

***THE PARISH OF BOWDEN & MELROSE***



*March, April, May  
2015*

**BOWDEN & MELROSE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

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**Scottish Charity No SC 006480**

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March, 2015

Dear Friends,

I have again enjoyed the benefit of spending three weeks study leave in Hermanus, South Africa at the invitation of my friend the Rev. Dr. James Gray, the minister of the United Church there. James was born in Scotland, where his father was minister of a North Berwick church, but left for South Africa at the age of five. He maintained his Scottish roots studying for a PhD at St. Andrews University and was in Zimbabwe before moving to Hermanus fifteen years ago. The church there was established as a united congregation when Presbyterians, Methodists, Congregationalists and Baptists decided that a United Church was the way forward. Today it is a vibrant congregation with around 300 people attending both the 8.30 and 10.00 morning services with worship reflecting the ecumenical nature of the congregation. In addition to their Associate Minister, a Salvation Army officer, who works with the Salvation Army in Cape Town from Monday to Thursday and then with the United Church over the weekend, they were also joined this year by a Presbyterian minister from Pretoria who was on two months study leave. It is refreshing to be involved with the life of such a congregation and reflect with colleagues on the life and work of the church. I have to admit that exchanging the Scottish weather at this time for three weeks in South Africa is in itself a tonic. However if we look, somewhat enviously on a full church with a congregation of 300 at both services, we should keep in mind it is the only such church for a town of around 60,000. However the atmosphere created is undoubtedly uplifting and in stark contrast to too many of our churches here in Scotland where the legacy of history leaves us with too many buildings. My thanks to those who conducted worship in my absence and to the Rev. Marion Dodd who provided pastoral cover.

Talking of buildings, work continues on the manse where workmen seem to have been in residence since last April. Work inside is more or less complete but work continues on the roof, although the hope is that an end is in sight. It has also involved a great deal of hard work being undertaken by Alastair Matthew and the Fabric Committee throughout the year for it has been in addition to work required on both churches. On your behalf I would like to offer thanks. The same is true of our Treasurer Alastair O'Neil, Gift Aid Secretary Helen Chisholm and the Finance Committee on a regular basis and especially in the preparation of the Annual Accounts. Alastair now steps down as Treasurer after two spells comprising 17 years and it is appropriate to record our thanks at this time. Our new treasurer is Gordon Chisholm and we thank him for taking on this position. In fact this is an appropriate time to record thanks to all the church staff and the many volunteers who perform a variety of duties, often unseen, but I hope appreciated by all.

We are now more than halfway through the season of Lent and looking forward to the celebration of Easter. It has been suggested that on Easter Day we should repeat last year's experiment of a service on the Eildons and so we will, although I make no promises for next year when Easter falls on 27<sup>th</sup> March, the weekend the weekend the clocks change. Our Easter celebrations will begin then at 8.00a.m. on the saddle of the Eildons when a full turnout of the Kirk Session is expected!! Following the service bacon rolls are served in the church hall. Alternatively they and others may opt instead for Bowden and 9.30a.m. when an Easter Communion is celebrated or 11.00a.m. at Melrose. Whether you worship regularly, infrequently, or not for some time, come along and join in our Easter worship.

However before Easter Sunday we reflect on the events of Holy Week with services each day as published in the magazine. Again I would invite you to come along to our morning services followed by coffee. On Good Friday evening we are being joined by Abbey Consort under their director Jim Letham, our own choirmaster.

Looking further ahead 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May is Christian Aid Week. There is a need to set up a group to coordinate and organise events for the week which traditionally have been the house-to-house collection and the Saturday Coffee Morning, but perhaps a fresh look is required. Please contact the office if you would be interested in helping in any way. Christian Aid, since after the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, has been the main churches' charity in the UK and we would want to continue our support.

Yours sincerely,

**Alistair Bennett**

***An Invitation to Holy Communion***

***Easter Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> April, and 31<sup>st</sup> May***  
***9.30a.m.***  
***Bowden Kirk***

  

***Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May***  
***Melrose Parish Church***

**Calendar of Events**

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	9.30a.m. 11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden Morning Worship, Melrose Very Rev. Dr. John Cairns Guild
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30p.m.	World Day of Prayer
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30p.m.	High Cross Church
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Mothering Sunday	3.30p.m.	<i>Sacrament of Baptism</i> Polish School Piano Concert with <i>Mr. Marcin Dominik Gluch</i>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	11.00a.m.	Bowden Community Cafe
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30p.m.	Guild – “Fizz and Frocks” Julius Project Fund Raiser
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	9.30a.m. 10.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden Family Service
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	11.45a.m. 12.15p.m.	Mid-Week Worship in the Chapel Mid-Week Lunch

Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose

### Worship for Holy Week

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March, Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, 10.30a.m.  
 A short service of worship in the Chapel followed by an organ recital allowing a time of reflection.  
 Coffee is then served.

