Kirk News

St Andrew's Wallace Green & Lowick

Winter 2024

(Registered Scottish Charity No SC00867)

Minister	Rev Dr Adam Hood	01289 332787
Session Clerk	Miss Rita Inglis	01289 307421
Treasurer	Mr Brian Tait	01361 882897
Organist	Miss Rena Telfer	01289 302080
Choir	Miss Rena Telfer	01289 302080
Church Flowers	Miss Rita Inglis	01289 307421
Churches Together	Miss Rena Telfer	01289 302080
Gift Aid	Mr Alan Irving	01289 308741
Kirk News	Mrs Joan Montgomery	01289 763151
Keep Fit	Mrs Susan Jordan	01289 306144
Life & Work	Mrs Anne McQueen	07526 223274
New Horizons	Rev Dr Adam Hood	01289 332787
Pastoral Care	Mrs Terri Bearhope	07521 585828
Presbytery	Miss Rita Inglis	01289 307421
Property	Mr Chris Budzynski	01289 305303
Safeguarding	Mr Dale Hall	01289 308944
Walking Group	Mrs Grace Tait	01361 882897
Website	Dr Nathan Hood	01289 302787
Work Party	Ms Evelyn Mavin	01289 306086

Kirk Session Sub Committees

Finance
Lead: Mr Brian Tait

Fabric
Lead: Mr Chris Budzynski

Pastoral
Lead: Rev Dr Adam Hood

Mission and Nurture
Lead: Rev Dr Adam Hood

ELDERS

Alan Aitchison, Karen Aitchison, Linda Bankier, Dale Hall, Fiona Hall, Rita Inglis, Alan Irving, Bryon Longbone, Betty Mathieson, Joan Montgomery, Keith Montgomery, Joan Reed, Brian Tait, Grace Tait, Rena Telfer, Sarah Weatherburn.

Holy Communion

We will be celebrating Holy Communion on Sunday November 24th at 11am. **Please note that we are no longer handing out communion cards to everyone on our roll quarterly.** The function of the card is to remind us that communion is happening and invite us to come along, and this task is now carried out by the Kirk News.

We will, however, continue to return those cards handed in at previous communions, since many of us appreciate the tradition of handing in our communion cards as we come to the sacrament. If you have not received a card with your magazine, but would like to hand in a card when you next come along to communion, please just look out one of the cards you have previously received and hand this in. If you cannot find a card at home and would like to receive one, please let me know.

Congregational Register

Deaths

(*denotes communicant member)

Ralph Moffat	14.7.24*
Margaret Black	30.8.24*
Frances Monks	14.10.24
Beth Welsh	21.10.24*

Infant Baptism

Phoebe Burn 25.8.24

In Memorium

Beth Welsh, who passed away in October after a long illness, was a retired elder of the congregation, who was involved, for many years, in different aspects of the church's life.

Beth was a committed elder, who gave much time and effort to visiting and helping members in her district. She played a key role in maintaining the congregation's links with baptismal families, through preparing baptismal certificates, sending regular greetings cards from SAWG, and maintaining the cradle roll.

She also helped with the organisation and running of church funerals and the fortnightly soup lunches that used to be held. Beth was a skilled embroideress and used her skills generously in service of Christ, creating, for instance, the Harvest and Christmas pulpit falls.
Beth was also a member and on the Committee of the local Guild branch until its closure in 2016, and continued her links with the Guild through an involvement in the Eyemouth Branch.

Our condolences go to Beth's family and friends at this sad time.

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,
Recently, some of us participated in an online prayer gathering focused on the current conflict in the Middle East, organised by the Presbytery of Lothian and the Borders. It was a sobering occasion!
As part of the gathering, the Revd Rola Sleiman from Tripoli in North Lebanon shared thoughts on what is going on there. She told of one million displaced people, of 3,000 dead, and over 12,000 injured, of towns decimated and villages literally wiped off the map, and of shortages of food and other basic supplies. She summed up how she and her people feel in moving phrases: "We're starting to lose hope", "Nobody cares about Lebanon". For me, the situation that Rola described sits uneasily with the theme of 'Peace and Goodwill', which is the focus of the Kirk News this time around. The experience of the Lebanese people highlights how little goodwill there is in many parts of the world and the human cost of the conflicts that we learn about on our news broadcasts and read about in our history books. Hearing Rola speak, helped me to imagine what it might be like for ordinary life to be shattered by war and made me realise afresh something of the true cost of war in splintered lives and communities - a thought that should always be at the forefront of our minds in times of Remembrance.

