

HUMBIE PARISH and COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Produced bi-annually

NOVEMBER 2021



Humbie Parish Church (Church of Scotland) Scottish Charity No SC016765

Minister's letter

Is it just me, or does this year seem to have flown by? Well, here we are again at Advent time. While I really am a summer kind of person – the warmer and sunnier the better, really – I do like the time of Advent very much. Everything is getting cosy, the twinkling lights and candles come out, the fires are lit, there's time to curl up in a warm home (with some delicious treats, if we're lucky), and of course, there's the anticipation and joy in waiting for Christmas. For many of us, this has not been an easy year, many have still faced much isolation, many have struggled with their health. Advent and Christmas won't make that magically better: but they do offer us light, hope and love. At Christmas, we celebrate God's love coming into the world, and the hope that this brings. Remembering that even in the most challenging times, there is love in the world, there is compassion and kindness, can really be a light in the darkness and chill of midwinter.

Advent is a time of waiting, or preparing for this celebration. With lighting one more candle each week we mark the weeks, with opening the doors of our Advent Calendars even the days in the countdown to Christmas. I hope that during this Advent, we all will have opportunities to enjoy this time of waiting, and to use it not only in the frantic getting ready of food and decorations, card-writing and present-wrapping, but also for taking moments to become still, to stop and take stock, to look at the things that are good in our lives, to think about what we hope for this Christmas, to simply be – and to enjoy this lovely time.

There's much happening in our church and community – I hope you enjoy reading about it. As ever, if you would like a chat or any other support, please contact me – I look forward to hearing from you.

Wishing you an Advent full of joy and wonder,

Anikó

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Church services

With our services at Humbie Church now held fortnightly, for the past few months, we've been joining our friends at Yester, Bolton and Saltoun Church for joint services every fortnight – usually in Bolton Church on the second Sunday of the month, and in Saltoun Church on the fourth Sunday of the month, both at 10am. Joining together with both congregations has the added benefits of being able to meet our friends, and the lovely singing of a bigger congregation. While the journey might be a bit longer to Bolton or Saltoun, most of us would get into our cars anyway to get to church, so hopefully that won't prevent you from coming along. If you have any questions or concerns please speak to an elder or to Anikó.

Ongoing covid restrictions

Some of you have asked why we still have to keep covid restrictions, such as wearing facemasks, in church. You can find a short video on our website at humbiechurch.org, in which Prof Jason Leitch addresses faith groups and explains where we're at.

Holy Communion

As you know, over the past 20 months or so, we've been able to only celebrate Holy Communion in online services, because the layout of our building makes it difficult to do so safely in person. We are glad to now have found a way to do so again: on Sunday, 16 January, all are invited to a Communion service in Humbie Church. It will look a bit different from before, and include individually prepacked bread and wine. Environmentally speaking, this isn't ideal, but a compromise to allow us to share Holy Communion together in the same space, and we'll make sure that all packaging is properly recycled.

Coffees and teas

We are very pleased that we can now restart sharing coffees and teas, beginning at our communion service on 16 January. This will now take place before the service, from 11am. Many thanks to all helping with these, and offering coffees and teas as well as delicious home baking.



Christmas Services

You'll find a note of all our Advent and Christmas services further on in the newsletter. We have reluctantly made the difficult decision that we can't offer the usual Nativity service on Christmas Eve this year in light of the current circumstances. A pre-recorded Nativity service, with children from the local community and our Christmas choir, will instead be available on our website at humbiechurch.org/worship from 4pm on Christmas Eve. DVDs will be available on request for those who can't access it online. A Watchnight service, Christmas Day and Boxing Day services will all take place in person.

Advent Calendar

We are offering an Advent Calendar each day in Advent again this year, with contributions from many people in our parish. Discover what's behind each 'door', each day from 1 December, at humbiechurch.org/advent-calendar-2021. DVDs with all contributions are available on request for those who can't access it online.

Messy Church

After the success of our Advent and Easter craft bags over the past year, we have just distributed Autumn craft bags to children across the parish, including kits to make owl magnets and rainbow baskets, learning about taking care of our environment through engaging with windmill and seascape crafts, and of course, there were biscuits to decorate – this time a Harvest field and flower. We hope to be able to meet for a Messy Church event again in spring – please see our website and social media for updates, or ask to be added to our children's email list.