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 7.00p.m.  
 Worship for Maundy Thursday  
*Sacrament of Holy Communion*

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 7.00p.m.  
 Worship for Good Friday  
*with Abbey Consort*

### Easter Sunday

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	8.00a.m.	Worship on the Eildons
	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i>
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	11.00a.m.	Bowden Community Café
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	2.30p.m.	Guild AGM
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	11.45a.m.	Mid-week Worship in the Chapel
	12.15p.m.	Mid-week Lunch
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May		Guild ' <i>Spring Outing</i> '
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	10.00a.m.	Family Service
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
	7.30p.m.	Eildon Singers
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> – Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> May		Christian Aid Week
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00a.m.	Christian Aid Coffee Morning Corn Exchange
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	11.00a.m.	Bowden Community Café
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose <i>Sacrament of Baptism</i>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	11.45a.m.	Mid-week Worship in the Chapel
	12.15p.m.	Mid-week Lunch
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i>
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose <i>Sacrament of Holy Communion</i>

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	7.30p.m.	Guild 'Presbytery Summer Rally' <i>Broughton Village Hall</i>
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden <i>Kirkin' of the Melrosian</i>

### **Family Services**

The next Family Service is on 22<sup>nd</sup> March when we will look ahead to some of the events at the beginning of Holy Week. The Easter Service on the Eildons takes the place of the April Service with the next service being on 10<sup>th</sup> May, the beginning of Christian Aid Week. These services now take place in the relaxed atmosphere of the hall and last around 30 minutes. Do come along and bring your friends.

### **Midweek Lunch**

Once again the Christmas Lunch seems to have been very popular and enjoyable. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it go well and have fun!

Good news too is that over the year the lunches have raised money for others including Borders Talking Newspaper, Chogoria Hospital in Kenya and Postnatal Depression Borders.

We are grateful that we have had some new volunteer helpers. Thank you, and if others would like to help please contact the church office.

### **Future Dates**

Wednesday 25th March	Margaret's team
Wednesday 22nd April	Ruth/Veronica's team
Wednesday 27th May	Kath's team

12. 15 – 1.30p.m. lunch £3.50

There is a short ecumenical Service in the Chapel at 11.45 before the lunch for anyone who would like to attend.

**Veronica Bailey.**

### **Bowden and Melrose News**

#### **Financial Statement**

At the time of going to print the Congregational Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 had not been quite finalised. They will be presented to the Kirk Session on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March and all members of the congregation are welcome to attend. A summary will be included in the next edition of the magazine.

#### **Food Bank**

We continue to support the local Food Bank which was initially supported by the Guild. Thanks to all who continue to contribute.

## **Bowden Community Café**

Bowden Community Café Coffee Morning:

Bowden Community Café has now been running for over four years. It meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 11-12noon in Bowden Village Hall. Everyone welcome. To secure our continuation we are holding a fund-raising coffee morning in Bowden Village Hall on Saturday 2nd May from 10-12noon.

Future dates (always the third Wednesday in the month) – March 18th, April 15th, and May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Advance Notice:

**Bowden and Melrose Parish Church Annual Fete** will be held in Bowden Village Hall on Saturday 8th August from 2-4pm.

## **Arthritis Research**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Coffee Morning 10.00 – 11.30 in the Corn Exchange to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Melrose Branch, Arthritis Research UK.

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Plant Sale, The Wynd, Melrose 9.30 – 12.30 in aid of Arthritis Research UK, Melrose Branch.

## **Guild News**

We are nearing the end of another varied and interesting season for the Guild members of Bowden and Melrose.

This present year, our fund raiser has been to help with the costs of the Julius Project, which is aiming to assist homeless people into more permanent accommodation, and hence into a more secure lifestyle, onwards into security in housing and hopefully also employment. We held a successful fundraiser in November, but are aiming to add to these funds at our “Fizz and Frocks” afternoon on 19<sup>th</sup> March, when for the cost of £5 there will be a very nice afternoon tea, washed down with “Fizz”, alcoholic or non, and to add to the pleasure, the Belle Plates will be entertaining all present. Not everyone has a frock, but come with a colourful scarf or tie, to make this a joyful afternoon welcoming in the Spring. If you have not managed to purchase a ticket, come anyway, you will be very welcome.