And yet, though our prayer gathering highlighted that war is always a waste, it also focused on the hope that emerges in unexpected times and places. Rather like a plant that grows in the cracks of a pavement, we were told that, even in the totally overwhelming reality of living in a conflict zone, there is hope, for "God is at work": in the acts of kindness of health professionals, of teachers, of pastors and of all kinds of people, as they cling on through the chaos and continue to provide encouragement, healing and solace to the injured and anxious. And

because God is at work in times of suffering, we continue to affirm that there is goodness in the world and for this reason we look to the future with hope.

At the end of the prayer gathering, a Lebanese church leader sent us "Christ's peace". It seemed ironic that we, who are largely safe and secure, should receive the peace of Christ from one who is engulfed in insecurity. His words conveyed something important: that the peace and goodwill that we believe in and which we celebrate at Christmas, don't rest in our circumstances, but in the God of love and compassion who is continually active in our hearts and lives.

Your Minister and friend,
Adam

Membership

Adam always welcomes enquiries from anyone who would like to join the membership roll of the congregation. Membership formalises a commitment to the congregation and our mission and allows for involvement in congregational decisions and leadership of the Church. Those who have been members of, or confirmed into other churches can join by a simple process of transference. Those who have not been members of another church, are invited to take some simple vows of membership, which would be explored through informal gatherings. Of course, all are welcome to participate in any and all of our activities regardless of whether they are formally members or not.

For your calendar

Mon 11th Nov	6.30pm, Kirk Session
Sun 24th Nov	11am, Holy Communion
Sat 30th Nov	10 – 1.30, Christmas Fayre
Sun 1st Dec	First Sunday in Advent

New Horizons

The session has begun well. In September, we enjoyed a fascinating illustrated talk from Stuart Bankier on the 'Le Mans Classic Car Race' and in October, there was a soup lunch followed by an informal communion service – thanks to those who made the lovely soup!

Our meetings continue on the 2nd Tuesday on each month and everyone interested is welcome.

Presbytery

In the last magazine we told you that we are looking at a linkage with Ayton & District, since then Fogo Church has indicated, they would like to join this linkage as well so at the next meeting the Session will be discussing how we can achieve this.

We shall also be discussing how the new grouping of Churches now called Berwick & Berwickshire Churches Area Grouping will operate. The Grouping will consist of 5 full time ministers working as a team across the whole grouping. We are pleased to say that things are progressing and we are moving forward.

******News Update******

Kitchen Refurbishment Fund – November

In the Kirk News in August, the fund stood at £784.00 and I said our aim was to be at £1500 by the end of the year – there was the odd comment that we might be aiming a little high! But one should never doubt the fundraising ability of the folk of St Andrew's Wallace Green! During August, we were given a £20 donation from the baptismal party and you worked your way through £245's worth of cards, marmalade and magazines - £1049.
In September, serving teas to the Heritage Open Days visitors raised a further £81 and was also a great way to show hospitality to folk especially since it was such a cold day - £1130.

October came with the Harvest Festival and aided by the Mayor, guests, and the Congregation all 86 knitted pumpkins disappeared in short order leaving behind a lovely sum of £225.90 which for the mathematicians amongst you works out at £2.63 per pumpkin. Sales of garden produce, magazines and the fruit and vegetables from the harvest display netted another £259.10. Thus, giving us at the end of October the brilliant sum of £1615!

We have beaten our target for the year and - with 2 months still to go. Well done to you all.

With this money we can buy a catering dish washer – 500 plates washed in 2 minutes! Who knew it could be done so quickly. That's roughly the time it takes me to fill the basin and put the cups in. We can also add a modern boiling water tap, this is ideal for making teas and coffees for smaller groups.

Well, done to everyone and let's keep on going.

Thank you,
Rita

Angels & Stars – Calling all Knitters

The Big Sing will be going ahead this year on Wednesday 4th December and we are expecting quite a few of the local schools to be attending. As a result we will need a few hundred stars or angels.

