

Cockpen & Carrington

# The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Harvest 2012



Church of Scotland

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## PULPIT SUPPLY ROTA - OCTOBER / DECEMBER 2012

DATE	LASSWADE (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)	ROSEWELL (please check times below)
07.10.12	Service at Rosewell	Rev M Schofield	Rev M Schofield (10 am) with Sunday School
14.10.12	Rev M Schofield	Rev M Schofield	Rev W Armitage (11.30am)
21.10.12 United Nations Sunday	MINISTER	MINISTER (Family Service)	Rev M Schofield (11.30 am)
28.10.12	MINISTER	MINISTER	Service at Lasswade (10 am)
04.11.12	Service at Rosewell	MINISTER (COMMUNION)	John Beaumont (10 am) with Sunday School
11.11.12 Remembrance	MINISTER (9.30am War Memorial; Church 10 am)	MINISTER	Rev W Armitage (11.50am)
18.11.12	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev W Armitage (11.30am)
25.11.12	Rev M Schofield	Rev M Schofield	Service at Lasswade (10 am)
02.12.12 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent	Joint Service at Rosewell (10 AM)	Joint Service at Rosewell (10 AM)	MINISTER (10 am)
09.12.12 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev W Armitage (11.30 am)
16.12.12 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent	MINISTER (Nativity Play)	MINISTER (11.30 AM); Nine Lessons & Carols (7 PM)	Rev W Armitage (11.30 am)
23.12.12 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent	MINISTER	MINISTER (Nativity Play)	Service at Lasswade (10 am)
30.12.12	WORSHIP GROUP	MINISTER	MINISTER (10 am)

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES (Monday 24 December 2012)**

**ROSEWELL 4 PM; Lasswade (CHRISTINGLE) 7 PM; COCKPEN 11.20 PM**

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*Dear Friends,*

The past few months have seen celebrations for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. They are significant international events – after all The Queen is Head of State of no less than 16 separate realms and has given 60 years of dedicated service. The Olympic Games have seen over 10,000 athletes representing 204 nations. Individuals such as Usain Bolt, Andy Murray, Chris Hoy, Jessica Ennis, Bradley Wiggins and many others can wear their medals with pride. The Paralympics are an extraordinary statement of human achievement in the face of adversity.

Whilst the issue of cost is never far from the surface, these recent events represent international goodwill and celebration of the giving of one's best. In the 1924 Summer Olympic Games held in Paris, Eric Liddell famously refused to run on a Sunday; his integrity has ensured his enduring fame – far beyond the winning of a medal. Whether or not we share Liddell's interpretation of how best to honour God, such commitment will remain forever commendable.

The image of running a race features in several passages in the Bible. In 1 Corinthians 9:24-25 Paul writes *"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever."* Thankfully, life is not a question of coming first to the exclusion of others. All who respond to the commandment to love God and to love neighbour as self are triumphant in God's sight.

I'm looking forward to all the autumn activities in the Church. The Sunday School and the Guild are recommencing; the Bric-a-Brac on Thursday mornings in the Dundas Street Hall is already working again. Please do give them your support.

Yours in Christ,  
*Rev Matthew Ross, Minister*

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## The Moderator's Jubilee message



*The Right Reverend Albert Bogle, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland 2012-2013*

As Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland I was delighted to be at St Paul's Cathedral to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Tuesday 5th June.

At the Coronation, the then Moderator presented the Queen with the Bible saying, "*We present you with this Book the most valuable thing that this world affords. Here is Wisdom; this is the Royal Law; these are the lively Oracles of God.*" Sixty years later the Bible continues to be a source of wisdom to Queen Elizabeth.

The very idea of "Jubilee" has its origins in the Old Testament. In the seventh year all debts were to be paid back or cancelled, so that no one was overburdened with debt.

So Jubilee was all about putting relationships right, personal, financial and communal. Surely, this ancient wisdom is a timely reminder to all of us.

As Moderator during this Diamond Jubilee Year, I invite the nation to look beyond the pomp and the circumstance of the moment and engage with the idea of Biblical Jubilee. Let us begin the renewing and transforming of our communities by seeking justice for the poor.

I invite our politicians, financial institutions and individuals of good will to explore how we can release the burdens of debt under which so many hard-working people are weighed down.

There could be no greater tribute to Her Majesty the Queen in her Diamond Jubilee Year if we could become "*a nation that loves mercy, does justice and walks humbly with her God.*" (Micah 6:8)

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## From the Cockpen & Carrington Clerk.

I always have to think of what I want to say in my article but for this Link it's not so difficult this time with news of joy, concerns and sadness.

The joy was the celebration in May of the wonderful achievement of Graham's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as our Organist and Choirmaster. The concerns were a number of our faithful who had to undergo major surgery and, the sadness, the loss of old and dear friends.

Graham's anniversary Service was held in Church on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May and took the form of a Songs of Praise Service with many old and loved Hymns being sung. Also, we were privileged to hear a number of solo pieces played by Graham.

We were joined that day by our congregation and, many good friends who, over the years have been with us through the good and not so good times. We were also able to welcome a number of old (sorry) and dear friends to our Choir on the day.

After the Service I was delighted to say a few words of gratitude to Graham which was followed by the presentation of two certificates handed over by Matthew, one signed by the Moderator of the General Assembly and one signed by the Minister and myself. The 'highlight' was the handing over of a framed caricature by Jean Sharpe who, 'of the cuff' and, to the joy of the gathered congregation said, as one would expect from Jean, just the right words about Graham as did Matthew.