East Lothian Foodbank

Thank you so much for your ongoing support for the East Lothian Foodbank. We have just heard from them that in October, they sadly saw an increase in the need for their help, with more households with children referred, nearly half of referrals due to low income, and an increase in referrals due to benefit changes or delays. They handed out more than 6000kg of food and other products, and we're glad we could contribute a little to these donations. Our next collection for the foodbank will be held on 6 February.

Looking to the future

The restructuring of the Church of Scotland, which we have described in our previous newsletters, is continuing. Our Kirk Session has now had a meeting with representatives of Presbytery, discussing future options for Humbie. Presbytery is looking at the whole area of East and Midlothian in 'clusters' – all congregations around a central town. Our congregation, along with its linked congregation of Yester, Bolton and Saltoun is part of the Haddington Cluster – so our discussions centre on options for this area, which currently includes five congregations, three fulltime ministers, and eight church buildings. The future allocation for the cluster will consist of 1.5 FTE ministry posts, and we are currently discussing the different options for the organisation of the Church in our area, i.e. whether any of these

congregations will form unions or a parish grouping, and how many of the buildings can be retained as Church of Scotland buildings. The reduction is of course reflecting the long and ongoing decrease in membership, income, and ministry numbers, and it is hoped that in concentrating our resources we will be better able to serve our area with our services, pastoral and social care. It is important to note that while the plan will be shaped over the next year, any changes will only come into effect when a vacancy arises. Change can be difficult, and I would urge you to speak to me if you have any questions or particular concerns.

Anikó

Saying Goodbye



We are very sad to note that Liz Hunter, our Session Clerk over the past six years, who has been so much at the heart of our church, and Jim, who has supported so much of our work with his photography, filming and technical as well as crafty expertise, are moving away from the area. We are very grateful for their friendship, hard work and love that they have poured into our community, and will miss them very much. We wish them every happiness and good luck for their future endeavours.

LIST OF ELDERS

Session Clerk

Liz Hunter	2 Leaston Farm Cottages
Elizabeth Bayne-Jardine	Hattonhill
Alex Campbell	Keith Marischal
David Cunningham	East Peaston
Janice Dagg	Saltoun Station, Pencaitland

Treasurer

Margo Hodge	Humbie Mill
George Pate	Stobshiel Mains
Max Ward	Stobshiel House
Sandy Wilson	Shillinghill

Humbie, East & West Saltoun and Bolton Community Council

Following recent Community Council elections, the community councillors are now Iain Galloway (Chair), Frank Kirwan, Margo Hodge, Sandy Wilson and Janet Beck.

Meetings usually take place on the first Tuesday of each month, and minutes can be emailed on request. Please contact any of the councillors if you would like to raise an issue, or email humbiecomcouncil@gmail.com

Recent issues that have been addressed by the Community Council include:

- Humbie School Nursery. This was reopened following protracted lobbying by parents and the Community Council.
- East Lothian planning policy for woodland. Bolton Muir wood was recently sold off in small parcels, leading to planning applications for development in some plots and raising concerns about damage to the character of the woodland and restricted public access. The Community Council is lobbying for explicit planning guidelines relating to protection and development of woodland across the county, including regulations on the installation of huts in such areas.
- Allocation of housing within Humbie. The Community Council has been involved in protracted discussion with East Lothian Council about local concern regarding the allocation of housing within Humbie. This did eventually result in a meeting between community councilors and key representatives from ELC and the police. Issues associated with housing allocation are complex but it was agreed that prompt and accurate communication is crucial whenever concerns are raised by residents and that efforts will be made to improve this in future.

Janet Beck

Humbie Early Years Setting

The Nursery Children have settled into our newly opened setting really well. Within the Nursery, we have been busy learning and exploring the village. The children love outdoors and are very fortunate to have so many kind neighbours within the local community enabling us to use their land. The children have not long finished talking about harvest time. We were lucky to be invited to watch the potato harvester, chat with the farm workers and ask some questions. A special thank you to Mr & Mrs Hodge.

Our Harvest Assembly was an opportunity to sing one of our harvest songs and learn about food waste/our environment and helping others. A special thanks to Aniko Schütz Bradwell for hosting this for our school/nursery and Saltoun Primary School.

Halloween was Spooktacular and our party was a really special event.

