

Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Harvest 2008

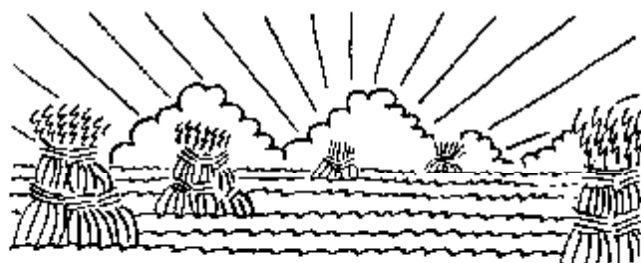


Table of Contents

WHO'S WHO	2
From the Interim Moderator	3
PULPIT SUPPLY ROTA - SEPTEMBER / DECEMBER 2008	4
The Union	5
COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH.....	6
BAPTISM.....	6
RENEWAL OF VOWS	6
WEDDINGS.....	6
BEREAVEMENTS	6
Flower Rota	7
MIRACLES IN COCKPEN!.....	7
CAKE STALL.....	7
TWINNING INFORMATION	8
VACANCY	9
From Braeside House.	10
'I WAS A STRANGER'	10
What type of people do we want in Church?	12
AUTUMN WORDSEARCH.....	13
Bonnyrigg Ranger Guides	14
COCKPEN AND CARRINGTON GUILD.....	16
CHRISTMAS BOX APPEAL.....	16
LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL	18
Friendship.....	19
Lasswade Flower Rota.....	19
Project Stedfast:.....	20
AUTUMN WORDSEARCH – SOLUTION	23
Note from the Editors.	23
Autumn Treasure Hunt	24

WHO'S WHO

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Rev. Sandy Horsburgh

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From the Interim Moderator

Writing in July, it is difficult to know what the situation will be for the congregations come harvest time – hopefully we'll be meeting ministers interested in coming to live and work in Cockpen and Carrington, Lasswade and Rosewell. What I can do is give you an update on progress so far.

A well attended service on the last Thursday in May saw Lasswade and Rosewell move from being linked to being united and relinked with Cockpen and Carrington. Thanks to everybody who helped make the service and the whole occasion so positive and particular thanks to those who provided the splendid tea afterwards.

The Nominating Committee (as vacancy committees are now known) has been working hard, and again there has been a very positive atmosphere to the discussions. A parish profile has been prepared and is being sent by email to potential applicants who request it. If any members wish to see it, ask Jim Donaldson but please note that no changes can now be made!

The charge has been advertised in *Ministers' Forum*, a newsletter which goes to all Church of Scotland ministers, in *Life and Work* and in *Reform*, the magazine of the United Reformed Church. Already there are encouraging expressions of interest.

Members will understand that the Nominating Committee has to maintain the highest standards of confidentiality and therefore cannot discuss any matter to do with applications. Be assured that you elected an excellent committee which is taking its work very seriously and prayerfully.

Please continue to pray for the Nominating Committee in every stage of its work and pray that God will guide the right minister to us.

May God bless you all.

Sandy Horsburgh

PULPIT SUPPLY ROTA - SEPTEMBER / DECEMBER 2008

DATE	LASSWADE 10 AM	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON 11.30 AM	ROSEWELL
7.09.08	JOINT SERVICE AT ROSEWELL	*Rev J W Cook	*Rev J W Cook (10 AM)
14.09.08	*Rev J W Cook	*Rev J W Cook	Rev M Schofield (11.30 AM)
21.09.08	*Rev W Armitage	*Rev W Armitage	Rev C Macpherson (11.30 AM)
28.09.08	*Rev W Armitage (HC)	*Rev W Armitage	JOINT SERVICE AT LASSWADE (10 AM)
05.10.08	JOINT SERVICE AT ROSEWELL	*Rev J W Cook	*Rev J W Cook (10 AM)
12.10.08	*Rev J W Cook	*Rev J W Cook	Rev T Gordon (11.30 AM)
19.10.08	*Rev J W Cook	*Rev J W Cook	Rev M Schofield (11.30 AM)
26.10.08	*Rev J W Cook	*Rev J W Cook	JOINT SERVICE AT LASSWADE (10 AM)
02.11.08	JOINT SERVICE AT ROSEWELL	*Rev M Schofield (HC)	*Rev M Schofield (10 AM)
09.11.08	*Rev W Armitage WAR MEMORIAL (9.30 AM) CHURCH (10 AM)	Rev W Armitage	Rev W Irving (10.45 AM) REMEMBRANCE SERVICE
16.11.08	*Rev M Schofield	*Rev M Schofield	Rev C Macpherson (11.30 AM)
23.11.08	*Rev W Armitage	*Rev W Armitage	JOINT SERVICE AT LASSWADE (10 AM)
30.11.08	JOINT SERVICE COCKPEN (11.30 AM)	*Rev C Macpherson	JOINT SERVICE COCKPEN (11.30 AM)
07.12.08	*JOINT SERVICE AT ROSEWELL	*Rev J W Cook	Rev J W Cook (10 AM)
14.12.08	*Rev J W Cook	*Rev J W Cook	Rev M Schofield (11.30 AM)
21.12.08	*Rev J W Cook	*Rev J W Cook	Rev W Irving (11.30 AM)
24.12.08	TBA (7 PM)	TBA (11.20 PM)	TBA (8.30 PM)
28.12.08	*Rev J W Cook	*Rev J W Cook	JOINT SERVICE AT LASSWADE (10 AM)

