

Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Easter 2016



Church of Scotland

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WHO'S WHO

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Cockpen & Carrington Parish Church (Church of Scotland) - Scottish Registered Charity SC013139
 Lasswade & Rosewell Parish Church (Church of Scotland) - Scottish Registered Charity SC015878

PULPIT SUPPLY ROTA - April – July 2016

DATE	LASSWADE (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)	ROSEWELL (please check times below)
13.03.16 Preaching in Service	Rev Eliz Curran	Rev Eliz Curran	Janet McKenzie 11.30 am
20.03.16 PALM SUNDAY	MINISTER	MINISTER	Eddie Yeoman 11.30am
27.03.16 EASTER SUNDAY	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev Bill Armitage FAMILY SERVICE 11.30am
03.04.16	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER	COMMUNION 10am MINISTER - SS
10.04.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Eddie Yeoman 11.30 am
17.04.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield 11.30 am
24.04.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Service at Lasswade 10am
01.05.16	Service at Rosewell	COMMUNION MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am - SS
08.05.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield 11.30 am
15.05.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Janet McKenzie 11.3 0am
22.05.16 GIFT DAY	MINISTER	MINISTER	Service at Lasswade 10am
29.05.16	Worship Group	MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am
05.06.16	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am - SS
12.06.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Janet McKenzie 11.30am
19.06.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield 11.30 am
26.06.16	COMMUNION MINISTER	MINISTER	COMMUNION at Lasswade 10 am
03.07.16	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am - SS
10.07.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield 11,30 am
17.07.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Eddie Yeoman 11.30 am
24.07.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Service at Lasswade 10am
31.07.16	Worship Group	MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am
07.08.16	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am
14.08.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Janet McKenzie 11.30 am
21.08.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield 11.30 am
28.08.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Service at Lasswade 10am
04.09.16	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER	MINISTER COMMUNION 10am - SS
11.09.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield 11.30 am
18.09.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Janet McKenzie 11.30 am
25.09.16	MINISTER	MINISTER	Service at Lasswade 10am

FRIDAY 4 MARCH 2016 – WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AT ST LEONARD'S CHURCH 7 PM

HOLY WEEK SERVICES – 21-25 MARCH – ALL SERVICES START AT 7.30 PM

MONDAY – Our Lady; TUESDAY – Rosewell; WEDNESDAY– Lasswade;

THURSDAY – St Leonard's; FRIDAY – Cockpen & Carrington

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH

BAPTISMS

We are delighted to welcome the following who along with parents, families and friends, joined us at recent Baptismal services.

15 October *Cara Elizabeth Christina Young*
Daughter of Melanie and Craig

22 October *Alfie Benjamin Murray*
Son of Karen and Callum

Both babies were Baptised by Rev Melville Schofield

‘May the Lord Bless Thee and Keep Thee.’

BEREAVEMENTS

6 November William Pretsell
30 November Tom McKechnie
8 December Alex Mitchell
21 December Duncan McGilvray

Jesus said, ‘I am the Resurrection and the Life’.

We pray for all the families and, any others whether members of this congregation or not, who grieve at this time.

Alexander Ballantyne Mitchell

15 July 1930 – 8 December 2015

We were all extremely saddened to learn of the passing of our Senior Elder, Mr Alex Mitchell, who passed away peacefully at home with his family, on 8th December 2015.

Alex came to us at Cockpen and Carrington in 1979 from Newtongrange Church where he was ordained as an Elder in 1959. Alex very quickly became an active member of Cockpen and Carrington and was especially happy singing in the choir.

Alex was well respected by everyone. He was never afraid to express his opinion and, you could be assured that what you heard was the truth – whether you liked it or not: a spade was a spade, and he was admired for this.

A most moving funeral service was conducted by Rev Mrs Wendy Drake in an extremely packed church. This was testament to the man he was. Graham Burnside read, “All is Well” by Henry Scott Holland, and the choir sang the Anthem, ‘Panis Angelicus’ by César Franck, a favourite of Alex.

