

Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Harvest 2011



Church of Scotland

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PULPIT SUPPLY ROTA - SEPTEMBER 2011/JANUARY 2012

DATE	LASSWADE (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)	ROSEWELL (please check times below)
04.09.11	Service at Rosewell	Rev Melville Schofield	MINISTER 10 am (Communion)
11.09.11	MINISTER	MINISTER (Family Service)	Rev M Schofield 11.30 am
18.09.11	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield 11.30 am
25.09.11	MINISTER	MINISTER	Service at Lasswade 10 am
02.10.11	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am
09.10.11	MINISTER	MINISTER (Harvest Thanksgiving)	Rev Colin MacPherson 11.30 am
16.10.11	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield 11.30 am
23.10.11	MINISTER	MINISTER	Service at Lasswade 10 am
30.10.11	Rev M Schofield	MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am
06.11.11	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER (Communion)	Rev William Armitage 10 am
13.11.11 Remembrance Sunday	MINISTER (9.30 am at War Memorial; 10 am in Church)	MINISTER	Martin McKean 10.50 am
20.11.11	Rev W Armitage	Rev William Armitage	John Beaumont 11.30 am
27.11.11 1 st Sunday in Advent	Joint Service at Cockpen 11.30 am	MINISTER (Joint Service)	Joint Service at Cockpen 11.30 am
04.12.11 2 nd in Advent	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am
11.12.11 3 rd Sunday in Advent	MINISTER (with Sunday School Nativity Play)	MINISTER	Martin McKean 11.30 am Carol Party 7 pm
18.12.11 4 th Sunday in Advent	MINISTER	MINISTER (Nativity Play) 11.30 am. Nine Lessons & Carols 7pm.	Rev Melville Schofield 11.30 am
25.12.11 Christmas Day	MINISTER (Joint Service)	Joint Service at Lasswade 10 am ***	Joint Service at Lasswade 10 am
01.01.12	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER	MINISTER 10 am

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES (Saturday 24th December 2011):

ROSEWELL 4.00 pm*; LASSWADE (CHRISTINGLE) 7.00 pm; COCKPEN 11.20 pm**

*** = subject to confirmation. More details nearer the date.

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Dear Friends,

As I write, parts of London and several other cities in England are being engulfed by rioting and looting. I am appalled by this and condemn this criminality; I worked in London for a while and know some of the areas affected. Tragically, the idea of “something for nothing” has become far too appealing to many people. At one level, there has been criminal looting. On another, the payments to a few footballers, top bankers and others are obscene and a very bad example to the young. Quite simply, greed is sinful and socially corrosive. For the rest of us, easy credit promises a quick fix but leaves crippling debts that ultimately need repayment – this applies to both individuals and entire nations (notably Greece and Ireland).

What is to be done? Whatever happened to values of honesty, sobriety and thrift? In short, we need to return to the idea of an honest day’s pay for an honest day’s work. Illusions, such as the dream of winning the National Lottery or a television game show, provide no solid basis to plan one’s future. The decline in UK manufacturing industry has had dire consequences; when we think that we are getting a bargain, is this at the cost of low wages and exploitation in places such as Bangladesh or China – and the resulting closure of factories in this land? Increasing unemployment is seriously worrying. A frighteningly large number of young people are euphemistically described as “NEETs” – not in education, employment or training. What sort of society can tolerate or cope with many thousands without the motivation or skills to hold down any job? On the other hand, many thousands of young people are incredibly motivated, generous and kind; this year’s record level of “Highers” passes should be celebrated.

In John 10:10, Jesus says “The thief comes only to kill and destroy, but I have come that you may have life – life in all its fullness.” The way of Christ is of love, mercy, justice and peace. Society needs to re-embrace and live out these values; Christians can and must do this. Then we will be “salt and light” to the world (Matthew 5:13-16).

On 23rd June, my wife Kristina was inducted as the new minister at Chalmers Memorial Church in Port Seton. I thank the many people who have expressed their good wishes and came to Kristina’s service of induction. Her induction did result in the very difficult decision on which Manse to live in; we ultimately decided to move to Port Seton. I am able to be within almost anywhere in the parishes in 15 minutes by car and I continue to be very happy to visit anyone at home or in hospital upon request. I have also opened an office at Rosewell Church as a local base; my new contact details are at the top of this letter.

My prayerful good wishes to you,

Rev Matthew Ross, Minister

Lasswade and Rosewell Choir

I hope everyone has enjoyed the summer, with different varieties of weather. It is, however, the rain which gives us the different shades of green, colours which are appreciated very much by visitors from countries which do not see much in the way of rain. We really live in a lovely country.

Once again I must express my thanks to the choir members who have attended very regularly throughout the summer months and who have enhanced the worship through their leading of the praise. I am extremely grateful for your continued support.

