# Cockpen & Carrington

# The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell Parish Churches



Christmas 2024

Church of Scotland

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## **SERVICES DECEMBER 2024 to APRIL 2025**

DATE	LASSWADE & ROSEWELL (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)	
1 December	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister	
1st Advent	Toy Gift Service	Toy Gift Service	
8 December	The Minister – Lasswade		
2nd in Advent	Service of Remembering	The Minister	
	3.00 pm Rosewell		
15 December	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister – All-age Service	
3rd in Advent	All-age Service		
22 December	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
4th in Advent		Nine Lesson & Carols 7.00pm	
24 December	Christingle Service	Watchnight Service	
Christmas Eve	Rosewell – 6.00pm	Cockpen – 11.20pm	
29 December	=	Service	
1st Sunday of Christmas		ton Church at 11.30 am	
5 January	The Worship Team	The Worship Team	
2nd Sunday of Christmas	Rosewell	The Worship Team	
12 January	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
1st Sunday of Epiphany			
19 January	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister	
2nd Sunday of Epiphany	All-age Service	All-age Service	
26 January	The Minister – Lasswade	Elizabeth Mills	
3rd Sunday of Epiphany	Communion Service		
2 February	Dorothy Spence	The Minister	
4th Sunday of Epiphany	Rosewell	Communion Service	
9 February	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
5th Sunday of Epiphany	The Willister – Lasswaue		
16 February	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister	
6th Sunday of Epiphany	All-age Service	All-age Service	
23 February	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
7th Sunday of Epiphany	The Willister Lasswade	THE WIII IISTE	
2 March	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister	
Last Sunday of Epiphany			
Friday 7 March	World Day of Pray	er Service at 7.00pm	
	at Bonnyi	rigg Church	
9 March	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
1st Sunday in Lent		THE WILLIAM	
16 March	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister - All-age Service	
2nd Sunday in Lent	All-age Service	The Millister - All-age Dervice	
23 March	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
3rd Sunday in Lent			
30 March	Joint Service		
4th Sunday in Lent	Rosewell Church at 10.00 am		
6 April	The Minister – Rosewell	The Lay Pastor	
5th Sunday in Lent	Communion Service	Lay 1 aoioi	

13 April Palm Sunday	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister
20 April Easter Sunday	The Minister – Rosewell All-age Service	The Minister All-age Service
27 April 2nd Sunday of Easter	The Worship Team Lasswade	The Worship Team

Holy Week Services: Monday 14 April to Friday 18 April 2025 - tbc

You might like to fill in the information when the services have been decided.

DAY	CHURCH	TIME
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		

#### F4

Our new joint venture for families called F4 has begun on Friday afternoons from 12.30 to 2.00 pm at the Pitcairn Centre. It is a lovely, relaxed time starting off with a 'bring-your-own' picnic lunch together followed by a short Bible story and a craft time, and usually a game to finish. F4 is a family time to enjoy food, fun and faith together, so if you are free just after school on a Friday, do come along – you will be most welcome!

Lorna

#### From the Minister ...

I love Christmas time and that's in part because my Mum absolutely loved Christmas, too, and always made it very special for us as a family. She loved getting the Christmas tree up and decorating the house very often with decorations that had been put up every year since she was a girl. And I remember many nights, too, dropping off to sleep with the sound of carols playing on a record from the dining room as Mum was busy writing all the Christmas cards to be sent. On Christmas Day, she was in her element getting the turkey dinner and all its accompaniments ready, and then there was family time round the tree when Dad would hand out all the presents gathered under it. They were joy-filled times full of light and tinsel, presents and excitement, and those fond memories live on in making my own preparations for Christmas each year.

