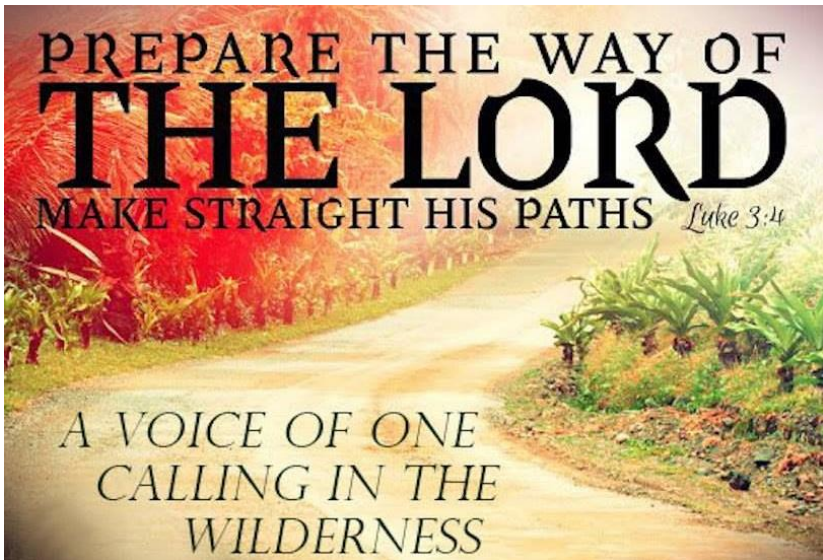


Cockpen & Carrington

# The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Christmas 2018



Church of Scotland

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## News about Walter and Helen Renton

In September it was wonderful to welcome back home Walter and Helen Renton from Australia. As many of you know back in July Helen and Walter flew out to Australia for three weeks to spend some time with family. Unfortunately, after only a week, Walter took seriously ill and was admitted to hospital. After 15 weeks he was allowed to travel back to Scotland with Helen accompanied by their son and daughter. On arrival at Edinburgh airport Walter was taken straight to the Western General Hospital by ambulance and at the time of writing remains a patient there.



*Walter enjoying some 'catch up time' with his granddaughters.*

Walter continues to have treatment at the Western General Hospital and as a congregation we continue to pray for Walter, Helen and the family.

# WHO'S WHO

## MINISTER

The Revd Lorna M Souter MA BD MSc  
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BONNYRIGG  
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<i>Session Clerk:</i>	Elizabeth [Liz] Mills (663 3162) 26 Dalhousie Gardens, Bonnyrigg	Dorothy Spence (L) (663 0943) 8 Wishart Avenue, Bonnyrigg
<i>Clerk to the Board:</i>	Walter Renton (663 1489) 2 Pendreich Grove, Bonnyrigg	Unitary Constitution. The Congregational Board has been dissolved
<i>Church Officer / Local Contact:</i>	Ian Bee 07760 176471 24 McQuade Street, Bonnyrigg	Andrew Renwick (L) (663 7678) Agnes Anderson(R) (440 0282)
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Malcolm Logan (561 9509) 17 Parsonspool, Bonnyrigg	Pat Lawrie (663 7597) 48 Lothian Street, Bonnyrigg
<i>Organist (&amp; Choir Master):</i>	Graham Burnside (556 1751)	Herbert Dryden (L) (663 8895) 52 Broomieknowe Park, Bonnyrigg Kenneth Wight (R) (663 2777) 8 Waverley Road, Bonnyrigg
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<i>Gift Aid:</i>	William Brown (01875 830354) 25 Main Street, Temple	Eleanor Marshall (660 1029)
<i>Freewill Offerings:</i>		
<i>Roll-Keeper:</i>	Nancy Richardson (663 8517) 2 Waverley Drive, Bonnyrigg	
<i>Safeguarding Coordinator:</i>	John Adamson (079 6071 6015)	Dorothy Spence (663 0943)
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<i>Health &amp; Safety Contact:</i>	John Adamson (079 6071 6015)	
<i>Life and Work:</i>	Wilma Sweeney (663 6546)	May Murdoch (663 8454)
<i>Sunday School:</i>		

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

## SERVICES :: DECEMBER 2018 to EASTER 2019

Date	Lasswade & Rosewell at 10.00 am	Cockpen & Carrington at 11.30 am
2 December 1st Advent	Minister – Rosewell <b>Toy Gift Service</b>	Minister <b>Toy Gift Service</b>
9 December 2 <sup>nd</sup> Advent	Minister – Lasswade <b>Nativity</b>	Minister <b>Service of Remembering</b> 3.00 pm
16 December 3 <sup>rd</sup> Advent	Minister – Rosewell	Minister – <b>Nativity</b>
23 December	Minister – Lasswade  <b>Christingle Service –</b> Rosewell – 6.00 pm	Minister  <b>Nine Lessons and Carols</b> 7.30 pm
Monday 24 December <b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>Christingle Service</b> Lasswade – 6.00 pm	<b>Watchnight Service</b> – 11.20 pm
30 December	<b>Joint Service Lasswade Church – 10 am – conducted by Eddie Yeoman</b>	
6 January	Minister – Rosewell	Minister
13 January	Fiona Devoy – Lasswade	Fiona Devoy
20 January	Minister – Rosewell	Minister
27 January	Minister – Lasswade <b>Communion Service</b>	tbc – all-age service with Sunday School
3 February	Minister – Rosewell	Minister <b>Communion Service</b>
10 February	Minister – Lasswade	Minister
17 February	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
24 February	Minister – Lasswade	Minister – all-age service with Sunday School
3 March	Minister – Rosewell	Minister
10 March	Minister – Lasswade	Minister
17 March	Rev. Andrew Dick – Rosewell	Minister
24 March	Mary Millan – Lasswade	Minister – all-age service and celebration of Communion
31 March	<b>Joint Service Rosewell Church - 10.00 am</b>	
7 April	Minister – Rosewell	Minister
14 April <b>Palm Sunday</b>	Minister – Lasswade	Minister
21 April <b>Easter Sunday</b>	Minister – Rosewell	Minister
28 April	tbc – Lasswade	tbc