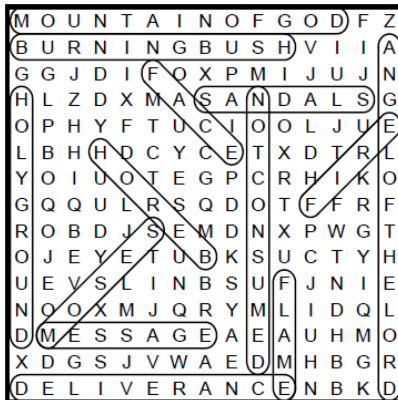
During September and October we shall no doubt be thinking about music for Advent and Christmas. Over the years I have extended an invitation to anyone who would like to help augment the choir for the festive season to come along to practices. You will be made very welcome. If anyone is interested please have a word with me.

A few weeks ago in Lasswade we sung the hymn "Summer suns are glowing". People sometimes ridicule this hymn if it is on the praise diet on a wet morning but, quite frankly, one should look beyond the first line and concentrate on the message conveyed by the hymn, namely on the light that floweth freely and that God's free mercy streameth over all the world. Verse three is a prayer, "Lord, upon our blindness thy pure radiance pour..." while verse four is a great declaration of faith, "We will never doubt you though thou veil thy light..."

The author, William Walsham How (1823-97) was the son of a Shrewsbury solicitor and was educated at Shrewsbury School and Wadham College, Oxford. He was ordained in 1846 and spent the next thirty years in parish life in Whittington in Shropshire and Oswestry before moving to the East End of London where he became involved in the revival of church work and was respected by all, including the children. He became Bishop of Wakefield in 1888. As well as "Summer suns are glowing" he wrote a number of other hymns including "For all the saints who from their labours rest", "We give thee but thine own" and "It is a thing most wonderful".

HLRD

Word Search Solution



Pilgrimage to WW1 Western Front Sites & Circuit of Remembrance

On Friday 29th October last year, I, along with Gillian, my two brothers Stewart and Jim, Jim's wife Helen and our Uncle Andrew and Auntie Jean Sharpe, set out on a family pilgrimage to France to visit the graves of four relations, none of whom were related but eventually became connected through our various marriages many years after they were killed. Despite meticulous planning and timing by Stewart we were half an hour late in leaving Bonnyrigg but were almost back on schedule when we arrived for morning coffee at Otterburn. Our journey then continued south to Wetherby Services for lunch and then on to the Ferry Terminal at Hull where we boarded the ferry for the overnight crossing to Zeebrugge.

On disembarking the ferry on Saturday morning we commenced our journey south through Belgium to Dunkirk where we visited the Memorial to the Battle of Dunkirk and also the beaches from where more than 340,000 allied soldiers were evacuated between 28th May and 4th June 1940. One of those soldiers who spent several days on the beach before being evacuated was my Dad, so for Stewart, Jim and myself it was a particularly poignant visit. We then continued our journey to the town of Hesdin which was to be our base for the week.

After having travelled for two days, Sunday was spent relaxing in the town of Hesdin. Hesdin is in the Pas De Calais Region of Northern France, south east of Montreuil Sur Mer and 56kms from Arras. The impressive town hall with its belfry and ornate façade overlooks the main square. Typical of many towns in the north its buildings are mainly Flemish style architecture. It also boasts the 16th century Church of Notre Dame. Field Marshall Douglas Haig who was Commander -in-Chief had his private residence close by, on the road to Montreuil.

Monday 1st November and today we start our visit to cemeteries, memorials and other WW1 Sites. Established in 1917 by Royal Charter, the Commonwealth War Grave Commission has constructed 2,500 war cemeteries and plots. Over 1 million casualties are now commemorated at military and civil sites in some 150 countries. The Commission's principles are: each of the dead should be commemorated by name on the headstone or memorial; headstones and memorials should be permanent; headstones should be uniform; and there should be no distinction made on account of military or civil rank, race or creed. Our first visit was to Sucrierie Military Cemetery which is on the route from Colincamps to the front-line, close to where there was a small sugar-beet factory which gave the cemetery its name. The tree lined track alongside the cemetery has hardly changed its appearance from the time battalions tramped up and back to the front-line. The men who marched up at the end of June 1916 actually passed mass graves dug ready for their own dead. Private Samuel Conyers, who was in the East Yorkshire Regiment and was Gillian's great uncle is buried here. He was born in Hull and killed in action on June 4th 1916 aged 26 during a German barrage on the front line trenches. We then continued to the Thiepval Memorial

where Auntie Jean Sharpe's uncle is remembered. Lance Corporal George W MacDonald of The Kings (Liverpool Regiment) who was born at Lochearnhead, was killed at Guillemont on 9th August 1916 aged 24. In 1932 the Imperial War Graves Commission completed the great Somme Memorial. This imposing monument commemorates more than 72,000 British and South African men who fell on the Somme between July 1915 and March 1918 and who have no known grave. The first visit of the afternoon was to McCraes Memorial in Contalmaison. Dedicated on 7th November 2004 this 10ft high cairn commemorates the remarkable Battalion of Lt Col Sir George McCrae, the 16th Royal Scots and details the sacrifice made by players of Heart of Midlothian Football Club. We continued a busy day by visiting Fricourt valley, Mametz wood and Bazentin Le Petit wood all places where our Grandfather, our Uncle Andrew's Dad, had served during the war.

