

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



***March, April, May
2017***

BOWDEN & MELROSE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
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Scottish Charity No SC 006480

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From the Interim Moderator

Thursday 30th March at 7.00pm is the day set for the induction of your new minister. The Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles approved your call to Rev Rosie Frew at its meeting on 11 February. We now wait for the Presbytery of Kirkcaldy to release her from her current charge. There is a sense of impending excitement as it draws nearer. I am in no doubt as the weeks and months go by you will become increasingly grateful for the diligent work of your Nominating Committee. They represented you well and from them I came to understand just how important the life and welfare of this congregation is to you and the wider community. It has been borne out in your attendance at worship throughout the vacancy as well as the splendid turn out to hear Rosie preach. The subsequent large numbers subscribing to the call (454) confirmed for me the impression I have of a congregation determined to forge ahead and not to rest on its laurels. You should be proud of yourselves. The work that is currently being carried out to re-decorate the manse will ensure all is in order to welcome the new arrivals. I have enjoyed my time with you; you have made both my wife, Rosemary, and me most welcome in your midst. Plans are well ahead for the induction social* following the service on Thursday 30 March. It will be a busy evening and I hope that as many as possible will be able to stay for that, enjoy a finger buffet and ensure all our guests are given a warm welcome. We would like to stick to quite a tight timetable and with your help we hope this will be possible.

Not only are you welcoming a new minister at this time, however, but you also have a new Session Clerk in Richard Hill who was elected by his fellow elders in January. I know you will want to support and encourage Richard as he settles into this important role in the life of the congregation.

Ewan Rintoul was Session Clerk for 37 years which is a quite remarkable length of service. The Kirk Session presented him with a certificate signed by the elders in January. They also determined to make a presentation to him. That presentation will be made at the social following the service of induction on 30 March.

In order to defray some of the expenses incurred over the time of an induction members are invited to contribute to a retiring offering. A plate will be available after the services on Sundays 12th and 19th March. Contributions for Ewan Rintoul should be handed in, in a clearly marked envelope on any Sunday in March as well.

After the service in Melrose on Sunday 12th March we will be holding the Annual Stated Meeting of the congregation in the church. Although it now belongs to the Kirk Session alone to approve the annual accounts, and for this purpose they will meet on Thursday 9 March at 7.30pm, this is an opportunity for you to hear about this important aspect of your congregational life. Coffee will still be available after this short meeting.

I intend to express my thanks at the induction social to several people who have worked very hard throughout the vacancy. In case you are prevented from attending let me publicly thank Ewan Rintoul for all his work and support as Session Clerk, Bruce McNicol for all his unstinting work as locum and for being such a good colleague and Helen Chisholm for her indefatigable efforts in the church office. Without all of these and many others the work of the interim moderator would have been so much greater.

I wish you all well and I look forward to hearing great things in the days to come from Bowden and Melrose.

With every good wish,

David Arnott

**Please see last page*

An Invitation to Holy Communion

Bowden Kirk
Sundays, 26th March,
30th April and 28th May
9.30a.m.

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**With effect from Sunday, 2nd April, all services will be conducted by
the Rev. Rosie Frew unless otherwise stated.**