Graham then made a short speech which, as one would expect from such a professional was excellent.



After the Service, a buffet lunch was held over at Willie and Sue Tulloch's home when many of the congregation and other friends continued the celebrations well into the afternoon. Again, many are due thanks for making the event the success it was.

We are not about 'blowing our own trumpet' but, we are indeed a most fortunate Church in having the talent we see and hear Sunday by Sunday in Graham and we thank him for his continued and valued service.

The concerns we have had have been the ill health with quite a number of our folks. Our Kirk Session has been affected with Jean, Irene and Ian having had to undergo quite major surgery and Alison being unwell and in Hospital for a fairly lengthy period. Happily, they are all back home and, thankfully making good recovery. We continue to pray for them and any others who are ill.

The sadness for any Church is the passing of dear friends and, in July we lost two of the most loved ladies in the congregation, Mrs. 'Cissie' Renwick and Mrs. Betty Wilson. Both these ladies were a joy to visit and, were always so interested in what was happening in the Church.

I had the honour of being able to visit Mrs. Renwick and her sister Mrs. Noble when I temporarily covered our good friend Ken. Gray's district. As I said, it was always a pleasure to be with them and hear the stories. Cissie always spoke about the Rev. Mongomerie Hardie - what an influence he must have made on the young Cissie!! She had a wonderful sense of humour and would always tell me, smiling as she did, that she would soon be 'over that wall' (Cockpen cemetery). Well, Cissie is over the wall and I know that she had no fear of meeting her maker such was her belief in God.

Wilma and I were just two of many who visited Mrs. Wilson at Archview and again, it was never a chore for anyone to visit such was the interest she had in people in general and, of her beloved Church. She loved nothing more than hearing what was happening at Cockpen, Lasswade and Rosewell. Betty was also surrounded by a loving family who visited constantly and many of us were privileged to know them also.

Betty, like 'Cissie' was a faithful Guild member and was at one time President a position she was proud to hold. Cockpen will miss both Cissie and Betty but, what lovely memories we all have to cherish.

Just as I was about to pass on all my articles to the Editors on 12<sup>th</sup> August (nearly on time!!) I heard of the passing of another dear friend, Mary Johnston's Mum in Northern Ireland. Mary's Mum was well known to us both in Church and the bric a brac as she used to come to both Church and Hall when over on holiday.

As I said previously, we think of all the families at these sad times.

Yours, in friendship,

**George.**

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# COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH.

## BAPTISMS

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

- 8<sup>th</sup> April Natasha Rose Grabham, infant daughter of Michael and Rosa.  
21<sup>st</sup> April Holly Eve Tennant, infant daughter of Richard and Heather.  
21<sup>st</sup> April Ryan Fraser Anderson, infant son of Graeme and Cathleen.  
29<sup>th</sup> April Max Sawers, infant son of Mark and Kirsty.  
3<sup>rd</sup> June Lily Mary Wallis, infant daughter of Steven and Holly.  
8<sup>th</sup> July Melanie Young (nee Scott), wife of Craig and Mum to Lewis.  
29<sup>th</sup> July Lewis Alistair Stirling Young, infant son of Craig and Melanie.

All were baptized by the Minister.

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

## WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couple who were married recently in Church and, we wish them every happiness.

- 7<sup>th</sup> April *Darren Gracie to Hayley Tedford. (The Minister).*  
5<sup>th</sup> May *Gary McLean to Sharon Weighand. (The Minister).*  
2<sup>nd</sup> June *Kevin Allen to Marnie Somerville. (The Minister).*  
26<sup>th</sup> July *William Moore to Lynsey Commins. (Rev. Bill Armitage).*

## BEREAVEMENTS

It is with much sadness that we record the following deaths of members of our Congregation –

- Mrs. Sarah 'Cissie' Renwick on 5<sup>th</sup> July.  
Mrs. Elizabeth 'Betty' Wilson on 8<sup>th</sup> July.

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

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



## NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome **Mr. Eric and Mrs. Valerie King** who have come to us from Dalkeith: St. John's and Kings Park Church. Mr. and Mrs. King now reside in Bonnyrigg and we're so happy that they've chosen to come to our Church.

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## FROM THE ORGANIST

Usually this column is concerned with what is coming next on our musical programme. This time round however I would like to use this space to look back to the "Songs of Praise" service which took place in May to mark my 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at Cockpen.

It was quite an overwhelming experience for me, and I cannot possibly thank all the contributors individually, so can I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all those who helped to make this an event I shall not forget, musically or socially. I do appreciate to the very kind gifts and certificates I received – one of which is now very much a talking point on the walls of my house! I was particularly touched by a scrap book (though that term hardly does justice to it) which the choir put together with photos and other mementoes of my years at the church, which I will certainly cherish.

As I said at the service, there have been many factors which have held me at Cockpen. Firstly the support I have always had from the ministers (quite a few now!) and the congregation at large for the role music plays at the church. Secondly, there is the organ itself – I have yet to tire of what it has to offer as an instrument, helped by the fact that the church has always been prepared to spend what is required to keep it in best shape. Finally, there is the unfailing loyalty and enthusiasm of the choir (some of whom, dare I say, have been in post even longer than me!). Having a choir adds a huge amount to worship and if we have achieved something over the last 40 years it has been very much a team effort.