Liz Mills, Session Clerk

Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota

2016

March	6 Maria Hall	July	3 Liz Mills
	13 Cathie Fisher		10 Jim Dyer
	20 Stella McLeish		17 Liz MacDonald
	27 Nancy Richardson		24 Elspeth Brown
			31 Ian Fowler
April	3 Liz Mills	August	7 Marnie Crawford
	10 Marnie Crawford		14 Margaret Porter
	17 Liz MacDonald		21 Lynn Hansen
	24 Mary Logan		28 Jim Dyer
May	1 Liz MacDonald	September	4 Liz MacDonald
	8 Moira Scott		11 Maureen Peden
	15 Maureen Peden		18 Dorothy Bennett
	22 Dorothy Scott		25
	29 Wilma Sweeney		
June	5 Irene Ramsay	October	2 Jim Dyer
	12 Helen Renton		9 Jean Sharpe
	19 Frances Wilkie		16 Mrs Robson
	26 Liz Laidlaw		23 Wilma Sweeney
			30 Liz Mills

Thank you for all the donations received and to all who supply and arrange the flowers in the Church. Please contact me on 663 8517 or see me in Church if you have any queries.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyful Easter.

Nancy



FROM THE CLERKS

Dear Friends,

Thursday 10th March, 2016 will be an important and memorable day in the life of the congregations of Cockpen and Carrington and Lasswade and Rosewell, and will be remembered as the day our new Minister – Miss Lorna Souter – was ordained and inducted into her first charge.

Throughout the vacancy and over many years we have been served well by our great friends who have provided Pulpit Supply. While we have been extremely fortunate to be served by so many excellent preachers, who we hope to see back with us from time to time, it is not the same as having the stability of our own minister. Now that we are fortunate enough to have our own Minister, we can look ahead and plan for the future. There is a lot of work to be done by all of us and, with Lorna leading us, we are sure that our churches have a great future.

We must convey our thanks to Rev. Ian Cathcart, Interim Moderator, and Rev. Fred Harrison, Locum Minister, for their work and support throughout the time of vacancy. Thanks must also be expressed to the members of the Nominating Committee who have worked tirelessly over the last 18 months to get us to this position.

If you have been missing from Church for whatever reason, you may wish to join in our Worship on a Sunday morning, as this is a new beginning for us all.

Yours in friendship

Dorothy and Liz

FROM THE COCKPEN AND CARRINGTON CLERK

Today as I sat at the breakfast table it came to me that life is so like the plate of porridge I was enjoying. The plate was near empty of the pleasurable contents, still tasty and invigorating. As we age, we enjoy the smooth bits of the porridge of life and need to chew in the lumpy bits.

Cockpen has experienced one or two lumpy bits recently. Alex Mitchell, our senior Elder, sadly passed away in December after a lengthy illness. Another senior Elder, Ian Fowler, moved house last year, and decided to move to a Church closer to home, and Mary Johnson who had been an Elder for 5 years has moved back to her beloved Ireland with husband Mick, to be closer to family. The porridge is lumpy, salty and the milk sours.

As I write this it is approaching a year since taking on the role of Session Clerk. In this time I have learnt a great deal and met some wonderful people. The porridge has not always been smooth and creamy. It has however been a great experience and learning curve. I am sure that I am still serving my apprenticeship and will not be immune to a few mistakes yet, I remain positive in the knowledge that I will continue to be supported by the members of Session and Board.

The greatest joy at this time must of course be the news of our new Minister Lorna Souter. The porridge is smoother and creamier – just how I like it. A new chapter has opened at Cockpen and Carrington, and Lasswade and Rosewell and we are grateful for this after such a long period of uncertainty. I am certain that we can all move forward with joy and much confidence, in the knowledge that we have a new and energetic Minister in Lorna Souter. I ask that we, together, can enjoy the ample and wholesome porridge of God's Grace each day.