It will be great if you could supply as many as possible to ensure we have enough for every child to have one.

In addition, we will need some left over for members of the congregation and to decorate the church. There are still patterns available in the church so if you need one just let me know.

Rita

Christmas Fayre
Saturday 30 November
10am - 1.30pm

A date for your diaries
Cake stall full of wonderful goodies!
Cakes, tray bakes, gingerbread all calorie free?!
Craft Stall

Competitions - Books – Bric-a- Brac

A chance to buy some Christmas presents
It's amazing what you didn't know you needed!

Wonderful home baking

Do come along - and if you would like to help out just let Rita know – all help appreciated

All proceeds to Church Funds

St Andrew's Wallace Green & Lowick Church

Local Christmas card delivery service

Minimum donation of 60p per card
(2nd Class Stamps are now 85p)

Delivery to the following areas:

Berwick	Lowick	Hutton
Tweedmouth	East Ord	Paxton
Spittal	Horncliffe	Norham
Scremerston	Foulden	

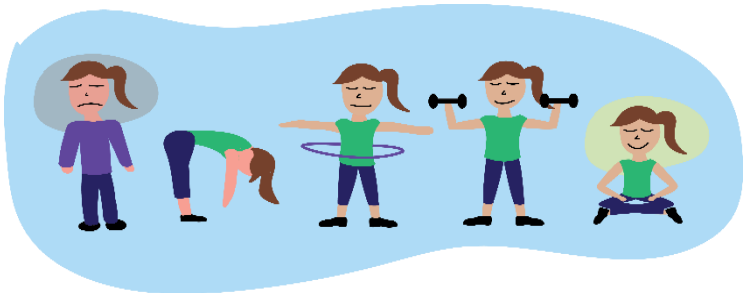
ONLY to the villages—NO outlying properties
We regret that cards received for other areas cannot be delivered

Please hand in your cards and your donations
BY FRIDAY 20th DECEMBER 2024
to
St Andrew's Wallace Green Church
1.30pm-3pm Friday 6th & Friday 20th December
And
Before or after services on Sundays
1st, 8th & 15th December

OR from Monday 2nd December to Thursday 19th December at:
Bank of Scotland (Hide Hill)
Skelly's Butchers (Margate)
The Head Gardener (2, Ord Drive)

NB: Please put money in bag with cards—no change given by shops

St Andrew's Wallace Green and Lowick Church of Scotland Berwick-upon-Tweed
Registered Scottish Charity No. SC000867



Keep Fit

After a well-deserved summer break, our Tuesday sessions restarted in September. We meet each week at 10.00 for gentle exercise, friendship, fellowship, tea, coffee and biscuits – what is not to like about that? New members are always welcome to join this super-healthy group.

Service of Thanksgiving for Animals and the Blessing of Pets

On Sunday 27 October there was a Service of Thanksgiving for our animals and pets.

At last – our time to go to church. We sit patiently every Sunday waiting for it to be our turn again. It was great to meet up with some old chums and a chance to make new friends.
Even though I say so myself, we were (on the whole) very well behaved. The humans sang, listened, and thought about how lucky they are to have us in their lives.
God's creatures all living in harmony together. We thought about St Frances and his very special love of animals.

We had a very personal blessing from Adam and Ray (from the Parish Church). They thanked us for being wonderful ….. we are sure that's what they said.

Roll on next time – but, please bring cats to chase.

Douglas Dubh Montgomery and Jack Stoddart

"The moral progress of a nation and its greatness should be judged by the way it treats its animals."
(Gandhi)

PEACE AND GOODWILL

“Peace and Goodwill” – a beautiful wish and a timeless message. Peace calls for harmony, understanding and compassion and goodwill inspires kindness, generosity and empathy.

We have been thinking about Peace and Goodwill with particular reference to the season of Remembrance and Christmas.

Remembrance is an act that involves more than just recalling the past; it's about honouring, understanding, and learning from it. Whether it’s for individuals or society as a whole, remembrance connects us with moments, people, and experiences that shape our identity. It can bring both joy and sorrow, as it encompasses the celebration of happy memories and the mourning of loss.