Calendar of Events

Thursday 2 nd March	2.30p.m.	Guild – Sailing for the Disabled Barbara Wright
Friday 3 rd March	2.30p.m.	World Day of Prayer, Melrose Parish Church
Saturday 4 th March	10.00a.m.-12 noon	Annual Church Coffee Morning, Bowden
Sunday 5 th March	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden Rev. Bruce McNicol
	10.00a.m.	Family Service, Melrose Very Rev. David Arnott
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose Rev. Bruce McNicol
Tuesday 7 th & Wednesday 8 th March		Church Office closed
Wednesday 8 th March	2.15p.m.	Guild A.G.M & Holy Communion, Earlston
Sunday 12 th March	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden Very Rev. David Arnott
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose Very Rev. David Arnott
		Followed by the Annual Stated meeting of the congregation
Tuesday 14 th March	10.30a.m.	Priorwood Court Coffee Morning
Wednesday 15 th March	11.00a.m.	Bowden Community Café
Thursday 16 th March	2.30p.m.	Guild - Trimontium & The Romans Donald Gordon
Sunday 19 th March	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden Rev. Bruce McNicol
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose Rev. Bruce McNicol
Tuesday 21 st March	2.00p.m.	Songs of Praise, St John's
Wednesday 22 nd March	11.45a.m.	Mid-week Worship in the Chapel
	12.15p.m.	Mid-week Lunch
Sunday 26 th March	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden Sacrament of Holy Communion Rev. Bruce McNicol
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose Rev. Bruce McNicol
Thursday 30 th March	7.00p.m.	Service of Induction of Rev. Rosemary Frew
Sunday 2 nd April	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Thursday 6 th April	2.30p.m.	Guild – Children as Writers Oliver Eade
Sunday 9 th April	9.30a.m.	Morning Worship, Bowden
Palm Sunday	11.00a.m.	Morning Worship, Melrose
Tuesday 11 th April	10.30a.m.	Priorwood Court Coffee Morning

Worship for Holy Week

Monday 10th, Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th April at 7pm.

A short service of worship will take place in the Chapel, followed by coffee.

Thursday, 13th April, 7.00p.m.

Worship for Maundy Thursday

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Friday 14th April, 7.00p.m.

Worship for Good Friday

Easter Sunday

Sunday 16th April

7.30a.m.

Worship on the saddle of the Eildons

9.30a.m.

Morning Worship, Bowden

11.00a.m.

Morning Worship, Melrose

Tuesday 18th April

2.00p.m.

Songs of Praise, St John's

Wednesday 19th April

11.00a.m.

Bowden Community Café

Thursday 20th April

2.30p.m.

Guild AGM followed by Fashion

Sheila Mary Carruthers

Sunday 23rd April

9.30a.m.

Morning Worship, Bowden

Wednesday 26th April

11.00a.m.

Morning Worship, Melrose

Thursday 27th April

11.45a.m.

Mid-week Worship in the Chapel

12.15p.m.

Mid-week Lunch

2.30p.m.

Guild – Spring Fundraiser

A Musical Afternoon

Sunday 30th April

9.30a.m.

Morning Worship, Bowden

Sacrament of Holy Communion

11.00a.m.

Morning Worship, Melrose

Thursday 4th May

tbc.

Guild Spring Outing, Dryburgh Abbey Hotel

Sunday 7th May

9.30a.m.

Morning Worship, Bowden

11.00a.m.

Morning Worship, Melrose

Tuesday 9th May

10.30a.m.

Priorwood Coffee Morning

Sunday 14th May

9.30a.m.

Morning Worship, Bowden

11.00a.m.

Morning Worship, Melrose

Sunday 14th – Saturday 20th May

Christian Aid Week

Tuesday 16th May

2.00p.m.

Songs of Praise, St John's

Wednesday 17th May

11.00a.m.

Bowden Community Café

Saturday 20th May

10.00a.m.

Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Corn Exchange

Sunday 21st May

9.30a.m.

Morning Worship, Bowden

11.00a.m.

Morning Worship, Melrose

Wednesday 24th May

11.45a.m.

Mid-week Worship in the Chapel

12.15p.m.

Mid-week Lunch

Sunday 28th May

9.30a.m.

Morning Worship, Bowden

Sacrament of Holy Communion

11.00a.m.

Morning Worship, Melrose

Sunday 4th June

9.30a.m.

Morning Worship, Bowden

11.00a.m.

Morning Worship, Melrose

Wednesday 7th June

7.00p.m.

Guild Summer Rally, Broughton

Sunday 11th June

9.30a.m.

Morning Worship, Bowden

11.00a.m.