**Holy Week Services Monday 15 April to Friday 19 April 2019 - tbc**

## **From the Minister ...**

As we come towards the end of another year, there seems for many to be quite a sense of uncertainty and anxiety about what our future will hold. That's not perhaps a new situation. With the poignant times of Remembrance this year marking the special 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the First World War, there have been reminders of all the uncertainty, anxiety and fear that those on active service and their families back home knew across the terrible long years of the war 1914-1918.

In our own times, in different ways, there is uncertainty and fear in the air. Most especially, that now comes for many from the long and complex negotiations that have been going on over securing a positive Brexit deal. What in the end will be the outcome and how will it affect us all in the short and longer term?

In the Church of Scotland, too, there has for some time now been uncertainty, anxiety and sadness about the changes we have experienced over the last 50 years or so. Where once our churches and Sunday Schools were full, with people happily coming to church each Sunday, many of us now have dwindling, aging congregations and only small handfuls of young people attending.

The church is no longer at the centre but on the fringes of our community. That's because we live in a post-Christendom age. The drift away from church and God comes in part from people no longer wishing to be guided in their thinking and practice by the Church. But we can also see how much society has changed in its lifestyle. Balancing work, family and leisure activities means that, even for people and families who might still like to come to church, there are so many conflicting pressures on how best to use a Sunday morning.

In our dwindling churches, therefore, there is uncertainty and anxiety about how we might be able to re-think how church can be today, in order still to be able to share the message of God's love in our communities. We don't need to change everything, but we do need to start thinking 'outside the box' to explore new and meaningful ways of being and doing church today in the midst of our community. That can be uncomfortable, though, because it means stepping out on a journey when as yet we don't really know which way to go and we don't know where we'll end up.

As we come towards Christmas, we'll be reminded in the Christmas story once again of other examples of those who journeyed with uncertainty. We'll hear about the shepherds who left their flocks on the

hillside and made the uncertain journey down into Bethlehem, not knowing exactly what they would find. In the end they discovered Mary and Joseph and Jesus in a stable – what an unexpected place for the long-awaited new born King and Son of God to be born. And we'll hear, too, about the Wise Men who travelled thousands of miles from the East in order also to find the promised new King. They didn't know where they were going; they didn't know who they would find, but they faithfully followed the star each step of the way and with wonder were able at last to present their gifts to the child Jesus.

As we face uncertainty on our journey, we can remember that others have been there before us. We can also hold onto the promises God gave to them. As Joshua stood on the edge of the land God had promised to the people of Israel, with complete uncertainty about what would unfold ahead and seeking to follow in the mighty footsteps of Moses as leader, God gave him this guidance and promise:

*“Be strong and courageous. do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”*

We can have confidence as we press on that our God is a God who is present and who is familiar with doing new things. As together we trust committedly and prayerfully in him, we too can look forward to his help and enabling each step of the way.

Your minister  
Lorna Souter





## FROM THE COCKPEN AND CARRINGTON CLERK

As always, the church was beautifully decorated for harvest by Malcolm and Mary Logan with sheaves of wheat and the Cross decorated with wheat, berries and fruit. Some 20 bags filled with food brought to church on Harvest Sunday were delivered to "Hampers for Veterans" who were delighted with the generous donation. A huge thank you to Malcolm and Mary for decorating the church and to all who brought donations for the charity.

Our '**Victorian Christmas Fair**' will be held in the church hall on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 10.30am - 1pm. We hope that with your support we can make this another bumper fund raiser. There will be tombola, raffles, home produce, jam, chutney, cakes sweets and lots of Christmas items to buy. Come along and join in the fun when you can enjoy tea, coffee or mulled wine, and mince pies and cake.

At this time of year, I always think of the famous opening line by Charles Dickens, Christmas can be '*the best of times, and the worst of times*'. We have them both, don't we?

Who doesn't dread early October as stores start cranking into full Christmas mode displaying Christmas cards, decorations, and toys. Or sending Christmas cards to people you have not seen for years. Or feeling you have to go to parties you would rather not. The list is endless and there is something about these experiences and obligations that seem to make it '*the worst of times*'.

In spite of the challenges I prefer to view Christmas as '*the best of times*'. There's no better time of year. The joy and smell of the large freshly cut Christmas tree being placed and decorated in church. Children performing the Nativity story, faces glowing with such wonder. And there is nothing like music at Christmas. !

Here at Cockpen and Carrington we are so fortunate to have such a talented musician as Graham Burnside our organist and choir



master who along with the choir, leads us through the season of Advent with hymns, anthems and carols We offer a varied menu of music. The choir will sing at the Guild Carol Party on 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm then at the service of Lessons and Carols on 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 7.30pm and the Watchnight service on 24<sup>th</sup> December at 11.20pm. We thank Graham and the choir for making music special at this joyous time.

The Christmas period brings with it a mixture of emotions and experiences depending on our situations and our temperament, for some it's a feeling of loneliness or a reminder of a dearly missed love one. The Minister will lead a short Service of Remembering in church on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm.

