



Village Link



Christmas 2023



Blythswood Shoe Box appeal
Thank you to all who contributed to our recent collection. We handed over sixteen completed shoe boxes, all beautifully wrapped in Christmas paper. They are now hopefully on their way to someone who has very little, in either Albania Hungary, Kososvo or Ukraine, to name just a few.
Visit shooboxappeal.org

Wednesday 13th December: Take a Break!
Come along to the Church Cinema, opening 2-4pm in the Gellet Hall, and enjoy 'It's a Wonderful Life'.

**Dunfermline Choral Union
Christmas Concert**
Sat 9th December: 3pm and 7.30pm
Vine Centre



Come along and enjoy the
final Tea Room of 2023
Wed. 6th December

**"You can give
without loving, but
you cannot
love without
giving."**
Victor Hugo



**'And God showed
his love for us by
sending his only
Son into the world,
so that we might
have life
through him.'**
1 John 4.9 (GNB)



Christmas Morning Service
Monday 25 December
10.30am In Limekilns Church
Please Join Us!
WISE MEN *STILL* SEEK HIM



Message from the Minister

Dear friends, as we approach Christmas and on to the celebration of New Year what is foremost in our minds? For quite a number of people Christmas is about being too busy, spending too much, eating and drinking too much, only to repeat the same as we celebrate New Year. These feelings are often expressed as nostalgia for simpler times. We talk of times when we had less, but appreciated more.



As our society has become more materialist, it is no surprise that value has come to mean material cost. In a more secular society the reason for Christmas is the party. The religious side of Christmas has been watered down and added to. Most people picture a Christmas card tableau. The child in the manger is packed away with the lights and decorations for next Christmas.

We can keep the celebration of Christmas as a distraction from the real world. This is a bit like enjoying the brightly wrapped gift, but never looking inside. We can celebrate Christmas as God's gift to humanity by remembering the reason for the celebration. The Bible story tells of real people and a real world. Here is God's answer to our deepest need. Here is light for the darkness, hope for the hopeless. A real reason to have a party.

I pray that God will bless you and yours this Christmas and on into New Year.

Yours, Norman



LINK

Hello Village Link Readers

December can be one of the busiest times of the year with everyone rushing around in the run up to Christmas and the New Year. I'd like to pause for a moment by reflecting over the last 12 months. I've seen our links to the wider community strengthen with a greater number of people, community groups and organisations engaged in the Churches growing portfolio of activities and services.

I would like to list everything but know it would take up too much space and cause our much valued Editor a headache, therefore, I invite you to find out more by popping into the Church Office (details below). I do have some exciting news to share, the launch of our new Church Community Cinema which will be showing "Its a Wonderful Life" in the Gellet Hall on Wednesday 13th December at 2pm, everyone welcome.

I believe the above highlights how the Church has clearly demonstrated its commitment to community engagement by meaningful involvement with our villagers in Limekilns, Charlestown, Pattiesmuir and Crombie and would like to conclude this Community Link for 2023 by wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Jackie McKenna

Community Engagement Officer

Office opening hours (public)

Tue to Fri 10-12.30pm

email office@limekilnschurch.org

Tel 873337



Following on from the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal, we launched the collection for Dunfermline Foodbank. People have been bringing items of food and toiletries to the church where we then take boxes and bangs up to the Foodbank. Everything gets weighed and so far we have collected 152.8 kg of goodies. We normally collect all year round, so if you would like to contribute, it's never too late. Thanks to the Sutlery for being a collection point throughout December.

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols



Sunday 17 December
at 7pm

We are happy to announce that
Limekilns School Choir will be
joining us this year.

Tea, coffee and mince pies will be
served afterwards.

We have had a great
start to our
Christmas school term. This
is always a busy one with
lots to look forward to.