The Union

On Thursday 29th June at a service in Rosewell Church, the congregations of Rosewell and Lasswade united to become the one congregation, that of Lasswade and Rosewell. Whilst this is now one congregation both churches are still being used with the congregation worshipping together twice a month, the first Sunday of every month in Rosewell and on the fourth Sunday at Lasswade. Attendances at the Sunday morning services since the Union have been encouraging and over the coming months the Office Bearers will be working to ensure that both parts of the congregation do grow together as one. Having both churches remain open for worship does make it more difficult and will take longer for the congregation to become truly one. It is up to each and every member to embrace the fact that they are now members of the congregation of Lasswade and Rosewell. We sometimes find change difficult to accept but perhaps we should look to see what the alternative would be. One thing in life that is constant is change.

The Office Bearers were in no doubt prior to the Union that change was necessary and they will be meeting to discuss how things have worked out in the last three months and look to see what can be done in the future. As with any change there will be problems to overcome and difficulties which have not been foreseen can arise. It is up to us all to ensure that we all work together for the good of the Church. It is hoped that during the winter months some events will be held which will allow the congregation to come together socially and allow us all to get to know each other better.

The Nominating Committee have been hard at work over the last few months preparing a Parish profile and an advert which is hoped will attract a new Minister. Unfortunately the process is somewhat drawn out and does take time but I am sure that we would much rather time was taken and that at the end of the day we have a Minister who is right for our congregation.

I would urge all our members to look at this as a new beginning and to come along on a Sunday morning to one of the services either in Rosewell or Lasswade. The services are held as follows:

1 st Sunday of every month	Rosewell	10 am		
2 nd & 3 rd Sundays	Lasswade	10 am	Rosewell	11.30
4 th Sunday	Lasswade	10 am		
5 th Sunday (when it occurs)	Lasswade	10 am	Rosewell	10.00

Andrew Renwick
Lasswade & Rosewell

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH.

BAPTISM

We were so happy to welcome the following babies, along with parents, families and supporters at recent Baptismal Services. We hope that all felt happy being amongst us at such a special time.

Callum Peter Alexander Grimley, son of Peter and Nicola (and little brother to Chloe).

Sean Douglas Thomson, son of Arron and Dawn (and little brother to Jessica). (both Rev. John Cook).

Sam Thomas Cairns, son of Gary and Sheryl. (Rev. Tom Gordon).

Layla Joey Adams, daughter of Craig and Sara. (Rev. John Cook)

**May the Lord Bless Thee and
Keep Thee.**

RENEWAL OF VOWS

On the same day that baby **Sam Thomas Cairns** was baptised by Tom Gordon another lovely event took place during the Service, that of the renewal of vows celebrating twenty five years of marriage between **Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mills** of Dalhousie Gardens.

Unfortunately, Wilma and I were down south (at another celebration) but, both Liz and Arthur told me afterwards that Tom (as one would expect) held a most beautiful 'renewal' tribute. We wish both many more years of happiness and look forward to holding further renewal services for them and any others who may wish a similar service.

WEDDINGS

We, as a Congregation are delighted to congratulate the following couples who have been married in Church recently. We wish them all the very best for a wonderful life together.

24 th May	Gillian Morgan to Graham Miller (Rev.W.F.Drake).
31 st May	Claire Whigham to Martin Cunningham. (Rev.W.F.Drake).
14 th June	Jayne Foster to Ross Stewart. (Rev.W.F.Drake).
26 th July	Susan Cummings to Derek Robertson. (Rev.C.Macpherson)
16 th August	Karen Alexander to Archie Gladstone (Rev.W.Armitage).

We are grateful to all the Ministers, Organists and Church Officers who officiated at the aforementioned baptisms and weddings during this time of vacancy. We have a few more to go this year with two booked for 2009 and two for 2010.

BEREAVEMENTS

We continue to pray for any from our Congregation (and outwith) who grieve at this time of loss. As a Congregation, we are here for any who feel that we can help in any way.

**'Jesus said, I am the Resurrection
and the Life'**

Flower Rota

Once again, thanks to the many people who donated flowers to enhance our church. A church without flowers would I'm sure be missed by us all. The list below is the flower rota for the next few weeks.

August	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
	Elsbeth Brown	Lynn Hanson	Margaret Porter	Jim Dyer	Vacant
September	7th	14th	21st	28th	
	Vacant	Vacant	Dorothy Bennett	Nancy Richardson	
October	5th	12th	19th	26th	
	Jim Dyer	Margaret Robson	Jean Sharpe	Wilma Sweeney	
November	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
	Agnes Dalglish	Lindsay Stevenson	Mrs Robertson	Flower Fund	Liz Mills

Please remember that you can contact me on 663 1825 or see me in church if you would like to contribute to the flower fund or to fill one of the vacant slots. If you have a special date when you would like the flowers placed in the church, we can arrange it.

Irene Ramsay

MIRACLES IN COCKPEN!

We are all so delighted that, after such serious illnesses both **Margaret Barr** and **Veronica Langley** have made such wonderful recoveries. They have both been '**well and truly through the mill**' but, with much prayer by many and, superb medical care, things are looking much brighter. (Both are now able to keep Duncan and Jim in line!).

CAKE STALL

Once again, can I take this opportunity to thank everyone who provides the goods for our cake stall at the Pitcairn Centre. Also, thanks to the assistants who help and, to the transport manager!!

