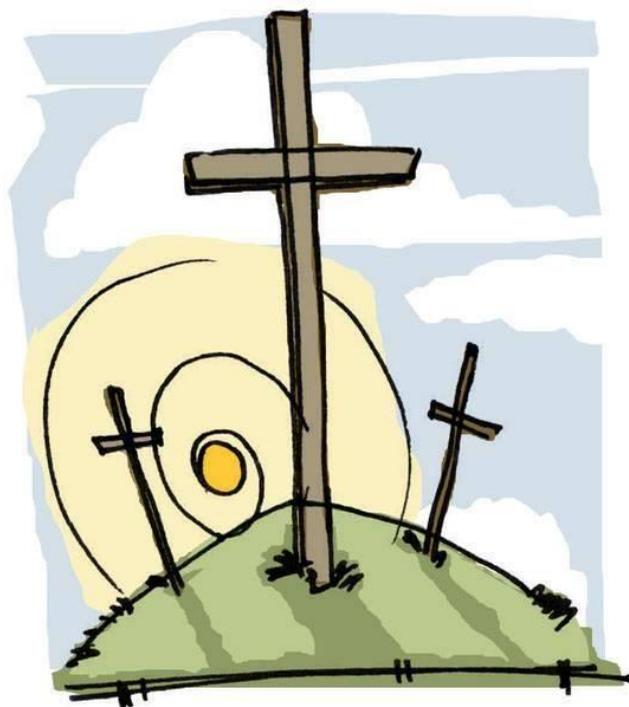


Cockpen & Carrington

# The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Easter 2017



Church of Scotland

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# WHO'S WHO

## MINISTER

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<i>Clerk to the Board:</i>	Walter Renton (663 1489) 2 Pendreich Grove, Bonnyrigg	Unitary Constitution. The Congregational Board has been dissolved
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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

## SERVICES MARCH – SEPTEMBER 2017

DATE	LASSWADE & ROSEWELL (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)
19.03.17	Minister - Rosewell	Minister <b>Annual Stated Meeting</b>
26.03.17	Minister - Lasswade <b>Annual Stated Meeting</b>	Minister – <b>All Age Cradle Roll Service</b>
02.04.17	Minister - Rosewell <b>Communion</b>	Minister
09.04.17 <b>Palm Sunday</b>	Minister - Lasswade	Eddie Yeoman
16.04.17 <b>Easter Sunday</b>	Minister – Rosewell <b>Easter Family Service</b>	Minister Baptismal Service
23.04.17	Professor Herbert Kerrigan QC	Professor Herbert Kerrigan QC
30.04.17	<b>Joint All-Age Service at 10.00 am at Cockpen &amp; Carrington Church</b>	
07.05.17	Minister - Rosewell	Minister <b>Communion</b>
14.05.17 <b>Christian Aid Week</b>	Minister – Lasswade <b>Big Breakfast after service</b>	Minister
21.05.17	Minister - Rosewell - <b>All Age Cradle Roll Service</b>	Minister
28.05.17	Minister – Lasswade	Minister – <b>All Age Service of Blessing</b>
04.06.17	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
11.06.17	<b>Joint All-Age Service at 10.00 am at Lasswade Church – Sunday School Prizegiving</b>	
18.06.17	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
25.06.17	Minister - Lasswade <b>Communion</b>	Minister
02.07.17	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
09.07.17	Minister - Lasswade	Minister
16.07.17	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
23.07.17	Minister - Lasswade	Minister
30.07.17	<b>Joint Service tbc</b>	
06.08.17	Rev. Elisabeth Spence - Rosewell	Rev. Elisabeth Spence
13.08.17	Rev. Elisabeth Spence - Lasswade	Rev. Elisabeth Spence
20.08.17	Rev. Elisabeth Spence - Rosewell	Rev. Elisabeth Spence
27.08.17	Minister – Lasswade <b>Back to School Sunday</b>	Minister
03.09.17	Minister – Rosewell <b>Communion</b>	Minister
10.09.17	Minister – Lasswade	Minister
17.09.17	Minister – Rosewell	Minister
24.09.17	Minister – Lasswade <b>Harvest Service</b>	Minister <b>Harvest Service</b>

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES – 10-14 APRIL – ALL SERVICES START AT 7.30 PM

MONDAY – Our Lady of Consolation; TUESDAY – Rosewell; WEDNESDAY– Lasswade;  
THURSDAY – St Leonard’s; FRIDAY – Cockpen & Carrington

## From the Minister ...

It has been very encouraging over recent weeks and months to have new ventures underway.

As I write, we have begun 'Future Focus' at Cockpen & Carrington and look forward to starting it also at Lasswade & Rosewell in mid-March. As has been mentioned, this is an opportunity to review and plan prayerfully for where we would like to be in the life and worship and activities of the churches in three to four years' time. We look forward to building on what we are doing, with some fresh ideas emerging too, as we seek to be a blessing in our community.