Our pupils have been
thinking about Remembrance and we held a
special assembly in school on the 9th
November, led by our Primary 6/7's, to
remember those who fought during war. We
have built on our community links this term
by working with local volunteers in our
school garden, and have enjoyed visits from
the police, the Royal Navy and the SSPCA.

Our younger children have been busy
learning songs and preparing for their
Nativity, while our upper school classes have
had the exciting opportunity to be part of a
school choir who are working with the Royal
Marine Band to prepare for a Christmas
concert at Dunfermline Abbey.

Our Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday
9th December from 1pm - 3:30pm. We will
have a number of craft stalls, a Christmas
cafe, raffle and, of course, a visit from Santa!
This is open to all of our community, please
come along and join us!

Katy Miller
Principal Teacher
Limekilns Primary School

Christmas Services

Sunday 17th December

10.00am Morning Service (*3^d in Advent*)

7.00pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
(*followed by refreshments in the Church Hall*)

Wednesday 20th

11.00am School Christmas Assembly
(*in Church*)

Sunday 24th

10.00am Morning Service (*4th in Advent*)

6.30pm Christingle Service
(*in Cairneyhill Church*)

11.00pm Mince Pies and Mulled Wine
(*in Limekilns Church Hall*)

11.30pm Watchnight Service (*in Church*)

Monday 25th 10.30am
Christmas
Morning
Service



Church Services take place every Sunday at
10.00am. For those unable to attend church,
Sunday services will continue to take place
online. The service will remain online for the
following week.

An audio version of the service is available on
the website (www.limekilnschurch.org). We
can also provide a CD of the service for those
without internet access. Contact Karen Grant if
you would like to be added to the list of folk
receiving a CD. The YouTube link for our
service will remain online for the following
week.

[https://www.youtube.com/@LimekilnsChurch/
streams](https://www.youtube.com/@LimekilnsChurch/streams)

"Then the Grinch thought of something he
hadn't before!

What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't
come from a store.

What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little
bit more!"

Dr. Seuss, How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Christmas in Crombie

It's all Christmas now!

Warm Spaces every Thursday 1.30 to 3.30 at the Community Centre. Everyone welcome for whist, dominoes, darts etc. plus free lunch. Up to and including 14 Dec (Xmas special - need to book for lunch that day - call Caroline 0753 4326 583).

4th Dec: 4pm - switching on of lights at Community Garden.

6th Dec: 7pm: -CRA General Meeting at Community Garden Cabin.

16th Dec: Santa's Grotto - - Community Garden Polytunnel 12 noon - 2pm.

Have a great Christmas everyone!

Mike on behalf of the CRA.



A Christmas Prayer

by Margaret McDonald



In the rustle of Christmas wrappings,
the crinkle of tissue,
the secret swish of ribbons,

Help us also to see
the steady beam of a silent star
settling in long-ago skies.
In piped carols in the shopping malls,
In children's lusty singing,
Help us also to hear
over distant hills,
the lilt of heavenly voices
on a night when shepherds' hearts stopped to listen.

May we, like them, find our way through
tinsel and glitter,
through noise and stamash
to a stable to stay, in hushed stillness,
and gaze.

Karen and Norman would like to thank everyone who reads this Village Link a very special and blessed Christmas.

It would be lovely to have you with us at any of our Christmas Services and other festive events If you have never been before then we hope that you will feel welcome at any time and not just at Christmas.

Dear Community,
As we approach the festive season, we want to extend heartfelt wishes to each and every-one of you may this Christmas bring joy, warmth, and cherished moments here to a prosperous New Year filled with opportunities and success. Thank you for your support throughout the years.

Nollaig Chridheil
Warm regards,
Team Sutlery



This newsletter is published and financed by Limekilns Parish Church.
It is a Church/Community link for Limekilns, Charlestown, Crombie and Pattiesmuir.

Paper copies are available from the Church Office and the Sutlery.
The deadline for the February/March edition is Friday, 26th January.

Submissions to, and more information from Eileen Kirkpatrick:

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* **Happy Christmas to All!** *
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