Morning Worship, Melrose

Dear Friends,

In appreciation of Ewan Rintoul's outstanding service as Session Clerk for 37 years and, prior to that, Clerk to the Congregational Board for 8 years, the Kirk Session has agreed that a presentation will be made to him following the induction service on 30th March. Contributions to a presentation fund are invited. Cheques payable to Bowden & Melrose Parish Church should be placed in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Session Clerk and handed to me or posted or handed in to the Church office. Cash and cheque contributions in suitably marked envelopes can also be placed in the offering bags on any Sunday. The closing date for contributions is Sunday 26th March.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Hill
Session Clerk

Family Services

The next Family Service is on 5th **March** in the Chapel, conducted by the Very Rev. David Arnott. The next one will take place on Easter Sunday on the saddle of the Eildons, conducted by the Rev. Rosie Frew. All are welcome.

Midweek Lunch



Our Christmas Lunch was a very enjoyable event with a reasonable turnout of people. The food was delicious and everything combined to create a great atmosphere. Thanks go to John Bryden for providing a very informative item on the origins of the words for "The Twelve Days of Christmas", along with a humorous take of an attendee experiencing "The Messiah" for the first time, delivered in a suitable dialect!

The January Lunch was very well supported and gave a good start to the year. We are very grateful to those who have volunteered to join our teams already and would be happy to have any others as well.

Future Dates:

Wednesday 22nd March Margaret's Team
Wednesday 26th April Ruth/Barbara's team
Wednesday. 24th May Kath's team

There will be a short ecumenical service at 11.45 before the lunch in the Chapel for anyone who would like to attend.

12. 15 – 1.30p.m. Lunch £3.50

The Team Leaders

Church Coffee Morning

The annual Church Coffee morning in Bowden in aid of our special projects will be held on Saturday 4th March in the Village Hall from 10-12noon. Any donations for the raffle or baking gratefully appreciated.

Vacancy in Fabric Committee

There is still at least one vacancy in the Fabric Committee. If anyone is willing to help, please give your name to Colin Armstrong.

The Manse

As any tradesman will tell you, it is much easier to work in an unfurnished, unoccupied property than one in which someone is living; there is no need to tidy up at the end of each day and work can start again from where they left off. Equally, for someone moving into a new home, it is much better to have any work done before the furniture arrives than to have to cope with new surroundings, work commitments and tradesmen.

And so, the challenge was set at the Manse – complete the necessary tasks, including several rooms which hadn't been touched for several years, within a month. That tight timescale was made even tighter given that the month in question is February which is the shortest of all.



However, Messrs J&J Tait of St Boswells rose to the challenge as the painters and decorators. They have pulled out all the stops, providing dramatic results. The electricians, Messrs Mark Hunter Electrical of Newtown St Boswells arrived at very little notice to install the smoke detectors and make the other necessary upgrades and alterations to existing electrical components without holding up the painters. Douglas Turner, Joiner of Melrose worked quickly through his list of tasks in admirable time

before moving on to a previous commitment. Carpet fitters Dobbie & Michie of Hawick ensured that materials were ordered and held in stock. This allowed them to fit the carpet once the walls were emulsioned and the skirtings were painted in each relevant room. Any windows that needed painting could then be done afterwards, giving a flow of work.

Through these contractors working together so effectively and often over six days per week and outwith normal working hours, an enormous task has become achievable. The Fabric Committee, on behalf of the congregation, would like to express their gratitude to the professionalism and co-operation of the experienced tradesmen whose efforts have resulted in the provision of a very welcoming home for Rosie and Dave Frew. ***Thank you, one and all – we couldn't have done it without you!***



At the time of writing, an outbreak of dry rot has been discovered, which will have an impact on the progress in the affected area.

Lent 2017 and Christian Aid Week 2017

Christian Aid's Lent programme this year is called "Count your blessings" and Christian Aid have published a **Journey for Lent** which we are invited to make from Ash Wednesday on 1st March, until Easter Sunday on 16th April. Details are available online from caid.org.uk/lent and 50 copies will be available in church.