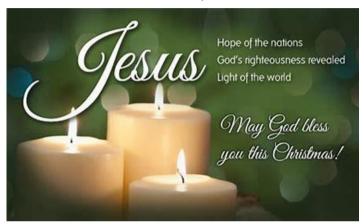
Christmas is a wonderful time and it became an even more wonderful time to celebrate after coming to personal faith in Jesus many years ago now while at university. Since then, amidst all the fun and excitement of Christmas, it's true wonder for me each year lies in contemplating the child in the manger. As God's Son, Jesus gave up everything to be here with us and his whole mission in coming was to one day give up his life for us upon the cross because it was the only way that all the sin in the world that separated us from God could be taken away. Jesus became a truly amazing gift at Christmas time, because through him and our faith in him, we freely receive God's forgiveness and lasting, new life. It is a beginning of God's seeking to make all things new, as the promise of his kingdom of light and love was set underway by Jesus's coming and by his death and resurrection, and that kingdom continues to blossom and unfold today where hearts continue to love and serve him.

As we consider all the troubles in our world today - especially the major conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East that still seem to have no end in sight, or the continuing devastations caused by climate change that will take many communities many years to recover from - the promise of God's kingdom unfolding may seem a long way off. And yet Jesus came as a light shining in a dark world, and the light he brings cannot be extinguished by the darkness. Because Jesus came, the unfolding plan of God's kingdom

cannot be derailed. His good purposes will win through come what may and our hope in him is steadfast and sure. In the meantime, we keep praying for peace and justice, for safety and wellbeing, for respect and understanding around our world.

With every blessing for a peace-filled Christmas and hopeful journey into 2025 when it comes,





# SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER



We will again this year be supporting the Salvation Army in their Christmas Toy Appeal when toys, books, games and sweets are donated by members of the congregation to help ensure that many children can have a lovely Christmas.

The presents should be brought to the Church Service on Sunday 1st December UNWRAPPED and will then be delivered to The Salvation Army for distribution. Donations of Christmas wrapping paper is always welcome.

# Cockpen and Carrington Parish Church From the Church Registers

#### **Baptisms**

If you wish to discuss the sacrament of Baptism, please contact the Minister.

## Weddings

See Church website at **www.church.cockpen.co.uk** for information and advice on weddings.

#### **Deaths**

22 October 2024

Les PORTER

We remember Margaret and the family in our prayers.

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'



## COCKPEN & CARRINGTON CHURCH CHRISTMAS MUSIC 2024

I am writing this after attending a meeting in Dundee, and on my return journey in one of this year's rare days of sunshine I was rewarded by the most beautiful autumn colours in the trees.

Preparing this note reminds me though that these same trees will very soon be bare, so it is time to focus on preparing for the services that will lighten up the year's darkest time.

Rehearsals are already under way, and the choir and I look forward to welcoming you once again to the various events and services that will celebrate the joyful Christmas season.

Here are this year's dates for your diary:

#### Monday 16 December

At a slightly later date than has been the case for the last year or two, the opening event of our season will be the always popular **Guild Carol Party** which in time honoured fashion will be held at 7.30 in the church hall. First and foremost the evening is about giving everyone their first chance to enjoy singing many of the favourite Christmas hymns and carols, but it is also your opportunity to hear the choir's repertoire for this year. I need hardly add that the refreshments on offer will be another of the attractions of the evening! The event is of course open to all, and everyone will be made very welcome. I have lost track of how many years now we have been holding these events, and I can't deny that my repertoire of stories about the carols is running a bit low, but nevertheless I am sure that once again it will prove a very enjoyable evening.

#### Sunday 22 December

In contrast to last year, our annual candle-lit **Service of Nine Lessons** and **Carols** this year falls very close to Christmas and will start at **7 pm** in the church. The carols the choir will be performing this year will be drawn from Germany, the Basque Country in northern Spain and, closer

to home, England. Our final item, 'And all the stars looked down', was composed just last year by Sir John Rutter, who has been the pre-eminent British composer in this field for many years now. I first heard it on Christmas Eve last year on the radio broadcast of the carol service from King's College, Cambridge and felt it captured the Christmas message very effectively - I hope you will agree.

I will be concluding the service with a Toccata based on the well-known French carol, 'Il est né, le divin Enfant' ('He is born, the Child divine') by the contemporary French Canadian composer Denis Bédard.

For many this special time in the year really embodies the spirit of Christmas and we do hope as many as possible will come to share in the singing and the fellowship.