Within the school we are fortunate to be able to build close connections with the school children and we, on occasion, have the older children come into the nursery to help. One of our Primary school pupils came into the nursery to read them a story that she had written and illustrated herself out with school hours. Such a kind thing to do for her peers and very much appreciated.

We love that we have access to beautiful surroundings and are able to see where our food comes from. Alongside this, we are fortunate to be able to access seasonal fruits such as apples and plums within the local community. We love to learn, to bake and taste our creations.

Within our Twitter page, we post lots of photos and daily updates if you are interested in seeing what we get up to @HumbiePrimary. Thank you for welcoming us so warmly into your community and school.

Mrs MacPherson & Mrs Mitchell



Wednesday Fortnightly Lunches

Fancy a blether, soup in a bag? Come and join us every two weeks in the village hall for lunch.

From 12.30 until 1.30 alternate Wednesdays. The team of volunteers can pick you up, make sure you get home, and if you are unable to come along, we can deliver. There will always be someone you know.

Our dates are; November 17th, December 1st, December 15th (Christmas theme), 5th January, 19th January, 2nd February, 16th February, 2nd March, 16th March, 30th March.

If you would like to come along contact Margo (01875 833637)

With thanks to the Haddington and Lammermuir Area Partnership for funding this project.

Margo Hodge and Rab Sneddon



Humbie Community Lunch

Sadly, once again this year due to continued rising cases of Covid 19 and current catering restrictions, we have decided to cancel the Christmas Community Lunch.

It is very unfortunate, but hopefully this time next year our day-to-day lives will be back to normal and we can gather together again and enjoy this festive village event.

Good wishes

Anna Young

Lockdown Lending Book/Jigsaw Library

The book and jigsaw library continues every Wednesday from 12 noon to 1.30 p.m. New shelving has been installed in the cloakroom in the Village Hall so that the books are much easier to find. There are also a selection of books available in the former telephone box, outside Humbie Hub, for those who can't manage on a Wednesday. Tea/Coffee also available.

Humbie SWI (The Rural)

On Thursday 1st September, Morag Taylor, President gave members, including two newbies, and visitors a very warm welcome to the first meeting, as we had been prevented from meeting up since 23rd March 2020 due to the world-wide Covid 19 Pandemic and was pleased to see that we had all survived such difficult times.

Margaret Johnston judged the monthly competition "What you missed most during Lockdown" and the results were 1st Mary Bertram, 2nd Kayleigh Myles and 3rd Margo Hodge.

The points were then tallied for all monthly competitions since September 2019 to date. The winner was Janet Meikle, with 19 points and she was presented with the Mrs Bayne-Jardine Rose Bowl. Runner-up was Janice Dagg, with 14 points and she received the Mrs Kerr Trophy Posy Bowl.

Election of Office Bearers and Committee 2021/22 – Ballot papers had been counted and verified by Jade Martin and Jennifer Gordon and the following Office Bearers and Committee were elected for the 2021/22 session: -

President	Morag Taylor
Vice-Presidents	Jade Martin (agreed at Committee Meeting on 16/09/21) & Kayleigh Myles
Secretary	Janice Dagg
Treasurer	Margaret Johnston
Committee Members	Jayne Bisset, Jennifer Gordon, Janet Meikle and Anna Young.

The Speaker at our October meeting was Ann Redpath from Towford Institute, in Roxburghshire. Ann gave us an introduction as to how her book "Lockdown in Lambing" had started – with a few online blogs giving her thoughts on the Worldwide Covid 19 Pandemic and how it affected every-day life on her family's farm, beginning just a few weeks before their 2020 lambing season. Initial panic buying in the shops and supermarkets had led to a shortage of some staple ingredients, as well as, for some unknown reason, toilet rolls!!!. She had added some basic, traditional recipes online and had many others from various sources, in response to her Facebook posts. From there, Ann had been encouraged to make up a diary of the pandemic as well as many tried and tested recipes. The book became a huge success raising thousands of pound for The Difference at the Borders General Hospital and The Royal Highland Educational Trust (RHET). The book is available at £10 per copy in Humbie Hub as well as through Ann, directly. The book also includes writings, poems and recipes from other friends of Ann as well as many SWI Members.