The daily programme invites us to read a short reflexion, to count our blessings, to pray, and to act, around the hymn "When I needed a neighbour were you there?" and the Bible passage, Matthew 25.34-46.

WEEK 1. Ash Wednesday 1st March to First Sunday "When I needed a neighbour" Focussing on "Who is my neighbour?", South Sudan and Nepal

WEEK 2 6 – 12 March “I was hungry and thirsty” Focussing on “I was hungry and thirsty” and focussing on Fairtrade, Palestine and Hurricane Matthew

WEEK 3 13 – 19 March “I was cold and naked” Focussing on Haiti, Bolivia and Sierra Leone

WEEK 4 20 –26 March “When I needed a shelter” Focussing on Nepal and Lebanon

WEEK 5 27 March - 2 April “When I needed a healer” Focussing on hygiene, Nigeria and Syria

WEEK 6 3 – 8 April “Wherever you travel” Focussing on Nigeria, Mines awareness and refugees

WEEK 7 HOLY WEEK 10 - 16 April “Were you there when they crucified my Lord?” focussing on the Bible passages for each day of that week.

From your Christian Aid Committee

Guild News

Since the turn of the year, our Guild members have welcomed a number of non-members to our meetings. It is lovely to have the support of members of the Church and friends.

March takes off on the 2nd with Barbara Wright telling us about “Sailing for the Disabled.”

This is followed the next day, Friday 3rd March, by the World Day of Prayer Service. Melrose and Bowden has invited Holy Trinity and the Catholic Church to join together at 2.30 pm for a service in Melrose Parish Church, followed by tea and cakes. As our church is hosting this event, please do come along to the worship which will be shared worldwide.

On Thursday 16th March, Donald Gordon is coming to speak on “Trimontium and the Romans.”

30th March was to be our fundraiser, but we have postponed this to 27th April – as 30th March will be the evening event to welcome our new Minister, Rev. Rosie Frew, starting at 7 pm. Many people will wish to turn out for this very special evening.

We welcome Oliver Eade to our meeting on 6th April, when he will speak about “Children as Writers.”

Our Annual General Meeting takes place on 20th April. We intend to go quickly through the formalities of the AGM, and look forward to hearing Sheila Mary Carruthers speak about “Fashion.”

Our Fundraiser will now take place on 27th April, when Rev. Marion Dodd will entertain us with a Musical Afternoon, and monies raised will go to our Project “Care for the Family.”

We will complete our Spring term on 4th May with an outing to Dryburgh Abbey Hotel – details still to be confirmed.

We would love to welcome more members to our Guild, and especially extend a warm invitation to church members of Bowden Kirk to come along and join us. We would love to grow our number of members.

Elizabeth Fraser, Guild President.

Bowden Community Café

This continues to meet on the third Wednesday of each month in Bowden Village Hall at 11am. Future dates are (all Wednesday): March 15th; April 19th; May 17th.

Milk Bottle Tops Of Human Kindness

Some of you may have seen the collections of coloured tops from milk cartons and wondered why we are collecting them? These red, blue or green circles of plastic can be recycled but they can also help to raise money for local palliative care services. Once a month a group of volunteers meets on a Monday night to ensure all donated tops are the right sort. Then they are taken to a local firm who use them to make insulation for wires. Last year the firm paid the Rotary Club of Galashiels and District £1,400 and this was split between Marie Curie and Macmillan. If you want to donate your own tops or you think you might have a free evening to help with the sorting please see Ruth in the choir or email her on rdmcollin@yahoo.co.uk

Langshaw SWI

Langshaw SWI has relocated to Gattonside Village Hall. The meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30p.m. Our next meeting is Wednesday 15th March when there will be a demonstration on making bunting. £2.50 charge for non-members.

Phoenix

Following a very successful launch the Phoenix Singers are holding their second concert in Melrose at the Corn Exchange, on Friday 31st March at 7.30p.m.