Of course, without the customers who buy the goods the work would be in vain. Hope you all enjoyed the 'goodies'!

I will let you have the new dates when they are available, thanks again for your continued support.

Wilma.

TWINNING INFORMATION

I have, for over a year, been in consultation with Hugh Trevor who is our Presbytery Twinning Co-ordinator with regards to requests made by the Church of North India for twinning partners in Scotland. Mr. Trevor explained what would be involved and, I felt that it would be good to continue the dialogue and see what would transpire. I will give you a brief resume and, will explain it fully perhaps in the next issue of 'The Link' as time is running out to get this article to the Editors. **(they know that I am always running late!!)**

To date, we have been twinned with a Church in the Eastern Himalaya Diocese, Church of North India and, the name of the Church is **Baradighi**. I have been given the names of the contacts there and, with my new found toy, e-mails, I have sent introductory messages from our people to them. To date, I have not received any replies but, as Mr. Trevor tells me, computers are not a thing that many have in that area and, internet cafes etc. have to be used.

On Wednesday 6th August we were honoured to receive a visit from **Bishop the Right Rev. Naresh Ambala** who had been attending the Lambeth Conference in Canterbury. He managed to spend a few days in Scotland with his wife when he was able to visit the various Congregations in this Presbytery who are twinned with different

Churches in India. I had asked all our office bearers to try and attend on the 6th realising of course that this is the holiday season. I was delighted to welcome twenty of our folks who came along to meet the Bishop. The evening started with a short D.V.D. all about the area and the people and, the work that was going on there in the building of a Church and then, the Bishop addressed us and told us more of the work and problems in that area. He was indeed, a lovely man and he was delighted at the response from the folks in this Presbytery who want an involvement with his various Churches. Quite a number of questions were asked from our people and, I felt that all had quite an interest in what was happening.

Bishop Ambala asked for our prayers more than anything else but, he did mention how poor an area the Churches were in and used an example of showing us two or three pence that he had picked up from the street whilst in this country. He told us that these coins would feed someone in that part of India whilst to us, a few coins dropped by us would perhaps just be left as it wouldn't be worth bending down to pick them up. By telling us that story he certainly made it clear that he was not on a begging mission but, just letting us know of the plight of many of our brothers and sisters from that part of the world.

On a lighter note, when the Bishop arrived at the Hall, it was partly set up for the bric-a-brac the following day. He asked about this and was told that this was part of our fund

raising. He suddenly spotted a suitcase and went over to have a look at it. I asked him if he needed a case and he said that he had gathered so much on his visit that he would need something to carry the extra items. Enter Margaret Millar who took the Bishop through to the back and, on returning to the main Hall with a huge smile he carried aloft a lovely travel bag which was quite new and had wheels. He was over the moon as were we with the thought of this Cockpen and Carrington bric-a-brac bag going all the way to India the following day and, of course, the stories that would be taken back to his people.

The evening, as is the custom in most Churches, finished with a cuppa (Indian tea?) and refreshments along with the usual blether. It was a great night (as far as I was concerned) and, we felt very honoured, and somewhat humbled by the visit from Bishop Ambala. We wished him and Mrs. Ambala God speed and look forward to more contact in the future.

As mentioned earlier, I will attempt to keep you up to date with developments in this venture.

George Sweeney. Session Clerk.

VACANCY

Just to remind you, **as if you didn't know**, we are still in a vacancy situation. Matters may seem to be going very slowly but, that is the way of the Church of Scotland. My own feeling is, that it is even slower and, more cumbersome than it was in the past but, that is the way of things and, it will, of course, come to a satisfactory conclusion I'm sure.

We have a good mix of thirteen people on the Nominating Committee and, they have to shoulder quite a heavy burden. If all works out well with 'a new Minister' Nominating Committees are hailed but, if things don't go to plan, it is they who sometimes 'take the stick'. I have no doubt whatsoever that we have a great wealth of experience in this Committee and, my previous quotes won't even come into the equation such is the faith we have in them.

We continue to be indebted to our Interim Moderator, Locum Minister and all the other friends of our Churches who we have come to rely on so much.

I remind you that **1st September** is the last day for any candidate to submit an interest in us and, hopefully the Nominating Committee will have plenty to work on over the following weeks. We wish them well in these important deliberations.

I remind you that **I** (and the other Clerk's) are here if you need any assistance at any time. For Congregational Board matters, **Jim Scott** is your contact. (see front page).

From Braeside House.

The Ladies received a letter from Braeside House, 81 Liberton Brae, Edinburgh, which speaks for itself:

Dear Ladies of the Church, A big thank-you from the ladies at Braeside Knitting group for the wool you have given us. We really appreciate the donation as so many in the home enjoy knitting and making pompoms.

Yours sincerely, Lynn Drummond (activities organiser).

I have enclosed 2 photos of pictures we have made with our knitting and pompoms:



Hope you like them – Thanks.

‘I WAS A STRANGER’

A short story based on verse 35 of the Gospel according to St. Matthew at chapter 25 where we hear these words – ***‘I was hungry and you fed me, Thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was a stranger and you received me in your homes’***

I was told this story by a friend (and related it at a Service in April) who, whilst on a recent holiday had gone to quite a well known Scottish Church on the Sunday morning. Nobody spoke to him during the service but, that’s not unusual in Scotland. After the service my friend decided to accept the invitation in the intimation sheet to go for a coffee in the Church hall.