#### Sunday 24 December

Our traditional **Watchnight Service** will take place as always at **I1.20 pm**. In addition to the well-loved carols for all to sing, this year the choir will be performing a recent setting of the mediaeval Christmas poem 'There is no rose of such virtue' by Geoffrey Nobes, who for many years was the bandmaster of the Salvation Army in Plymouth, where he also ran a notable local choir. The service will conclude with a piece by the great French organist and composer Widor - not his famous Toccata this time but the rousing *Marche Pontificale* from his first Organ Symphony.

All will be welcome at this joyful occasion, taking us up to the ringing of the church bell marking the arrival of Christmas Day.

Finally, I will just mention once again that the **Cockpen & Carrington Choir CD**, 'Sing, Church of God!' Is still available and as a significant part of its contents is Christmas music it would make an excellent seasonal gift, not least at its modest price of £5! If you would like a copy please contact myself or any member of the choir.

**GMB** 

## **Sunday Tea Rota**

## **Cockpen & Carrington**



12th January	Helen and Vi
9th February	Wilma and Anne
9th March	Moira and Andrew
13th April	Liz MacD and John

## **Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota 2025**

January 5 12 19 26	Mary Logan Cathie Fisher Ian Fowler John Adamson
February 2 9 16 23	Lynn Hanson Karen Brown Joyce Black Helen, Catherine and Dorothy
March 2 9 16 23 30	Pat Grindlay John Adamson Cathie Fisher Sandra Crawford Joint Service Rosewell
April 6 13 20 27	Liz Mills Ian Bee Liz MacDonald Mary Logan Ian Fowler



#### From the Flower Convenor

Hello to all the Church Family and Friends. Well here we are again, almost another year gone and Christmas is hard approaching. Over the past few months since I wrote to you all last, we have celebrated in the church with special flower displays: Doors Open Day, which was once again a success. Following on from that we celebrated Harvest Thanksgiving, where the church looked good, and the displays were appropriate to our theme. Moving on we have had the Remembrance Service, which is always a service to be remembered as so many people went to war and, sadly, never came back. Last but not least we will celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, a very important time in our Church calendar. We have also had two Communions and the Guild Dedication Service.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who donated money for the Flower Fund which is how we can keep doing the fresh flowers week by week. After the service each Sunday, the flowers are made into pretty bunches and given out to anyone who is ill, bereaved, or unable to come to church anymore. If you know of anyone in these situations please let myself or Liz Mills know, so we can act accordingly.

Now, I have three Sunday to fill with someone who would like to give money for the Flower Fund but, if the dates are not when you would like we can try and get you the date you wish. A lot of people who donate to the flower fund aren't fussy which Sunday they are allocated so there's some wiggle room.

Please feel free to contact either Liz or myself at any time regarding the flowers and the rota.

I feel very honoured to be your Flower Convenor and I hope you will continue to give or consider starting to give so that this work can continue. Those receiving the flowers are so grateful for the gesture from the church; sometimes 'little acorns grow into big trees', so your generosity is appreciated by myself, Lorna the Minister and all the church congregation.

In closing I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas season.

With all my love to all of you, and God bless,

Anne Clark xx Flower Convenor

Tel: 01875 821717 or Mob. 07929 446 662

#### **DOORS OPEN DAY 14th SEPTEMBER**

The Church again participated in the Midlothian Doors Open day in September welcoming over 50 visitors to the church between 12 and 4pm.

This was the third year that we had opened our doors to the public to view the building along with many of the historical pieces, which were laid out around the church. Visitors found them very interesting and informative.





Spring Summer





Autumn Winter

## The Repair Shop comes to Cockpen

Emmet came to the Knit and Natter Group to see what we could do,
Two of our Ladies took on the task
To make her look like new.

#### This is Emmet's Story

There was once a well-loved elephant, Emmet was her name, But she fell into disrepair And would never be the same.





They took her to the 'Doctors', and things seemed pretty blue, The Doctors did their best for her, And she got home almost new.

On another trip to the Doctor, She was patched up once again, She brought Marshall comfort, So the repair was not in vain.

Alas poor Emmet is ill again, Her face has taken a bashing, That no amount of stitching can fix, And no amount of washing.

Under anaesthetic she must go And by powers of deduction, We need to knit her face again, And do some reconstruction.