Again, the programme exploits the Gilbert and Sullivan pedigree of many of the members with extracts from Mikado and HMS Pinafore, but there will also be a medley from Guys and Dolls and a variety of Rogers and Hammerstein numbers ranging from The Sound of Music to the King and I via Oklahoma.

Tickets, £7, including interval refreshments, are available from Holmes of Melrose, High Street, or at the door.

Messiah

Abbey Consort, (conductor James Letham) will be joined by professional soloists and an orchestra, to perform the entire Messiah on Easter Sunday, 16th April at Holy Trinity Church, Melrose (7.00 pm) and also at Teviot Church, Hawick on the following Saturday, 22nd April, again at 7.00pm.

Although many choirs perform this work in December it was actually conceived as an Easter piece, portraying the life, death and resurrection of Christ. This year is particularly significant as it marks the 275th anniversary of the first performance of the work.

Tickets, £10 with accompanied children free, are available from Holmes of Melrose, High St, Melrose, Deans and Simpson (Stationers) Hawick, or at the door.

The Lost 12th Century Corbel of Old Melrose



In 1929 the archaeologist, James Curle, discovered a red sandstone corbel (a bracket or support) of 12th century date on the site of Old Melrose, where there was an Anglo-Saxon monastery of the 7th century that has long been believed to be where St. Cuthbert began his monastic life. In later medieval times a pilgrimage chapel was constructed on the site and dedicated to St. Cuthbert.

The corbel was gifted by James Curle to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and in subsequent years was merged into the collections of the National Museums of Scotland. It was known to have been loaned to Historic Environment Scotland and put on display for about two years in the Commendator's

House at Melrose Abbey before being returned to store - but which store?

With the commencement of the Old Melrose Archaeology Project, interest was revived in finding the corbel and other lost stones from the ancient monastic site. For some years neither the National Museums nor Historic Environment Scotland could locate the corbel in their storage areas.

In August 2016 the corbel was re-discovered in the storage area of Melrose Abbey! It has now been photographed, measured and recorded as part of the Old Melrose Archaeology Project. Although, at first glance, the corbel may not be particularly pleasing in appearance - it is very significant because it indicates that the pilgrimage chapel had some elaborate stonework embellishments. It is hoped that eventually this 12th century sculpture will be put on display again along with other artefacts from the Old Melrose excavations.

Margaret Collin

PARISH REGISTER

Funerals

2016		
20 th September	Mr Ronald Wardhaugh, Kintail, Tower Road, Darnick conducted by Rev. Bob Devenny	
25 th November	Mr John Pattison, St John's, High Cross Avenue, Melrose, formerly Gattonside	
28 th November	Mrs Betty Smart, Edinburgh, formerly Ormiston Terrace, Melrose	
6 th December	Mr John (Jock) Roden, Deansfield, Hawick, formerly Priors Walk, Melrose	
8 th December	Dr Iain Lowles, Lockerbie, formerly Ormiston Terrace, Melrose	
19 th December	Mr Tom Jones, Belville, Aldie Crescent, Darnick	
2017		
6 th January	Mr Tony Taylor, The Coach House, Bowden	
3 rd February	Mrs Dorothy Holt, The Dell, Bakers Road, Gattonside	
13 th February	Mrs Jenny Lindsay, Thirsk, formerly Montgomerie Terrace, Gattonside	
15 th February	Miss Nancy Rigby, Cornmill Court, Galashiels, formerly Newstead	
16 th February	Mrs Jean Anderson, St John's, High Cross Avenue, Melrose, formerly Darnick	
17 th February	Mr Ian Anderson, 22 Fairways, Melrose	
20 th February	Mr James Blain, Barra Keir, Fishes Lane, Darnick	
22 nd February	Mrs Grace Brett, St John's, High Cross Avenue, Melrose, formerly Darnick	
27 th February	Mr Timothy Finch, Ruecastle Farm, Jedburgh	

