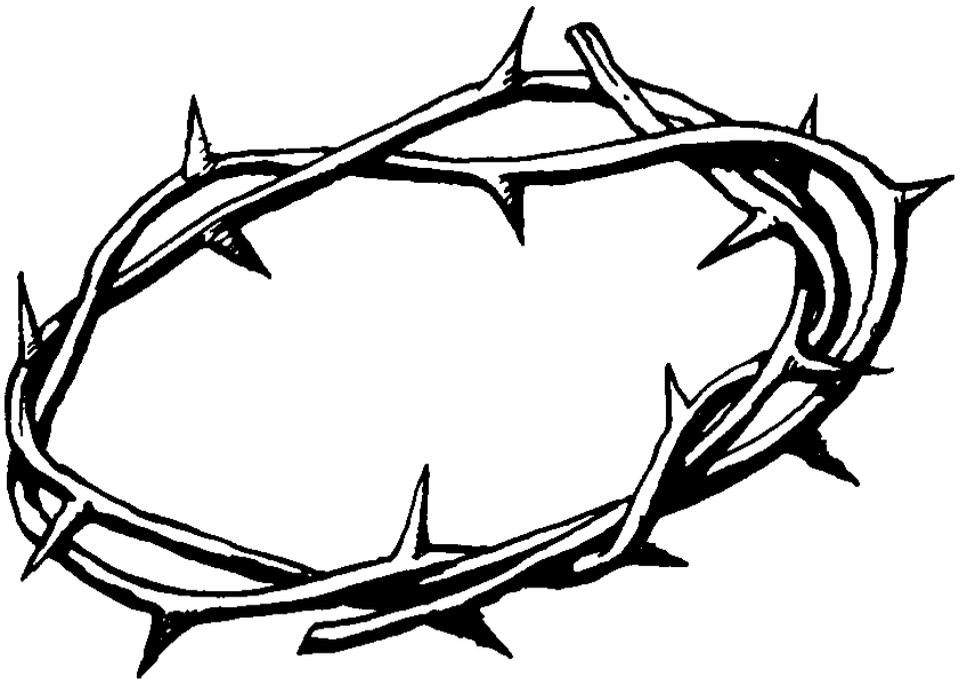


Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Easter 2013



Church of Scotland

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PULPIT SUPPLY ROTA - APRIL-SEPTEMBER 2013

DATE	LASSWADE (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)	ROSEWELL (please check times below)
31.03.13 (Easter Day)	Rev W Armitage	MINISTER	MINISTER (10 am), Family Service and Easter Celebration
07.04.13	<i>Service at Rosewell</i>	Rev M Schofield	MINISTER (COMMUNION) 10 am, with Sunday School
14.04.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield (11.30 am)
21.04.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield (11.30 am)
28.04.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	<i>Service at Lasswade (10 am)</i>
05.05.13	<i>Service at Rosewell</i>	MINISTER (COMMUNION)	Rev M Schofield (10 am)
12.05.13	Rev W Armitage	Rev W Armitage	Rev M Schofield (11.30 am)
19.05.13 (Pentecost)	MINISTER	MINISTER	Ms Janet McKenzie (11.30 am)
26.05.13 (Trinity Sunday)	MINISTER (GIFT DAY)	MINISTER	<i>Service at Lasswade (10 am)</i> (GIFT DAY)
02.06.13	<i>Service at Rosewell</i>	MINISTER	MINISTER (10 am)
09.06.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield (11.30 am)
16.06.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield (11.30 am)
23.06.13	MINISTER (COMMUNION)	Rev W Armitage	<i>Service at Lasswade (10 am)</i>
30.06.13	Worship Group	MINISTER	MINISTER (10 am)
07.07.13	<i>Service at Rosewell</i>	MINISTER	MINISTER (10 am)
14.07.13 (Sea Sunday)	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield (11.30 am)
21.07.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	To be arranged (11.30 am)
28.07.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	<i>Service at Lasswade (10 am)</i>
04.08.13	<i>Service at Rosewell</i>	MINISTER	MINISTER (10 am)
11.08.13	Prof Herbert Kerrigan	Prof Herbert Kerrigan	To be arranged (11.30 am)
18.08.13	Prof Herbert Kerrigan	Prof Herbert Kerrigan	To be arranged (11.30 am)
25.08.13	MINISTER (Harvest Gift Service)	MINISTER	<i>Service at Lasswade (10 am)</i> (Harvest Gift Sunday)
01.09.13	<i>Service at Rosewell</i>	Rev M Schofield	MINISTER (COMMUNION) 10 am, with Sunday School
08.09.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield (11.30 am)
15.09.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	Rev M Schofield (11.30 am)
22.09.13	MINISTER	MINISTER	<i>Service at Lasswade (10 am)</i>
29.09.13	Worship Group	MINISTER	MINISTER (10 am)

HOLY WEEK SERVICES IN 2013 - All Services start at 7.30 pm

Monday 25th March – Our Lady's RC Church, Bonnyrigg

Tuesday 26th March – Rosewell Parish Church

Wednesday 27th March – St Leonard's (Episcopal) Church, Lasswade

Maundy Thursday 28th March – Lasswade Parish Church (Communion)

Good Friday 29th March – Cockpen & Carrington Parish Church

A DVD presentation for Holy Week will be shown at the Pitcairn Centre daily,
25th-28th March, between 10 am and 11.30 am.