We've done our best dear Marshall, And Emmet has done well too, So, listen while she tells you These words are just for you.

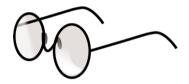
"I might look a little different, From what I used to be, But love me as you used to, Cause, inside, it's just me".



#### **Old Spectacles**

If you have any old spectacles you want rid of, we have a box at the Church where you can deposit them.

They will be taken to the Opticians who in turn will get them sent abroad to be used to make glasses for people less fortunate than us.



We've been handing them in to Specsavers over many years and they are always delighted to receive the glasses and so grateful to our Church for the regular contributions.

Many thanks. *Wilma* 

## **Life and Work Magazine**



Orders for this magazine are due to be placed soon. If you would like to place an order for 2025 or cancel your current order, please contact me as soon as possible on 0131 663 6546.

The cost is £42 per annum. *Wilma*.

#### **GUILD NEWS**

We are looking forward to exploring our new strategy entitled "Let us build a house". In the first of the three years we are being asked to explore the need and advantage of "Sure Foundations".

The Guild dedication service on 6th October was mainly organised and led by members of the Guild and was warmly appreciated by those at Church. On Monday 7th October, our Minister Lorna, came along to our first meeting to encourage us with her thoughts on the Guild Strategy, by getting us to build a tower as high as possible with newspaper and sticky tape.



At our second meeting Helen Symon eloquently told us about her father's time as a boy who attended Donaldson's school for the deaf. She had researched many interesting facts about the teaching of the deaf in Edinburgh from the mid 18th century up to the present day. Many of us were unaware that children whose fathers had died were eligible up until the mid-20th century to attend Donaldson's as hearing boarders. The deaf and hearing children were taught separately but through playing together they learned to communicate with each other. Helen taught us some sign language and distributed sheets showing us hand signs for the alphabet letters. It was indeed an illuminating presentation.

We had another good meeting when Philip (Dodson) came along with his motorbike to tell us all about the wide range of services provided by the volunteers of the Blood Bikes charity which covers the Borders, Lothians and Fife areas and how they coordinate with other groups of "bikers" who operate under many different names to work in relays to transfer a wide variety of items in amazingly short periods of time from one side / end of the U.K. to another. This, like the Scottish Air Ambulance charity, which we heard about last year, is certainly worth supporting and many do not realise that they rely on the generosity of public support.

At our meeting just after Remembrance Day the members will be hearing of the bravery and fortitude of the women in the French section of S.O.E. WW2. (Special Operations Executive). This was a British organisation formed in 1940 to conduct espionage, sabotage and reconnaissance in German occupied Europe.

The first Monday in December is our Finance meeting and a presentation from Flora Henderson about Future Pathways who help people who have suffered abuse or neglect in childhood while in the Scottish care system.

We are all looking forward to celebrating the true Christmas Season which in our church is blessed by having such a gifted organist and fourpart choir who enhance all the advent services not just the Nine Lessons and Carols service and Watch-night service. All are very welcome to come to our Guild Carol party on December 16th in the church hall. The party affords Graham and the choir an opportunity to practise their new pieces and give us a taste of what's in store for us at the special Christmas services. They will also lead us in our traditional carols.

Of course, the fact that there is home baking on offer for all who attend, is the main attraction for Graham!

We do not start back in the New Year until Monday 3rd of February but please feel welcome to attend any or all meetings that particularly interest you.



Helen



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#### **KNIT AND NATTER**

The Knit and Natter group meets in the hall from 1.30 - 3.30pm on Thursdays, and is open to all. Many items are knitted for various charities and good causes which are always well received and much appreciated.



A number of blankets have been made which were given to members of our congregation who had fairly recently moved into care homes. These were well received by the ladies, and they know that they are still in our thoughts here at Cockpen and Carrington Church

The knit and natter heard that Simpson's maternity department and special baby unit were running short of wee cardigans and hats, so the group took home some of the yarn stash and over the summer break managed to knit up these items to donate.





A special birthday was celebrated in October by us for Helen Daly who became 90 years old. Congratulations Helen.

If you are free on a Thursday afternoon do pop in for a cuppa, chat and company.

You will always be welcome whether you come only now and again, or if you come every week. We average about 25 ladies each week.