He was on his own that morning, and, once he got his coffee he looked around the hall for someone to talk to, but, everyone was already in little groups. So, he stood on his own near a group sitting at a table and, after a while, a woman in the

group looked round the hall, looked at my friend, and then said to her friends, '**what a lot of strangers there are here this morning**'. And that was it – that was his welcome.

My friend thought that he was a **visitor** but they thought he was a **stranger, and they did not take him in.** He had **been in** the Congregation but, it was quite clear that he was not **of it.**

Perhaps that Scottish Church should not be judged by that one bad experience but, it did seem to say a lot about the unconscious attitudes of that Congregation.

We here, in this lovely old Church pray that no one, member or visitor, young or not so young will ever walk out our door and feel as my friend did on that Sunday morning. **I know that you will never allow that to happen.**

George Sweeney.

THE LEAVES OF AUTUMN

~~By Carrie Reger.~~

*As summer turns to Autumn
The leaves begin to turn.
About God's love and beauty
This is the time to learn.*

*Just look outside your window
At colors bright and bold.
Leaves of red and orange and brown
And some look like pure gold.*

*You say you don't believe in God?
I say, how can you doubt?
When you go to your window
And simply just look out.*

*Outside my kitchen window
A tree grows strong and tall.
It brings such joy and peace of mind
To watch leaves of Autumn fall.*

*It sways in winds but never falters.
And from its pattern never alters.
It must be God no man can say
I made that tree to look that way.*

*The sun rays form a halo
Around that big strong tree.
And there's a voice that seems to say
Look up and think of Me.*

What type of people do we want in Church?

I started thinking about this after our recent holiday to Ibiza. We paid a visit to Ibiza Old Town which is built on a hill overlooking the port of Ibiza. It is a rabbit warren of narrow streets and lanes enclosed by a high stone wall built to keep the invaders out. At the top of the hill is Ibiza Cathedral which dates back to the 13th century.

As we entered the cathedral, we were confronted by a notice pinned to the heavy oak door. As if to emphasise its message and so as to reach as wide an audience as possible, the notice was printed in four different languages. It read —

“If you are not wearing the right clothes, do not come in.”

So started my thinking on what type of people do we want in our churches. How should we decide? What an onerous task. What if we make a mistake and encourage the wrong people in and keep the right people out.

Well fortunately, it is not up to us to legislate as to who should and should not be welcomed into Church because Cockpen & Carrington and Lasswade & Rosewell Parish Churches are not ours. Along with every other Christian Church in Scotland and beyond, they are the House of God. So, it is for God to determine who is welcome.

Who then does God want in Church? Who did Jesus bring the message of God’s love to? We could go through the Gospels and find references to Jesus teaching the blind, the lame, the Roman Centurion, the woman of Samaria, etc. but the answer is probably more easily summed up in the words to be found in Luke ch 15 vv 1 & 2.

¹ Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. ² And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, “This Man receives sinners and eats with them.”

Therefore, the only qualification needed for a person to be welcomed in Church is that they are a sinner.

I suppose that leads on to another question. If sinners are welcome in Church and, given the number of sinners in society, why are churches not full to overflowing? Answers please, to the editors of ‘The Link’.

Going back to our holiday in Ibiza, we were more than a little bemused by the notice on the cathedral door. Although it told us not to enter unless we were wearing the correct clothes, it did not tell us what the correct form of dress was. We can only assume that we were properly dressed because we went into the cathedral and were not asked to leave!

Andrew Jack

AUTUMN WORDSEARCH

Here's a puzzle to while away a half-hour – all the nice things about the autumn! Score the words out as you find them in the square. *(If you get stuck, you will find the solution at the back of the magazine.)*

FIREWORKS

BONFIRE

CHESTNUTS

APPLE

LANTERN

SMOKE

LEAVES

SPARKLER

BRAMBLES

ROSEHIP

HEDGEHOG

SQUIRREL

ACORN

FALL

AUTUMN

COLOURS

RED

YELLOW

BROWN

GREEN

PUMPKIN

HALLOWEEN

CHILLY

SEASON

MELLOW

MISTY

O	O	V	Y	B	N	Z	I	B	S	S	O	F	I	H	N	W	G	H	N
U	N	E	E	R	G	R	J	T	E	N	H	B	L	S	E	A	S	O	N
N	U	A	J	X	F	B	U	V	B	R	A	M	B	L	E	S	U	R	V
I	M	X	E	U	E	N	A	H	G	O	W	S	S	O	S	R	H	H	G
K	Z	F	I	Y	T	E	A	J	Y	C	U	G	R	O	S	E	H	I	P
P	M	K	E	S	L	L	B	E	B	A	F	A	L	L	C	Z	B	T	O
M	M	V	E	P	L	R	N	M	D	H	Y	Y	R	S	H	O	I	U	F
U	M	H	S	O	C	Y	W	A	T	W	H	X	R	E	N	R	S	I	Y
P	C	K	W	Z	F	R	O	Q	P	O	Z	A	D	F	C	U	R	M	E
R	H	E	T	F	Y	R	R	L	Z	C	U	G	I	N	D	E	P	R	L
J	E	B	D	L	C	G	B	W	G	T	E	R	P	D	W	Y	Z	B	L
N	D	C	L	G	N	R	H	C	U	H	E	E	J	O	R	S	F	L	O
R	H	I	N	F	R	E	V	M	O	X	P	D	R	O	U	I	V	Q	W
N	H	M	H	D	E	L	N	G	W	F	J	K	S	H	R	B	O	E	S
C	R	A	J	U	T	K	E	Y	Z	D	S	M	O	K	E	Q	L	R	V
M	I	S	T	Y	N	R	L	L	E	R	R	I	U	Q	S	S	U	R	L
R	E	D	R	O	A	A	P	U	K	H	V	M	E	L	L	O	W	G	Q
T	P	W	G	V	L	P	P	M	W	S	K	Q	M	Q	L	R	F	O	T
U	W	I	S	Z	C	S	A	R	O	L	K	O	V	O	X	W	J	G	I
N	Y	L	N	O	C	N	H	X	B	F	G	B	C	U	L	Z	B	Q	K