Remembrance is often tied to history, culture, and shared experiences, such as honouring veterans on Remembrance Day. These acts help us acknowledge sacrifices, recognize the struggles that brought about today’s freedoms, and encourage a sense of unity and shared purpose. In remembering those that sacrificed their lives, we must also remember the effected families at home and those maimed by war both physically and mentally.

Remembrance can be a form of healing, a way to keep loved ones alive in our thoughts, or to acknowledge life's trials and triumphs. It gives us the opportunity to reflect on who we are, where we come from, and

what has shaped us. The memories we choose to preserve and honour can influence our future decisions.

Ultimately, remembrance is about connection—connecting with the past, with those who came before us, and with the lessons that continue to shape our present and future. It keeps the stories alive, allowing us to honour those that made such a sacrifice, so that we can live as we do.

”In Flanders the poppies blow,
Between the crosses, row on row”

Yes, row on row. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for graves and cemeteries in 2,945 locations across France. I have always associated these cemeteries with the First World War, but there are also close to 50,000 graves in France from WWII.
In 2018, Bob had the honour of being Padre to some KOSB veterans who were going to lay wreaths on the graves of four KOSB soldiers who had won the VC in WWI.
How can I forget Keith, our wonderful piper, playing the Regimental March, ‘Blue Bonnets over the Border’ at these little ceremonies.
It was so poignant.
If you go to Flanders, take plenty of tissues.

But not all remembrance has to be sad.
When Bob went on his hikes, he always took a pork pie and a hard boiled egg with him for sustenance during the day. Now, the family gathers at Dolwarth Kirkyard, where he rests in peace, on significant days like his birthday and Father’s Day.

We sit on the bench by his headstone and remember with love and laughter our wonderful and funny memories. And, you've probably guessed it, we all eat a pork pie and a hardboiled egg!

Diana Higham

Remembrance – the Action of Remembering Something

Well, that's what the dictionary says but what do we mean?

Is it, 'What did I go up the stairs for?'
Is it, 'Oh, yes, it's so-and-so's birthday!'
Is it, 'Oh sugar, I've forgotten my nephew's wedding anniversary!'

All of these are actions of remembrance, though some are actions of forgetfulness. At this time of the year, remembrance has two more obvious attributions.

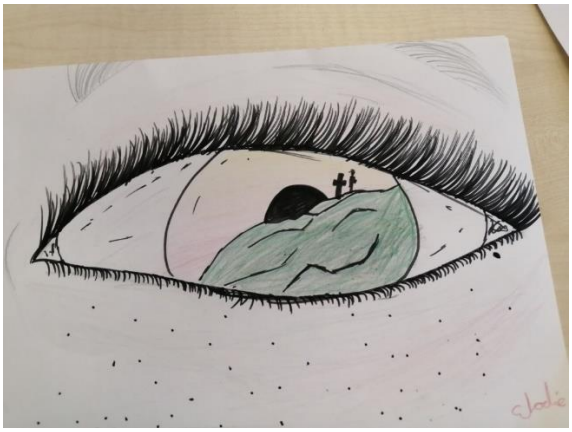
'Remember, remember, the 5th of November, Gunpowder, treason and plot.' This highlights the attempt to overthrow the Monarchy Government and Church but also produces a severe twinge when one considers the fate of the plotters and of the Christian branch they supported.

In more recent times, 'Remembrance' has become synonymous with the National day of tribute to the fallen during military (and civilian) service in times of conflict. This is a time when a few minutes is such an inadequate tribute to so many who have paid so much.

Such a simple word (remembrance) has so many connotations and, therefore, many meanings. I suggest that another connotation is one we should consider at this time. You will be familiar with it. We use it regularly throughout the year in the Church. I suggest that it does mean something which can support us all through the large trials of life and also when dealing with the minor bits. If we can **remember** it when we are faced with such things, perhaps we will remember that the biggest thing (death) we ever face can be overcome.

At Communion we say, **‘Do this in remembrance of me.’** This tells us that, through Christ, the final obstacle of death can be faced and overcome.