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Dear Friends,

As I write, we are in the season of Lent, but looking forward to Easter. On Good Friday Jesus Christ endured abandonment by his friends, a sham trial before Pilate and then the barbarity of crucifixion. The Easter message of Christ's resurrection – hope over coping despair and life overcoming death – is one that I urge you to think upon afresh this year. The profound message of the resurrection of Christ offers us not only hope and joy, but salvation.

The past few months have been an extremely difficult time for my wife and me. My dear father-in-law, Hans-Jürgen Herbold, died in January following a long illness. Whilst over in Germany for the funeral my wife sadly suffered another miscarriage; she had to spend several days in hospital there. We have both found the past few weeks arduous. Your prayers, kind words, cards and flowers have been deeply appreciated; we both wish to express our thanks. I have had to postpone a great deal of work and concentrate on essentials, such as Sunday services. There will be a Presbytery "visitation" to the congregations shortly; this would have taken place in January.

Following a suggestion, I would like to start a Bible study group. Please let me know if you are interested. Also, as ever, please let me know if you or someone at home or in hospital would like a visit.

Are you going on a foreign holiday this year? Do you need a new passport? Applications can take several weeks. I am happy to countersign passport applications as appropriate.

Please do come to the Holy Week and Easter services in Church. On Easter Day (Sunday 31st March) there will be a family service followed by a meal and Easter egg hunt at Rosewell Church starting at 10.00 am. There will be more traditional Easter Day services at Lasswade at 10.00 am and Cockpen at 11.30 am. The Easter message of hope will have a particularly important and very personal meaning for Kristina and me this year. We both wish you and your family a very happy Easter.

Yours in Christ,

Rev Matthew Ross, Minister

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH.

BAPTISMS

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

9th December Louie Alexander Murray, infant son of Calum and Karyn

Louie was baptized by the Minister.

'May the Lord Bless Thee and Keep Thee.'

WEDDINGS

No weddings to report in this issue of The Link but, quite a number booked in for this year. (See Church website at www.church.cockpen.co.uk for helpful information and advice on weddings for all three Churches).

BEREAVEMENTS

We continue to pray for families from our Congregation(s) (and out-with) 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 MEMBER

We are delighted to welcome **Mrs. Irene McGhee** who has joined us from Liberton Northfield Church, Edinburgh. Mrs. McGhee now resides in Bonnyrigg and, we're so happy that she has chosen to come to Cockpen and Carrington.

From the Clerk.

You'll notice that I didn't include a '**from the Clerk**' in the Christmas edition of 'the Link'. (much to the relief of many I'm sure!). I had started to write something but, as often happens - **especially as one gets older** - the words just wouldn't come to me.

To be honest, it's quite difficult to come up with 'what to say' for each magazine and, somewhat disheartening that no matter how often I ask you, as a congregation to contribute some thoughts, it's rare to get articles other than from the 'usual few' which of course we're grateful. Saying that, sometimes the Editors do get a surprise with an unexpected story which is encouraging.

A long time ago it was decided that our Kirk Session at Cockpen and Carrington could lead the way with a contribution for each issue and, that happened - **twice I think**. It's probably my fault that this wasn't followed up by reminding my colleagues of the decision made by them but, will attempt to remedy that soon.

However, it's not just down to the Session, you all have something that could be shared and, I ask you to consider this for future editions of the Link which I know, is enjoyed by so many, especially for those who can't, for various reasons, get to Church. It doesn't matter what you write, whatever it is, it will be appreciated by us all.

By the time you read this we will have had our Annual Stated Meeting (held on 3rd March) when the various Church bodies will have given reports. Part of my own report and, a very big part of it, was to say thank you to so many who have helped to try and keep Cockpen and Carrington to the fore. My concern as Clerk has always been to keep our Church in the minds of others and, I think we are doing that through the good offices of the Guild (over 80 years since its inception), a Sunday School that seems to have been going forever, OASIS, Brownies, bric a brac, cake stall and the walkers group to name but a few.

We have a lot going for us here but, could have so much more if our **234** (on paper anyway) could join us Sunday by Sunday. Some of our 'auld heids' are running out of ideas and, maybe our thoughts are not the best for this day and age. Why not come along and give us some new ideas that perhaps haven't been thought about. We really would be delighted to see you here on any Sunday you could manage.