Many people who don't normally come to church consider attending a service over the Christmas period so please ensure we all welcome them when they join us in worship

Peace and joy to you and yours this Christmas.

*Liz*

Session Clerk

## **BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL**



Thank you to everyone who filled a shoebox for the *Blythswood Shoebox Appeal*. This kind gesture by so many ensures that we bring some happiness to someone in need this Christmas. This year we sent 38 boxes from Cockpen and Carrington.

## **USED STAMPS**

Thank you to everyone who donated used stamps. I trim them and separate them into British and Foreign. They were donated to the Scottish Bible Society who say for every £5 they receive from the sale of these items someone in a foreign country will receive a Bible.

*Dorothy Bennett*

# COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH

## WEDDINGS

13 October 2018     Ian John HUTCHISON to Elaine NOBLE  
(conducted by The Minister)

2 November 2018     Sam DENTON to Lauren HUNTER  
(conducted by The Minister)

(See Church website at [www.church.cockpen.co.uk](http://www.church.cockpen.co.uk)) for information and advice on weddings for all three of the churches.

## BEREAVEMENTS

We continue to pray for those in our Congregations (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'***

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### **Service of Remembering Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00 pm Cockpen & Carrington Church**

Christmas can be a difficult time of year. Many have experienced bereavement through the year or continue to miss loved ones no longer with us.

In addition, some may be facing Christmas in the midst of difficult situations: the break-up of a relationship, the loss of a job, ill health or a time of anxiety.



This service will offer space amidst the Christmas rush and bustle for remembering and for quiet reflection, with stillness and music and reflective words.

All who would find this helpful are most welcome.

*Lorna Souter*

# THE PURPLE POPPY

I came upon the poem below on Facebook and it encouraged me to find out a wee bit more...

The purple poppy first appeared in 2006 and it is dedicated to all the animals who served in wars. Two years previously, a London monument was dedicated to the gallantry of animals in war. The inscription reads:

*"To all the animals that served and died alongside British and Allied Forces in wars and campaigns. They had no choice."*

On 8<sup>th</sup> June this year the War Horse Memorial was unveiled in Ascot, Berkshire and you can find out more on the internet.

The poem was written by Neil Andrew and is called:

## **I spoke to you in whispers**

I spoke to you in whispers  
As the shells made the ground beneath us quake  
We both trembled in that crater  
A toxic muddy bloody lake  
I spoke to you and pulled your ears  
To try and quell your fearful eye  
As bullets whizzed through the raindrops  
And we watched the men around us die

I spoke to you in stable tones  
A quiet tranquil voice  
At least I volunteered to fight  
You didn't get to make the choice  
I spoke to you of old times  
Perhaps you went before the plough  
And pulled the haycart from the meadow  
Far from where we're dying now

I spoke to you of grooming  
Of when the ploughman made you shine  
Not the shrapnel wounds and bleeding flanks  
Mane filled with mud and wire and grime

I spoke to you of courage  
As gas filled the Flanders air  
Watched you struggle in the mud  
Harness acting like a snare

I spoke to you of peaceful fields  
Grazing beneath a setting sun  
Time to rest your torn and tired body  
Your working day is done  
I spoke to you of promises  
If from this maelstrom I survive  
By pen and prose and poetry  
I'll keep your sacrifice alive

I spoke to you of legacy  
For when this hellish time is through  
All those who hauled or charged or carried  
Will be regarded heroes too  
I spoke to you in dulcet tones  
Your eye told me you understood  
As I squeezed my trigger to bring you peace  
The only way I could  
And I spoke to you in whispers...

*IB*

## **CAKE STALL**

Many thanks once again for all your support for the cake stall in 2018, your efforts are much appreciated.

Thanks also to Bonnyrigg Church for the use of the Pitcairn Centre and of course, to all our loyal customers.

Future dates for the stall are as follows –

**24th January, 2019**

**28th February, 2019**

**28th March, 2019**

**25th April, 2019**

**23rd May, 2019**

**27th June, 2019**

With all our best wishes for the Festive Season.

*Helen, Isabel and Wilma .*

## COCKPEN & CARRINGTON CHURCH - CHRISTMAS MUSIC 2018

As we all well know, once the clocks have changed and the cold weather comes upon us once again the remainder of the year begins to evaporate very quickly. It's time once again therefore to look forward to our musical programme for the Christmas season.

This year in fact the choir has had an earlier start, contributing music for our special Armistice service on the evening of Remembrance Sunday. This unique event (for once the appropriate word) is just coming into view as I write but I'm sure by the time you read this the sound of all of the country's church bells ringing out will be a vivid memory.

Turning to the Christmas season itself, the dates for your diary this year will be:

### **Monday 10 December**

The musical festivities begin, as in so many years past, with the always popular **Guild Carol Party**, held as ever at 7.30 pm in the Church Hall. This will be the first opportunity to hear the choir's musical offerings for this year, which have been drawn from home and further afield - including a carol from Latvia, which I think will be a first for us! Mainly though it's an evening for all to enjoy the familiar Christmas music and to "warm up" for the services ahead. Needless to say, the refreshments on offer will be a significant part of the attraction too!

### **Sunday 23 December**

Last year our **Service of 9 Lessons and Carols** fell more than a week before Christmas. This is the time though where the calendar takes a leap forward and this year's service will be held just two days before Christmas itself - the spirit of the season should be well in the air therefore for our always very atmospheric candle-lit event. Each year I try to find one or two items for the choir's programme which are new to us - this becomes more of a challenge as the years roll by! However, this time round we will be hearing for the first time the Latvian traditional carol already mentioned, plus a rather haunting carol by the 20th century English composer Lennox Berkeley, "I sing of a maiden". I hope you will find much to enjoy in this as in the communal singing and we look forward to welcoming you then.