Be sure to sup your porridge and keep our Church strong.

Every blessing

Liz

FROM THE ORGANIST

The coming month will be an exceptionally busy one for the musical side of our church life, since not only do we have an early Easter but before then we have that rarest of events, an Ordination. Not much time for the dust to settle on Christmas therefore before preparations had to be underway for these events – perhaps we should be grateful that the leap year gives us one extra day to practice!

We of course very much look forward to our new Minister formally joining us on Thursday 10 March. The Ordination takes place at 7.00 pm that evening and music will of course play an important part. The choir will be performing Elgar's setting of "Ecce Sacerdos Magnus", and while this may originally have been written for the enthronement of a bishop I am sure our new Minister deserves no less! At the close of the service I will be playing Widor's "Marche Pontificale" which also seems appropriate as it was written with a ceremonial event involving a large gathering of clergy in mind.

It will not be long after that celebratory event before Holy Week comes round once again. As last year, Cockpen & Carrington will be hosting the Good Friday service. Along with other items appropriate to the day the choir will be performing Kodaly's setting of the "Stabat Mater", a famous medieval devotional text (one version of which appears in our own hymn book) reflecting on Mary's role at the foot of the cross. We look forward to welcoming visitors from all of our local churches on the evening of 25 March.

Easter Day (27 March) will of course be in complete contrast to the quiet and rather austere music of Good Friday. This year the choir will be performing an anthem by a living composer, Richard Shephard, "Sing, Choirs of Heaven", which was written for performance in York Minster on Easter Day 1988. There will also be some suitably festive organ music.

As noted in the last issue of this magazine, Cockpen choir is still on the lookout for new members, so please do spread the word!

GMB, February 2016

Introducing Lorna M Souter

Although both my grandfathers were ministers in the Church of Scotland, going into full time ministry myself was not something I had ever thought of doing. Growing up at



Fairmilehead, and then out at Penicuik, my family always worshipped at St George's West Church at the centre of Edinburgh. However, it wasn't until I went to study French at St Andrews University that I became a Christian through friendship with members of the active Christian Union there.

On leaving St Andrews, my initial thoughts were to serve overseas with Wycliffe Bible Translators but then paths led instead to become Assistant Warden for two years at the Badenoch Christian Centre (at that time run by National Mission) in Kincaig near Aviemore. From there, I worked for three years as an outdoor pursuits instructor with the Abernethy Trust team at Nethybridge. It was during these years on Speyside, that I found myself unexpectedly leading worship at local churches and a sense of call to full-time ministry of Word and Sacrament with the Church of Scotland began to grow. Despite not getting through Selection Conference when I first applied, I still completed my Bachelor of Divinity at New College in Edinburgh before taking two years abroad, teaching English first in Poland

and then in China. I felt uncertain about re-applying to the Church of Scotland on my return home in 2005, so I began working in administration with the Chief Executive's

team at the Scottish Court Service in Edinburgh. At last, after doing my Local Review at Juniper Green Parish Church, I was encouraged to attend Selection Conference once again and I was delighted to be accepted in June 2012. Alongside doing two further years of study at New College in 2012-14 to complete an MSc in Science and Religion, I enjoyed practical training placements at St Andrew's Clermiston, at Blackhall St Columba's and with the chaplaincy team at the Western General Hospital. My time on Probation, which finished at the end of November 2015, was spent at Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church.

My favourite pastimes include hill walking, bird watching, golf (much room for improvement!), taking up the fiddle once again and visits to the theatre, the cinema, concerts and ballet.

May I thank you all for the warmth and kindness of your welcome already. I very much look forward to starting in March and embarking with you on the journey and adventure of seeking to be Christ's church today in the midst of our modern community.

Lorna Souter

Cockpen and Carrington

Tea Rota

March	April	May	June
Dot Scott Moirra Scott Mary Logan	Andrew Jack Bill Taylor Nancy	Helen John Liz McDonald	Wilma Betty Isobel

Birthday Congratulations

Warmest congratulations to our Elder David Stocks who celebrated his 90th birthday on 15th February 2016. A wonderful achievement and, although David has not been experiencing good health lately, I am sure that, along with Joyce and Audrey, he enjoyed his special day.