Not-confused-of-Berwick.com



(Pictures courtesy of Fiona’s pupils)

I only watch a maximum of one news broadcast per day. If I watched more, I am sure I would become depressed. Nothing but war, war and more war. The Israeli Government have forgotten that two wrongs don't make a right. Wouldn't it would be better if instead of sending troops in the leaders of the warring nations fought it out between themselves? Thousands of lives of innocent men, women and children would be saved and beautiful buildings saved from destruction. The huge amount of money saved could be used for humanitarian projects. Can you imagine Vladimir Putin and Volodymyr Zelenskyy slugging it out?
The person who has expressed wishes for World Peace is our very own ‘Rabbie’ Burns:

> “For a' that an a' that
> It's coming YET! for a' that,
> When man tae man the world o'er
> Will brothers be for a' that.”

Ian Hannah

Greetings,

I have just come back from a trip to Geneva, the world's capital of organisations promoting humanitarian causes, working towards peace and goodwill between individuals and nations. I had been to Geneva previously on a short business trip, and I recall leaving with a great sense of comfort in knowing that so many people were working tirelessly towards humanitarian causes - I felt similarly when leaving last Friday.

One morning, I was out walking and came across a photographic exhibition on the lakeside depicting the work of an organisation involved in protecting the rights and welfare of children throughout the world. They were celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 'declaration of Geneva' in which children's rights were first established. To commemorate the anniversary, children from 9 different countries were asked to share their current vision of what they saw as being critical to their healthy development and overall wellbeing - as if they were re-writing their own bill of rights. The average age of the children involved in this project was 10 years old.

Here's a quick snapshot of what the children came up with (note the children were all from different ethnicities and used different languages, however the researchers found overwhelming unanimity in the common themes that they came up with).

* The right to free quality education in an inclusive and safe learning environment, without discrimination.

* The right to participate - spaces where every opinion is considered with respect - able to express ourselves and to be heard.

* The right to have a birth certificate - without identity we cannot participate - our voice will never be heard, nor will our rights be respected.

* The right to non-violence and protection from harm - to work together to fight against physical/psychological harassment and all forms of aggression.

* The right to play as part of our normal development and growth, whatever the colour, disability or social status (rich and poor).

* The right to be free from begging, from forced labour and from all forms of violence.

* The right to have nutritious food, nice clothes, proper housing and lots of love.

* The right to have a healthy and clean environment - taking care of our planet to ensure the air is clean and free from pollution and waste.

There must have been around 50 panels of artwork, depicting the stages of the project - some of the photographs taken were of vibrant young groups of people involved in the project, some were of individual children - some were happy and some more serious photos - each face or group of faces told a telling story to me.

I was quite overwhelmed by the exhibition. There was so much to take in - so much to reflect on and to hope for - so much to be thankful for in terms of my own childhood and that I was able to foster for my four children.

I don't know about you, but in current times with all that's going on in the world, it would be easy to be almost overwhelmed by the violence and aggression that makes the news lines every day. On the flip side I take solace and am greatly encouraged in knowing that so many people are working tirelessly to promote peace, equality and basic human rights across the globe.

I think that peace is perhaps the most important prized asset in our lives and it starts with us - we cannot offer peace to others if we do not have it ourselves. In times of personal trouble, I am reminded of the scripture

‘Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you - let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid’ - John 14:27.

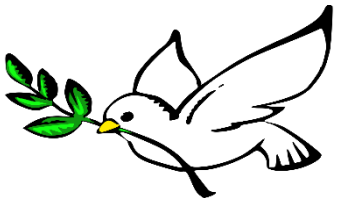
As always, the themes that Joan, our stalwart editor, selects for each edition of this newsletter makes me stop, think, reflect and count my many blessings - thank you Joan!

As we are rapidly approaching the season of advent, Peace be with you.

Yours in Christ.

Bill.

Goodwill is a profound reminder that small gestures often make a significant difference – I challenge you all to do ‘a random act of kindness’ each day during Advent.



Some folks have told me recently that they are not sending Christmas cards this year. What a shame! I love giving and receiving them. It’s an opportunity to support charities and most importantly, to remind ourselves and others of God’s greatest gift to mankind, Jesus our Saviour.
A popular card is the one that shows a dove which is the symbol of peace. There doesn’t seem to be any of that in these troubled times. Peace and Goodwill to all men?
Jesus told us to love and forgive our enemies. That really is impossible.

A student once told his Professor, “God did not create evil. Just as darkness is the absence of light and cold is the absence of heat, evil is the result of Divine love in the human heart.”
The student’s name was Albert Einstein…….