One important thing to note - to fit in with other events the service will start at **7.30 pm**, half an hour later than in recent years.

### **Monday 24 December**

Just one day after our carol service we will reach Christmas Eve, which of course will be marked as always by our **Watchnight Service**, taking us into Christmas Day with a programme of well-loved carols for all to sing as well as a further item from the choir. In the time-honoured way, we will commence at 11.20 pm.

My programme of organ music for the services will as often be drawn from the great French romantic tradition, including a very festive "Marcia" from Widor's 3rd Organ Symphony, one of his lesser known pieces (certainly as compared to the famous Toccata) but which I think works very well on our organ.

Over the years we have had every possible sort of weather on Christmas Eve, from unexpected mild spells to full on blizzards! Let's hope it won't be too unkind to us this time round so that as many of you as possible can join us for the special fellowship of the season.

GMB

## **From a book – ‘Breaking the Rules’**

**Again, a story by the late Eddie Askew which I’ve shared with you for some time. I’ve enjoyed and learned from these books so much and would commend them to you. G.S.**

Hebrews Chapter 12, verses 1 - 3

About fifty of us met to celebrate a special occasion with a Christian minister. We’d all been members of a Church he’d led years ago. It was the fifty- first anniversary of the beginning of his time there. After twenty or more years he had moved on but, many of us had kept in touch. Some had stayed at the Church the whole time, others hadn’t.

He was eighty-five, still lively in mind and faith, and straight in body although, maybe just a little bit stiff. His sense of humour was still intact and he was still preaching regularly.

The afternoon was warm with sun, memory and, matured friendship. The air was full of “Do you remember ...?” Creased, dog-eared black and white photographs had been resurrected for the day. They showed young, un-creased faces smiling out of yesterday’s fashions.

Each person had been profoundly influenced by this one man. Each life had gone it’s own course. Some had been very successful in this world’s terms, others not so. Many treasured happy relationships, a few were tinged with sadness, even tragedy.

I wondered how he felt, seeing us all together. Did he feel successful, or what? It seemed an intrusion to ask. And the more I thought about the question, the less it seemed to matter.

What did matter was his life. He’d lived it faithfully, consistently. He’d preached his vision of the truth and lived it out as honestly as he could. At times he’d been misunderstood. He’d had his share of criticism but, he’d always accepted it graciously, and he’d stayed true. His influence, the values he’d lived out could be seen in the people around him that afternoon.

The results? The success? Not for us to judge, but it looked pretty good from where I was sitting. And I thanked God for him.

GS

## **Life and Work Magazine**

If you wish to place an order or cancel your current order, please contact me by 25th November. The cost is £30.60 per annum.

*Wilma Sweeney, 0131 663 6546*

## GUILD REPORT

We were again delighted to welcome some new faces when our Guild resumed after the summer.

Once again, this year the Minister encouraged Guild members to help in leading Sunday Worship in church for the annual dedication of the Guild. It was especially nice to have two members participate for the first time and were greatly encouraged by the praise and kind words that were received by many members of the congregation. It can be a daunting experience for those not used to reading in Church so your support was appreciated. At our opening meeting the following evening, our minister kindly came to speak on this year's theme, One Journey, Many Roads, — "Seeking the Way".

At our next meeting we enjoyed listening to a wonderful speaker from "The Yard", a charity that provides play for disabled children and their families.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> November many visitors joined us to listen to Patricia Keppie talk on the *Commonwealth War Graves Commission*. This proved to be a very interesting evening leading up to Remembrance Sunday.

Hopefully you will have received this magazine in time to accept our invitation to our annual Carol Party being held this year on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 730pm. It is always very popular and for which the Guild are very grateful to Graham Burnside and the choir for entertaining us with their talent and leading us in a selection of carols. The usual mince pies and cake will also be served at the interval.

*Liz and Helen*

## PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

The Prayer group meet each Wednesday morning at 11am. We pray for around 30 minutes then enjoy a cup of tea when everyone can exchange news with each other.

A Bible Study group meets once a month for an hour on a Tuesday evening at 7pm at the Manse. These meetings are open to the members of Cockpen and Carrington and Lasswade and Rosewell and it would be nice to see some new faces.



## SUNDAY TEA ROTA

Cockpen and Carrington

**2018**

<b>December 2nd</b>	Muriel Calder Andrew Jack Wilma Sweeney	<b>March 3rd</b>	Wilma Sweeney Vi Gibson Betty Finlay
<b>January 6th</b>	Madge Commins Mary Logan Isobel Watson	<b>April 7th</b>	Muriel Calder Moirra Scott Mary Logan
<b>February 10th</b>	Liz McDonald Nancy Richardson John Adamson		

**First Sunday of the month unless otherwise stated.**

## KNIT AND NATTER

We started our Knit and Natter group in September 2016 with nine people attending on the first week. I am delighted to say that our numbers have increased greatly and we now have around thirty-five people attending. Our average attending weekly is twenty-five and we are still welcoming newcomers on a regular basis. Many have learnt new skills and we have all definitely gained ideas from each other.

At the time we started the group everyone made many different items for our Christmas Fair which gave the Fair a great boost. Since then we have been set various projects, the biggest by far being the Poppies. These were knitted or crocheted and three Poppy Falls were made for Cockpen and Carrington, Lasswade and Rosewell and Springfield Bank Nursing Home. Helen, being the crochet expert, made poppies for each person attending Church on Remembrance Sunday and for the residents at Springfield Bank.