Bonnyrigg Ranger Guides

Following their Easter break, the girls



resumed Rangers on the 8th April for the final term before summer. This term also saw a number of our girls sit their Standard and Higher Grades. We aimed to make the session as light hearted as possible as we knew they would be busy studying.

Our first evening back saw a 6 mile walk in a bid to get the girls started in preparation for their Duke of Edinburgh expedition which will take place in August. Most of the unit are undertaking the Award scheme which is fabulous. We followed the railway walkway to Dalkeith and the weather I am afraid could not have been unkinder!!!! It rained for the entire duration. But the girls were keen to go out regardless. As predicted it did end near Bonnyrigg chip shop so the Ranger funds treated the girls to a bag of chips each.

We had been asked by Lasswade Primary school to face paint at their Summer Fare in June so we had an evening practising our face painting skills. The actual day went really well and we raised approx £70 for the school - so well done girls and thank you for your efforts.

May brought some lovely weather so we travelled to Musselburgh for a Lucas ice cream and a game of

rounders on the beach and also a trip up the Pentlands for further walking practise.

We had another evening trying out some of the recipes from our cook book in June. On this occasion we baked scones, empire biscuits and a Victoria sponge. We had a relaxing evening discussing how the exams were going whilst enjoying our baking.

On the last meeting of the term, we had a BBQ at Catsy's house. The girls were excited about the summer holidays and relieved that their exams were finally over.

We intend to regroup for the Christmas term on 26th August.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the girls luck with both their exam results and their Duke of Edinburgh Expedition in August.

We still meet every second Tuesday in the Guide Hall on Dobbies Road, so if any young lady (between 14 and 26 years) is interested in joining us, please feel free to contact me on Tel No 0131 454 9278. It would be great to see you!

Lynsey Stevenson

Oasis

In March, Maric Short came along to the church hall to show us the art of flower arranging. We all brought along our own flowers and vases and Maric was able to show us the best way to arrange these. By the looks of some of our early efforts, we were in dire need of his assistance. He also demonstrated a few novel ideas and offered a few tips for us to remember. It was an excellent evening and many thanks to Maric for giving up his time to come along.

We headed to the Ships Heed for an evening of ten pin bowling and a few drinks in April. In two teams, we played a few games and had a really good time. We also used this evening to start planning for our Blingo and Disco evening which was fast approaching.

On Friday 2 May, we held our "Blingo and Disco" at Bonnyrigg Masonic Hall in a bid to raise funds for both the Maggie's Centre and the Church. This evening was a huge success and was attended by 120 ladies all wearing their best bling and partaking in an evening of bingo and dancing. We raised a grand total of £1,200 which is superb. £300 has been allocated to church funds. Many thanks to everyone who came along on the night, and for all the support from others who were unable to attend but donated

raffle prizes etc. A special mention must be made to Dorothy Peat who donated the buffet – many thanks mum!!!

Due to the success of the evening and as a result of popular demand, watch this space for news of "Blingo II" which is likely to take place next March.

Maggie's Centre has agreed to come and talk to Oasis in October this year to tell us more of the great work they do. They are delighted with our contribution.

Due to holidays we agreed that we would not meet over the summer months but already we are all looking forward to our evening ramble which will take place in August, a trip to see Flashdance at the Edinburgh Playhouse in September, a trip to either Mary King's Close or the Witchery tour in November and of course our Christmas night out at the Festival Theatre to see Sunshine on Leith.

We still meet the first Thursday of every month so if anyone is interested in joining us, please feel free to contact me on Tel No 0131 454 9278. We would love you to see you.

Lynsey Stevenson

COCKPEN AND CARRINGTON GUILD

As we look forward to a new session can I encourage anyone, who would be interested in finding out what the Guild can offer them, to come along and join us to see how much membership of this group has to offer. Only by doing this will you discover how modern our outlook is now and the wide range of speakers we have lined up for the coming year is bound to have something to interest anyone who is keen to widen their knowledge and to make some new friends.

This year is the third of a three year theme - Let's Live; Body, Mind and Soul, so we are focusing on the words - "He restores my soul" There will be a dedication service at the church on Sunday 5th. October and our first meeting is on Monday 6th when we hope to hear Rev Bill Armitage give a talk reflecting our theme.

Future speakers' topics include-- Vision Aid, Edinburgh Zoo, Card Making, the Slave Trade, the Lydia Project and we are also planning a Burn's Supper, Carol party and New Years Nibbles night.