Christmas cards remind us of that – *Jesus is the reason for the Season.*

Diana Higham

Remembering at Christmas

I was born in 1944, my mother having come home from Kenya where she had been serving in the forces. My father, a naval officer, had been sent to India. Sadly, he then proceeded to forget about us. We ended up living with my aunt, who was caring for my grandfather (he passed away a few years after). My aunt had to go to work and things became very hard.

Christmas for us really started on Christmas Eve. I had already been to several parties like the Brownies and the Sunday school. On Christmas Eve, I would wait for my mother coming home from work. She would give me some loose change and I would run to Holland’s warehouse [Hollands was a local fruit and veg shop and the warehouse was used for hanging bananas to ripen, but also used to store Christmas trees].

They sold the leftovers off at 6pm and somehow, I always managed to get a little tree. I would drag it home where we would put it into a pot of sand and start to decorate it. I did this whilst listening out for the Salvation Army band which came up our street to the big square at the top.
As soon as we heard the band we would go out and they would play for about an hour. They played all the Christmas carols and the square was packed full of people singing. Then it was home and bedtime with a carrot left out for Rudolph. This was strange as my mother had told me not to write to Father Christmas as he wasn't real. She said that children only got what their parents could afford. But, when I asked

about the carrot she said: “Oh, he does come but only with what I have been able to ask him to deliver.”

Christmas morning, I got a present, something like a doll that my mother had made clothes for. There was a stocking with fruit and nuts hand knitted mitts and a small toy. Then we went to church and after the service everyone congregated in the hall. My mother was a serious church goer and in the choir, people she knew well would all give me something on Christmas morning, which was so kind. I still have the Bible given to me on one of those mornings.

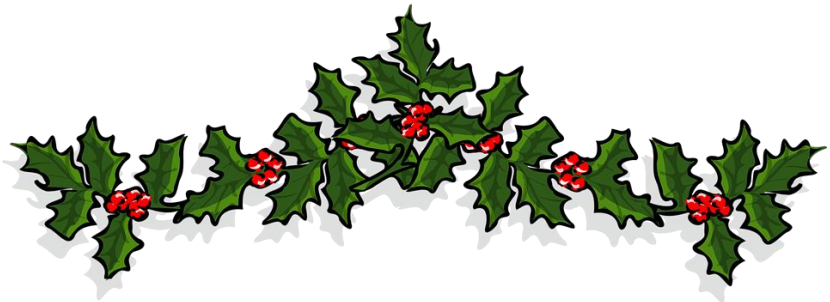
My aunt had cooked us dinner usually chicken, which was a luxury in those days. This was followed by home-made Christmas pudding. After lunch we would go for a long walk down to the Fish Quay and on to Tynemouth and then back again.

My aunt would put some embers from the fire onto a shovel and carry them to the front sitting room and get a nice fire going. The day would end listening to the radio whilst making toast on the coal fire.

It was always a special day, but it was only one day. Now it seems that Christmas starts in November and lasts forever. It’s also a difficult time for anyone on their own. I had several lonely Christmas days when I lost my first husband. So, this Christmas I will thank God that I have survived another year, and I am able to buy some extra goodies to enjoy. I am thankful that we are able to go out for our meal on Christmas Day instead of struggling to cook one ourselves.

I will give some small donations to local charities and enjoy celebrating with Dan.

Judith Patterson



AND CHRISTMAS ……

As I grow older, I become more and more sceptical about the Fourth Estate. So much of what it produces seems to be to an agenda of its own making.

In general, I find viewing its work and especially that of The Sun needs to be something taken with a severe pinch of salt. But ……. every now and then …….. something comes along to remind me (and us) that the Press can be valuable. Imagine my surprise when I was reminded of this article from a century and more ago and from, of all places, The Sun (admittedly, the New York Sun). Please read and enjoy.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

The response to this letter was answered by, of all people, The Editor, taking the time to reply to a humble eight-year-old child (Virginia O'Hanlon).

Dear Editor,

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say that there is no Santa Claus. Papa says 'If you see it in the Sun, it is so.' Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

.....

“Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds.

All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.
Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to our life its highest beauty and joy.

Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your Papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove?

Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see.

Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, or even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond.

Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else as real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, maybe 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the hearts of children."