In a previous project the group supplied Rosewell School Nursery Class with Cushion Covers, Dolls Blankets, Dolls Clothes, and leaves, flowers, hearts, stockings, and Pom-Poms to make garlands for decorating the Nursery Classroom. All of these items were either knitted or crocheted.

Other projects have included:

Chickens for Elisabeth Spence for a Easter Hunt at Hopefield  
Twiddle Muffs for Springfield Bank and the Community Hospital  
Crochet *Octipussy* baby toys, for premature babies  
Snowmen for Elisabeth Spence for the Carol Singing at Hopefield

The ladies have been knitting Trauma Teddies for Police Scotland, and at the time of writing we have just completed making Elves, Santas and Angels — 54 in total. These little people are being used by our pioneering Minister Elisabeth Spence for a school project.



The group meet in the church hall at 1-30pm each Thursday so please do come along and see if it might be something you would enjoy.

We still have plenty room for those who might feel they would like to come along and join in the various crafts or would simply like to enjoy the company and chat.

Either way, you will be made most welcome.

*Liz*

## **The Nativity meets the Modern World**

(A true story)

A family were transiting through Dubai airport. The young daughter, seeing that most of the men were dressed in middle-eastern clothes which she had seen worn in Sunday School nativity plays, turned to her mother and asked, "Why are all these shepherds here?" Back came the reply from her mother, "They are here to clear the sheep off the runway."

## Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota

**2018/ 19**

December 2nd 9th 16th 23rd 30th	Betty Finlay Pat Mitchell Dorothy, Helen & Catherine Liz Laidlaw Joint Service - Lasswade
January 6th 13th 20th 27th	Irene Ramsay Mary Logan Lynn Hansen Ian Fowler
February 3rd 10th 17th 24th	Barbara McInnes Irene Ramsay Dorothy Peat Liz Mills
March 3rd 10th 17th 24th 31st	Maria Hall Stella McLeish Cathie Fisher John Adamson Joint Service - CC
April 7th 14th 21st 28th	Liz Mills Nancy Richardson Liz MacDonald Mary Logan

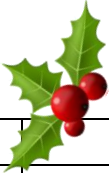


Thank you for all the donations received and to all who supply and arrange the flowers in the Church. I and the other members of the Congregation who deliver the flowers on Sundays after Church enjoy the pleasure of brightening up someone's day.

Please contact me on 663 8517 or see me in Church if you have any queries.

Best wishes for the Festive Season.

*Nancy*



## Christmas Anagrams



	Anagram	Answer
1	Metrics harsh fat	
2	Serpents	
3	Grimace us	
4	Dung dip	
5	Silent	
6	Swam non	
7	Motels tie	
8	Red Irene	
9	Gin stock	
10	Hired giles	
11	Lawns slob	
12	Key rut	
13	Armrest itches	
14	German	
15	Jill begs len	
16	Inmates mop	
17	Causal stan	
18	Staunchest sort	
19	Thermal hob fetes	
20	Him sweetener	
21	Spine mice	
22	Ugly leo	
23	A garble leg in	
24	Coordinates	
25	Clearing ross	

Answers on page 23.

## LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL NEWS

### **Christingle Christmas Family Services:**

Sunday 23 December Christingle Service at 6.00 p.m.  
at Rosewell Parish Church

Monday 24 December Christingle Service at 6.00 p.m.  
at Lasswade Parish Church

Everyone will be made most welcome and there will be a retiring offering in aid of 'Safe Families for Children'

**May peace be your gift at Christmas and your blessing all year through.**

### **MacMillan Biggest Coffee Morning:**

This was held on 28 September at 44 Carnethie Street, Rosewell and the sum of £700 was raised. Sincere thanks to all who contributed in any way to this event.

*Agnes Anderson*

**You are warmly invited to join us in the  
Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Sunday 27 January 2019 at 10.00 a.m.  
Lasswade Parish Church All Welcome**

### **World Day of Prayer – Friday 1 March 2019**

The service this year is prepared by the Women of Slovenia and the theme is 'Come – Everything is Ready' (more details to follow).

### **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. We hope you will come along with your friends and enjoy coffee, home baking and lots of chat. A huge thank you to all the donators, helpers, servers and, of course, everyone who comes along to enjoy the friendship.

### **Cake Stall:**

A big thank you to everyone who supports our Thursday Cake Stall at the Pitcairn Centre. If you are able to help on the stall please speak to Cathy Drysdale or Norma Sangster.

Forthcoming dates are: 13 December, 10 January, 14 February, 14 March and 11 April.

We would like to thank you all for your continued support and best wishes for the Festive Season.

### **Christmas Coffee Morning: Saturday 8 December:**

Our Christmas Coffee Morning is planned for Saturday 8 December from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in Rosewell Church Hall. We hope to have a number of stalls including home baking, lucky dip, tombola and raffle as well as teas/coffees served with Christmas mince pies and shortbread. Visit from Santa and entertainment on the keyboard by Kenny Wight who will be playing Christmas music. Please put this date in your diary. Donations for the stalls can be handed into the hall on the Friday evening (7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.) Volunteers are also required on the Friday evening to set up. Many thanks and we hope to see you there.

### **Thought for Today:**

The next time you feel like complaining about your breakfast, lunch or supper REMEMBER: your rubbish bin probably has better food in it than 30% of the people in this world have to eat.