Please remember, whether you are here with us in Church or not - you are always in our thoughts and prayers.

Yours, in friendship,

George.

FROM THE ORGANIST

When I arrived at the church last Sunday there was snow on the ground and yet we are barely a month away from Easter. That is of course a “moveable feast” and this is one of the years where it reaches us in March – leaving not too much time since Christmas to work on our musical programme!

At the time of writing the programme for the nightly services in Holy Week had yet to be finalised. In any event the Choir and I will be performing whichever evening we are allocated, and this year’s programme will include an unaccompanied setting of the “Stabat Mater” by Kodaly, one of the leading Hungarian composers of the first half of the last century. The text is an ancient one and depicts the sorrows of Mary at the foot of the cross, which of course makes it particularly appropriate for Good Friday – perhaps a sign that we will be singing that evening!

After the sombre mood of Holy Week we will move to the celebrations of Easter Day, and this year we are bringing back to our repertoire what many might regard as the most celebratory of all music, namely the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s “Messiah”. This of course requires a robust body of singers and I’m happy to say that some of our regular choir supporters will be swelling the ranks on that occasion. I hope as many as possible will join us for what should be an uplifting occasion.

I often play music from the French repertoire at Easter as it includes some of the most sparkling music written for the organ. This year my concluding voluntary comes from closer to home however, in the form of Henry Smart’s “Postlude in D”, which is a stirring (and demanding!) piece despite its modest title. Smart was one of the great English organists of the later 19th century, as well as being a notable writer of hymn tunes – the one we still sing to “Glory be to God the Father” is a good example. This piece borrows something of the style of Handel, so it should be a good companion to our anthem.

The Holy Week and Easter services are always a musical highlight of our year and we look forward to seeing you there.

GMB, March 2013

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

1. EASTER

We look forward to our annual Family Service at Rosewell Church on Easter Day: **Sunday 31 March 2013**. The service is at **10am** which will be followed by an Easter breakfast and Easter Fun. This year the service will be led by our own Minister. There are Easter services in each of our churches so please come along to one of the Easter day services or any of the Holy Week services.

2. CHRISTMAS 2012!

Christmas last year seems so far away, but 100 of us went to the pantomime for our Christmas outing. We all had great fun at Mother Goose. The pantomime cast has stopped making personal announcements so we were all so surprised when the Fairy announced from one of the boxes that she had to dash as she was going to see Cockpen & Carrington Sunday School!

We're booked again for this year to see Peter Pan on **Sunday 1 December 2013 at 1pm**.

Hope you saw our Nativity plays in Lasswade and Cockpen & Carrington. As always, all our performers were excellent. We also had our own Brass band provided by members of the award winning Brass Roots; Jim & Moira provided the rest of the music with the guitars. 3 of our Dad's took part; 2 Grand dads and Charlie Adams our Oscar winning Innkeeper. We also had 3 Wise Women ably performed by 2 mums and a teacher. Our narrators were fabulous and the sound system provided by Ged Hanley really enhances the performance. We have the most amazing team at Sunday School with simply the best children, parents and staff who all work together to make this a wonderful celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Thank you all for your support and very generous retiring offerings.

3. FAMILY SERVICE - 17 MARCH: COMIC RELIEF!

We're at church for our Family Service on 17 March and going to have some sponsored nonsense too. Feel free to wear your red nose or dress up in your pyjamas or 'onesies' - **we are!** This is a fabulous charity who also provide local support so we'll be having a retiring offering too for this cause.

4. VISITS

We had planned a visit by the Minister in February but unfortunately the weather was not good to have the children there so the Teachers just had their meeting with Matthew. Bill Brown is coming back again before the end of the session and we hope to have a visit from the puppets at Struthers Memorial Church as we've tracked them down again.

5. SUNDAY SCHOOL TRIP

Our trip is likely to be on Saturday 18 May as we're having to move it this year - destination still to be agreed.

6. PRIZEGIVING

Prizegiving will be held in Cockpen & Carrington Church at 11.30am probably on Sunday 19 May* when all of our children from all our Sunday Schools will receive a prize. If any of our older children is thinking of leaving Sunday School, please let Rosalind know.

(* this date has still to be confirmed)

Bonnyrigg Midwinter Duck Race 2013

The 12th annual Bonnyrigg Midwinter Duck Race took place on Sunday 27th January in the teeth of strong winds, rain and sleet. Despite this there was a very heartening crowd to cheer more than 600 ducks down a stretch of the Pittendreich Burn.

The sum raised for the Midlothian work of Children 1st and the Edinburgh and Lothians Family Support Group of the Scottish Huntington's Association was £1,512.79, more than £500 down on last year.