All Guilds are asked to highlight their group during Guild Week which this year is 16th-23rd November and we shall be organising a concert on the Friday and you can obtain tickets from any member. Further notice for this will be given via an intimation at church.

Remember that the Guild is open to all ages, gender and all congregations -- all are welcome.

CHRISTMAS BOX APPEAL

Yet again we are hoping that you will want to fill a shoe box with gifts for the Blythswood Cares annual appeal.

This is a Scottish based charity who, as well as many other projects, organise the collection and distribution of gift boxes to those in areas of need This year they plan to send the boxes to Eastern Europe, India and Pakistan.

Last year we as a congregation filled over 70 boxes and there were 500,000 boxes donated nationally.

If you would like to fill a box here are the instructions for doing so

1. Find a standard size shoe box (those which hold boots etc. are too big for even distribution). Decide to fill it for a child, a teenager, a man or a woman.
2. Wrap your box and lid with paper so that the lid is easily removed for Blythswood to add a Bible storybook for younger children, a diary with Bible verses for teenagers or a Bible calendar for adults.
3. Gather the items and pack them into the box.
4. No foods are permitted with the exception of packaged sweets with a "best before" date no earlier than March 09
5. Make a list or if you use the checklist in this magazine tick the items and list any extra not on the list.
6. Secure the list on the outside of the box lid and then secure the lid with rubber bands.

The cost of transporting the giftboxes is approx. £2 per box and if you are willing to donate this just pop it into an envelope, mark it DONATION and hand it in with your box.

BOXES SHOULD BE HANDED IN BY END OF OCTOBER via Church on Sunday, or at church hall on Thursday morning (Bric-a-brac), Guild or arrange collection by phoning Helen Renton (663 1489) or Pamela Renton (663 7432).

If you require leaflets giving details they are available at Rosewell Church or phone Agnes Anderson (440 0282).

Any further information can be accessed online www.blythswood.org/shobox/index.php?id=2 or one of the above phone numbers

CHECKLIST 2008

Please tick items included and firmly secure this list on your shoebox lid.

Suggested items (all items must be new):

<p>Toiletries (NO TALCUM POWDER)</p> <p>Soap/Shampoo Shower gel..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Face cloth/ Moist wipes/Sponge..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Deodorant..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Moisturising Cream..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comb/Brush..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sanitary Products..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Shaving foam/Razors..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>* Toothbrush and Toothpaste..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <hr/> <p>NEW Clothes</p> <p>Underwear..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Socks/Tights..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>* Hat/Scarf..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>* Gloves..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <hr/> <p>Miscellaneous</p> <p>New Make-up..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sewing Equipment..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Household Candles..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Screwdrivers/Pliers..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Kitchen Utensils..... <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>NEW Stationery</p> <p>Pens/Pencils/ Sharpener..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Note pads/ Colouring books..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Rulers/Rubbers..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Small Toy..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <hr/> <p>Sweets *</p> <p>*Best Before* date March 09 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No loose sweets, lollies, undated bags of sweets or chocolate allowed.</p> <hr/> <p>Other Items (T-Shirts/Pyjamas/ Jumpers/Shirts) etc</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <hr/> <p>(All items of clothing must be new)</p> <p>*Desirable items</p>
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PLEASE CIRCLE WHO THE BOX IS FOR

Girl 3-7 Girl 8-12 Teenage Girl Woman Elderly Woman

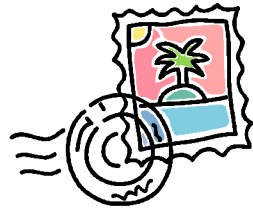
Boy 3-7 Boy 8-12 Teenage Boy Man

Please specify the age of child you have filled this box for



Used Stamps

Mrs Dorothy Bennett received a letter from the Church of Scotland World Mission Council thanking her for her contribution of used stamps from the congregation of Cockpen and Carrington Church.



"I am writing to thank you for the collection of used stamps which the congregation of Cockpen and Carrington Church have sent us. Please thank everybody involved in collecting these stamps and for their continued support and hard work. It is through such efforts that a total of £2,057.50 has been raised to help disabled children in China.

This year's project is going to SUMI (Scottish University Mission Institute) school in Kalimpong. The Principal noticed that some girls in the surrounding district were bright and eager to learn but had, through some reason or another, dropped out of school. So he invited them to join SUMI so that they could be educated and get them back into the mainstream school system again. The money raised from the stamps will go to help pay for the girls' education."

LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL

COFFEE MORNINGS are held on the 2nd Saturday of every month in Rosewell Church hall at 10-12 noon. COME ALONG AND ENJOY A 'CUPPA AND CHAT'

Ooooo

Friendship

Mr & Mrs Rourke, alas no longer with us, spent their holidays year after year in Blackpool and as a result made many friends who, like themselves, loved Blackpool. A special couple, Mr & Mrs Dyness from Ireland, became great friends and for many years joined them not only in Blackpool but in the same hotel.

Mr Dyness, if he did not visit Scotland, certainly had a great desire to do so because he wrote this poem and sent it to Anne and Dave. This came into my possession through the good offices of their daughter and my daughter-in-law Ann.

Dave Stewart

Scotland

We would love to roam your heather
And wear your kilt and spurn;
Love to know and say the poems
Of your famous Rabbie Burns.
To "bide awa" at "Hogmanay"
In a "Scottish Hieland hame";
And drink a dram or maybe twa
Do ye ken just what we mean.