Once again, thanks to all for the support I have received, which I hope will continue! It has occurred to me that another anniversary is in the offing - 2013 will mark the organ's 125<sup>th</sup> year, so we should not let that go by unmarked...

GMB

August 2012

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## Church Dance

The dance will be held in the Masonic Hall, Bonnyrigg on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October** at 7.30 p.m. Tickets £6 which includes a light buffet. Tickets available from Wilma, Helen and Dorothy.

## **COCKPEN & CARRINGTON GUILD - 125 years**

The Guild this year celebrates 125 years service and those of us who know the work of the movement can hardly believe how much has been achieved by the Guild over this period and feel justly proud in being a member. At the annual summer rally the guest speaker was Alison Twaddle who has only recently retired from her post as the Guild's National General Secretary. She has been a marvellous ambassador for the Guild and she very kindly gave permission for her talk to be used as our feature in the "Link" this Autumn. Please read on and learn what we do, what we have done and hopefully feel interested in coming along to help keep the Guild strong and active . .

TALK BY ALLISON TWADDLE June 7th 2012

This year, 2012, marks 125 years since the General Assembly said yes to Dr. Charteris' idea to found a Women's Guild. Way back, in 1887, that far sighted man, having looked around the parishes of Scotland, saw that, in many places, it was the women of the congregations who were most helpful to hard pressed ministers in tending to the needs of their people. It was women who were visiting the sick, teaching the children and caring for the needs of the poor. Dr. Charteris admired them for their dedication and kindness, but recognized that they could be far more effective if they were organized in some kind of national network, with a programme of aims and objectives.

What he valued in the women of the Church – who at that time had no voice in the leadership of the Church –no women elders or ministers back then – was twofold: he valued their practical energies, and their spiritual gifts. Over the years, in some places, we came to be recognized and relied upon for our practical energies –our 'sleeves rolled up' approach to service- but increasingly this perception is being challenged as the Guild takes the challenges of faith seriously, taking on issues like domestic abuse and human trafficking. And this is not a feature of recent years alone. Way back n the beginning, the Guild was tackling alcohol abuse through the temperance movement. And in the 20th century it was active in post-war reconciliation and the anti-apartheid movement. It's a record of which we can all be proud – but, 'What's next?'

When the leadership team sat down about 18 months ago to think about a theme for the 125th anniversary, we looked at the challenges facing us all today – the fast moving pace of modern life, the increased stresses on family life, the multi cultural society. Where would we find a theme to take us confidently into the future? As you do at these planning meetings, lots of ideas were put forward and written up on big sheets of paper round the wall.

Many were excellent, but I've pretty much forgotten them all now, because, from somewhere, there emerged the idea, that we could do no better than look to our roots, and adopt as our theme, the motto that the Guild has had from its earliest days. 'Whose we are and Whom we serve'. It was agreed that we would build on that and , during 2012-15, concentrate on three very forward-looking sub- themes;

- A faith to proclaim
- A fellowship to build
- A world to serve

These sum up what we're about and new projects have also been chosen to run alongside these themes for the whole three years. We'll be supporting:

- Comfort Rwanda, providing new houses for survivors of genocide
- Heart for Art, caring for dementia sufferers through art therapy
- Mary's Meals, feeding children in Liberia, one of the poorest countries in the world.
- A Passage from India, a micro financing enterprise run by women in priority areas
- The Julius Project, supporting homeless people in their move into social Housing
- Out of Africa into Malta, helping refugees escaping from war-torn North Africa

I hope these will interest and inspire us all, just as previous projects have done.

As some of you may know, I occasionally do Radio Scotland's "Thought for the Day" and I was delighted to be asked to do it on the day before the Guild Report to the General Assembly and the celebratory "Songs of Praise" in the Assembly hall that night. This was a great chance to give the Guild some good publicity and the script was duly agreed. Then, on the afternoon before the broadcast, I got a call to say that Abdul Basset Al Megraghi had just died and that "Thought for the Day" would have to be focus on that news the next morning. So, there had to be a re-write and my tribute to the Guild was binned. But I'm a great believer in not chucking things out too soon, so I still have it and I thought I would close today by using part of it to remind us of our past and point us to the future.

The celebrations will not be a time for resting on laurels, however. There's still work to be done and the Guild's programme for the next three years will include support for projects dealing with homelessness, dementia, poverty,

hunger and refugees. Thousands of ordinary Guild members, now including men as well as women, will learn about these issues, pray for and raise money for work that will change lives for the better.

So why do they, and others in the Church, do it? What motivates them? It is quite simply a response to Christ's call to serve and follow Him. The Guild's motto is "Whose we are and Whom we serve". It's who we are; it's what we do.

## ***Fond farewell***

*The Guild has been a source of friendship to many over the years and yet again we have had to say farewell to two of our friends over the summer. Cissie Renwick and Betty Wilson both lived their 90 plus years well and were greatly loved and respected for their individual personalities and gifts which they shared with us over many years within our membership and we celebrate them in our memories.*

## **Memories of Cissie Renwick**

By her Grand daughter.

I wanted to say a few words about my Granny, or Granny Cis as her Great-Grandchildren referred to her. It would be impossible to fit in all the things I want to say so this is very much a wee snapshot. Cis was renowned for her recitation so it is only fitting that these Memories of Granny are true to her spirit.