Congratulations

At a recent meeting of the Kirk Session it was agreed to appoint Nancy Richardson as a member of Session.

The service of Ordination took place on 24 January 2016 at a very moving service conducted by the Rev Melville Schofield. It was a great joy to share this wonderful occasion with Nancy, and we are sure that she will become a very active member of Session and feel comfortable in her role of Elder.

At the same service, Long Service Certificates were presented to George Sweeney and Nat Fisher in recognition of 50 years as Ordained Elders in Cockpen and Carrington. A wonderful achievement, and we thank both George and Nat for the valuable time and work they have given to the church.

Cake Stall

We thank you (*and Bonnyrigg Church*) once more for the continued support you give us at our monthly cake stall at the Pitcairn Centre. The following are the dates for your diary.

24th March 2016

28th April 2016

26th May 2016

23rd June 2016

Helen, Isobel, Wilma

BRIC-A-BRAC

The team are back !! from the Christmas break and look forward to welcoming old and new friends on Thursday mornings.

We thank all our patrons (**and more importantly, friends**) who continue to support us week by week.

We are open each Thursday from 10.30 am until 12.30 pm.

The Thursday Team

NEW GUILD RECIPE / COOK BOOK

After the success of the first Guild recipe book of many years ago, it has been decided to prepare a second edition which hopefully will be ready in the near future.

It's amazing how many people who purchased the original book say that its still a favourite with them and, I'm sure this new book will be just as popular.

Watch this space for a best seller!!!

GS

From a book – ‘Breaking the Rules’

Again, a story by Eddie Askew, which I share with you, from his book, *‘Breaking the Rules’*. I have enjoyed these books very much and would commend them to you. G.S.

Luke Ch 18 verses 9 –14

A doctor friend of mine told me about a patient who phoned early one morning. “Please can I come and see you? It’s urgent”. My friend’s appointment list was full, but he told the man to come anyway promising to fit him in as soon as he could. The man came and sat in the waiting room.

After some time, the doctor called for him. “Sorry,” said the receptionist, “he’s gone. He said he couldn’t wait any longer or he’d miss his prayer time. He said he would come back later.”

The patient returned later in the day. He told the doctor, “I had a very painful abscess, but I had to go and pray. And, he added, “After I’d prayed, the abscess burst. I’m already feeling much better.”

Talking to me later, my friend said, “Perhaps his prayer was more effective than my medical treatment would’ve been!” At least the man had a clear idea of his priorities, and put prayer higher up the list than his personal comfort or convenience.

There’s a thought for us all.

And it was only at the end of the conversation that my friend added, “Oh, yes, one thing... my patient was a Muslim.”

From Meditations and prayers by Eddie Askew. (Again, with grateful thanks).

BON VOYAGE

It was a very sad day recently, when Mary and Mick Johnston said goodbye to everyone at Cockpen and Carrington.

Mary and Mick came to our Church in 1995 and from the time of their arrival became very much involved in the work of our Church. Mary, although a full time carer for Mick, who has Huntington's Disease, always found time to be involved in all aspects of church activities and, first to offer of her time.

Mary and Mick were soon appointed to the Board where they were never afraid to express their opinion on matters and help with anything that was asked of them.

In 2011 Mary was ordained as an Elder and regularly attended Session Meetings while juggling care for Mick. In spite of the time she devoted to the church, Mary somehow managed to work tirelessly in raising money for the Huntington's Association.

We hope that their move to Mary's beloved Ireland alongside Mary's family will bring much happiness to them both. A huge gap has been left here at Cockpen and Carrington and we wish them both a happy, peaceful and contented life in their new home, with God's richest blessing.