We would love to watch your pipers
When they march down through the
glen;
As they softly play "Amazing Grace"
How we love that old refrain.
We canna stop a teardrop
When we hear your "Ain folk" sing;
And their Scottish hearts are happy
When they dance the "Highland
Fling".

Its not good bye dear Scotland
Just fare-ye-well the noo;
Fur "we're no awa to bide awa"
We'll come again to you.
We'll see again your tartans
and dance your Scottish jig;
God speed the day when we return
To our friends in Bonnyrigg.

Harry Dyness, Ireland

Lasswade Flower Rota

Aug	10 th	Mrs.M. Dalgleish
	17 th	Mrs. P. Reid
	24 th	Mrs. R. Gardner
	31 st	Mrs. M. Dryden
Sept	14 th	Mrs. G. Renwick
	21 st	Mrs. H. Preston
	28 th	Mr. W. Culton
Oct	12 th	Mrs. M. Murdoch
	19 th	Mrs. M. Campbell
	26 th	Mrs. D. Spence
Nov	9 th	Remembrance Sunday
	16 th	Mrs. J. Campbell
	23 rd	Mr. M.Thompson
	30 th	Mrs. G. Renwick
Dec	14 th	Mrs. S. Howden
	21 st	Mrs. C. Connar
	28 th	Mr. D. Paton

Thank you to all the people who have offered to arrange flowers in the church. I have had to change the rota to take account of the service rota. If there is anyone who wishes to change her Sunday please contact me and I will be happy to help.

Moira Dryden



The Boys' Brigade

The Object of The Boys' Brigade is the advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self Respect and all that tends towards a true Christian Manliness.



Project Stedfast:

A steady stream of good news from Kenya has been the order of the day since our return in February. Work has continued at pace on the Project and as numbers in the first three classrooms climb so does the hope and excitement for the future.

It is increasingly difficult to express just how much of an impact this Project is making on the lives of a great many people in Kenya and in particular the hope it has brought to the Boys and Girls of Ololua Boys' and Girls' Brigades. A Project that began with these children cleaning shoes on the streets to raise funds, followed by a simple prayer made upon the realisation of just how impossible their task



achieve many goals in our lives, meet many targets, pass many tests but how many times will we be an answer to the prayer of such worthy children?

This Project began for us in November 2006 as a mountain to climb. We set out with great trepidation at the prospect of raising £33629.00 in order to build three classrooms, hoping desperately that, with our hard work, by October 2008 we

would achieve this target. This to be our way of marking 125 years of The Boys' Brigade in Scotland and the movements dedication to young people. Then the rollercoaster started!

Our first visit in November 2006 saw us well and truly hooked! The plight of Disabled Children was apparent and the need for the Project to be all inclusive apparent. The possibility of surpassing the wildest hopes and dreams of the Children of Ololua and indeed ourselves



appeared. Here in Scotland we may

would have to be realised.

Many have benefited on the way such as the Children of Suswa Orphanage, not directly from the Project, but from the gifts and equipment sent to them by the People of Scotland and delivered during our progress visits to the Project. It would take a book to tell of all the things we have achieved in this short time. So I will stick to the School.

January 2007
foundations laid for
the first three classes.

April 2007 and the
walls are up,
foundations laid for
the sanitation block
and toilets / washing
facility. June and the
works go on hold for
the rains to pass.

October 2007 and the
roofs go on the
classrooms, internal
fitting out begins.

Foundations laid for
the Centre for
Children with
Disability. The School

is named as 'St Andrews'. January 2008
The School opens the doors to the first
three classrooms, the walls of the
Disabled Unit are almost up and the
waiting list is already full. May 2008
foundations laid for the final three
classrooms, disabled unit receives its
roof and windows, plastering and fitting
out can begin. New water supply is
being installed and electrical distribution
starts. The fund target has moved
significantly since November 2006, the
initial £33629.00 was realised in March
2007 since then it has continued to rise
to meet the challenge. Funds raised to
date tipping £60000.00. All of it spent
directly on the Project.

The journey that began in November
2006 still has hurdles to pass, the
fundraising continues. The 'final mile' is
in sight but just as difficult as the first.
Still to be funded are the staff room, new
kitchen facility and our last hurdle in
assisting the cost of getting a group of
young people from here in Scotland to
Kenya in February 2009 to participate in



the official opening and also to work with
the children of Oloolua.
Distance should be no hurdle to the
Christian fellowship this Project has
nurtured and developed in so many
Young People. The Project targets from
day one were to make a significant
impact on the lives of both the young
people of Oloolua as well as the young
people of Bonnyrigg, Livingston and
Loanhead Boys' Brigade.

'It Can Be Done' and with your help 'It
Will Be Done'

www.projectstedfast.co.uk

Donations can be made directly to the 5th Livingston, 51st Bonnyrigg or 1st Loanhead
Company of The Boys' Brigade.

Alternatively you can donate by post to:- The Treasurer, 5th Livingston Company the Boys'
Brigade, C/O 125 Bankton Park West, Murieston, Livingston, EH54 9BS.

(if posting please make your donation by cheque only. Cheques should be payable to
Project Stedfast)

THE HOLY HIKERS



"Of all exercises walking is the best"

Thomas Jefferson

Once again it's time to put pen to paper and tell you what we have been up to.