From Melting Moments to Christmas cake  
There was nothing Granny couldn't make

'Tickled' eggs and tablet, sweet  
It made her smile to see us eat

Proper porridge, Sunday dinners  
Soup, cheese dreams, all were winners  
Recipes were not required  
Just Granny's way, unique, admired.

A well kept house in Dundas Street  
Her knack for spotting crumbs, a feat!  
We were 'well clad' and neatly dressed  
In perfect laundry, washed and pressed

As students too, a home she made  
With furrowed brow, she filled her role  
At night, she banned us from 'The Toll'

Generous, kind and funny, although  
Always a worrier, up to high doh!  
Born on 16.2.16  
A long, long life has gone, has been

The end of an era, one we'll miss  
So, so much, dear Granny Cis  
Though 96, it still hurts when  
In her own words, she's 'in Cockpen'

Summer holidays, we stayed

## Thank You.

*I would like to thank everyone for their cards, letters, 'phone calls, flowers, visits, cakes, soups, chocolate and magazines. They have helped so much in my 'slow' recovery. To think so many people have been thinking about me really is urging me along to get back among you all.*

*Andrew is also grateful for the support he has had from friends, family and neighbours. He has now perfected the art of hanging out washing, cooking and serving meals and, is an excellent nurse.*

*Iain is my official cleaner - Oh dear, how I wish I was able to do all these jobs myself!!.*

*With many, many thanks again.*

***Jean and Andrew Sharpe.***

Note.

I know how Andrew feels with the washing - I too had to be taught how towels were to be hung (colour coded). Also, like Andrew, I had just a slight problem with hanging out pants!! (Won't go any further with that one!!).

G.S.

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## Bric A Brac

There are always bargains to be had at our weekly bric a brac in the Church Hall, Dundas Street on Thursdays between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.

We would also welcome any Adult or Children's clothing for our stall, so if you have items you no longer need, please bring them along to the hall.

Like Jean, Irene Ramsay is recovering from an operation and has been missed from the Hall on Thursdays. We all wish both Irene and Jean well for a quick recovery and, back beside us.

*The Team.*

# THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

## 1. WE'RE BACK

Sunday School returns after a somewhat damp Summer on 26 August. We're being welcomed back with a Family Service at Lasswade Church at 10am. Our theme is the Olympics so please come dressed as Olympians or sports people...*adults too, if you want!* We're expecting some famous faces to join us in the congregation!! We look forward to seeing all our Tadpoles/Mermaids/Smurfs and Tree Huggers and would really like to see any new recruits from any age. We really do not have a minimum age so feel free to bring along tinies. We only ask that any child age under 4 is accompanied by an adult. Our calendar to December is included in this magazine. We return to Cockpen Hall (opp. Zissors Hairdresser in Dundas Street, Bonnyrigg) on Sunday 2 September at 10am. We also have Sunday School in Rosewell Church on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month and there also on 2 September. Please come along.

## 2. EASTER

Easter seems such a long time ago, but we had a wonderful Easter Day service at Rosewell Church. This is a truly family affair and was led by Rev Bill Armitage who is always such a joy to be with. We had wonderful praise; beautiful spring flowers which were then given to members of the congregation; decorated eggs and easter bonnets. Some amazing creations! After celebrating this wondrous occasion, we all headed to the hall for the most amazing eats. Rosewell could cope with 'Feeding the Five Thousand' any time. We ended with an easter egg hunt outside as the weather was cool but dry outside.

Our Minister has confirmed that this will be an annual event with an Easter family day at Rosewell so we look forward to returning next year.

## 3. CRADLE ROLL SERVICE

We had a lovely Cradle Roll service in March. It had been many years since we last saw this, so thanks to all concerned for inviting all the babies baptised over the last few years. All of the Sunday School children received an invite and were extremely 'chuffed' to see their names on the cradle roll. Unfortunately, there was not a great number of families other than Sunday School there, but we will also try to contact them directly about Sunday School and family services.

The Minister led a lovely, family-friendly service with lots of interaction and action music. Thanks also to the rest of the congregation who really embrace these services and join in with everything going on.

#### **4. TRIP**

Yet another successful visit to Blair Drummond Safari Park in May. Our coach driver was Peter from Edinburgh Group Travel. We are so lucky that we always get the same coach drivers for our trip and Christmas outing and Peter and Willie look after us very well. The Safari Park is a great day out and we were so spoiled as the park had lots of new babies and we met baby meerkats/ donkey/rhino and saw the new bear cub on only its second day out. It was so amazing ...and the weather stayed fine even more of a surprise with the weather the weeks to follow!

Those of you who were at our prizegiving would have heard the story of how we nearly lost one of our children at the park! Not by getting lost, but at the Birds of Prey! Poor Charlotte was very nearly carried away by one of the vultures and got a terrible scare.....but we did bring her home safely!

#### **5. PRIZEGIVING**

Lasswade gave us a wonderful welcome for our prizegiving there in May. Each child received a certificate and book. We were delighted that Mrs May Faughnan agreed to present our prizes - a great supporter of the Sunday School.

Jacob Crombie, our senior boy, had decided to leave Sunday School. It is always sad to see our youngsters go but Jacob has lots of exciting things to look forward to: going to High School and enjoying his football. Thank you Jacob for coming to Sunday School. We will miss you but wish you well in everything you do in future. You are always welcome at Sunday School or in any of our churches. Jacob's wee sisters': Drew & Cameryn continue to be with us. Jacob was presented with a beautiful bible which is kindly donated by the Guild.