### **Supporting the Food Bank:**

Your contributions to the Food Bank box in the church vestibules are enormously appreciated by the recipients. The food parcels are distributed via knowledge of Social Work, Doctors' Surgeries, or the local Citizens Advice Bureau, who recommend names for food parcels. Contributions of non-perishable foods are very welcome. It is hard for us to imagine, but there are many in this surrounding area who have little or no means of cooking because they cannot afford the power. Many are in this situation having been made redundant and no work available, or those who earn so little they cannot feed their families in what we would consider a satisfactory

manner. Please do continue to contribute – it is much appreciated. Many thanks.

### **Blythwood Care Shoebox Appeal 2018:**

121 shoe-boxes were uplifted from Rosewell Parish Church – this included 21 from Rosewell Primary School, 46 from the Midlothian (Bonnyrigg) Scouts and 54 from Lasswade & Rosewell Church. Sincere thanks to everyone who filled a shoebox and to Moira and Jim Campbell for collecting boxes from the school and bagging all the boxes ready for collection.

*Agnes Anderson*



### **Harvest Thanksgiving:**

The Church was beautifully decorated at Harvest - a huge thank you to all those who helped or contributed flowers and produce. Non-perishable food items were donated to the Bethany Christian Trust. A retiring offering was collected during the service for the work of the Street Pastors. (Please see next page). Your generosity was much appreciated by both charities.



## **Edinburgh Street Pastors - Listening, Caring and Helping**

Edinburgh Street Pastors was set up in 2009. We are a group of Christian volunteers who are trained to respond to the issues that arise during the night time economy. We patrol the streets each Friday night, and two Saturdays per month. We can be found on the street between 11pm and 4am. Each volunteer serves on one team that goes out once per month. We currently have 6 teams, we are looking to create more teams to enable us to patrol every Friday and Saturday night. We are really excited to expand our work as the police have been asking us to patrol every Saturday for some years. Edinburgh City centre is a very different place at night. Thousands of people flood into the city from all over the world to enjoy the pubs, clubs, theatres, cinemas, restaurants and other entertainment. Edinburgh's night club scene attracts many stag and hen party groups from around the UK. There are also huge numbers of people begging *and* sleeping rough on our streets at night.

Our aim is to listen, care and help. We do not seek to judge, but want to extend the grace and compassion of Christ to those who are in need. We serve people in various ways, and often get opportunities to pray with people on the street and share our faith when people ask us questions. We have lots of spiritual conversations with people who want to know why we volunteer and do what we do.

Interested in joining this work? Our training is taking place in February and March next year. The training is run across 2 separate weekends : 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> of February, and 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> of March. The training comprises sessions on Friday evening, part day Saturday, and Sunday late afternoon in both instances. Even if you can attend one of the training weekends, we can get you on the journey of training to becoming a Street Pastor.

INTERESTED? Please contact Lawrie Hudson our Recruitment and Training Coordinator. His email address is

**[edinburghsp.training@gmail.com](mailto:edinburghsp.training@gmail.com)**

May the spirit of **Christmas** bring you peace  
The gladness of Christmas give you **Hope**  
**AND**  
The warmth of Christmas grant you love  
**Happy Christmas**



Messy Church, held in Rosewell Church Hall, begins with a warm welcome so if you have never been to Messy Church before, do come along. Mums, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends, carers accompanied by babies, toddlers, and primary school children – you are

all most welcome.

Children are NOT dropped off – come and join the fun with them. Messy Church creatively explores Christian and moral themes through getting messy; with crafts, games, a story, prayer and songs and then it finishes with a special Messy meal together without you having to clear up or cook!

The first session in the New Year will be on **Sunday 3 February**, from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. then Saturday 2 March from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. You can find us on Facebook at **'Rosewell Messy Church'**.

*Lasswade and Rosewell Messy Church Team*

## A RECIPE FOR FRIENDSHIP

### INGREDIENTS:

- |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 pint of trust               | 1 cup of mutual affection |
| 1 dash of caring              | 1 sprinkle of respect     |
| 2 cups of understanding       | 2 lbs of common interest  |
| 2 spoonfuls of shared secrets | 3 spoonfuls of listening  |

### AND 1 BAG OF FUN

And mix this all up with love and you have that perfect friendship which we should be spreading to those in need this Christmas.

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Father Christmas	9 Stocking	17 Santa Claus
2 Presents	10 Sleigh Ride	18 Roast Chestnuts
3 Sugar Mice	11 Snowballs	19 Star of Bethlehem
4 Pudding	12 Turkey	20 Three Wise Men
5 Tinsel	13 Christmas Tree	21 Mince Pies
6 Snowman	14 Manger	22 Yule Log
7 Mistletoe	15 Jingle Bells	23 Angel Gabriel
8 Reindeer	16 Pantomimes	24 Decorations
		25 Carol Singers

## Lasswade and Rosewell Choir

As always. I start by expressing my appreciation to the Choir – both to the regular members and to those who augment our numbers from time to time – for their continued support and enthusiasm, not just over these last few months but throughout the year. Indeed, I have had a lot of support over the years, not just from the current members, but from those who are no longer with us, and for that I am forever grateful. So, thank you to one and all.

We are approaching the Season of Advent and Christmas and by the time you read this the Choir will have started work on two carols which we hope to sing as anthems, namely, Poverty (All poor men and humble) which is translated from the Welsh by K.E.Roberts and set to a tune by Dr.Caradog Roberts and Bethlehem (In that poor stable) which is a French carol by Fletcher, translated by Maurice F. Bell and set to a tune by Charles Gounod.