Guild News

We had a great start to our session with interesting speakers and ended the year with another enjoyable evening as usual at our Carol Party led by Graham Burnside and the church choir, all extremely busy people who year after year give so freely of their time and talents to enrich not only the worship of our own congregation but indeed the community. Many remark on how fortunate we are at Cockpen and Carrington to have such a strong musical input to our worship. The New Year began with our usual Nibbles and Natter evening, which gives us a chance to catch up with each other and plan in greater detail what we have to do in the coming months. One of the items we are planning is another Recipe book as it is several years since our last "publication" and we have had several requests for another one. This is now well in hand and we hope to be able to be selling our new edition by summer. I have been typing up the recipes and they are making it very difficult for

me to get started on the much-needed "diet". If you are interested in buying a copy please let one of the members know so that we can get enough printed this time!

At our next meeting this year the speaker was the Property Manager of the National Trust for Scotland's Georgian House, Dr. Sheonagh Martin, who I personally have known for many years through my work as a costume maker, but I had never heard her give her presentation, and my goodness what an engaging speaker she is. We were well impressed! Our next speaker was to be an old acquaintance, Mr Simon Fairney who has visited us before to tell us about the Fisherrow Community in Musselburgh, and again on the lives of The Herring Girls. This time he was to tell us of well-known sayings and superstitions but we had to cancel the meeting because of the gales. Hopefully we can reschedule the talk for next year.

We still have several interesting speakers to look forward to and another Charity Afternoon Tea party to plan. Last year our chosen charity was the Sick Children's Foundation and we again raised more than we ever anticipated and had such a lovely afternoon doing so. However we are only successful in these ventures through the support of others and really do appreciate it.

We look forward to welcoming our new minister and hope that we can help her to settle into her new and challenging charge in any way we can, and we pray that all the members of both congregations undertake to do the same. We have welcomed a couple of new members to our group this session, but would really appreciate some younger people, male and female, to come and join us, and help to maintain our easy going and forward thinking group. We need to all work together to ensure that we continue in strength and friendship to engage in maintaining this important support to the congregation of Cockpen and Carrington Church linked with Lasswade and Rosewell.

Helen

Lasswade and Rosewell Choir

First of all, could I extend our best wishes to Miss Souter and wish her well in her ministry among us.

I would like, as usual, to extend my thanks to the regular choir for their support Sunday by Sunday. Thank you also to those who augmented the choir on the Sunday Miss Souter preached as Sole Nominee, and the enthusiasm, which you showed then, will stand you in good stead for me contacting you again if I want to do any special music! Thank you to one and all.

The choir were represented in an unusual situation towards the end of November when Raymond and I were patients in the same ward, at the same time, in St. John's Hospital in Livingston. We were opposite one another in a four-bedded section of the ward. However, I am pleased to report we are both moving on, healthwise, and I am also delighted that the other members of the choir who had health problems during 2015 seem to be progressing as well.

Those of us who knew her were saddened to hear of the death of Mrs. Margaret Waugh on 10th January. Many of us will remember rejoicing with Margaret and Alec on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding in March 2014 just a few months before Alec's death. Margaret augmented the choir from time to time in the 1960s and 1970s and I thank her for the support she gave to the choir. Margaret was also a very loyal member of the Woman's Guild for many years and for a lot of that time she was President of the Lasswade Woman's Guild. Margaret was a very loyal supporter of the Local History Society, and served on the Society's Committee for about 15 years and part of that time she acted as Vice Chairman. Our sympathy is extended to her daughters Fiona and Heather and their families.