However, we did achieve a notable first, thanks to Laura Piper, STV journalist and camerawoman extraordinaire. She came all the way from Glasgow, to report on the event and do some filming. The hilarious results can be seen on the Internet at <http://local.stv.tv/edinburgh/magazine/211629-crowd-go-quackers-for-annual-mid-winter-duck-race/> complete with short video.

Thanks are also due to Robert Parker, owner of Dalhousie Castle Hotel and Spa, who supported this fundraising effort with three prizes and a striking race banner.

The race was again organised by members of the congregation, Bill and Liz MacDonald, Mary and Mick Johnston, ably supported by neighbours and friends. Thanks to all who bought duck numbers from us, or sold ducks for us. We're already starting to plan next year's race!

Liz MacDonald

Crossroads Caring Scotland Midlothian and East Lothian

Crossroads Caring Scotland Midlothian and East Lothian Service is one of 42 Crossroads services operating in Scotland, from Shetland to Dumfries and Lower Nithsdale.

Anyone who was a “soap” fan in the seventies may recognize the name “Crossroads” as the title of a TV series set in a motel. In 1973 an episode of this series featured a storyline where Sandy Richardson, the son of the motel owner was paralysed as a result of a car accident. His mother then had to care for him at home. Noel Crane, a local man from Rugby, who was similarly being cared for by his mother, saw the programme and wrote in to the programme makers, ATV, praising their portrayal of the needs of someone with a disability and the corresponding demands on the carer. They took him on as an advisor on disability issues, sharing his concerns about the lack of support for people, like his mother, whose lives had undergone significant change as a result of the illness, accident or disability through ageing, of someone close.

ATV then donated £10,000 to set up a pilot project in Rugby with the aim of helping carers in a practical way, in order to relieve their stress. That was in 1974. In the first year of operation Crossroads supported 26 families.

Crossroads Caring Scotland was established in the late seventies and now supports around 8,500 carers in Scotland and provides 839,942 hours of care every year. Projects had begun to take root in Scotland in 1977, pioneered by Douglas G. Wood, then chair of the Glasgow branch of the Disablement Income Group, backed by Sir Ferguson Anderson, Professor of Geriatric Medicine and Young Chronic Sick at Glasgow University.

The Midlothian and East Lothian project has 28 highly trained Care Attendants working in homes throughout Midlothian and East Lothian from Penicuik to Dunbar. Their role is to look after an ill or disabled loved one whether husband, wife, mother, friend or neighbour, anyone close enough to be in a caring relationship, while the main carer takes time out.

This is a service provided in the person’s own home. It enables the carer to do things others take for granted but difficult for the carer because of the time and commitment involved in his or her caring role. Simple things like going out with friends, personal shopping, pursuing interests, just

resting and getting badly needed sleep. We have an experienced leadership and supervisory staff of three based at the Fisherrow Community Centre, South Street, Musselburgh, EH21 6AT. In addition to carer support we also provide a companionship and enabling service to lone householders at risk of social isolation.

The Manager or Senior Care Attendant at Fisherrow carries out the initial visit to the prospective service user, to assess and agree the appropriate and desired care and support. Every effort is made to match one of the Care Attendants to the service user to maximise the quality of the relationship and understanding between the two and the benefit to the service user. This personalised care package is set up and then reviewed regularly.

Access to the service is either through an assessment of need by staff of the local Social Work Department or by a direct approach to our Crossroads office for those who wish to fund the care privately through their own resources, or from public funds through use of Direct Payments, Independent Living Fund or Self Directed Support. If the Social Work Department agrees to arrange a Crossroads service there may be a contribution required, dependent on income.

To find out more about the service and its potential value to you or someone close to you, contact Marie, Linda or Gillian at Crossroads office number: 0131 665 3810, or visit in person (the office is in the Annexe.) Or send an e-mail to mideastlothian@crossroads-scotland.co.uk

Bill MacDonald

Bric A Brac

The bric a brac continues each Thursday from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. in the Church Hall, Dundas Street. We are grateful to have a few new members to the team. If you have any items for the bric a brac they can be handed in to the Hall on a Thursday morning.

We look forward to meeting you on any Thursday if you want a bargain or, just to browse.

The Team.

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GUILD REPORT March 2013

Yet again our Guild has had a very successful year with 41 members attending regularly, enjoying themselves and gaining a broad knowledge of the world we live in through the wide variety of people who have kindly accepted our invitation to come along and address our group.

This year we have listened to Reverend Bill Armitage giving us his thoughts on this year's Theme "Whose we are and Whom we serve", Ms Kate Keter telling us how the eradication of Polio is being tackled in areas still affected by a disease we in this country thankfully now know little about, and an inspiring talk by a mother who formed the Tea Pot Trust charity in memory of her 8 year old daughter who died from Lupus based cancer. Recently Reverend Tom Gordon entertained and shared with us stories or "modern parables" from the three books he has written since his retirement We are looking forward to a talk entitled "Sounds of Silence" on coping with deafness by Sarah Kilbey as well as an Any Questions evening chaired/refereed by Mr Nat Fisher.