Written by Francis P Church
Editor, The Sun, New York (1897)

This letter/article is regularly republished, perhaps because the message of hope it provides remains valid today and perhaps for 10 x 10,000 years to come.

Yours

~~Confused~~ Hopeful-of-Berwick.com

The Joys of Christmas

Many people feel Christmas is all about commercialism and buying presents for loved ones and friends - which is fine. What many forget is it is when Jesus was born and it is probably the most important part of the Church's calendar, where all Christians rejoice His coming by singing Christmas carols and sharing a feeling of goodwill.

With my interest in music, since I was a young boy, as well as glorious carols, I would like to list my Top 20 Christmas pieces that mean a lot to me:

1. Handel's Messiah (wonderful to see it performed live; the essence of Christmas for adults).
2. Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite (a treat to see this ballet live - for the little ones).
3. The Beverley Sisters - Kings Came A-Calling (the B side to Little Donkey).
4. Judy Garland – Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas (from the film Meet Me in St Louis).
5. Bing Crosby – White Christmas (which appeared in both White Christmas and Holiday Inn films).
6. Adam Faith – Lonely Pup in a Christmas Shop (for our furry friends).
7. Johny Mathis – When a Child is Born.
8. Shakin' Stevens – Merry Christmas Everyone (a real party swinger).
9. John and Yoko and The Plastic Ono Band with the Harlem Community Choir – Happy Christmas (War is Over).
10. Wizzard – I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday (another kid's favourite).
11. Band Aid – Do They Know It's Christmas (with proceeds to Band Aid).
12. Bing Crosby – It's Beginning to Look Like Christmas.
13. Nat King Cole – The Christmas Song.
14. Slade – Merry Christmas Everybody (for old and young alike).
15. Paul McCartney – Wonderful Christmastime.
16. Doris Day – Silver Bells.
17. Andy Williams – It's The Most Wonderful Time of The Year.
18. Greg Lake – I believe in Father Christmas (for 'tiny tots').
19. Wham! – Last Christmas.
20. Brenda Lee – Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree.

Reserve:

21. José Feliciano – Feliz Navidad (meaning Happy Christmas in

English) (very rare and for ‘wordly’ fans).

There are so many but we have to stop somewhere. The main thing is to see it when Jesus was born and not a commercial thing.

I recommend that you listen to all the above, particularly Number 3 which always fills me with the true spirit of Christmas. They are all on You Tube.

Kevin Golding (true music lover)

Shine Your Light

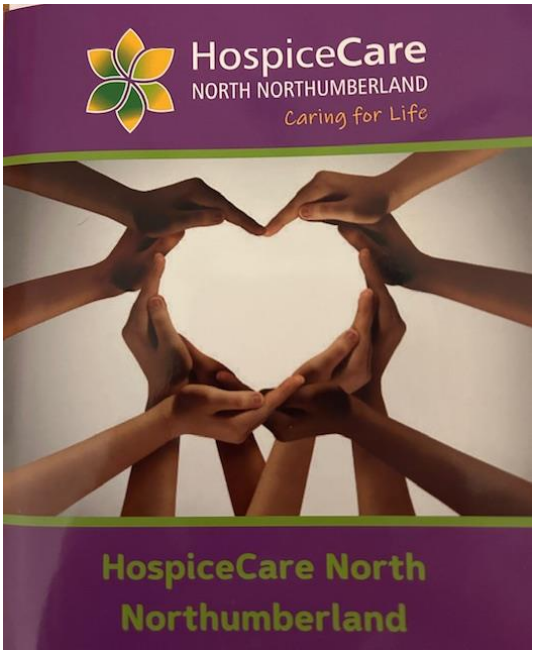
‘Shine Your Light’ is a nationwide Interdenominational Christmas campaign which involved over 700 different church groups and organisations last year, and which will be taking place all over the country during the weekend of 13th-15th December.

In Berwick we will be singing carols and sharing the Christian message of Christmas on Saturday 14th from 10.30am. We anticipate the event lasting about an hour on the pavement outside the Guildhall.

Churches Together in Berwick will be involved in this initiative with ‘Little Lights’ from the Tweedmouth Benefice, plus musicians, Ministers and other church representatives.

There is something special about singing carols together outside in the open air, and sharing the message of the Saviour come to earth. The one who was, and is, the most special Christmas present. Do come and join us.