Tuesday 2nd was less hectic than Monday. Our first visit was to the town of Arras which was almost totally destroyed in World War 1 but which now bears few obvious battle scars. In the afternoon we continued to Bethune. In 1918, 90% of the main square was destroyed, with the town hall being rebuilt in 1920. The town and its citizens were awarded 'Croix de Guerre' and 'Legion d'Honneur' medals for their part in the Great War. Our final visit was to Lillers Cemetery to visit the grave of William Brown the great uncle of Wilma Sweeney, the wife of course of the Cockpen and Carrington session clerk.

Wednesday 3rd the day we visited the grave of our uncle Archie. Archibald Renwick was born on 3rd March 1896 in 55 Duke Street Rosewell before the family moved to 18 Arniston Place Bonnyrigg. He was killed in action on 11th August 1918 whilst attacking a German machine gun post near Parvillers. Our Dad was only two years old at the time and grew up never having known his brother. While at his grave in the New British Cemetery at Bouchoir we held our own short act of Remembrance. We then moved on to Villers Hill Cemetery where Helen's great uncle is buried. Private John Goodall of the Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) was killed on 21st September 1918 aged 34 years. He was married and came from Leith. We then visited Peronne, a town which was occupied by the Germans in August 1914 and became a crowded centre of military activity and logistical support, particularly during the Battle of the Somme. It is here that we visited The Historial De La Grande Guerre, Museum of the Great War. It is an international and cultural museum of the First World War. It explains the conflict, its origins and its consequences by comparing the main countries of the Western Front: Great Britain, France and Germany. It has a unique collection which shows the soldier's experience and also the civilian's one. The museum shows the agony of the old world and the birth of the 20th century.

Thursday 4th and today we head into Belgium firstly to Ypres. The Ypres Salient is the area around the town which was the scene of some of the biggest battles in World War 1. In military terms, a salient is a battlefield feature that projects into enemy territory. Therefore the salient is surrounded by the enemy on three sides, making the troops occupying the salient vulnerable. This charming town was reduced to a heap of rubble, being almost entirely destroyed by four years of

senseless violence. The citizens of Ypres rebuilt their town with respect for the past. After lunch we headed out of the town to Sanctuary Wood (Hill 62). After the First World War a farmer returned to claim his land in and around what was left of the wood he had left in 1914. The trenches in it were cleared of debris and casualties but generally a section of the British trench system was left as it had been found. This site is now one of the few places on the Ypres Salient battlefields where an original trench layout can be seen in some semblance of what it might have looked like. We continued to Tyne Cot Cemetery which is the largest Commonwealth cemetery in the world. It is also the most important reminder of the bloody battle of Passchendaele. During the British offensive of 1914 tens of thousands of soldiers died here in a period of one hundred days for a gain of barely eight kilometres. The rear wall of the cemetery is a Memorial to the Missing. It bears the names of 35,000 British and New Zealand servicemen who fell in the vicinity after 16th August 1917. Every year over 180,000 visitors from all over the world visit Tyne Cot Cemetery. Our final visit of the day was back in Ypres at the Menin Gate for the last post ceremony. Ever since 1928, the Last Post has been sounded under the Menin Gate every evening at 8 pm. The Last Post, traditionally the last salute to the fallen warrior, is played in memory of the then British Empire and Allied Forces who fell in the Ypres Salient during the First World War. In the four great battles around Ypres more than 250,000 soldiers lost their lives. More than 100,000 of these soldiers have no known grave, of whom 54,896 are commemorated by name on the Menin Gate.

Friday 5th our final full day in France. Our first visit was to Ulster Memorial Tower which stands on what was the German front line during the Battle of the Somme, July to November 1916. It is opposite Thiepval Wood from where the 36th (Ulster) Division made their historic charge on 1st July 1916, and is in close proximity to the village of Thiepval. The Tower itself is a replica of a well known Ulster landmark, Helen's Tower which stands on the Dufferin and Ava Estate at Clondeboye, County Down. The men of the newly formed Ulster Division drilled here and was one of their last abiding memories of home before their departure to the Western Front. Our final visit of what had been a memorable trip was to Beaumont Hamel Newfoundland Memorial Park. This site is the largest of the five 'caribou' sites in France and Belgium and is where on 1st July 1916 the 1st Battalion of the Newfoundland Regiment suffered 684 casualties (70% of its full strength), most of these casualties being from the 780 or so men who heroically advanced to the attack that morning. It is the biggest battalion memorial on the Western Front and the largest area of the Somme battlefield which has been preserved. The site encompasses the ground over which the Newfoundland battalion (as well as several British battalions) attacked on that fateful day, as well as part of the German front line system. The centrepiece is the Caribou, the symbol of the Regiment, and the memorial to all those Newfoundlanders who served in the Great War and to those missing who have no known grave. Also on the site are cemeteries and the 51st (Highland) Division Memorial This commemorates the actions of the Division throughout the war, but was sited here because of its success in capturing Y Ravine and Beaumont in the last great offensive of the Somme battle, the Battle of Ancre which commenced on 13th