Around the beginning of the year "St. Clement" was sung a few times at services at which I was playing although not to the words with which this tune is normally associated, namely, "The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended". However, I got to thinking about "The day

Thou gavest” and the worldwide coverage encompassed by this hymn. We all accept that the world is a shrinking place – air travel takes us to the far flung continents in a matter of hours and so “the sun that bids us rest is waking our brethren ‘neath the western sky” takes on a new meaning as flights travel from lands covered in darkness into places where “the dawn leads on another day”. If you are in business and have contacts in other continents and/or have family abroad you have to be aware of the time difference between the UK and wherever your contacts are, but the interesting thing is that while we take our rest and sleep, activity is taking place elsewhere. The same can be true of worship, with it’s many different traditions worldwide, - “....your Church unsleeping while earth moves onward into light, through all the world her watch is keeping and rests not now by day or night”. And here is another thing – while adults may be cynical at times about matters spiritual (and other factors) the young can give a new insight into things – “fresh lips are making Thy wondrous doings heard on high”. In this time of change for our congregations may it be true that “the voice of prayer is never silent nor dies the strain of praise away”.

On a different theme, if you will pardon the pun, a lot of our hymn and psalm tunes are named after places – Chilton Foliat, Saffron Walden, Down Ampney, Stroudwater, Devises and Crimond to name just a few. It would be interesting to visit these places in person – perhaps some of you have been to them – but I may do some research as to why some of these places gave their names to the hymns/psalms which they accompany and report back in a future issue of the Link.

HLRD

Lasswade and Rosewell Church News...

Thank You:

I wish to thank everyone for the lovely cards, flowers, visits and phone calls received during my recent illness which all helped with recovery. To those who may not read this message I would like it made known if I didn't know before what a 'caring' village Rosewell is then I definitely know now.

Agnes Anderson

Lasswade Garden Club:

Yes its Lasswade Garden Club time again. For new readers we meet every Monday during the spring and summer months and try to maintain the flower bed areas at the front of the Church as well as carrying out general tidying up work on the rear garden which has shrunk in recent years after the sale of the hall. We meet around 1830 and members do as much or as little as they can manage.

We also have colleagues who cannot manage on Mondays but take great delight in working on the front gardens.

Our early project will be preservation work on the boundary fence which borders Polton Road and then we can get to work on the lawn borders which have become overgrown through the winter.

If you feel that you might like to help, we are a very social group and would welcome you with open arms. Please contact me on the number given below.

Thank you.

Charlie Adams

0131 663 4596

Diary Dates:

Sunday 3 April 2016 Sacrament of Holy Communion 10.00 a.m. at Rosewell Parish Church.

Sunday 22 May 2016 Gift Day 10.00 a.m. at Lasswade Parish Church.

Sunday 26 June 2016 Sacrament of Holy Communion 10.00 a.m. at Lasswade Parish Church.

If you would like to come to a Church Service but you need transport or a friend to go with, please contact the Session Clerk or your District Elder and we will do our best to help.

Impressive Turnout

On Saturday 12 December we held our Christmas Fair, despite the inclement weather. The turnout from the local community was impressive. A huge thank you to everyone who made this event such a success. To all who helped in any way at all by donating, attending and assisting with the stalls and teas, your support was very much appreciated. The count at the end of the morning raised £702.70 towards Church funds.

Rev. Bill Armitage

At morning worship at Rosewell on Sunday 6 December, the Rev, Bill Armitage was presented with a gift from the congregation as he had informed us a few months before that he would be retiring "again". Bill was thanked most sincerely for the many years that he had been on the rota team and also for the many times that he had kindly agreed to help out at very short notice. Bill has become a good friend to us all and he will be greatly missed. Bill is not getting away altogether; he has agreed to preach at the Easter Day Family Service in Rosewell on Sunday 27 March.

Support Christian Aid Week:

15 – 21 May 2016

There is more than enough food in the world for everyone but one in eight people will go to bed hungry tonight.

Gift Day – Sunday 22 May 2016

You will receive an envelope for your donation at the beginning of May and you can bring it along with you on Gift Day Sunday (Service at 10.00 a.m. in Lasswade Church) or return your sealed envelope to your District Elder.

Lasswade and Rosewell Kirk Session Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 24 May 2016 at 7.00 p.m. in Rosewell Church Hall.

Coffee Mornings

On the second Saturday of each month a Coffee Morning is held in Rosewell Church Hall from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. If you have not been before please do come along and bring your friends. There are always lots of lovely home baking, jams, sweets, books and lots more.