Rena



Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team visits people who need a bit of extra company, and have a chat over a cup of tea, in order to brighten their day and keep them up to date with what is happening in the Church. Visits are generally monthly.

In October, the Pastoral Team had a visit from Julie Frost, the Marketing and Communications Officer at HospiceCare North Northumberland. During a very engaging talk, Julie told the Team about the work of the Hospice. She talked about the nursing care service, respite care service, bereavement service, and dementia support service.
For most of the services, clients require a referral from a health professional but can ask their GP, nurse, Macmillan nurse, or consultant to refer them. However, you can self-refer to the bereavement and dementia support services by calling 01289 309997.

The bereavement and dementia support services include café sessions in Berwick and Alnwick. The bereavement service can be accessed before the anticipated death of a loved one.
Canny Cuppa is the name of the drop-in dementia café at Spittal Bowling Club; it runs from 10.30 to 12.30 every Tuesday, no appointment needed. In addition to the café sessions where chat, bingo, and music are the order of the day, the dementia service offers walking

football at the leisure centres in both Alnwick and Berwick, and seated exercise at the Wellbeing Centre on Violet Terrace. You can find out more by calling the number above.
You can find out more about HospiceCare North Northumberland at www.hospicecare-nn.org.uk.
If you are interested in joining the Pastoral Care Team, please speak to me, or email me at terribearhope@hotmail.com, or telephone 07521 585 828.
Please also contact me, if you know of anyone who is a member of the Church or a regular attendee, past or present, who would welcome a visit or support to get to church.

Terri Bearhope

The Berwick HospiceCare Charity Shop is on the move to a unit at the corner of Marygate and West Street. The charity were on the lookout for a shop with a bigger footfall as 38% of the annual income is generated by their shops in Berwick, Wooler and Amble.
The service costs £1.3 million each year and only 5% is funded by the NHS. This personal and bespoke service is free of charge and offers a lifeline to so many individuals and their families as they face such a difficult time in their lives.

Hazel Marsden House remains at the heart of HospiceCare and shall continue with their person-centred Hospice at Home service offering practical care and support to adults suffering from a terminal illness requiring palliative input.

NORTHERN EDGE
— COFFEE —

Speciality Coffee Roasters

Visit our Coffee House
Light Lunches

7 Silver Street
Berwick-upon-Tweed
TD15 1HU

www.northernedgecoffee.co.uk

The Corner House

For bookings, takeaway orders or any other enquiries

Tel: 01289 304748 or email:
thecornerhouseberwick@gmail.com

find us on Twitter and Instagram @31cornerhouse

Rhapsody

Unisex Hair and Health Salon

6-8 WEST STREET • BERWICK-UPON-TWEED
Tel: (01289) 306996

State Registered Chiropodist Available

Hairworks

Unisex Hair Salon

8 Sandgate

Berwick-upon-Tweed

Tel: 01289 305283

Call in and see our selection of Stationery for your Home & Office. Stockists of Ordnance Survey Maps.

GEO. C. GRIEVE LTD

Stationer and Bookseller

1 CHURCH ST., BERWICK-UPON-TWEED. Tel: 01289 306051

www.grieve-stationers.co.uk

Associated Osteomyologists The

CHURCH STREET CLINIC

Osteomyology

Manipulative Therapy &

Remedial & Sports Massage

Brian Shanks

M.A.O. Dip.Manip. D.A.R.M.

Tel: 01289 307105

58 Church Street

Berwick-upon-Tweed

Northumberland TD15 1DU

Back Pain

Neck Pain

Trapped Nerves

Sports Injuries

Most Joint Problems

Notes from the Editor

Wishing Peace and Goodwill to all of the readers of the Kirk News at this time of year.

Special thanks to all of the contributors to this collaboration, you make my job much easier! It is a pleasure and joy to read your articles.

Please continue with your contributions in the New Year and throughout 2025. As always, I am open to any thoughts or suggestions for future magazines.

Publication Team:

Editor Joan Montgomery
joaniemontgomery@btinternet.com

Advertising: Susan Jordan

Printing & invaluable help: Keith Montgomery

The contents of this magazine can be found at sawg.org.uk

Many thanks to our generous sponsors