November 1916. Beaumont was taken early on the first day, although the garrison of the Ravine resisted fiercely until about midday.

Saturday 6th and we leave Hesdin for the journey home. On the way we visited Fromelles Cemetery where almost a century after the start of the First World War, a group of British and Australian soldiers killed on the Western Front have been reburied. It is the first cemetery to be constructed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission since the end of the Second World War and was officially opened to the public on 20th July 2010. We then continued to Bruges for lunch and of course to the chocolate shops before heading to the ferry terminal at Zeebrugge

Sunday 7th Today we head home after what has been a memorable and at times emotional week but one that will stay in the memory for a long time.

Andrew Renwick

Lasswade Church Flower Rota

September	11 th	Gillian Renwick	November	13 th	Joan Campbell
	18 th	Marion Haggerty		20 th	Walter Culton
	25 th	Margaret Thomson		27 th	Cathie Connor
October	9 th	May Murdoch	December	11 th	Shona Howden
	16 th	Mary Campbell		18 th	Pat Lawrie
	23 rd	Dorothy Spence		25 th	Gillian Renwick
	30 th	Elizabeth Hay			



At this time of year there are plenty of flowers to be seen all around us. We live in a beautiful world which is made more colourful by the tremendous variety of flowers to be seen everywhere. Even the 'weeds' seem to flourish and provide some colour!

I am very grateful to all the people who provide the church flowers on a regular basis. If there is anyone who is not on the list and would like to be added I would be very happy to hear from you.

Moira Dryden

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH.

BAPTISMS

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

- 3rd April Gracie Lou Adam, infant daughter of Craig and Sara.
3rd April Lily Charlotte McKay, infant daughter of David and Louise
15th May Mark Ian Dickson, infant son of Mark and Kellyanne.
19th June Isla Marie Lamond, infant daughter of Andrew and Heather.
31st July Cameron Devlin Thomas Young, infant son of David and Rae.

Gracie, Lily, Isla and Cameron baptized by the Minister and Mark by the Rev. Melville Schofield.

'May the Lord Bless Thee and Keep Thee.'

WEDDINGS

We are delighted to congratulate the following couples who were married recently in Church and wish them all a happy life together.

- 23rd April Scott Faughnan to Cheryl Anne Maben.
2nd July Christopher Darroch to Karen Milligan.
29th July John Henderson to Deborah Curtis

BEREAVEMENT

As a Church family, we were sad to hear of the passing of three of our members, Mr. John Fraser (March), Mrs. Margaret Millar (April) and, Mrs. Blanche McGilvray (May). We think of all the families at this sad time and, continue to think of, and pray for them and any who mourn the passing of a loved one. We have probably all experienced the sadness of loss but, be assured that we all, along with our other Churches, are here for any who feel that we can help or support them now or in the future.

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

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

1. SUMMER'S NEARLY OVER!

Hope you've all had a good Summer and enjoyed some good weather. Most of us have had a long break from Sunday School although Rosewell was still meeting on the first Sunday in June/July & August - thank you for coming along.

2. ROSEWELL SUNDAY SCHOOL

As mentioned last time, we've started some outreach at Rosewell and we're delighted to welcome Ailsa, Alex, Breagha, Genevieve & Nathan along. Callum, Louise & Cerys have been helping Margaret Anderson & Jackie Pritchard too. The Sunday School is in church from the beginning of the service and then moves into the hall after a children's address. We even managed to be outside in the garden on one of our Sundays. We meet the **first** Sunday of the month so please come along and join us. Children are also welcome at Cockpen & Carrington Hall and the calendar of events is included in this newsletter. Children from both Sunday Schools will be welcome at Rosewell on 1st Sundays in November, February and May when it's Communion at Cockpen.

3. EASTER SERVICE AT ROSEWELL

We had the most wonderful service at Rosewell on Easter Day led by the Rev Kristina Herbold Ross. The church was packed with lots of local people joining us. It was a beautiful, inter-active service. This was followed by the most amazing lunch with ample, delicious food for everyone. Easter Day was so warm that we had our lunch in the garden followed by an Easter egg hunt and Easter fun. Look at the photos we took. The good weather on that day and in April tantalised us with the hope of better times ahead.....little did we know it would be followed by the wettest May & June on record!