Cake Stall

A big thank you to everyone who supports our Thursday Cake Stall at the Pitcairn Centre.

Forthcoming dates are: 14 April, 12 May, 9 June, 14 July and 11 August.

Sunny Days Around the Corner

It is hoped this year our Garden Party will be held on Saturday 27 August starting at 2.00 p.m. in the grounds of Rosewell Parish Church. Attractions: Kiddies Fancy Dress, Ladies Fancy Hats, Games for Children and Mums, Dads, Grans, Granddads and, of course, surprises along the way.

This function, it is hoped, will bring us all together as a family working for our Town and Village. The adult tickets will be on sale nearer the time, children free of charge. Please support us and have fun.

May Murdoch

Doors Open Day

Doors Open Day gives you free access to hundreds of fascinating buildings across Scotland. Every weekend in September you can explore places that are normally closed to the public.

Doors Open Day in Midlothian is on Saturday 10 September.

Rosewell Parish Church will be open from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon.

Lasswade Parish Church will be open from 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.

Holiday News

One of the up and coming destinations for long haul holidays and cruise ship visits is the Central American Country of Costa Rica which has been described as the Amazon in miniature and there may be Church members who have visited both. May and I were taken on a jungle train ride through this country and it was strange to see range rovers parked outside what appeared to be tin shacks. We walked through the rainforest very carefully as the forest was home to several species of poisonous snakes. We then boarded a small boat and were given ponchos as the rainforest lived up to its name. We were greeted with a cacophony of noise from the howler monkeys as we sailed past the trees where they lived. Our guide informed us that a tourist from Israel went swimming in the lake and was never seen again. We did not see any crocodiles but were assured that like the snakes they were there. A more appealing inhabitant of the forest were sloths and I had the pleasure of handling one on our visit to the sloth sanctuary. When we returned to our cruise ship some Americans – who else – complained about getting wet but after all it was a rain forest we had just visited.

Ian Murdoch



Remember to change your clocks in the early hours of Sunday 27 March! – spring forward one hour.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Let's start our Easter article as usual by looking back over the past few months at what's been going on:

1. CHRISTMAS 2015

Again we had 2 coaches full for our Christmas outing to the pantomime to see Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs and it was fabulous. It was lovely to welcome some new friends along with us.

Our Nativity Play was the Most Disgruntled Snowman performed magnificently by Ryan Scott who was supported by 2 delightful snowflakes - Aimee & Layla as well as some larger snowflakes: Craig Adam/Ian McCabe & George Sweeney... all surprisingly light on their feet.

2. WANTED - MANGER MAKER!

Sadly our manger is really on its last legs! It was made many years ago by the late Willie Brown who was a great friend to the Sunday School, and was certainly made to last, but it is now needing replaced. If anyone has some basic skills which could either enhance the current manger or produce a new one, please contact Rosalind.

3. PANTO 2016!

Yes if it's the Easter magazine, then we must be thinking about Christmas outings! We are booked again for **Sunday 27 November at 5pm** for the panto at the Kings Theatre which is Jack and the Beanstalk! Please book early. Final numbers and payment required by **4 September**.

4. NEW MINISTER

The Sunday School is delighted to welcome our new Minister and we all look forward to working with her.

5. SUNDAY SCHOOL ELDERS

Irene Ramsay, one of our long-term Elders has now stood down - thank you Irene for your time with the Sunday School. We welcome Jim & Moira Scott as our new Elders and look forward to working with them too.

6. EASTER

The Sunday School expects to be in Cockpen & Carrington Church on Palm Sunday 20 March at 11.30am with our new Minister and for the Easter Day Service followed by delicious eats and fun at Rosewell Parish Church on 27 March at 11.30am with Rev. Bill Armitage.

7. PRIZEGIVING & PICNIC

We are still to agree dates with the Minister for our prizegiving. Similarly due to lots of other things going on too, we have not yet finalised arrangements for our Picnic.