After receiving a hearty vote of thanks, Ann kindly judged our monthly competition for a "Recipe in a Jar". The fact that this is Ann's new venture was purely coincidental. The results were 1st Janet Meikle, 2nd Anna Meikle and 3rd Margo Hodge.

Once again, we were delighted to welcome another new member to our Organisation.

Gleanings of Humbie – Janice Dagg reported that she had contacted Liz Hunter who was updating the publication, as part of our Centenary celebrations, with assistance from Margo Hodge, Muriel Pate and Morag Taylor and was informed that a revised draft was currently being put together and would be presented for approval and printing in the near future. We may have to seek a revised estimate for printing, owing to the delay during lockdown.

October Charity Fund-raiser on Friday 8th October – The Committee had suggested a Prize Bingo event, instead of our usual Whist or Beate Drive and this was met with approval. Members agreed that the two local charities, which would benefit from the event, should be Muirfield Riding Therapy and Humbie First Responders. The fundraising family night

was very well attended and enjoyed by adults and children alike. Catering, bingo prizes, bingo books, dabber pens and raffle prizes had all been very generously donated for which we are all extremely grateful. The sum of £405 was raised and £200 will be donated to each of our agreed charities. (£5.00 retained towards rent of the hall). Our thanks to Jade Martin, Vice-president, for operating the bingo machine and to all members who helped to make the evening a success.

November 4th saw us celebrating the Institute's 102nd birthday. After some confusion as to the venue selected – the Tweeddale Arms Hotel, in Gifford, we were all directed by staff there to their sister venue - the Golf Tavern in Haddington, where our pre-ordered meals awaited us. An explanation as to this confusion is actively being sought and will be reported at the December meeting. Nevertheless, we had a very enjoyable evening. Our lovely birthday cake, baked by President Morag, was cut by Betty Leckie, assisted by our newest member, joining us that evening – Laura Sanders. Lynn at the Golf Tavern judged the monthly competition for a decorated face mask, and the results were 1st Dawn Holmes, 2nd Sandra Cartledge and 3rd Janet Meikle.

On 2nd December Kayleigh Myles, Vice-president will be showing us how to decorate stones, using a Christmas theme. The monthly competition for members is “best stone decorated on the night”

Our January meeting will be on the second Thursday of the month i.e. the 13th, when Margo Hodge and Muriel Pate will present Gluten Free versus Traditional Recipes. Members are asked to enter the usual competition for “your favourite recipe” and bring a single portion sample.

On 3rd February, we will be holding a traditional Burns Supper instead of our usual format of meeting. This tradition was held for many years but has been somewhat forgotten more recently. The competition is for a “tartan article”.

The syllabus for our meetings is displayed in Humbie Hub and Humbie Village Hall and ladies in the area, and outwith, are most welcome to join us as visitors. The cost is £5.00 per evening which includes one strip of raffle tickets as well as our well renowned teas/coffees and home baking, all supplied by members.

Janice Dagg, Secretary

Humbie Hub

As usual, there is lots going on at Humbie Hub. The Shop and Post Office continue to be busy and Murray (our Postie) always jokes! “anyone would think this is a real post office” as he collects more and more mail! We are stocking lots of new local craft items in the shop getting ready for Christmas. We are planning to host an open Christmas shopping day on Tuesday 7 December 11am until 8pm, coffee/tea mince pies and mulled wine will be offered. More information about this will be in the Shop and Café. This will also be an opportunity to view the Christmas Art Exhibition which will be a selection of Art work from 7 local artists. Humbie is a very talented Community.

The Café remains steady. We have a new winter menu and Christmas Menu. We are keeping very busy with outside catering, including freezer meals, shooting lunches, Glenkinchie, Johnnie Walker and Airhouses Luxury Lodges.

Pippa Murphy continues to rent the Studio and Leask Architects continue to rent the Tech Shed. Jan Brooks, Heart Therapies www.heart-therapies.co.uk Tracy Lygo tracy@iomlansunndtherapies.co.uk and Dawn Cowan cowand@ymail.com all continue to offer treatments and massage from the Therapy Room. Contact them direct if you need more information about the treatments.

The Hub Holiday Flat has been very busy this year, our best year to date, mainly due to people not venturing abroad for holidays etc. Please note we offer discounted rates to locals who book direct.

Christmas and New Years Opening times will be coming soon. However, as per usual, we will be open for papers on Boxing Day and 2nd January.