4. PICNIC

Yet another successful outing to Blair Drummond Safari Park. There's so much to do and not enough time to see everything. There were lots of exhausted people on the coach on the return journey and even some of the children fell asleep!

5. PRIZEGIVING

Our session came to an end with our prizegiving when we had all our children from all the churches in Cockpen. This year, we invited Veronica Langley to present the prizes. Veronica has supported the Sunday School for many years and encouraged her children to attend and her grandchildren. She has supported all our ventures with great enthusiasm. A few years ago, Veronica was desperately ill and the whole family were quite devastated. We were all quite overwhelmed when Metis, Hope, Rachael, Rebecca, Nathan & Caitlin encouraged us as a Sunday School to pray and send get well messages to their Gran - their love for her was simply heart-warming. No doubt this and Veronica's amazing spirit helped to get her on the road to recovery and allowed her to join us at our prizegiving. We had many tears of joy.

All of our children received a book and new certificate of attendance which Matthew produced. The whole service was family-orientated and joyful.

Four of our children decided to leave and we are really sorry to say good bye to Hope Denton, Rachael, Rebecca and Nathan Lamb - yes four of Veronica's grandchildren.

To Hope, Rachael, Rebecca & Nathan - it has been a pleasure having you in Sunday School, always happy to join in and full of fun. We will miss you, but you are always welcome in our churches or just to visit Sunday School.

6. SPECIAL THOUGHTS

We missed Margaret and Callum Anderson at our prizegiving. Margaret had been diagnosed with breast cancer a few weeks earlier and had just had surgery. Over the summer, Margaret completed a course of radiotherapy and is returning to full health. During this really anxious period, Callum was sitting his standard grade exams too. Margaret is such an amazing person and despite having to face lots of challenges, she still comes through smiling and ready to help everyone else. We are all proud of you Margaret and pray for healthy, happy times ahead. Well done to Callum too for doing well in his exams despite all of this.

Margaret is looking to do some fundraising later in the year and we know you will support her and the Sunday School in this.

7. FORTY GLORIOUS YEARS!



They both look extremely well on it.....many congratulations to Jim & Dot Scott who celebrated their Ruby Wedding over the Summer.

8. GENEROUS DONATION

Sincere thanks again to the ladies from OASIS for donating £300 to the Sunday School - this is a great boost to our funds which are always rather depleted at this time of year. And thanks to **all** the Friends of the Sunday School - you know who you are, for your regular and very generous donations.

9. WE'RE BACK!

And we're back on Sunday 28 August at Cockpen - hopefully with a different format just to confuse us! Children under 4 are invited to stay with a parent or guardian - you'll be made most welcome.

10. HARVEST 2011

We have a programme of Family Services agreed and dates are included in this magazine - the first one is **11 September** . All members of the family are welcome to these services from babies to Great Grannies!

Our Harvest Service is on **Sunday 9 October** at 11.30am. Please bring along tinned* goods which can be eaten hot or cold which we take to Jericho House in Edinburgh for Homeless people. Fresh produce is distributed amongst our own parishioners. Elders usually take goods for their own people, but if you think someone should receive a gift from the harvest table, please let Rosalind know.

(* - tinned good e.g. soup/beans/macaroni/fruit/custard/rice pudding or tea, sugar etc)

11. CHRISTMAS OUTING!

We're booked for the pantomime at the Kings Theatre on **Saturday 10 December** - oh no you're not.....oh yes we are! It's *Cinderella* and will be lots of fun. All Sunday School children are free - prices for tickets will be out soon. Ticket price includes transport to and from the theatre and ice cream at the interval. If you want to bring your family along, speak to Rosalind.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR SESSION: 2011/12

<i>Sunday 28 August 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School returns 10am in Cockpen & Carrington Hall, Dundas Street, Bonnyrigg</i>
<i>Sunday 4 September 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School at Rosewell & at Cockpen & Carrington Hall 10am Communion at Rosewell</i>
<i>Sunday 11 September 2011</i>	<i>Family Service in Cockpen & Carrington Church at 11.30am.</i>
<i>Sunday 18 September 2011</i>	<i>HOLIDAY - no Sunday School</i>
<i>Sunday 25 September 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School in C&C Hall 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 2 October 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School at Rosewell & at Cockpen & Carrington Hall 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 9 October 2011</i>	<i>Harvest Thanksgiving & Family Service in Cockpen & Carrington Church at 11.30am. Please bring tinned goods to be eaten hot or cold e.g. beans/macaroni/rice pudding/soup for Jericho House for the Homeless</i>
<i>Sunday 16 October 2011</i>	<i>HOLIDAY - no Sunday School</i>
<i>Sunday 23 October 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School in C&C Hall 10am.</i>
<i>Sunday 30 October 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School in C&C Hall 10am.</i>
<i>Sunday 6 November 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School in Rosewell 10am Communion - no Sunday School at C&C</i>
<i>Sunday 13* November 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School in C&C Hall 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 20* November 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School in C&C Hall 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 27* November 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School in C&C Hall 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 4* December 2011</i>	<i>Sunday School in C&C or Rosewell Hall 10am</i>
<i>(* - denotes extended Sunday School for Nativity rehearsals 10am to 12noon)</i>	
<i>Saturday 10 December 2011</i>	<i>Christmas outing to Cinderella at the Kings Theatre - matinee performance</i>