We also made use of home grown talent. A presentation of Floral themed slides with musical sound track arranged by a member, Catherine Devlin, as part of the Discovery Award Scheme was much enjoyed and I tried my best to show the ladies how to make Christmas Decorations with varying degrees of success! Our Christmas Carol Party yet again showcased the wealth of talent found in Graham Burnside our organist and his choir.

It being the 125th anniversary of the Church of Scotland's Guild we invited someone from Life and Work to tell us about it and our founder, Archibald Charteris. What an amazing man and what a wonderful legacy the Guild has proven to be.

The destination of the outing has still to be confirmed but there will be spaces on the bus for anyone out-with the group who would like to go on the day trip.

Our closing social promises to be a success as this year we welcome back Gillian Haycock so make sure to get a ticket!

We continue to be indebted to Mrs Moira Dryden our pianist for the wonderful talent she shares with us and so enhances our Guild meetings. As always the secretary's job and that of treasurer have been efficiently carried out by Mrs Nancy Richardson and Mrs Wilma Sweeney, which means that our Guild in Cockpen and Carrington Church is hale and healthy with hopefully a bright future.

Helen and Liz

Cockpen & Carrington Parish Church

Appeal for Gift Aid Donors

Within our Congregation of 234 members we have 24 Gift Aid donors enabling our Church to receive annual Gift Aid income of around £2,500, and over the years this 'free' marginal income has helped to keep our General Fund afloat.

So far so good, but sadly I now have to inform members that due to increasing costs, beyond our control, we now have a projected deficit of £3,130.

Your Congregational Board now has to try and turn this around! An unenviable task, especially in these difficult times when we just cannot keep asking the same people for more and more!

So, where do we go from here?

Cost cutting is not an option because over the years this has been systematically addressed. However, within this apparent 'gloom and doom' there is a possible solution that would come at no cost whatsoever to members!

The solution? Gift Aid, where the Church can recover 25p for every £1 given in offerings.

To illustrate the fuller benefit of this, an additional 30 Gift Aid donors with an average weekly offering of say £5 would generate £1,950 in Gift Aid recoveries. This would reduce the deficit and give the Board a realistic chance to shore up the shortfall!

The Board are aware that, for various reasons, members might be wary of committing themselves to becoming Gift Aid donors. Hopefully the following information will ease any concerns:

- (1) Gift Aid donors must be taxpayers because the Scheme is designed to redirect part of the tax deducted from their wages, salaries and interest, on to a charity of their choice. (As opposed to where the Treasury would spend this money).
- (2) Gift Aid donations can be varied to suit personal circumstances. There is no commitment to give a particular amount, or, to give for a specific period of time - all of this is left entirely at the discretion of the donor.
- (3) The Board must by law, keep a record of Gift Aid donations. For our purposes these are recorded through WFO, BACs, or Cheques- whatever method suits the donor. All records are held in strict confidence.

The Board would now wish to make an appeal to all our 'taxpaying' members to consider joining the Gift Aid Scheme and if anyone is interested, or, would like more information, please do not hesitate to get in touch. My contact details are on the inside cover of the 'Link'.

On behalf of the Congregational Board
Bill Brown,
Gift Aid and WFO Convenor

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Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota

March

24th Stella McLeish
& Jim Dyer
31st Nancy Richardson

April

7th Liz Mills
14th Marnie Crawford
21st Flower Fund
28th Alison Harding

May

5th Flower Fund
12th Moira Scott
19th M. Peden
26th Dot Scott

June

2nd Wilma Sweeney
9th Irene Ramsay
16th Helen Renton
23rd Frances Wilkie
30th Liz Laidlaw



July

7th Liz Mills
14th Flower Fund
21st Elspeth Brown
28th Ian Fowler

August

4th Marnie Crawford
11th M. Peden
14th Flower Fund
21st Elspeth Brown
28th Ian Fowler

Please contact me on 663 1825 if you any queries or wish to join us in decorating the church. Wishing you all a peaceful and Joyful Easter.

Irene

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 date at the Pitcairn Centre is -

28th March, 2013. (new dates will be notified soon).

We hope to see you then.

Wilma, Helen, Isobel and Vi.

Church Dance 2013

The Spring Dance will be held on Friday 17th May and The Autumn Dance on Friday 11th October 2013 in The Masonic Hall, Bonnyrigg at 7.30 pm.

Music by Duncan McBain. Usual excellent buffet.

Tickets £6 will be available from the usual source.

Jean Sharpe and the Team.

Future church services

PASTOR: **Praise the Lord.**

CONGREGATION: **Hallelujah!**

PASTOR: Can we please turn our tablet PC, iPad, cellphone, kindle Bibles to 1 Cor. 13:13. And please switch on your Bluetooth to download the sermon.