On 5<sup>th</sup> March we looked forward to an afternoon including a visit by alpacas (is this a first at Melrose Parish Church?) and their attendant owners! This was a “different” afternoon, when we learned more about alpacas and what can be made from their beautiful coats.

Following Easter, our Annual General Meeting takes place on 16<sup>th</sup> April when our new Committee for the coming season will be chosen. The AGM will be speedily dealt with, following which we welcome Kathleen Runciman and Isa Scott who will give us an insight into the creation of “Scotland’s Tapestry,” and their involvement in sewing this remarkable piece of Scottish history. An afternoon for all to learn more.

We draw our season to an end with our summer outing, this year going for afternoon tea at Kelso Mayfield Garden Centre which has been refurbished over the past year. The members of Guild always enjoy this time of fellowship together, and we hope for lovely journeys to Kelso and back, over and above an enjoyable tea.

Our new committee will be working over the summertime to create a hopefully interesting and constructive group of meetings for the coming season.

**Elizabeth Fraser, Guild President.**

### **Roxburgh Singers: The Armed Man**

In the second anniversary year of the Great War, The Roxburgh Singers are to perform 'The Armed Man' (A Mass for Peace) by Karl Jenkins, on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May, at 7.30pm, and, in a change from their usual venue, this concert will be in Melrose Parish Church. Commissioned by the Royal Armouries to mark the transition from one millennium to another, the work reflects on the passing of 'the most war-torn and destructive century in human history' and looks forward in hope to a more peaceful future. It is dedicated to the victims of the Kosovo conflict, whose tragedy was unfolding as it was being composed. In September 2015, the composer will be present (and will sign scores) at the world's largest 'Come and Sing' performance of 'The Armed Man' at Kempton Park, Surrey, in a choir called 'Voices for Hospices', in aid of 5 local hospices. Some of the Roxburgh Singers hope to travel down and take part with the anticipated 4000 strong choir. The concert in Melrose begins with Leonard Bernstein's Chichester psalms, three exciting and haunting settings of psalms, which were commissioned for the 1965 Southern Cathedrals Festival at Chichester. Sung in Hebrew, this presents a challenge for the Roxburgh Singers, but they are well able to meet it.

Tickets £8, at the door. Accompanied children free.

### **CROSS BORDERS ON TD1 RADIO**

A new Borders community radio station is coming on air (FM106) on 30th March, 2015. TD1 Radio was set up as an internet community radio station in 2008, but is now going to be heard live by people within a certain radius around TD1 (Galashiels). In time the licence will be extended across the Borders. Cross Borders is being offered a generous amount of religious broadcasting time: a daily Time for Thought, at 7.45am and 8.45am Monday to Saturday, and an hour long Cross Borders programme on Sundays (8 - 9am). And the good news is that even if you are not within the radius, you can still listen again online to all the programmes, wherever you live. And if you live out of Galashiels, or are driving around, and you do hear us, please let us know where you are, i.e. how far away you are (email us on [crossborders@td1radio.com](mailto:crossborders@td1radio.com)), We will offer a prize for the person hearing us who is furthest away! And if anyone would like to advertise church-related news, please send it in to [crossborders@td1radio.com](mailto:crossborders@td1radio.com) and we will include it in our programmes.

Rev. Marion Dodd



## **PARISH REGISTER**

### **Baptisms**

30<sup>th</sup> November Lottie Claire Elaine Newins,  
28<sup>th</sup> December Eva Grace Dunbar, 8 Harleyburn Drive, Melrose  
Thalia Mai Dunbar, 8 Harleyburn Drive, Melrose

### **Weddings**

7<sup>th</sup> February Melissa Capewell and Colin Grzybowski , 97A The Loan, Loanhead.