At this time of giving can I share something which I read recently. The gist of this is from an article by Simon Heffer which appeared in the Daily Telegraph around the centenary of the death of Sir Hubert Parry, the composer of, inter alia, “Jerusalem” and “Repton” which is the tune we often sing to the words “Dear Lord and Father of mankind”. Parry was a great musician but his greatness as a man was shown by an act of generosity to a pupil, Herbert Howells, who became one of the Royal College of Music’s most gifted students. Herbert Howells, who was from an impoverished family in Gloucestershire, fell mortally ill with Graves’ disease in 1915 and there was only one possibility of saving his life – the radium treatment developed by the Curies but never then used in England. Sir Hubert Parry paid the bill and Herbert Howells recovered and went on to write some of the greatest church music. So, we should remember Sir Hubert Parry, not just for giving us some of the greatest music but also for his generosity which allowed someone else as well to give us wonderful music.

The Choir join with me in wishing you all the Compliments of the Season.

HLRD

## Lasswade Church Flower Rota

January 13th	Mary Sharpe
January 27th	Maureen McGeachy
February 10th	Janette Barnes
February 24th	Norma Sangster, Liz Wilden
March 10th	Ann Macdonald
March 24th	Cathie Drysdale
April 14th	Marlyn Davidson
April 28th	Lorna Oliver

Thank you to all the 'Flower Folk' who provide flowers for the church. With the change in the number of services at Lasswade, I am aware that some folk feel that they have missed their turn at providing the flowers. I am happy to try and remedy this where possible. It is great to see the seasonal changes in the flowers which are provided. We live in a beautiful world which is enhanced through nature.

*Moir Dryden*

## Way up North to Alaska

A few years ago, when May and I decided to go on a cruise aboard the Norwegian Wind to Alaska, people at home and at work were horrified; cruises were for the warmth and sunshine of the Mediterranean the Caribbean and not to a place where we could freeze to death. We sailed from Vancouver in Canada and as we approached Alaskan waters we could see and hear sounds like rifle shots. This was icebergs breaking up. We also visited the Mendenhall glacier before our first port of call at Juneau which only can be reached by sea or air. We saw thousands of salmon so you can guess what was on the menu when we returned to the ship. Our next port of call was Skagway reminiscent of the wild saloon. Some of the passengers went on the White Pass Railway but we went to pan for gold and crossed into the Yukon in Canada. We also met the Canadian Huskies which were much larger than the familiar Siberian huskies.

We stopped at a one street town called Haynes before cruising into Ketchikan which in the days of the 1890's gold rush was not the sort of place for the Women's Guild or rural outings. While we were there we did

see the largest collection of totem poles in North America. We enjoyed our visit to Alaska so much that we went back a second time cruising from Seattle in the United States; and, in one place the symbol of the United States, a bald eagle, was perched high above us. We were on the Sea Princess of Princess Cruises and we had a colony of large whales which swam and flipped alongside our ship.

As this destination has now increased in popularity no doubt other church members have enjoyed the dramatic beauty of this part of North America.

*Ian Murdoch*

***Here's a recipe to try for Christmas***

## **CHRISTMAS TREE GINGERSNAPS**

Ingredients -

50g (2oz.) butter  
1 tbsp milk  
1 tbsp black treacle 2 tbsp golden syrup  
125g (4oz) plain flour  
1 tbsp ground ginger  
50g (2oz) unrefined light brown soft sugar  
To decorate -  
50g (2oz) icing sugar Coloured string or ribbon.

Method -

1. Preheat oven to 180 C, Gas mark 4.
2. Place butter, milk, treacle and syrup in a small pan and heat gently until the butter melts. Remove from the heat and cool for 4 - 5 minutes.
3. Sift the flour and ginger into a bowl then stir in the sugar.
4. Pour in the buttery syrup and mix to form a soft ball. Allow to cool slightly.
5. Roll out to 1/2 cm (1/4 in) thick. Cut out shapes and make a small hole near the top of each biscuit. Bake for 10 - 15 minutes in the pre-heated oven.
6. Remove from the oven. Leave for 3 minutes to firm up then, transfer to a wire rack to cool.
7. To decorate, add a little water to the icing sugar and wipe on to the biscuits. When dry, thread and hang on the tree.

## Rosewell Church Flower Rota 2019

<b>December</b> 2nd 16th	Jean Lindsay Christmas Flowers
<b>January</b> 6th  20th	Christmas flower arrangement retained Betty Thomson
<b>February</b> 3rd 17th	Eleanor Marshall Sandra Carey
<b>March</b> 3rd 17th	Alex Ferguson Moira Campbell
<b>April</b> 7th 21st	Laura Stewart Julie Brown

Thanks again to all our flower donors and helpers and wishing everyone a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

*Jean Lindsay*



Lasswade & Rosewell

Parish Church

# Christmas Coffee Morning

In: ROSEWELL PARISH

CHURCH HALL

On: Saturday 8 December

From 10:00am to 12 noon

Home Baking, Tombola,  
Raffle, Lucky Dip, Plants,  
Visit from Santa, Christmas  
music, carols and lots more



Everyone Welcome



## Christmas Memories

As a young teacher in my first post I was very excited to experience Christmas in the school.

I was able to play the piano while the Nativity story was retold. This involved many rehearsals and the final result left everyone with a great feeling of joy and relief that all had gone well!

One of the carols which the children learnt was 'Silent Night'. After one of the early practices one of the little girls in my class told me that it had been written by her Great Great Great Grandfather. Her name was Sharon Gruber and her father worked for the South African Embassy in London. The family returned to South Africa and I always think of her when the carol is sung. She could well be a grandmother by now!