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON GUILD

Our Guild ended with our Closing Social in April. This year we were entertained by 'The Castaways' - a female singing group who provided a very varied selection which was enjoyed by everyone.

Our Guild Drive this year took us to St Mary's Loch and Moffat and although the weather could have been kinder it in no way dampened our spirits and everyone agreed that it had been another enjoyable outing.

The Committee have yet again presented some interesting topics for our 2011-2012 Syllabus and with the efficiency of our Secretary Nancy Richardson yet again a very interesting and entertaining programme has been arranged.

This coming year our theme is 'Called to Walk Humbly with God' and at our first meeting on Monday 3rd October we will once again welcome our Minister Reverend Matthew Ross to talk to us on our theme.

Also on Sunday 2nd October we will have our Guild Dedication during the Church Service conducted by the Minister.

On Monday 17th October our speaker will be Gill Mitchell MBE from Simpsons Special Care Babies who will talk on her work and fundraising.

Other speakers for the first half of our session include Mr & Mrs Denny - their subject is 'Philippines and Music'; Rae McGhee who will give a talk on Newbattle Abbey(to be confirmed); Heather Lyall - her subject will be 'Tall Ships' and that takes us up to our Carol Evening on Monday 12th December led once again by Graham Burnside and the Choir - always a first class evening of song and entertainment.

We have a first class programme arranged for the year and although we have a healthy membership we are always delighted when new members come along and enjoy the friendship and perhaps gain some useful information from our speakers.

You will be made most welcome.

Liz Mills
Convener

Church Dance

The Church Dance will be held in the Masonic Hall, Bonnyrigg, on Friday 21st October, 2011 at 7.30pm.

Tickets will be £6 including buffet.

Tickets available from Jean, Wilma, Helen or Dorothy.

Cake Stall

We continue to hold successful cake stall days at the Pitcairn Centre (with thanks to Bonnyrigg Church for the use of their premises). Many thanks to all who support us and, who I'm sure will continue that great support during this year.

Our next date at the Pitcairn Centre is, as follows -

22nd September. (with further dates to follow)

As is the custom, items for the stall can be handed into the Pitcairn Centre between 9 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. on the day.

Jean, Helen, Wilma (also, Isobel and Vi.)

Bric a Brac

Do you have any items of unwanted bric a brac or jewellery that we could sell at our weekly Thursday sale?

Just as important - could you spare a couple of hours on a Thursday by coming along to help at one of the stalls. (*Not any pay but, the laughs are good*). Have a word with Helen, Wilma or Jean if you'd like to help.

The sale is in the Church Hall between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm. Any items would be gratefully received any Thursday mornings prior to 10.30.

Why not come along for a browse - maybe you'll pick up a bargain or two!

Thank you for your support.

Wilma.

Information - from the Clerk

Whilst putting magazine items together, including Wilma's input for the weekly sale, I couldn't help but feel quite sad as I thought of one of the Thursday stalwarts - Margaret Millar who passed away on 23rd April.

Margaret, as many knew, had an interest in so many things, the bric a brac being just one. Her stint, like some others, didn't just last for the two hours on the Thursday mornings, she would be up on a Wednesday setting up 'her stall' in her usual professional manner. Likewise, her input to the four/five weekly cake stall at the Pitcairn Centre, on behalf of her beloved Church was legendary for the fine jams, marmalades and chutney she made again, taking up so much of her time. I think I've said before that we would transport these precious items of jam, marmalades etc. to Wiltshire when we visited relatives there - always, much appreciated.

Margaret was, for many years a member of our Congregational Board, a long time Guild member, a visitor with some of our ladies to Springfieldbank Nursing Home and, a loyal and faithful member of our lovely Church. She was also greatly involved in the Guide movement and continued that interest until the end with the Trefoil Guild.

Margaret was most likely involved in much more than I have mentioned but, it was with Church work that I came in contact with her more often. Margaret was not an orator at any meeting but, when she made a point - you knew about it! Very often in the lengthy debates about finance or property Margaret, in her quiet way often came out with the desired answer leaving many of us wondering why we had not thought of such a simple solution.