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#### **BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL**

Sincere thanks to everyone who again took the time to prepare and fill a shoebox for the Blythswood Christmas Appeal Thanks also to those that gave cash donations. It is great to see the continuing support of this appeal remembering the disadvantaged year after year.



#### SPRINGFIELD BANK NURSING HOME

At our monthly gathering with the residents at Springfield Bank the Minister conducted a short Service of Remembrance for everyone. This was so much appreciated by the residents when this occasion means so much to them.



Photograph of Lorna, and pianist Kenny Wight, organist at Rosewell.

## **Eco Congregation News**

Raising funds for a worthy cause.

Have you, family or friends got a sweet tooth? If so, you will probably enjoy at least a chocolate or two during the festive season, often out of a round tub from several long-established confectionery manufacturers.



Last January we collected 38 such empty tubs and delivered them to a local Greene King pub, in its Tub2Pub initiative. Money raised from the recycled plastic was donated by the company to Macmillan Cancer Support, a very positive partnership. Across the UK 150,000 tubs were collected, meaning 21 tonnes of polypropylene plastic was saved from landfill, to be recycled and raise £12,600 for Macmillan. The tubs are recycled into picnic benches and dog agility equipment. This is great news for both the environment and charity. Every tub recycled goes towards helping someone living with cancer.



This year, with more warning, we should easily surpass our number. Please save the tubs and give them to me, some Sunday at Church, or in the hall at the Guild, or Knit and Natter, by the end of January 2025. Or call me on 07950 016071 and I can collect them from your home. I will count and deliver them. Thanks in advance to everyone for their contributions.

Best wishes for a very merry Christmas and a healthy and happy 2025.

Liz MacDonald

# LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH NEWS ....

www.lasswadechurch.co.uk

# Vision Statement: 'All journeying together in faith and trust to share God's love'

Waiting is hard, but Christmas is worth waiting for – it's a special time and at its heart is a gift of love from God to the World.



## **Sacrament of Holy Communion**



The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in Lasswade Church on Sunday 26 January 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

You are warmly invited to share in this important part of the life of the Church.

# Mrs. May Murdoch An Appreciation

Her many friends were saddened to hear of May's passing in November and we offer our deepest sympathy to Ian at this time. May was a lady of strong faith and we hope that this, plus his own faith, will be a comfort to Ian.

I first knew May in the early 1960s after she and Ian were married. Ian was a Sunday School teacher at that time and he brought his young wife along to join the Sunday School staff. May supported Ian when he was Sunday School Superintendent and one of May's qualities was that she took a deep interest in children and young people.

May led a very busy life, not only through her professional duties, but she had many interests, some of which involved a lot of travelling. As a result of that she built up a wide circle of friends and contacts and a lot of people will remember May under different umbrellas. May and Ian enjoyed holidays, many of which were spent abroad.

It was as a member of the Church family that I knew her best. I have already mentioned her involvement with Sunday School. She was an active instigator of fund-raising activities, co-ordinator of Life and Work for Lasswade Church and I remember her organising lunches for special occasions. May was ordained as an elder during Rev. Myra Smith's ministry on 27th May 1979.

However, from a personal point of view, I have reason to be grateful to May for being such a loyal and faithful member of the choir over so many years, not just for attending on Sundays but for turning out for practices when we did Introits and Anthems on a regular basis, not to mention concerts. It was May who introduced Mary Robertson to the choir when we planned to sing Mozart's Ave Verum. Moira and I tried to have the choir at the house every year - as my way of saying "thank you" - and I know that May enjoyed these gatherings.

May, thank you for all your help, support and loyalty over so many years. We shall miss you from among us but we shall never forget you.

HLRD

#### **CHURCH REGISTER**

#### **Bereavements:**

We would ask that you remember and pray for the families and friends of:

Mr Jim McCabe 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Mrs Elaine Thomson 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 Mr Joe Gillespie 28<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Mr Ralph Howden 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024 Mrs May Murdoch 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Jesus said 'I am the Resurrection and the Life

#### **Harvest Donations:**

Very grateful thanks to all who contributed so generously to making Harvest donations of food items, toiletries and cleaning materials which were handed into the Midlothian Food Bank, and your generosity was much appreciated by the Manager and the Team.