PASTOR: Let us pray, committing this week into God's hands.

Open your Apps, BBM, Twitter and Facebook and chat with God.

PASTOR: Please have your credit and debit cards ready as we shall now take tithes and offerings.

You can log on to the church Wi-fi using the password Lord909887.

Ushers circulate mobile card swipe machines among the worshippers. Those who prefer to make electronic funds transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church and those who prefer to use iPads are allowed to flip them open. Those who prefer telephone banking are allowed to take out their cellphones to transfer their contributions to the church bank account.

(The holy atmosphere is truly electric as the cellphones, iPads, PCs and laptops beep and flicker!)

[Announcement]

SECRETARY:

This week's ministry cell meetings shall be held on the various Facebook group pages where the usual group chatting takes place. Please don't miss out.

Thursday's bible teachings will be held live on Skype at 1900hrs GMT. Please don't miss out.

You can follow your Pastor on Twitter this weekend for counseling and prayers.

God bless you and have a wonderful week !

Lasswade and Rosewell Church News.....

A huge thank you is extended to everyone who helped make our Christmas Coffee Morning / Sale a great success. The sum of £600 was raised.

Support Christian Aid Week: 12 – 18 May 2013

There is more than enough food in the world for everyone but one in eight people will go to bed hungry tonight.

Gift Day – Sunday 26 May 2013

You will receive an envelope for your donation at the beginning of May and you can bring it along with you on Gift Day Sunday (Service at 10.00 a.m. in Lasswade Church) or return your sealed envelope to your District Elder or bring along to Church on 26th May.

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.

Key Board Wanted

If you have a key board which you no longer use please contact either Rev. Matthew Ross or Kenny Wight, Organist at Rosewell Church.

Cake Stall

A big thank you to everyone who supports our Cake Stall at the Pitcairn Centre.

Doors Open Day -

Doors Open Day gives you free access to hundreds of fascinating buildings across Scotland. Every weekend in September you can explore places that are normally closed to the public.

Doors Open Day in Midlothian is Saturday 14 September.

The tradition of the Easter bunny leaving a basket of treats such as Easter eggs and chocolates on Easter Day is common in America but not in Britain. Parents of American children often hide eggs in the garden for children to find. Sometimes their children leave out carrots for the Easter bunny.



Glasgow Disabled Scouts

Just a quick note to say Thank You very much to the congregation at Lasswade and Rosewell Parish church for your continued support of the Glasgow Disabled Scouts, the donation from the retiring offerings at Christmas was much appreciated and has gone towards funding our Summer Camp to Holland. Preparations for this have been going very well, our fundraising is going very well for the trip and we have just finished recruiting all our helpers for camp and are busy training and preparing them for camp. We have many new helpers this year including two helpers from the 51st Bonnyrigg Boys Brigade, whom I am sure will be a credit to their company and will be a great help to us. Thank you again for your continued support, I hope to organise a coffee morning or something similar in the parish later on in the year to share the photos and experiences from camp with all of you who have supported us with this trip,

Ross Lyall

The sum of £236.13 was raised at the Christmas Eve Services. Should you wish to find out more please check their website at www.glasgowdisabledscouts.org also the Troup is 80 year old this year.

A Mouse

A few months ago when our 31 bus was diverted via George Street in Edinburgh, the return bus stop was right outside 121 George Street. I noticed on the wall of this building a drawing of a mouse. Was it a Church mouse? After several weeks I decided to go in and inquire. I was told that it has just appeared one morning and no-one knew anything about it. As you will see from my photograph this is no "wee sleekit, coorin', tim'rous beastie" but a happy, confident fellow stepping out full of hope for the future.



Ann Macdonald

The Moosie's Prayer

A pair wee kirk moose a' forlorn
Its furry coat fair sairly worn
Sank doon upon its bony knees
and prayed - for just a wee bit cheese.

The tears ran doon its wee thin cheeks
But nane could hear the saddest squeaks
That drifted oan the cauld nicht air
Till whiles it couldnae pray nae mair.

Syne daylight cam, the kirk bells rang
The doors swung open wi' a bang
Communion day had come oan by
Wi' wine and plates o' breid held high.

The wee moose lay as still as daith
And watched it a' wi bated braith
Then thocht - if I keep awfu' quate
A bit micht jist fa' aff a plate.

And so it gazed as roond they went
Then jist as tho twas heaven sent
Whit landed richt upon its heid
Bit twa lumps o' communion breid.

The staff o' life lay oan the flair -
Then, bounteous answer to his prayer
Jist as he thocht, 'It looks fell dry'.
Ae body couped some wine forbye.

Wee moosie stoated up the aisle
Wearin sic a boozy smile
The folk stopped singin', fair aghast
Tae see a drunken moose walk past.

The organist fell aff his chair,
The meenister could only stare
Tae see this drunken, sinfu' moose
Cavortin' in his sacred hoose.