#### **6. 40 YEARS AS ORGANIST**

On the same day as the prizegiving, we had a special service at Cockpen to celebrate our organist, Graham's, 40 years as organist. What an achievement. Graham was quite overwhelmed and delighted with all his gifts including a card signed by everyone at Sunday School and his present from us.

During the service, there were a number of references made to the challenges a church organist has with the ministers of the parish (!), we know that Graham's biggest challenge has been with the children coming to church! We know how much you have embraced our style of worship and really appreciate all the support you give us.

The Sunday School is thinking of setting up a new support organisation: **COAS - CHURCH ORGANIST APPRECIATION SOCIETY!** We are indeed blessed to have Graham along with Herbert at Lasswade & Kenny at Rosewell all of whom support the Sunday School when we are in church. Thank you all.

## **7. HARVEST**

Our Harvest Thanksgiving & family service will be held at Cockpen on **23 September**. Tinned goods which can be eaten hot or cold will be very welcome for Jericho House in Edinburgh for their soup kitchen and hostels for the homeless. Fresh produce will be shared amongst our housebound or sick members of the congregation.

## **8. CHRISTMAS OUTING 2012**

We are off again this year to the pantomime at the Kings Theatre on **Sunday 2 December to the 1pm performance** to see Mother Goose. Forms are available in our churches. We have booked plenty of tickets so members of the congregations and their families are welcome to come along. You will be aware that the theatre has been completely refurbished and prices have subsequently increased! Hence, this year, we have secured tickets for the preview performance to keep prices as low as possible for you. Tickets for the stalls including transport to and from Bonnyrigg and icecream are priced:

**Sunday School children - free**

**Under 2's - £5**

**Children (non-Sunday School) - £15**

**Adults - £21**

Please contact Rosalind to book places.

## **9. NATIVITY SERVICES**

Nativity services are planned for **Lasswade: 16 December at 10am and Cockpen & Carrington on 23 December at 11.30am**. Make sure you put these dates in your diary!



## 10. WE SEND OUR LOVE.....

We send much love and warm wishes to Irene Ramsay & Jean Sharpe. Irene is a Sunday School Elder and Jean was a long-time teacher. We wish you a speedy recovery and will keep you in our prayers.

## 11. AND FINALLY....SOME SAD NEWS

We were so sad to hear of the deaths of two of our dear friends over the summer. Mrs Cissie Renwick was always delighted to see us when she received her package from the harvest table and always interested in what was going on at Sunday School. Mrs Betty Wilson was a long-time friend of the Sunday School along with her late husband Robert. Betty kept in regular contact with the Sunday School and was always delighted to receive our updates. We were blessed to have such dear ladies who so demonstrated the true meaning of Christianity in everything they did. Our thoughts are with their families at this time.

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## *SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR SESSION: 2012/13*

*Sunday 26 August 2012*

***Family Service & welcome back to Sunday School at Lasswade Church 10am. Come dressed as Olympians/sports people.***

*Sunday 2 September 2012*

*Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am  
ALSO*

*Sunday School at Rosewell 10am in church, thereafter into hall.*

*Sunday 9 September 2012*

*Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am*

*Sunday 16 September 2012*

***HOLIDAY***

*Sunday 23 September 2012*

***Family Service & Harvest Thanksgiving at Cockpen & Carrington Church at 11.30am. Please bring tinned good for Jericho House.***

*Sunday 30 September 2012*

*Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am*

*Sunday 7 October 2012*

*Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am  
ALSO*

*Sunday School at Rosewell 10am in church, thereafter into hall.*

Sunday 14 October 2012

**HOLIDAY**

Sunday 21 October 2012

**Family Service at Cockpen & Carrington Church at 11.30am**

*Sunday 28 October 2012*

*Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am.  
Bill Brown - Sunday School Elder joining us.*

Sunday 4 November 2012

Communion at Cockpen & Carrington; all children welcome at Rosewell Parish Church at 10am

Sunday 11 November 2012\*

Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10-12

Sunday 18 November 2012\*

Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10-12

Sunday 25 November 2012\*

Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10-12

SUNDAY 2 DECEMBER 2012

**PANTOMIME: MOTHER GOOSE AT KINGS THEATRE at 1pm. No Sunday School as coaches leave 12 noon**

Sunday 9 December 2012\*

Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10-12

(\* denotes - longer period for Nativity rehearsals)

Sunday 16 December 2012

Nativity Service at Lasswade Parish Church at 10am

Sunday 23 December 2012

Nativity Service at Cockpen & Carrington Parish Church at 11.30am

***HAPPY HOLIDAYS -***

***SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS  
13 JANUARY 2013 !***

- Sunday School contact; Rosalind Dolan Tel: 0131 663 9859/mob: 07909 882263

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# Cockpen and Carrington Flower Rota



## September

2 <sup>nd</sup>	M Peden
9 <sup>th</sup>	FREE
16 <sup>th</sup>	Dorothy Bennett
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Nancy Richardson
30 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Dyer

## October

7 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Sharpe
14 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Robson
21 <sup>st</sup>	Wilma Sweeney
27 <sup>th</sup>	Liz Mills

## November

4 <sup>th</sup>	A Dagleish
11 <sup>th</sup>	Lindsay Stevenson
18 <sup>th</sup>	C Robertson
25 <sup>th</sup>	Joint Service TBC

As always thanks to all of you for your help in keeping the church looking so lovely with flowers donated by you all. I have had a little taste myself to be on the receiving end of getting the flowers and it really works, it is such a joy to open the door and there is someone from Church handing over the flowers just to say you are being thought about and missed.