Finally, as always, a big thank you to all our customers for your continued support, without which, it would not be possible to keep the Hub alive.

Best Wishes from

Morag and the Hub Team 07717661451, 01875833262, info@humbiehub.com

Humbie Services Nov 2021 – May 2022

Our Sunday services are held fortnightly at 11.30am in Humbie Church (usually on the first and third Sundays of the month), and fortnightly jointly with our friends at YBS Church at 10am, usually in Bolton Church on the second and in Saltoun Church on the fourth Sunday each month.

We continue to follow Scottish Government Covid guidance, which can change: please check the Church website and notice boards for updates. Restrictions, including the wearing of facemasks and the recording of contact details need to continue for the time being.

Service recordings are available each week on our website, and sound recordings on CD are available on request.

DATE	VENUE	LEADER	READER	FLOWERS	COFFEE	DETAILS
21.11.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Janet B	Hilary M		
28.11.	Saltoun 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				1 Advent service
05.12.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Janice D and Sandy W	Sophy C		2 Advent service with Lessons and Carols, and a baptism
12.12.	Bolton 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				3 Advent service
19.12.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Margo H	Joint effort		4 Advent service, with a baptism
	Saltoun 4pm	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				Advent Service of Remembering (‘Blue Christmas’)
24.12.	Humbiechurch. org/ worship 4pm*	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				Pre-recorded Nativity service
	Humbie 11.30pm	Alex + Sophy C	Margo H			Watchnight service
25.12.	Yester 10.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				Christmas service
26.12.	Saltoun 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				Boxing Day service
02.01.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Leslie Morrison	Alex C	Margo H		Joint New Years service
09.01.	Bolton 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				
16.01.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Liz H	Fiona R	Margo H	Holy Communion
23.01.	Saltoun 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				
30.01.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Sandy W	Sarah W	Team	Joint service
06.02.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Lois B J	Janet B	Lynne L	Foodbank collection
13.02.	Bolton 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				
20.02.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	John H	Lynne L		
27.02.	Saltoun 10am	tbc				
06.03.	Humbie 11.30am	tbc	Alastair S	Muriel P		
13.03.	Bolton 10am	tbc				
20.03.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Janice D	Carolyn P		
27.03.	Saltoun 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				
03.04.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Lynne L	Janice D	Claire W	
10.04.	Bolton 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				Palm Sunday
14.04.	Humbie 7pm	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Margo H	Jessie G		Maundy Thursday
15.04.	Saltoun 7pm	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				Good Friday

17.04.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Patrick E	Team effort	Team	Easter service
24.04.	Saltoun 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				
01.05.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Jonny G	Lois B-J	Sophy C	
08.05.	Bolton 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				
15.05.	Humbie 11.30am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell	Jill K	Sophy C		
22.05.	Saltoun 10am	tbc				
29.05.	Yester 10am	Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell				Joint service

*DVDs are available on request for all who can't access it online.

The editor would like to thank all those who have contributed in any way – through articles, help or advice – to this issue. Thanks also to the Trustees of Humbie Community Fund for covering the printing costs. Large print copies can be made available on request. Comments or suggestions for future issues would be most welcome. Please contact Janice Dagg on 01875 341800 or daggjanice@gmail.com

Humbie Church

ADVENT 2021

28 Nov	10am	Saltoun Church	1 Advent Sunday
5 Dec	11.30am	Humbie Church	2 Advent Sunday with Lessons and Carols and a baptism
12 Dec	10am	Bolton Church	3 Advent Sunday
19 Dec	11.30am	Humbie Church	4 Advent Sunday with a baptism
	4pm	Saltoun Church	Service of Remembering (Blue Christmas)
Christmas Eve	4pm	humbiechurch.org/worship*	Pre-recorded Nativity service
	11.30pm	Humbie Church	Watchnight Service
Christmas Day	10.30am	Yester Church	Christmas Day Service
Boxing Day	10am	Saltoun Church	Boxing Day Service
2 Jan	11.30am	Humbie Church	New Year's Service

Enjoy our Advent Calendar every day at
humbiechurch.org/advent-calendar-2021 *

All services are subject to Scottish Government Covid regulations. Please wear facemasks to all services (except under 5s and medical exemptions).

**DVDs are available on request to those unable to access online events.*