In February the second part of the Gorebridge Circular walk was completed successfully. Then we had some bad luck because our April walk in East Lothian had to be cancelled due to bad weather. In May we had to change the walk because of transport difficulties. Fortunately I had pre-empted this and looked out a local walk we could do as an alternative. This was the time when our strategy of phoning to let the walk leader know who was attending paid off. Judging by the number of non-drivers who phoned to confirm, I realised we would not have enough cars so we did a circuit starting from the park in Bonnyrigg via Polton village, up to Bilston viaduct, along the railway line to Loanhead and on to Wadingburn, pausing at the Laird and Dog for a quick refreshment before tackling the "Wee Brae" and back to the park. Our June evening walk had to be cancelled due to inclement weather but we did manage to do a circuit of Arthur's Seat on a lovely July evening.

Our two longer walks went well this year. Five of us had a beautiful day in the Borders walking an eight and a half mile circular walk from Yare via The Three Brethern. In July on a cloudy and almost dry day we walked from Melrose via Abbotsford and returned on part of the Border Abbeyes Way.

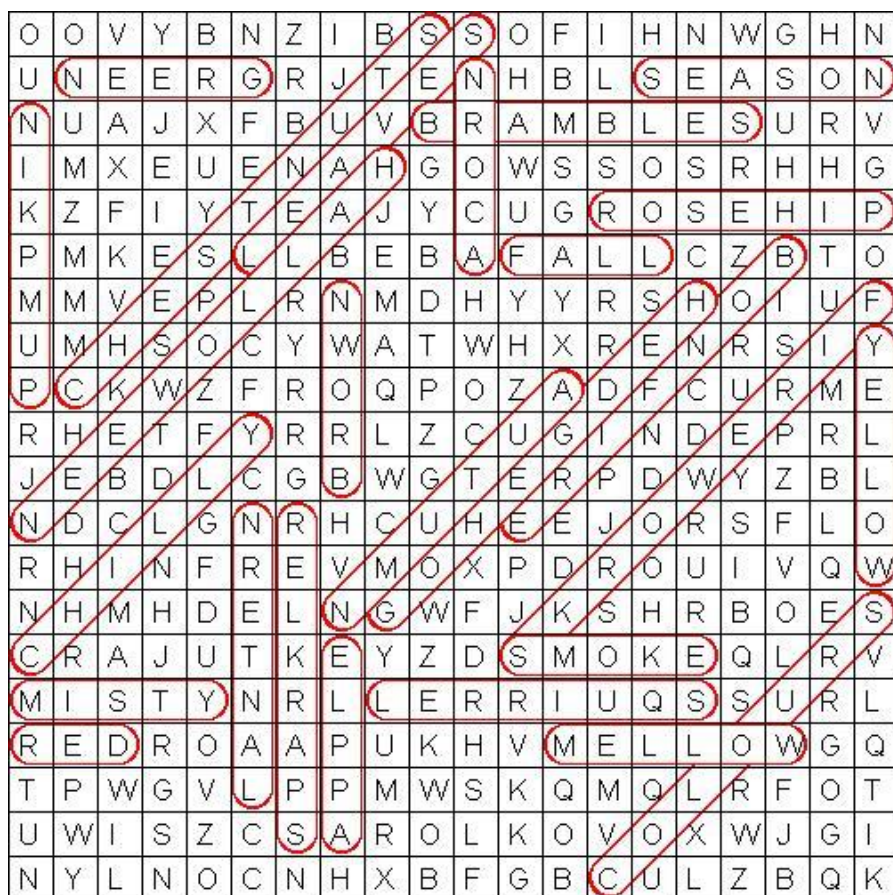
The August evening walk is to the Bush Estate then in September we go to Earlston for another circular walk around the village and the River Leader.

If anyone is interested in joining our little group please contact me on 0131 660 1147.

Happy Hiking

Jim Scott August 2008

AUTUMN WORDSEARCH – SOLUTION



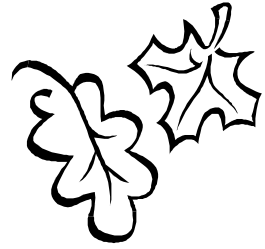
Note from the Editors.

We hope you like the new format. Many thanks to those that have contributed, and apologies if anything didn't make it that you thought should have.

If you have friends who would like to read the magazine remember it will also be available on the Church websites under the Magazine section of www.church.cockpen.co.uk or www.lasswadchurch.co.uk in colour.

Please send items for the Christmas Issue of "The Link" on or before Sunday, 2nd November 2008 to magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk

FOR THE CHILDREN



Autumn Treasure Hunt

A treasure hunt is great fun to do on a nice sunny autumn day and in autumn there are lots of things to find and collect. It's good fun to do this with a group of friends but it is always best if some grown-ups can go along too. (If you are old enough to be allowed to go off on your own, make sure you tell your parents where you are going and when you will be back.) Perhaps you could combine it with a picnic and make it a really special day out.

For each person you will need a plastic bag and, of course, a list of items to find. You can make up your own list but if you are lucky enough to live near a wood, you might like to use the list below. You will have to set a time limit so that everyone comes back to the start at the same time – then the person with the most items in their bag or the first one back with all the items is the winner. Have a small prize for the winner – just to make it more interesting!

1. An acorn
2. A bird's feather
3. A bramble
4. A piece of moss
5. A twig in the shape of a letter of the alphabet
6. Something smooth
7. Something rough
8. A piece of tree bark
9. 3 different kinds of leaves
10. A fir cone