Margaret is now with her beloved Dick and her daughters Elizabeth and Fiona, although missing them both terribly have, like us, so many happy stories to tell about lovely people. Margaret, I don't think anyone would dispute, was a lady in the truest sense of the word and, for me and many others, it was a joy to have been part of such a life.

George Sweeney

Ruby Wedding Anniversary

Dot and Jim Scott would like to thank everyone for their cards, gifts and good wishes on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary.

We had a month of celebrations, starting with a family weekend away at the New Lanark Hotel. We then had a two week holiday in the Canadian Rockies when we visited Victoria, Vancouver then travelled on the Rocky Mountaineer to Jasper and on by coach to Banff. After we returned home the family sent us off on a surprise outing by Classic Car to a restaurant where we enjoyed an Italian meal followed by a show “Dreamboats and Petticoats” at the Playhouse. It was a lovely end to the Anniversary. Roll on our Golden Wedding!



THE HOLY HIKERS

In every walk with nature one receives
far more than he seeks

John Muir



We have had a busy time since the last issue of the Link. In April we walked from Bo'ness to Blackness Castle along the banks of the Forth. We had a good turn out and a nice picnic at Blackness. Our walking weekend was on the first Bank Holiday Weekend in May to the



Shepherds Hotel near Cockermouth in the Lake District. Ten members enjoyed the excellent facilities of the Hotel. Our first walk was on the way down and it took us up Binsey Fell, one of the lesser fells lying North West of Keswick. The next day we drove into Keswick and followed the old railway line out towards Threlkeld and up to Castlerigg stone circle. After a look around we carried on by Low Fell swinging back round into Keswick. The walks for day 1 and day 2 were from a book of planned walks, the final walk on the third day was a different kettle of fish. It was a circular trip using part of the Allerdale Ramble and I'm afraid my estimate of the distance was "slightly out" it was quite a bit longer than anticipated but I'm sure everyone will agree it was a lovely walk and the hotel had "lunch" waiting for us when we arrived back at 3.45pm. The weather could not have been better and a great time was had by all.

On Saturday 14th May, eleven members were joined by three potential recruits at Longniddry for a walk along the old railway line to Haddington.

As is our custom during the summer, our June walk was on a Wednesday evening, although we met at the park as planned the heavens opened so we agreed to cancel it.

Similarly we were forced to cancel the longer walk on the 9th July.

Wednesday 13th July was the date of our next evening walk when we went up past Hillend Ski Slope and back down via the lovely Swanston Village. A nice refreshment in the Steading rounded off the evening.

This year is the Holy Hiker's 10th Anniversary. I am currently trying to arrange a meal on Friday 11th November 2011 to mark the occasion and a letter will go out to members shortly.

If anyone is interested in details of the walks mentioned please get in touch.

Happy Hiking, Jim Scott

Travel Tales

Prior to going on our Far East cruise holiday, May and I walked up and down stairs and slopes on the Great Wall in China, although other church members of Lasswade and Rosewell have done this too, and we raised £2,050 for the MS Society for our efforts.

In Shanghai we saw the new emerging China with many modern hotels and fine buildings and we rode on the bullet style train which was imported from Germany. In Busan it was a poignant experience at the memorial to Christian, Jewish, Moslem, Sikh, and those of other faith, service personnel who gave their lives in what has become known as the forgotten war.

In Nagasaki after more uphill walks we were at the site of the atomic bomb blast. There is still the shell of the Anglican church remaining and the foundation walls of a prison where ironically allied prisoners were spared because their Japanese captors had taken them to work outside the city. The peace park is an impressive memorial to the horror of this tragic event but we must never forget the sadistic brutality inflicted by the Japanese military during World War Two also. On a lighter note we were treated to Christmas carols played in the style of the famous Dutch swing band. More USA New York than Japanese Nagasaki.

On the outskirts of Ho-Chi-Mingh City in Vietnam after more stair climbing to see yet another Buddha we were surprised to see at the top a statue of Jesus Christ the Redeemer similar to the better known ones in Rio de Janeiro and Lisbon.

Also in Vietnam we passed the fine colonial mansions of the French when it was part of French Indo-China and the impressive boulevards of the beach resort of Na-Trang built for the Americans. These were very contrasting to the near Third World conditions of the Vietnamese ordinary people. In Thailand we were spectating at a football match between the teams of elephants. Slightly different from Bonnyrigg Rose and Whitehill Welfare.

Ian Murdoch

Jesus' Clogs

This story, which I am about to relate as accurately as I can remember, I came across when I was serving as a marine engineer aboard one of New Zealand Shipping Company's passenger ships in the early 1950s.

Jim MacFadyen

Having departed the UK, crossed the Atlantic, negotiated the Panama Canal and crossed the Pacific, we would occasionally anchor off some of the South Pacific Islands, so that the islanders could come out to the ship to trade with the passengers, to the benefit of the island economy and the interest of the passengers. On this occasion, lying off what used to be called the Dutch East Indies (remember from your stamp collecting), the port chaplain (Dutch of course) came on board. As was not unusual, he found his way to my cabin. We exchanged pleasantries over a cup of tea. On departing, he left me with the parish magazine. This story is from that magazine.