Elders on Duty - MELROSE

Mar	5 th	11.00a.m.	Mac Brown	Veronica Bailey
	12 th	11.00a.m.	John Gaddie	Robin Sloan
	19 th	11.00a.m.	Russell Sanderson	James McCulloch
	26 th	11.00a.m.	Murray Thom	Robbie Brown
April	2 nd	11.00a.m.	George Bunyan	Pat McKenzie
	9 th	11.00a.m.	Martin Baird	Ian Purves
	13 th	7.00p.m.	Richard Hill	William Windram
	14 th	7.00p.m.	Elizabeth Fraser	Ishbel Gordon
	16 th	11.00a.m.	Richard Gordon	Alastair O'Neil
	23 rd	11.00a.m.	Owen Rowlands	Roger Wardman
	30 th	11.00a.m.	Elsa Barker	Walter Riddell-Carre
May	7 th	11.00a.m.	Jim Letham	Malcolm Morrison
	14 th	11.00a.m.	Richard Hill	Ian Wilson
	21 st	11.00a.m.	Ian Forsyth	Hamish Carruthers
	28 th	11.00a.m.	Elizabeth Fraser	Hilary Thomson

June 4 th	11.00a.m.	Robert Fraser	Gilmour Forrest
11 th	11.00a.m.	Donald Gordon	John Crawford

Elders on Duty – BOWDEN

Mar 5 th	9.30a.m.	Robbie Brown	Alison Bacon
12 th	9.30a.m.	Angus McLay	Pat McKenzie
19 th	9.30a.m.	John Gaddie	Richard Gordon
26 th	9.30a.m.	Irene Armstrong	Owen Rowlands
	Communion	Robin Cochrane	Gilmour Forrest
April 2 nd	9.30a.m.	Helen Chisholm	Alastair O'Neil
9 th	9.30a.m.	Russell Sanderson	John Henderson
16 th	9.30a.m.	John Gaddie	Ian Purves
23 rd	9.30a.m.	Moreen Gordon	Ian Forsyth
30 th	9.30a.m.	Irene Armstrong	Esther Crawford
	Communion	Ishbel Gordon	Malcolm Morrison
May 7 th	9.30a.m.	Murray Thom	James McCulloch
14 th	9.30a.m.	William Windram	Ogilvie Mathieson
21 st	9.30a.m.	Walter Riddell-Carre	Robbie Brown
28 th	9.30a.m.	Irene Armstrong	Roger Wardman
	Communion	Jim Thom	Moreen Gordon
June 4 th	9.30a.m.	Hilary Thomson	John Pollitt
11 th	9.30a.m.	Alastair O'Neil	Robin Cochrane

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

Beadle Duty – Bowden

1st Sunday – Bill Wilkie

3rd Sunday – Irene Armstrong March/April; Liz Sanderson May

4th Sunday tba where necessary

2nd Sunday – Ken Swinton

last Sunday – Colin Armstrong

	DOOR	
	DUTY ROTA	
March 5 th	Margaret Lang	Helen Rennie
12 th	Gill Howard	Ruth MacDonnell
19 th	Lorna Masson	Liz Mitchell
26 th	Irene Thom	Christine Yuill
April 2 nd	Sheila Millar	Tommy Wilson
9 th	Yvonne Eade	Oliver Eade
16 th	Meg Robbie	Lyn Bryce
23 rd	Pam Rowlands	Gillian Arbuckle
May 7 th	John McLaren	Kath McLaren
14 th	Eleanor Palmer	Hilary Ford
21 st	John Miller	Val Miller
28 th	Kerry Clark	Eleanor Johnstone
June 4 th	Gail Creamer	Eleanor Connochie
11 th	Ian Millar	Sarah Mozumdar

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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*The Interim Moderator has already made reference to the induction social which will follow the service on 30th March. We would like to have an indication of numbers attending to help with catering so would ask you either to complete the tear-off slip below and return it to the church office by Sunday 26th March or send your response via e-mail by the same date.

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I/We will attend the Social on Thursday 30th March following the service of induction

Name(s):