The 'Knit and Natter' group has also been running now for some months on a Thursday afternoon at Cockpen Church Hall. Quite a number of ladies have been gathering for tea/coffee and home baking, time for company and chat and an opportunity to be creative in a variety of ways including knitting, crocheting, and doing tapestry, cross stitch and art work. Amongst items being produced by members of the group at the moment are knitted chicks for some of our Easter celebrations and red poppies to create a Remembrance cascade for later in the year. 'Knit and Natter' is proving a relaxing and enjoyable time for all those who attend and anyone interested in joining the group will be most welcome.



It is also a joy that Rev. Elisabeth Spence has now begun as Pioneer Minister for Hopefield. She has been busy making many helpful contacts since she started in December 2016 and can be found on her Facebook page, 'Hopefield Connections' for up-to-date comments, news and events.

It's a fitting time of year to celebrate new beginnings and opportunities. With the lengthening, brightening days, there are colourful signs of spring with snowdrops, daffodils and crocuses blooming once more. In this season of Lent, we also progress towards Easter, the most special time of year when we celebrate the new and lasting life and hope that Jesus has made possible for us. May you have a very Happy Easter!



# COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH

## CONFIRMATION

26 February                      Ian McCabe  
Ian was confirmed and entered into full Church Membership  
by *The Minister*

*“Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you know. Remember the LORD  
in everything you do, and he will show you the right way.”*

Proverbs 3:5-6

## WEDDINGS

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

4 March                      Stewart THOMSON and Jamesina WHITE  
*Married 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

13 February                      James (Jim) BENNETT  
*beloved husband of Dorothy (nee Wightman),  
Dearly loved dad of Elaine, Pauline and Gail, father-in-law of Ian and Martin and  
proud granddad to his eight grandchildren.*

10 March                      Elaine Isabella WATSON (Née Stewart)  
*loving mother to Craig and Ann, cherished nana to Jack, Lewis and Callai,  
devoted wife of the late George Watson*

Jesus said, ‘I am the Resurrection and the Life’.

We pray for all the families and, any others whether members of this  
congregation or not, who grieve at this time.



# Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota

**2017**

**April**

- 2 Liz Mills
- 9 Marnie Crawford
- 16 Liz MacDonald
- 23 Mary Logan
- 30 John Adamson

**May**

- 7 Liz MacDonald
- 14 Moira Scott
- 21 Maureen Peden
- 28 Dorothy Scott

**June**

- 4 Wilma Sweeney
- 11 Irene Ramsay
- 18 Helen Renton
- 25 Frances Wilkie

**July**

- 2 Liz Laidlaw
- 9 Liz Mills
- 16 Jim Dyer
- 23 Liz MacDonald
- 30 Elspeth Brown

**August**

- 6 Ian Fowler
- 13 Margaret Porter
- 20 Lynn Hansen
- 27 Jim Dyer



Thank you for all the donations received and to all who supply and arrange the flowers in the Church. I and the other members in 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.

At Easter, may hope and peace spring up, bright as flowers blessing you with all good things.

*Nancy*

## FROM THE COCKPEN AND CARRINGTON CLERK

It is always an exciting time of the year when we prepare our Easter edition of the magazine as Spring is just around the corner. Snowdrops are flowering and the spring bulbs are starting to show. The days are getting longer too, allowing us to enjoy more time outdoors.

Lorna, our Minister, has been with us now for a year and we hope she feels settled with us, the other churches and indeed within the community. We as a congregation have experienced a more settled and organised year than of late with our services of worship having a more stable and meaningful effect as we have journeyed through the Christian calendar.

We have held a number of very successful fund raising events over the past twelve months, both for Charity and the Church. The most recent was our Church Christmas Fair when we raised the sum of £1,800. Our next event will be an Easter coffee morning with home baking, tombola and raffles. This will be held on Saturday 1st April in the Church hall from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. The proceeds will go to Church funds. Tickets will cost £3.

On 19th March our AGM will be held in Church after morning worship. Accounts for last year will be presented to the congregation together with reports from the Minister and Church organisations.

The following Sunday, 26th March, a Cradle Roll service will be held where children who have been baptised over the last few years and their parents are invited to come together in an all-age service in Church at 11.30 a.m. It is hoped that all will stay behind after the service and enjoy a cup of tea, coffee or juice and have the opportunity to join together in fellowship.

Our knit and natter group which started up last year is proving popular with an average of 15 people attending on a weekly basis. It is open to all, not just church members. We have people attending from outwith the church and beautiful friendships are being formed. You don't have to knit or crochet (you can learn if you wish as some have done) but you can come along just for a good natter over a cup of tea.

As I write, we are entering the quiet and thoughtful season of Lent,

traditionally a time of preparation for Easter.