## ROTA 2013

It had been some time since the flower rota was compiled and therefore requires a makeover due to changing circumstances.

Would those wishing to be included in the rota for next year please submit their name and requested dates to me by Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October in order that I can have the rota completed in time for the Christmas publication of the magazine.

May I take this opportunity to remind everyone that we also have a flower fund, which is used for dates not taken by anyone and for any special services, and donations are always most welcome.

Many thanks to all who contribute to the fund in different ways and help us to have our Church looking nice each week.

See you in Church,

*Irene*

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## Cake Stall

Many thanks once again for all your help providing the goods for the stall and, also thanks to all our customers. Our next dates at the Pitcairn Centre are -

23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2012.

27<sup>th</sup> September, 2012.

We hope to see you then.

*The team and customers all send Jean best wishes for her recovery from her recent operation.*

Wilma, Helen, Isobel and Vi.

# **Lasswade and Rosewell Church News .....**

## **Gift Day**

A huge thank you to everyone who very generously donated to our Gift Day the amount raised was £1,519.

## **Summer Sale**

Thank you to all who helped raise the sum of £586.45.

## **Saturday 8 September – Midlothian Doors Open Day**

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 4.00 p.m.

## **Congregational Board Meeting**

The next meeting of the Congregational Board will be held on Tuesday, 11 September at 7.30 p.m. in Rosewell Church Hall and it is hoped that as many members as possible will be able to attend.

## **Sunday 23 September – Harvest Thanksgiving**

Service at 10.00 a.m. in Lasswade Church. There will be a special offering in aid of charities dealing with poverty throughout the World. It has been the custom in recent years that gifts of money should be given in lieu of harvest gifts and we are continuing this custom again this year.

## **Saturday 8 December 2012 Coffee Morning / Christmas Sale**

To be held in Rosewell Parish Church Hall from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. Donations of home baking, jams, marmalade, bric-a-brac, items for tombola and raffle would be very much appreciated.

## **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 is always lots of lovely home baking, jams, vegetables, books and lots more.

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## Lasswade and Rosewell Choir

The summer season is almost over and I hope everyone has enjoyed the Olympics.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking our regular choir for all the support they have given me during these last few months. Due to their commitment we managed to carry out our Introit Programme. I would also like to thank those who augmented the choir for special music, such as when we sang "The Mountain of God" to the tune of "Chariots of Fire" and when we sang a version of "The Nicene Creed." Thank you, one and all.

My thanks are also due to Andrew Jack who deputised for me when necessary. Andrew is always very willing to provide organ cover and for that I am extremely grateful.

This is the time of year when I begin to look forward to the next few months and Advent and Christmas, as always, loom large. However this year, as some of you know, family events will be unfolding in Singapore in November and this means that Moira and I will probably not be around for much of December. I therefore do not wish to commit myself at this stage, or commit the choir, to something which I will not be able to carry out. Our plans will be a bit clearer shortly.

HLRD

## Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Local History Society

In recent years I have, at this time, "plugged" the Local History Society which was founded thirty years ago. We meet in The Pitcairn Centre, Bonnyrigg Church Halls, on the third Wednesday of each month from October – April, excluding December and meetings start at 7.30pm.

We have an interesting syllabus lined up for the 2012/13 Session and details are as follows:-

2012

October 17<sup>th</sup> : Joe Whittaker speaking about the history of Lasswade Rugby Club

November 21<sup>st</sup>: George Masterton on Genealogy

2013

January 16<sup>th</sup>: Mrs. Janet Knox reading from Adam Jack's Memoirs  
"I rise in the morning"

February 20<sup>th</sup>: Rae McGhee on the history of Newbattle Abbey College

March 20<sup>th</sup>: Andrew Crummy speaking about the Prestonpans Tapestry

April 17<sup>th</sup>: AGM preceded by, hopefully, presentation to the winning school in the Dr. Mary Noble Award challenge

If you are not already a member of the Society but would like to join, or if you would like to come along to any or all of the meetings detailed above you will be made very welcome. If you wish to ask me any questions then do not hesitate to contact me.

Herbert Dryden (0131 663 8895)

# THE HOLY HIKERS

*A sweeter place I never did know  
Than the rolling hills of the Borders  
Matt McGinn*



*I always think it's a long time between the Easter and the Harvest issue of The Link but I'm still rushing to get the article ready by the deadline. Our walk in March was a bit of a surprise as we expected to be walking to Dalkeith and Ironmills on the old railway line, but instead, Ian and Denise took us on an interesting walk from Newtongrange through the Red Woods to Newbattle Road and on to Lord Ancrum's Wood, returning along the Esk, past Newbattle Abbey and back to the Sun Inn for refreshments.*

*The next big event was our "Walking Weekend" when we spent two nights in the New Lanark Hotel. It is a lovely Hotel in a beautiful setting at the Heritage Site and everyone enjoyed it. We even had Edna's dog with us in the doggy friendly room. Our walks were also enjoyable. For years I have wanted to climb Tinto Hill (Near Biggar) but just never got round to it.*