### **Funerals**

30<sup>th</sup> December Geoffrey Evans, Braehead House, Bowden  
9<sup>th</sup> January Miss Margaret Crossland, Old Schoolyard, Weirgate Way, St. Boswells  
(formerly Melrose)  
13<sup>th</sup> January Roger Dalgetty, 20 Fairways, Melrose  
16<sup>th</sup> January John (Jack) Walker, Abbey View, Buccleuch Street, Melrose  
20<sup>th</sup> February Miss Vivien Robinson, 12 Riverside Drive, Denholm  
23<sup>rd</sup> February Mrs. Constance Sutherland, Dryden, Tweedmount Road, Melrose  
3<sup>rd</sup> March James Crosbie, 101 Buccleuch Road, Selkirk  
6<sup>th</sup> March Miss Dorothy Hay, St. John's, High Cross Avenue, Melrose  
11<sup>th</sup> March Mrs. Margaret Kuziw, Riverside Nursing Home, Selkirk  
(formerly Newstead)

### **New Members**

Dr. Emma King, 4 Broadlee Bank, Tweedbank  
Mr. and Mrs. John Harrison, 44 Fairways, Melrose  
Miss Karen Ritson, 1 Essenside Place, Tweedbank

### **Elders on duty - MELROSE**

<b>Mar</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Grant Rennie</b>	<b>David Peters</b>
	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Hilary Thomson</b>	<b>Jack Crichton</b>
	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Gilmour Forrest</b>	<b>Allan Cumming</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Ewan Rintoul</b>	<b>William Windram</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Elizabeth Fraser</b>	<b>Hamish Carruthers</b>
	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Esther Crawford</b>	<b>Alastair Matthew</b>
	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>John Butcher</b>	<b>John Maguire</b>
	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>John Pollitt</b>	<b>Anne Cochrane</b>
	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>James McCulloch</b>	<b>John Henderson</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Robin Cochrane</b>	<b>Alex Arbuckle</b>
	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Russell Sanderson</b>	<b>Ogilvie Mathieson</b>
	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Veronica Bailey</b>	<b>Mac Brown</b>
	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Robbie Brown</b>	<b>Jim Thom</b>
	<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>			
<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>				
<b>June</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Robin Sloan</b>	<b>Murray Thom</b>
	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>John Gaddie</b>	<b>Moreen Gordon</b>
	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	<b>Richard Gordon</b>	<b>Elsa Barker</b>

### **Elders on Duty – BOWDEN**

<b>Mar</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30a.m.</b>	<b>Alastair O'Neil</b>	<b>Mac Brown</b>
	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>9.30a.m.</b>	<b>Angus McLay</b>	<b>Robbie Brown</b>
	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30a.m.</b>	<b>Ian Forsyth</b>	<b>John Maguire</b>

April 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30a.m.	Irene Armstrong	John Gaddie
Communion		Russell Sanderson	Ian Purves
12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30a.m.	Murray Thom	Alison Bacon
19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30a.m.	Helen Chisholm	Owen Rowlands
26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30a.m.	Irene Armstrong	David Peters
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30a.m.	Laing Speirs	Alan Cumming
10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30a.m.	Malcolm Morrison	Jack Crichton
17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30a.m.	Alastair Matthew	James McCulloch
24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30a.m.	John Henderson	Anne Cochrane
31 <sup>st</sup>	9.30a.m.	Roger Wardman	Ian Wilson
Communion		Ishbel Gordon	John Gaddie
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30a.m.	William Windram	Esther Crawford
14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30a.m.	John Pollitt	Pat Schmidt
21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30a.m.	Gilmour Forrest	Robin Cochrane

#### Beadle Duty – Bowden

March	Jim Noble	April	Liz Sanderson
May	Bill Wilkie	June	Hans Schmidt

**Elders unable to undertake duty on the date allocated are personally responsible for arranging a substitute and are asked to advise the office.**

### DOOR DUTY ROTA

March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Watson	Helen Rennie
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Kerry Clark	Eleanor Conochie
29 <sup>th</sup>	Lorna Masson	Edith Scott
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Gillian Arbuckle	Liz Mitchell
12 <sup>th</sup>	Sheila Butcher	Eleanor Palmer
19 <sup>th</sup>	Christine Yuill	Gail Creamer
26 <sup>th</sup>	Kathleen Henderson	Ruth MacDonnell
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Meg Robbie	Lyn Bryce
10 <sup>th</sup>	Kath McLaren	John McLaren
17 <sup>th</sup>	Barbara Wright	Alistair Wright
24 <sup>th</sup>	Sarah Craig	Wendy Scott
Communion 31 <sup>st</sup>	Tony Taylor	Tommy Wilson
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Irene Thom	Margaret Lang
14 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Watson	Sheila Millar
21 <sup>st</sup>	Yvonne Eade	Oliver Eade

**If you are unable to undertake your allocated duty please try to arrange for another rota member to cover and then advise the office of this change so that the names in the Orders of Service are accurate.**

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