly, with help from some kind of booklet, has been one of the most significant ways for me to grow closer to God. I am grateful that my Mum gave me my first Bible reading notes, starting what has been a helpful pattern for me.

A number of us in Selkirk use the **Bible Reading Fellowship** daily notes: eg *The Upper Room*, *Guidelines* and *New Daylight*. Past copies are often left on the table in the Meeting House for others to take away. Please do! Notes for Sept.-Dec. can be ordered through Lynda McCraw by 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

### Gracious God,

Thank you for your faithfulness  
In nurturing small beginnings  
into surprising blessings.  
We rejoice that,  
from the youngest to the oldest,  
so many have encountered your word  
and grown as disciples of Christ.  
Keep us humble in your service,  
ambitious for your glory  
and open to new opportunities.  
For your name's sake  
Amen

*From the BRF centenary prayer*

## Selkirk Diary Dates

### June

Thursday 16 6 pm Forward in Faith BBQ  
 Friday 24 6.30 pm Midsummer Cluster meal

### July

Thursday 14 2 pm Forward in Faith Walk  
 Sunday 17 2.30 pm Service at Thornfield House  
 Sunday 24 3 pm Blanket Preaching

### August

Monday 8 - Friday 12 Holiday Club, Connections  
 Thursday 11 4 pm Forward in Faith Picnic  
 Friday 26 2.30 pm Service at Riverside  
 Nursing Home

### September

Thursday 8 7 pm Forward in Faith Film  
 Saturday 17 10 - 12 noon Denim Upcycling Show (entries Friday 6 -7 pm)  
 Sunday 18 1pm Church Together lunch and AGM, SPC  
 Thursday 22 2 pm CAMEO  
 Friday 30 10 - 12 noon Macmillan Coffee Morning



## Wednesday Worship in Selkirk



As we slowly return to the things we love why not join us at 11am on Wednesday mornings in the church hall for a short 30 minute service?

You will be welcomed at the hall door and we remain seated throughout the service. We have a rota of welcomers and worship leaders with David Taylor playing piano.

When	Led by
June 15	Fiona Corbett
June 22	David Taylor
June 29	David Bethune
July 6	Joanna Smith
July 13	Joanna Smith
July 20	Fiona Corbett
July 27	David Taylor
Aug. 3	Joanna Smith
Aug. 10	David Bethune
Aug. 17	Joanna Smith
Aug. 24	Fiona Corbett
Aug. 31	David Taylor

Fiona Holmes

## Stay in touch

If you would prefer to read The Hird online, or would like to receive Selkirk Parish Church weekly notices by email, please contact the church office. Details on back page. Both also available at [selkirkparish.church](http://selkirkparish.church)

Ettrick & Yarrow Church and Selkirk Parish Church can be found on Facebook.

@ettrickyarrowchurch  
@Selkirkparishchurch



### Save the Date

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**



**Macmillan Cancer Support  
Coffee Morning  
Selkirk Parish Church  
10 am - 12 noon**

**Come along and have some fun!**



## Bereavements

### 2022

#### Ettrick & Yarrow

March 8 Alison Massie  
Thirladean House

May 4 Valerie Barrie  
Summerhill Care Home,  
Alnwick

#### Selkirk

April 4 Norma Stuart  
16 Ladylands Terrace

#### Selkirk

April 10 Isabella Bowden  
Riverside Healthcare Centre

May 11 Susan Large  
Carwil, 53 The Loan

May 18 Jessie Richardson  
15 Kirk Wynd

The records on this page are as up-to-date as possible. We apologise for any omissions that may have occurred. Please note that opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the church or congregation.

# Ashkirk, Ettrick & Yarrow, Selkirk

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## Pastoral Assistant:

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## Ashkirk



**Session Clerk:** Fan Heafield,  
'Tophouse', Minto, Hawick  
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**Treasurer:** Kev Heafield,  
'Tophouse', Minto, Hawick  
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## Ettrick & Yarrow

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**Treasurer:** Jean Guthrie



ettrickandyarrow@gmail.com

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*Sketches courtesy of John Hume, Scotland's Churches Trust*

## Selkirk

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mrs\_houseproud@yahoo.co.uk

### Property Convener:

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### Church Administrator:

Wilma Groenewald, Office Hours Wed & Fridays 10 - 12  
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### Hird Editor:

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Items for the **September** issue of The Hird should be with the editor by **21<sup>st</sup> August.**