In the 1930s, before the Second World War, the Dutch East Indies were served by small tramp steamers, referred to as Island Traders. They came from Holland, worked for a couple of years and then they would be relieved by another vessel and would then return to Holland for overhaul. This had taken place, senior Dutch officers and native crew were paid off, and fresh mission-educated crew were signed on. It wasn't long before suggestions were asked about work clogs that had been left behind. Sailors, being sailors the world over, knowing that the natives were mission-educated they were asked if they remembered the story about Jesus walking on the water. Of course they did! "Well, these are Jesus' shoes" and that was accepted. Gradually everything settled down, the months passed and normal shipboard routines were established. One day, one of the native crew asked if it was possible for him to get off at the island where he lived, to go to a very important event, which he was desperate to attend. Unfortunately, there was no trade for this island and no cargo to pick up, so the answer was sorry, but no.

As it happened, the steamer was passing his island during the night. Next morning, when the crew turned to, the lad was missing. When reported, "man overboard", the ship reversed course and carried out a search of their night passage, but found no sign of him. Everyone was devastated and all they could do was report the fact that he was missing overboard, at their next port of call. Once again time passed and the ship eventually called in at the island from whence the lad had come. The local missionary came on board. He had a parcel under his arm which one of his flock had asked him to hand over to the ship as he felt too guilty and too embarrassed to come on board and hand it over himself. On opening the parcel they found a pair of work clogs!

From a book - 'Facing the Storm' Mark 10: 17-23

You might think Jesus was being a bit hard on the young man. He came asking about the way to eternal life. A good motive and, he was trying hard. "I've kept the commandments since I was a boy," he said.

I imagine Jesus with a hint of a smile on his face at this point, listening to the young man's over-confidence. There was, perhaps, just a little self-righteousness in him. None of us is really that good about meeting the demands those commandments make. But Jesus looked at him and loved him.

A strange way he has of showing it though, no congratulations for the way the boy had lived so far, just an uncompromising demand for a complete revolution in his life, "Go, sell ... and follow me."

Jesus always stretches us. We move one step forward on the road to life, and he asks another. We show signs of progress, and he shows us there's more to come.

Sometimes, when we love people, we make allowances, give them the easy option, try to smooth the path. Not so Jesus. He's never content with the status quo. He's never satisfied with where we're at. He's always encouraging us to grow, stretching us to our limit, demanding that little bit more.

And, when you think about it, it's a sign of the depth of his love that he makes us reach out for more. A sign of his faith in us, that he believes we're capable of more.

In love, he asks everything from us. He has the right to, that's what he gave!!

*Lord, sometimes I'd like a breather.
Time off for good behaviour.
Although there's not so much of that about in my life, I admit.
Time to relax, admire the view,
And tell myself how well I've done.
Feels like I'm always climbing.*

*The path is rocky, narrow and steep.
Heart hammering, blood pumping,
I reach the top of every small achievement,
Look up and see the summit's still ahead.
Painfully high, stark in still air.
Or soft-edged and insubstantial in tomorrow's mist.
There's always more!!*

With thanks - again, to Eddie Askew (G.S.)

BLYTHWOOD CARE SHOE BOX APPEAL 2011

If you would like to take part in this project the leaflets will be available soon in both Lasswade and Rosewell Churches as to the basic items required. Remember make sure you leave room for a gift provided by Blythwood Care to be put in the box.

Boxes must be ready for uplifting by 19 October 2011

Thank you
Agnes Anderson

STAMPS

The Scottish Bible Society sends their grateful thanks to all at Cockpen and Carrington Parish Church for their gift of used stamps. "Operation Family" was designed to help provide Bibles and New Testaments for needy Christian families. To date they have raised over £60, 000 from unwanted goods such as stamps, coins and jewellery etc.

Dorothy Bennett.

Bulletin Bloopers

They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins:

1. The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
2. The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'
The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'
3. Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
4. Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.
5. Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
6. Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
7. For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
8. Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

9. Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
10. A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
11. At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.
12. Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
13. Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
14. Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.
15. The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
16. Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.
17. The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
18. This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
19. Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.
20. The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
21. Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.
22. The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
23. Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
24. The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday:
'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.'

Moses & the Burning Bush Word Search

By Philologus



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ANGEL OF THE LORD
BURNING BUSH
DELIVERANCE
FACE
FIRE
FLAME
HOLY GROUND
HOREB
MESSAGE
MOSES
MOUNTAIN OF GOD
NOT CONSUMED
SANDALS

The solution can be found on
Page 5, should you need it.

Please send your news to the Editors for the Christmas Issue of
"The Link" on or before Sunday 6th November 2011.