The Food Bank provides three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them at a time of crisis.

Answers to quiz on back page.

- 1: A. 25th December
- 2: C. Fir tree
- 3: C. North Pole
- 4: A. Gold, frankincense and myrrh
- 5. C. Yule log
- 6: A. Down the chimney
- 7: C. Nativity play
- 8: C. Advent
- 9: B. Holly
- 10: A. Star of Bethlehem



## **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. Everyone is most welcome for a chance to meet new people, catch up with friends and enjoy some delicious home baking. Please note that there is not a Coffee Morning in January but will start again in February.



#### **BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL 2024**

A big thank you to everyone who donated to this year's appeal. We sent off 40 filled and decorated shoe boxes.

Despite the difficulties that they face every day through poverty, illness, disability or other disadvantages, receiving a shoebox brings such joy to children and adults in Eastern Europe that their faces light up with huge smiles.



## **Christingle Service at Rosewell Church**

On Christmas Eve at 6.00 p.m.

A Christmas Service for all the Family

Everyone Welcome

(Retiring Offering in aid of Woman's Aid East and Midlothian)

## Lasswade & Rosewell Parish Church

## Christmas Coffee Morning

In: ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH HALL

On: Saturday 14th December From 10:00am to 12 noon

Home Baking, Tombola, Raffle, Guess the Weight of the Cake, Gifts, Christmas Music and Plants. Tea/Coffee served with Bacon Rolls



In aid of Church Funds
Everyone Welcome



Messy Church, held in Rosewell Church Hall, begins with a warm welcome so if you have not been to Messy Church for a while, or never been before – please check us out. 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!

Please do consider joining us on Saturday **7**<sup>th</sup> **December**, **1**<sup>st</sup> **February**, **1**<sup>st</sup> **March and 5**<sup>th</sup> **April** from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. It is very informal, full of fun and very friendly. You can find us on Facebook at '**Rosewell Messy Church**'.

# May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace The gladness of Christmas give you Hope AND

The warmth of Christmas grant u love
Happy Christmas

## **Coffee Morning and Pre-loved Fashion Sale**

will be held in Rosewell Parish Church Hall on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025 from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in aid of Church Funds All are most welcome



#### **Lemon or Lime Ginger Crunch Flan**

#### Ingredients:

3oz butter
6 oz ginger crunch biscuits
½ pint double cream
Small tin condensed milk
Finely grated rind of 1 lemon
(or 2 limes) and juice of lemon
(or limes)



#### Method:

Crush the biscuits in the blender, melt the butter and mix with the biscuits.

Line a pie dish with the mixture. Press down gently with the back of a spoon.

Refrigerate for 10 minutes.

Lightly whip the cream and mix with the condensed milk, rind and juice. Beat until blended. Pour into the biscuit base and chill in the fridge until set.

Decorate with fresh fruit, if you wish, before serving.

#### **Lasswade Church Flower Rota**

I am finding it quite challenging to look ahead to the future of Lasswade Church as I know it has a questionable future.

As we clear out the church unusual things appear which point to a bygone era. I found myself looking at two notebooks, which had been used to record the recipients of the flowers. It was a roll call of former members of the church, who had been very glad to receive the flowers probably at a challenging time in their lives.

I found I had to deal with a 'miffed 'member who was annoyed not to have received flowers when she felt she 'qualified' for them. As she made the complaint, I was aware that she was in good health and that probably at the time there were more deserving folk!

I didn't think that operating a flower rota would be stressful! Thank you to all the help I have had over a number of years. I have been very humbled by the kind offers.

Thank you, Moira Dryden

> Anne Pryde January 12th Andrew Renwick January 26th February 9th Margaret Gordon Eleanor Marshall February 23rd March 9th Margaret Gordon Sandra Thomson March 23rd April 13th Nita Adams April 27th Anne Pryde

# Fun Space





We all need to take time for having fun in the midst of our busy lives. 'Fun Space' is for adults of all ages in Rosewell to have fun with games of all kinds as well as jigsaws and crafts. There will also be a play area for pre-school little ones to be amused. Why not come along and find space to relax and have fun, enjoy tea and coffee and being in company with others.