*Well we did it, quite a slog, but worth it for the views. On the Sunday we went a circular route from the Hotel to the Falls of Clyde and Bonnington Linn. The final day we walked round Camps Reservoir in the Coulter Fells near Crawford. The Hotel was great, food fantastic, excellent company, lovely walks in good weather. I don't know how I'll beat it next year!*

*In April, Betty Bodman led us round Carlops and the north Esk Reservoir and on that day we welcomed two new members, David & Elizabeth Crighton. In May, Ian & Denise took us on a very muddy trail from Gorebridge down into the Esk Valley returning via Arniston Estate.*

*As usual in June, July and August we meet on the second Wednesday evening of the month but I do organise longer walks on the Saturdays for the people who are interested. The first of these was in June when we did a good circular walk round the outer edge of Cardrona Forest, near Peebles. This was followed on the Wednesday evening with a trip to Dalkeith Country Park. Unfortunately both the longer and the evening walks in July were victims of the weather. The disappointment of having to cancel these trips was to some extent cancelled out by an absolutely beautiful evening on 8<sup>th</sup> August when we walked through the Hermitage of Braid and up to the top of Blackford Hill. The sun was shining, the skies were blue and the views fantastic. Hilary and*

*Glen's dog Fern enjoyed it the most, and she ran at least three times the distance we walked, fetching sticks and jumping in and out of the Braid burn. Nine of us enjoyed a wonderful walk in the Pentland Hills on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August. We parked at West Linton and walked to the Covenanter's grave on Black Hill. Unfortunately I attempted to make the walking easier by using a dirt track instead of tramping through the heather this did not take us out where expected and a slight detour was necessary. This detour involved crossing a Ford and after most of us were across safely we noticed a footbridge about 20 yards upstream. I'll never live it down! Nevertheless it was a great day enjoyed by all.*



### **The Covenanter's Grave**

*Left to Right Standing:* Margaret Dubickas, Jenny Anderson, Lynda Williamson, Dot Scott, David Crichton and John Anderson.

*Seated:* Jeanette Hume and Elizabeth Crichton.

*Behind the camera:* Jim Scott.

*Happy Hiking,*

*Jim Scott*

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# Lasswade Flower Rota

September 9<sup>th</sup> Gillian Renwick  
September 16<sup>th</sup> Moira Scott  
September 23<sup>rd</sup> Margaret Thomson  
September 30<sup>th</sup> May Murdoch

October 14<sup>th</sup> Dorothy Spence  
October 21<sup>st</sup> Mary Campbell  
October 28<sup>th</sup> Nita Adams



November 11<sup>th</sup> Walter Culton  
November 18<sup>th</sup> Joan Campbell  
November 25<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth Hay

December 9<sup>th</sup> Gillian Renwick  
December 16<sup>th</sup> Shona Howden  
December 23<sup>rd</sup> Pat Lawrie  
December 30<sup>th</sup> Cathie Connor

Thank you to all the people who have provided and arranged flowers in Lasswade Church over the year.....in some cases over many years! The flowers add a sparkle to our beautiful church and go on from the building to provide colour in other people's lives.

I am in the process of making up the rota for next year and would be very happy to add some new names to the list.

If you feel you could help please speak to me and I will be very happy to help. If you have a particular reason for a specific date I can often fit your request in the rota around that date.

Moira Dryden

## Adventures abroad

In March, after an interesting tour of Mumbai, May and I returned to the cruise terminal to board the *Brilliance of the Seas*. I enquired at the information desk where we could buy postcards only to be directed to a store which sold carpets! So much for trying to improve Anglo-Indian relations.

More recently we were on the *Marco Polo* and in the town of Andalsnes in Norway, we came across the Train Chapel. A church in a converted railway carriage. The late Robert Moncrieff would have loved this one.

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Ian Murdoch



## Church of Scotland - General Assembly 2012

The General Assembly is the highest court of the Church of Scotland with Commissioners representing every Presbytery within the Church. This year Matthew and I represented our linked Churches.

The assembly ran from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May.

For me this was a 'first time' and I thought I had a good idea of how the Assembly operated, I soon realised otherwise! The first learning curve was my introduction to what is known as the 'Blue Book'. This 416-page book is sent to each Commissioner who, in preparation for the Assembly, is required to obtain a good knowledge of its contents.

The 'Blue book' contains 29 Deliverances (reports) from each Committee and these encompass all areas covering the Church's work both at home and abroad. At the Assembly each Deliverance is formally presented by the Committee's Convenor and following on from debate and amendments, a vote (if applicable) is taken, and if passed becomes part of the Church of Scotland's policy, rules and regulations.

738 Commissioners attended the Assembly from Scotland, England, Europe and Jerusalem along with representatives from the National Youth Assembly of Scotland (a most enthusiastic and lively group).

In addition to this there were Delegates from other Church denominations (Roman Catholic, Church of England, Quakers to name a few) from as far afield as Australia and the Caribbean.

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, Church of England (his last year of office) formally addressed the Assembly, and, as many of you will be aware his comments were widely covered by the national press and television.

Her Majesty the Queen's representative this year was the Rt. Hon Lord James Alexander Douglas-Hamilton, Baron Selkirk of Douglas who addressed the Assembly and gave a very interesting talk including his long association with the Church. Also during the week of the Assembly he visited many places within the central belt where the Church was actively involved.

This year the Moderator was the Rt. Rev Albert Bogle who succeeded the Rt. Rev A David K Arnott (his first charge was with Gorebridge Parish Church). (During his yearly term of office the Moderator takes the title Rt. Rev. and after the completion of his yearly term becomes The Very Rev).