Rosewell Flower Rota

2016

By the time this edition of the magazine is printed, I do hope we will see lots of spring bulbs flowering in our gardens bringing us all hope of better weather to come and the enjoyment of the colours that so enrich our lives.

May 1st Cecile Gillespie
 8th Myra McLean
 15th Elizabeth France
 29th Flower Fund

June 5th Betty Hogg
 12th Agnes Anderson
 19th Wendy Farrow

July 3rd Morag McFarlane
 10th Eleanor Marshall
 17th Adrian and Linda Fisher
 31st Flower Fund

August 7th Jean Lindsay
 14th Sandra Ross
 21st Muriel Keith

Thank you to everyone who contributes and helps with our church flowers.

Jean Lindsay



Lasswade Church Flower Rota

April 10th Marlyn Davidson

April 17th Lorna Oliver

April 24th May Murdoch

May 8th Margaret Gordon

May 15th Alison Branch

May 22nd Margaret Michael

May 29th Elaine Thomson

June 12th Stewart Renwick

June 19th Sadie Cowe

June 26th Meg Laing

July 10th Shona Howden

July 17th Morag Rennie

July 24th Mary Hay

July 31st Moira Scott

August 14th Ruby Gardner

August 21st Margaret Dalglish

August 28th Moira Dryden



In many walks of life planning is of paramount importance. In my 'other' life, I had to plan for a whole year! It certainly made me focus on the important things in life.

The garden planning is another dilemma because it has become a wonderful play area for small people again! I am hoping that some flowers will survive ball games and "discovery" areas. We have been amazed at the number of dinosaur bones which have been found!

We are lucky to see our grandchildren experiencing seasons for the first time....even though the seasons seem to have become a little mixed up! Spring is a wonderful time of the year when we witness the start of the seasons and are able to marvel at God's wonderful creation.

I am so fortunate to have many 'flower' people who help to provide the flowers for Lasswade. Anyone who would like to be included on the rota would be most welcome.

Moira

Wedding Dresses through the Decades



Inspired by a similar show in a church in Orkney last summer, we are going to hold an exhibition of Wedding Dresses through the Decades in Roslin Church on:

**Wednesday 1st – Saturday 4th June,
10.30am – 4pm
and
Sunday 5th June,
12.30pm – 4pm**

The dresses will be on loan from members, families and friends of the congregations of Bilston, Glencorse and Roslin.

We now have a century of dresses to display, 1909 ~ 2015 with only two decades missed but... !! A few Christening robes will also be on show. Please come along, all welcome.

Entry is by donation and refreshments will be on sale.

THE HOLY HIKERS

*"It is not talking but walking that will
Bring us to Heaven."*

Matthew Henry



The near drowning experience of my last article did not appear to put anyone off as we had a good turnout for our visit to the Kelpies near Falkirk in November. The weather forecast was not brilliant but we decided not to cancel and almost got away with it. What a majestic sight! What a feat of engineering! If anyone has not seen them yet I would recommend a visit. We walked round the sculptures and then along the canal bank returning by the same route to the cars. If my memory serves me right we almost made it before it began to rain.

Our December walk round Rosewell was almost a washout. It was touch-and-go whether to cancel it but we did hit a dry window about the start time. Unfortunately it did not last, the rain came on harder than ever and it was a very bedraggled bunch of walkers that arrived at Cibo Italian Restaurant at Gowkley Moss for our Christmas meal. The food was superb and we all had a great time. We had no walk in January and again, we had to cancel in February due to snow and rain. The next planned walk is in March when we will walk around Stobo and Harrowhope.

We are keeping our fingers crossed that the weather is better by then.

Our Walking Weekend is in April and this year we are going to Inverary. A report will be in the Harvest Edition of the "Link".

Happy Hiking

Jim Scott

Children's page

An Easter egg to colour



Share your news, views or ideas in the Autumn Issue of “The Link” send them to Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk by Sunday, 14 August 2016