At last it staggered up the nave
Then turned and gied a happy wave
"I ken noo when it's time to pray
I'll do it oan communion day".

Anonymous – "poor church mouse"

Lasswade and Rosewell Choir

I am sure I speak for the Choir when I say that our thoughts are with Kristina and Matthew at this time. The last few months have not been easy for them but we hope they know the thoughts of many are with them and with that in their minds, and with their faith, we hope they will be able to face the days ahead.

As Moira and I were in Singapore over Christmas we did not do any special music over the festive season. At the time of writing I hope to do something at Easter but that depends on numbers available. My thanks are, as always, due to the regular Choir for their support each week and also to those who augment the Choir from time to time. Thank you everyone.

As far as Singapore was concerned, yes it was good to see our family and to meet the new arrivals. I think we both failed miserably at trying to tell the twins apart! However it was very strange hearing carols blaring from shopping malls, in the street, etc saying things like "Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow" when all one wanted to do was to dive into an air conditioned shopping mall and get out of the humid temperature. And here is another thing. There are a lot of churches built to serve the many traditions of faiths which are active in Singapore. Many of them have car parks in their compound and there are scores of, presumably, volunteers around to help direct the drivers into a suitable parking space. On the face of it these churches seem to be well attended.

Looking towards Easter, one of the great hymns of the Christian Faith which we shall be singing will be "Thine be the glory, risen, conquering, Son". Triumphant words and sung to the equally triumphant tune "Maccabaeus" which was written by arguably the greatest musical giant of all time, George Frederic Handel. The tune is set to the words of "See the conquering hero comes" in Handel's oratorio "Judas Maccabaeus".

The words of the hymn which we sing in the UK today are a translation from the French "A toi la gloire O Ressucite", written by Edmond Louis Budry who was born in Vevey in Switzerland in 1854 and who studied at Lausanne. He was a pastor in several places before becoming pastor to the Free Church in Vevey for thirty five years before retiring in 1923. As well as writing hymns of his own he translated lyrics in several European languages into French. He died in 1932.

Mr. Budry's French text was translated into English by Richard Birch Hoyle who was born in Lancashire in 1875. He served as a Baptist minister for 26 years before working for the YMCA. He worked in the USA for a couple of years from 1934 before returning to England to become pastor at the Baptist Church in Kingston -upon-Thames. In the course of his life he translated thirty French hymns into English and twelve from other languages. He died in Wimbledon in 1939.

The choir join me in wishing all our readers a Happy Easter.

HLRD

Lasswade Flower Rota

Spring is a great time of year when everyone becomes aware of the lengthening days and the glorious sights the season brings. Winter can be a depressing time of year but when we see a glimpse of the sun, it lifts the spirit and folk start to smile again!

I have made up the flower rota for the next few months but would be very happy to include new names. Some of the long-standing stalwarts of the flower rota have retired this year after giving many years of service. Their help has been much appreciated and I would like to thank them for the great contribution they have made. Their flowers have been greatly appreciated. If you would like to help please speak to me and I will be very happy to welcome you to the 'flower rota brigade'!



April 14th Moira Scott
 April 21st Lorna Oliver
 April 28th Moira Dryden

July 14th Jenny Brown
 July 21st Ruby Gardner
 July 28th Betty Blakebell

May 12th Margaret Gordon
 May 19th Elaine Thomson
 May 26th Meg Laing

August 11th Margaret Dalglish
 August 18th Shona Howden
 August 25th Moira Dryden

June 9th Sadie Cowe
 June 16th Stewart Renwick
 June 23rd Alison Branch
 June 30th Mary Hay

September 8th Gillian Renwick
 September 15th Sheila Turner
 September 22nd Margaret Thomson
 September 29th May Murdoch

Moira Dryden

Cryptogram Key.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
12	2	16	23	10	18	9	5	26	7	22	20	3	6	4	17	21	25	24	13	14	11	15	19	1	8

Lasswade Old Parish Church

Discovery of Seating Plan dated 1886

Around the beginning of this year a few people were cleaning out the cupboard under the stairs at the south east end of the present Lasswade Parish Church and came across a rolled up piece of paper. One of those present had the presence of mind to open up this item and discovered that it was a Seating Plan, dated 1886, of the then, restored Lasswade Old Parish Church. While the plan was basically in good condition considering it had been lying around for 127 years it had suffered a bit of wear and tear. (I am sure you will agree that any individual who reaches 127 would be entitled to succumb to ageing defects!) The people who found it felt that this document should go on display and not be mothballed again. However, they sought to remedy the defects first.