As the week unfolded the Rt. Rev. Albert Bogle's knowledge, dedication, enthusiasm, devotion and control of the Assembly was such a delight - an undoubted inspiration to all commissioners and delegates. (I am certain that during the Moderator's term or office many people from all walks or life will derive great benefit from his presence). (See his Jubilee message on Page 5)

Here are a few snippets of matters brought up at the Assembly.

#### National Stewardship Programme:

The NSP is now well in progress with initial feedback from 593 Congregations reported as follows:

- 185 Congregations have taken on board the Stewardship Season approach to challenging their members.
- 45 Congregations have opted to follow the Giving for Growth programme.
- 5 Congregations are using materials from other Churches.
- 117 Congregations are devising their own approaches
- 241 Congregations have yet to decide which option they will pursue

#### Scottish Living Wage

To support the principle of a Living Wage by encouraging all C of S employers to pay staff a Living Wage.

#### Domestic Abuse Review Group

Instruct the Councils, Committees and Agencies of the C of S to implement the Domestic Abuse Action Plan in support of the wider campaign to eradicate violence against women and men (an added amendment).

#### Homelessness

Encourage Presbyteries and Congregations to continue their work locally to address homelessness and its causes whilst continuing to provide support for homeless people within their area.

#### Referendum on Scottish Independence

Instruct the Church and Society Council to help the Church to engage at a civic, political and local level and particularly how independence might impact on the poorest and most vulnerable people.

Urge local congregations to consider hosting community referendum meetings in a neutral space to allow free debate about all the issues. Confirm that the Church will remain impartial with regard to the question in the forthcoming referendum.

#### Nuclear Disarmament/Trident

Instruct the Church & Society Council to continue to explore options and opportunities to develop action on the disarmament of nuclear weapons and instruct the Council to report on progress to the General Assembly in 2013.

#### Panel of Review and Reform

Affirm that the Church needs a well-defined understanding of a society being shaped by digital technology. (A Church seeking to reach its own nation must apply the lessons learned from earlier approaches to foreign mission, i.e. presenting the gospel in terms that the receiver (society) can relate to and not wrapped up in the culture of the sender (Church):

Instruct the Panel to undertake an in depth study of social trends created by digital technology in order to provide a context for the Church's Mission and report to the General Assembly in 2014.

Instruct the Panel to consult on consensus across the Church and report to the General Assembly in 2013 and affirm the Panels intention to identify ways in which the Church can nurture new growth.

#### Mission and Discipleship Council

This Deliverance covered many areas but the section on Marriage was the one widely reported by the press and national TV.

As required the Council prepared a Report reflecting the understanding of marriage and its contemporary situation.

Assembly commended the Report for Study throughout the Church, noting its affirmations of marriage within the wider context of Christian discipleship.

(For full details visit the C of S website at:

[http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about\\_us/general\\_assembly/general\\_assembly\\_2012](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about_us/general_assembly/general_assembly_2012) )

#### World Mission Council- China

As you all know China is such a vast and varied country and the Council's Report was extensive and here I can only touch upon a few areas from this Report.

Today there are over 23 million Christians in China and the C of S's World Mission Council continues to be involved in developing relationships with Churches in China and the Amity Foundation.

In 1991 the government of China erected a memorial to Eric Liddell in Weifang, Shandong, demonstrating the goodwill felt towards him in modern China, and, on an even more up to date basis the Scottish Churches' China Group were planning a celebration of Eric Liddell's life and work in China in conjunction with the 2012 GB Olympics. 'Surely love never ends'- Amity's motto.

Dongguan Church is now one of the largest in NE China with 30,000 members. Every Sunday, 10,000 worship in four services with a further 1,000 attending services on weekdays.

#### Safeguarding - Protection of Vulnerable Groups

All Ministers of the word and sacrament must become members of the new PVG Scheme because their posts are considered Regulated Work with Children and Protected Adults under the terms of the PVG (Scot) Act 2007. Cost of PVG Registration £59 per person, but for volunteers this fee is waived (this relates to volunteers dealing with children and old/infirm people on a regular basis, with each case being decided on its merits).

#### Church of Scotland Guild

The Guild was congratulated on its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and it was stated that 'the secret of the Guild's survival has lain in its ability to change and reinvent itself to suit the day. The constants have not been about structures or constitutions, but rather about faith and fellowship, about commitment and missionary zeal'.

I hope that this article will be of interest and if any reader would like more information please let me know.

Bill Brown

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## Autumn Scramble

### Autumn Scramble

Can you unscramble the Autumn words below?



1. vhtsear

\_\_\_\_\_

2. aveesi

\_\_\_\_\_

3. cesowrrac

\_\_\_\_\_

4. lowlye

\_\_\_\_\_

5. binrefo

\_\_\_\_\_

6. prae

\_\_\_\_\_

7. aker

\_\_\_\_\_

8. racon

\_\_\_\_\_

9. isrqeulr

\_\_\_\_\_

10. alppe

\_\_\_\_\_

11. nagreo

\_\_\_\_\_

12. lfal

\_\_\_\_\_

13. rde

\_\_\_\_\_

14. owbrn

\_\_\_\_\_



[www.ActivityVillage.co.uk](http://www.ActivityVillage.co.uk) - Keeping Kids Busy

Please send your news to the Editors for the Christmas Issue of "The Link" on or before Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2012.