# Every Thursday 10.00 to 11.30 am at Rosewell Church Hall



# THE HOLY HIKERS

"All walking is discovery. On foot we take the time to see things whole."

Hal Borland

On Wednesday 14th we met for our August Walk. It was a beautiful evening as nine ramblers, plus Rocky the dog, made our way down the walkway towards Tesco. We cut off at Hardengreen and made our way out to Dalhousie Road and on to Eskbank Station where we rejoined the old railway line back to Bonnyrigg. It was nice to see everyone again after the summer break in July.

Regretfully rain forced us to cancel our walk in September.

Gosford Estate was our destination on Sat. 12th Oct. I did not go to this, but 6 members did. The weather started off dry but came on heavy rain and it was decided to cut the walk a bit short. The trees were particularly beautiful as they were well into changing to their Autumn colours.

**Stop Press!** Hilary & Glen now have a new puppy to replace Fern. She will be a hard act to follow. Rowan is too young to walk with us at present but hopefully she will join us in the new year once she has got Hilary and Glen licked into shape.

New members always welcome, contact Ann on 0131 660 0200.

Happy Hiking

Jim



The Holy Hikers

# More Bibles and Hymn Books waiting to be Reunited with Families.

Work is still ongoing preparing for the closure of Lasswade Church. The inventory still indicates that there remain a number of Bibles and Hymnbooks which some members and their families may wish to be reunited with.

The list below details these items together with the inscriptions in the books.

- To Miss Ethel Bower from a friend. Edinburgh. 6<sup>th</sup> October 1896.
- Nan Young 14A Wadingburn Road, Lasswade. EH18 1HS.
- I.S. Davidson, Lasswade. Best Wishes, Mary A. K. Slater.
- To uncle Tommy from Annie and Robert, with love. Mr T Simpson, 37 Polton x5
- E.W. Stewart.
- Ian Davidson. 35 Dalhousie Drive, Bonnyrigg.
- Janet Purves. 14/6/1925.
- From Jess to Alastair. 1811/39.
- Dunn Farm Colony, Lasswade.
- Margaret H. Gray. Jean M. Gray.
- Ann Muir, Eskdale Cottage.
- Elen E. Walter, Polton Road Lasswade. 1st October 1930.

If any of these items relate to you or to former members of your family, and if you would like them back, please contact me. It maybe that some of you will know the whereabouts of surviving family of those mentioned who are no longer with us. Presently the books are in my care but will shortly be returned to the church.

Jim Pryde. (07973629914).

#### WHO'S WHO

#### **MINISTER**

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

To comply with Data Protection and Safeguarding, postal addresses have been removed. If you require a postal address for any named above, please contact the relevant person.

#### Children's Christmas Quiz

#### 1 What date is Christmas?

- A. 25th December
- B. 25th September
- C. 31st December

# 2 What kind of tree do we decorate at Christmas?

- A. Apple tree
- B. Oak tree
- C. Fir tree

#### 3 Where does Santa Claus live?

- A North Star
- B. Australia
- C. North Pole

# 4 What did the three kings give to baby Jesus?

- A. Gold, frankincense and myrrh
- B. Milk. chocolates and an Xbox
- C. Rugs, a silver spoon and a baby rattle

## 5 What sort of log do you eat at Christmas?

- A. Captain's log
- B. Marzipan log
- C. Yule log

#### 6 How does Santa get into the house?

- A. Down the chimney
- B. Through the letterbox
- C. A portal in your wardrobe

# 7 What sort of show do you put on at your school at Christmas?

- A. Morris dancing
- B. The Voice
- C. Nativity play

## 8 What sort of calendar counts down to Christmas?

- A. Event
- B. Advert
- C. Advent

## 9 What spiky plant do we deck the halls with?

- A. Roses
- B. Hollv
- C. Brambles

# 10 What guided Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem?

- A Star of Bethlehem
- B. Donkey
- C. Santa's sleigh

#### Answers on Page 21

Share your news, views, or ideas in the Easter Issue of "The Link". Send them to <a href="Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk">Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk</a> by Sunday, 23rd March 2024.



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