Carle Murphy was consulted and felt that this plan could be restored. Carle has repaired it and, together with her husband Tom, has placed it in a glass display panel. It was felt that a short historical overview of the development of the Church in Lasswade from 1240 to the present day might be of interest. Accompanying notes and interesting photographs are placed on either side of the Seating Plan. These notes convey information about Lasswade Old, the forming of what became known as Strathesk Church, the union of these two congregations in 1956 and the subsequent linkings and unions. The Seating Plan is positioned on the west wall and will be formally dedicated shortly.

To quote from the wording on the document it is a "Plan showing in colour position of the pews as allocated after their reconstruction in 1886". There is a Plan of the Area, and a Plan of the Galleries and a note that the "Total Sittings in Area and 3 Galleries is 922". Reference is made to the pews of the local gentry who worshipped in the galleries of the building in 1886. Could there be records available which detail who, among the common laity, worshipped elsewhere in the church?

The Architects for this reconstruction work were Hardy and Wight. This firm were also the Architects for the renovation work which took place in the present Parish Church in 1894 and my grandfather, Robert Dryden, was a journeyman joiner and was one of the craftsmen employed by Hardy and Wight to construct the pulpit, the pews and other woodwork much of which can still be seen today.

HLRD

THE HOLY HIKERS

*"Happy is the man who has acquired
the love of walking for its own sake!"*

W J Holland



In November Denise & Ian took us on a fascinating walk around Colinton and the Water of Leith. We were amazed by the number of mills that used to exist along the riverside between Colinton and Juniper Green. In December Hilary & Glen led us by the Braid Burn ending up in a lovely little tea-room on Braid Hills Road, and in January Helen & Walter took us on an interesting walk round Cousland Village. This walk had been featured in the Advertiser early last year and it had been cancelled from our programme due to bad weather. This time the weather was much kinder and although a bit muddy it proved to be a lovely walk.

In February, 16 of us walked around Musselburgh/Inveresk and enjoyed a High Tea at the Ravelston House Hotel afterwards.

We now look forward to a walk in the Pentland Hills on 9th March and our "Weekend Away" is the following week. This year 10 members are returning to New Lanark for walks on the Saturday Sunday and Monday. Report will be in the next magazine.

Happy Hiking,

Jim Scott

From a book - 'Facing the Storm'

Another story from the book 'Meditation and Prayers by *Eddie Askew* that I'd like to share with you. I have enjoyed these books so much and would commend them to you. **G.S.**

Mark 15 :33 - 39

Three gospel writers each tell us about the veil of the Temple being torn in two as Jesus died on the cross. It was important to them.

The Temple in Jerusalem wasn't just a place for sacrifice and worship. To the Jewish people, it was the place where the Spirit of God lived on Earth. The central part of the Temple was the Holy of Holies, and God was there. It had no door, but was screened from the rest of the Temple by a heavy curtain - the veil.

No-one but the High Priest could enter, and he, only once a year, at Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

Bible commentators catch hold of the symbolism of the torn curtain. In Jesus' death, they say the way to God is thrown open, and men and women can approach him freely in a new relationship.

I see another angle to it. The tearing of the curtain not only lets us in, it lets the Spirit of God out. God can't be contained.

Holiness is no longer boxed in, but released into the world. Through the cross, it pours out in a flood to swamp us - not in dread and guilt, but in love and wonder.

Lord, I'm swimming in the wonder of it all. That in your love, and through your suffering, the obstacles that stand between us are torn apart.

At your initiative the sea wall is breached, the floodgates opened wide, your Spirit loosed upon the world. And, sink or swim, I'm caught up in a tide of hope, held on the flood.

I grasp the wonder, but I must confess the times it's frightened me. Still does, this flood of holiness. I'd rather paddle gently in the shallows, than strike out into your depths. Put out a toe, cautious thermometer, to feel the cold before I take the plunge. Your sea is wider than my imagination, your waves higher than my courage.

Its gentleness can be deceptive. There are times when I can feel the winds, storm force, blow through my life with strength that leaves me breathless. Uncomfortable, Lord.

And then I am reminded that the storms, the calms, are in your hands. You stilled the sea, Still me.

EASTER CRYPTOGRAM

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

 12 6 23 5 10 23 10 17 12 25 13 10 23 18 25 4 3 4 14 25

 24 26 9 5 13 13 5 12 13 15 10 3 26 9 5 13 25 10 13 14 25 6

----- , -----
 13 4 4 14 25 5 10 12 25 13 12 6 23 13 5 10 25 10

----- , -----
 18 26 6 23 5 26 3 18 4 25 5 10 23 10 17 12 25 13 10 23

----- , -----
 12 6 23 2 10 5 4 20 23 5 10 26 24 5 10 25 10

Directions:

This puzzle is called a Cryptogram. At the top there is a KEY that lists all the letters from A thru Z with a box below. Each of the letters has a corresponding number.

The bottom part contains a secret phrase. Each of the blanks has a number underneath it. Fill in the letters that correspond to the numbers below the blanks to solve the phrase.

When you give up the Cryptogram Key can be found on Page 20.