A few years ago, Herbert and I had a trip to Salzburg to the Christmas Market. We took a train to Oberndorf, where Mohr, the parish priest, and Gruber the musician and choirmaster became good friends. There we found a little domed chapel built in 1937 to replace the original church, which was burnt down. When we were there we stepped inside this chapel and joined in singing the well-known carol. There were many languages that day but it was an experience to treasure.

I was aware that some of the music I was using had unusual markings and when I asked about these I was told that these copies had been used at the Palace... Buckingham Palace... when my talented Head teacher had gone to accompany the Palace Brownie Pack when they had performed a Nativity Play for the Queen.

I had got my job when Princess Anne's Brown Owl had left the school to take up a post as a Head Teacher in a local school. I had not realised that I was following in such illustrious footsteps!

*Moiria Dryden*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

We started back in August after the summer break with an All Age Service at Cockpen and Carrington. Our numbers vary a bit from week to week as the children have other activities which sometimes fall on a Sunday. Our core attendance remains the same as last year but we now have an extra very young person attending, namely Amelia Skirving. Amelia was born in June and is now taking everything in and enjoying the fun.

We are still being helped by Agnes Renton, Libby and Stephanie who prepare the lesson for us each week and always have a new activity for us based on bible stories. We are grateful to them for their assistance.

In December we are going to the Pantomime in the King's Theatre. (Oh yes we are!!!!) This year it is "Beauty and the Beast" starring Alan Stewart and Grant Stott. There are 60 people going, ourselves, Rosewell Sunday School and many friends from the Churches.

By the time this issue of "The Link" is with you we shall be busy rehearsing our Nativity play which we hope you will all enjoy. Two performances only, Lasswade Church on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 10am and Cockpen & Carrington on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am.

We wish you all a Happy Christmas.

*Jim Scott*



### Christingle Services

at Rosewell Church on  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 6.00 pm  
and

at Lasswade Church on  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00 pm



A Christmas service for all the family  
with carols and candles

**All are most welcome!**



**Hopefield Connections does**

## **CHRISTMAS**

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
3 -4 pm in Burnbrae School.

*You are invited to come along for  
Christmas activities and a Christingle.  
Bring the family.*



## **CAROL SINGING**

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
6 – 7pm  
Community Garden at Burnbrae Primary

*Come along for a festive sing & a hot chocolate!  
For all the family  
Invite the neighbours*

# THE HOLY HIKERS

"The best remedy for a short temper  
is a long walk."

Jacqueline Schiff



When I found out that our trip to Peebles coincided with the final day of the "Peebles Walking Festival" I switched the walks on the programme for September and October. We did go there a few years ago at the same time and found it extremely difficult to park so in September we went to Coldstream where 11 walkers completed a circuit round the "Hirsel and Dunglass Wood". The Hirsel has been the home of the Home family since 1611 and has excellent facilities, café, craft shops etc. It was a lovely day and we all enjoyed it very much.

Our October walk in Peebles had to be cancelled due to heavy rain, but I will keep it for our programme, Summer 2019.

Here is our list of walks for November 2018 - April 2019.

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November - Around Humbie.

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Dalkeith Town Walk/ Xmas Lunch.

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019 - No Walk

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Roslin to Shawfair

Sat/Sun/Mon 9<sup>th</sup>/ 10<sup>th</sup>/ 11<sup>th</sup> March - Walking weekend TBA

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Dreghorn & Bonaly

If you would like to join our group, contact me on 0131 660 1147

*Happy Hiking*

*Jim Scott*



# BATTLE'S OVER



A NATION'S TRIBUTE

11TH NOVEMBER 2018

100 YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE

## REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

As a tribute to commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of the first World War and paying tribute to many millions that either lost their lives during dreadful conditions in their trenches or on the battlefields of the Western Front, or returned home wounded during or after the War finished on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918, 'An Evening of Poetry, Music and Reflection' was held in Cockpen and Carrington Church in the evening. It was very well attended by over 120 people.

Members from youth organisations and Army Cadets provided a colour party and read stories from the War, along with members of the congregation reading poetry and pieces sung by the choir. It was an extremely moving occasion witnessed by young and old alike.

The Church looked resplendent with decorations of poppies and our Poppy Fall, made last year by the ladies of our Knit and Natter group draping the Cross. Placed around the Church in the pews were 10 silhouettes remembering those that died. These were donated by the Covenant Trust Fund.

At 6.55pm the 'Last Post' was sounded by Caitlin Denton and at 7.05pm along with Churches throughout the land, our Church Bell 'Rang out for Peace' along joining in the Nation's tribute.

For the occasion Andrew, John, and Ian Bee did a wonderful job of flood lighting the outside of the Church Red. People from all over came to see the wonderful sight. It also featured on social media and the Armed Forces Covenant Fund website.

Leading up to the 11<sup>th</sup> November a small cross and a Memory Stone, made by Muriel Calder, were laid at each of the War Graves in Cockpen cemetery. (See previous page)





Silhouettes, part of the 'There but not there' project



Poppy fall, Cockpen & Carrington Church



## Cockpen & Carrington Church, Floodlit in red



Photography by kind permission of Colin Myers.

See FaceBook *Magic of Midlothian and Old Edinburgh*.

Colin has prints available for sale from 19.99. Message him via [www.colinmyers.com/contact](http://www.colinmyers.com/contact) to order.

Share your news, views or ideas in the Christmas Issue of “The Link” send them to [Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk](mailto:Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk) by Sunday, 17th March 2019