We have our Holy Week services at Our Lady of Consolation Church on Monday; Rosewell for the Tuesday service; Lasswade Church for the Wednesday Service; St Leonard's Church on Thursday and here at Cockpen and Carrington we hold the Good Friday service. All services commence at 7.30 p.m. Please come along to any or all of the Holy Week services.

May the Easter message of Resurrection and joyous hope inspire us all.

*Liz Mills*

## **Cake Stall**

Many thanks to all our bakers who regularly provide goods for our stall. The customers are always delighted and sometimes find it difficult to decide what to choose. Thanks also to the Pitcairn staff and Bonnyrigg Church who make us so welcome on our Thursday.

The next dates for the stall are, as follows -

23rd March, 2017  
27th April, 2017  
25th May, 2017  
22nd June, 2017

Any goods for the stall can be handed in to the Pitcairn Centre between 9 - 9.30 a.m. on these dates.

Best wishes,  
*Helen, Isobel and Wilma.*



## FROM THE ORGANIST

The date of Easter seems to have been particularly volatile over recent years - within the last decade we have had close to both the earliest possible and latest possible dates for Easter Day. After falling in March last year the date this time round moves back substantially to 16 April. This does have the advantage of giving us a little more time to rehearse!

Following the pattern of the last few years, Cockpen & Carrington will be hosting the Holy Week service for Good Friday. In addition to the congregational hymns the choir will be performing two items appropriate to the day. Firstly, as in recent years we will be singing the opening part of "The Reproaches", an ancient text for Good Friday stretching back well over 1,000 years drawing on both the Old and New Testaments, the music being a mixture of the original plainsong and a setting of the refrain ("*O my people, what have I done unto thee?*") by the Spanish 16th century composer Victoria. For the second item we will be turning to a traditional English carol, "*O mortal man, remember well*" - this is often called the "Sussex Mummers' Carol" as it was collected in the 19th century from its performance by a group of "mummers" or strolling players. While nowadays the word "carol" is associated mainly with Christmas there are in fact many traditional carols for other seasons of the year and this one is a meditation on the crucifixion.

Easter Day will of course be very different from the sombre music of Good Friday. This year we will be singing two items new to our repertoire, firstly an introit by Maurice Greene, "*Honour and majesty are before Him*". Greene was a contemporary of Handel and was the organist of St Paul's Cathedral as well as professor of music at Cambridge. Moving forward to the 20th century, our anthem will be "*Jesu, the King of Gentleness*" by Alfred Hollins. Easter anthems naturally tend to be loud and triumphant but as the title suggests this is an exception to that rule, being very much in a lyrical vein. Although blind from birth, Hollins made a notable career as a concert pianist (including playing for Queen Victoria in his very young days) before switching to focus on the organ - as many will know he eventually settled in Edinburgh and was for numerous years the organist of St

George's West Church. As a composer he is best known for his many organ works (some of which I have played at Cockpen) but this gives us an opportunity to hear his gift for vocal melody.

As often on these occasions the organ music concluding the service will be drawn from the French tradition, in this case Alexandre Guilmant's "*Grand Choeur alla Handel*", which as the name suggests draws on the musical style of the 18th century for its inspiration - seen very much through late 19th century eyes however!

The choir and I look forward to contributing once again to our worship for this high point of the church's year in what I hope will be a fitting way.

GMB, March 2017

## Cockpen and Carrington Tea Rota

<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>
Wilma Sweeney Vi Gibson Liz MacDonald	Dot Scott Helen Renton Isobel Watson	John Adamson Moira Scott Nancy Richardson	Marjorie Commins Betty Finlay Mary Logan
<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>		
Andrew Jack Wilma Sweeney Vi Gibson	Bill Taylor Helen Renton Isobel Watson		

### Thank you

Andrew and Jean Sharpe would like to thank everyone for the cards, good wishes and generous donations for various charities on the occasion of Andrew's 90th birthday recently.

## BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

Warmest congratulations to Margaret Robson and Andrew Sharpe who both celebrated their 90th birthdays in February. They now join the nonagenarian club.



## DIAMOND WEDDING

Congratulations to Maureen and Alex Peden who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on the 9th February, a marvellous achievement. Well done.

### Summer Time



Remember to change your clocks at 2am on Sunday 26 March! – spring **forward** one hour.

## From a book - 'Breaking the Rules'

**A story by the late Eddie Askew which I share with you from time to time. I've enjoyed these books very much and would commend them to you. G.S.**

On Easter morning, Mary finds Jesus' tomb empty and stands in the garden, weeping for her loss. Jesus comes to her but she doesn't recognise him immediately. She thinks he's the gardener.

A few days later, Peter and some of the other disciples take a boat and go fishing in Galilee. Jesus calls to them from the shore but they don't realise at first who he is. Two other disciples, walking the road to Emmaus, meet a stranger. Going with them, he talks, explains and comforts. Again, it's Jesus.

I don't know why these close friends of Jesus didn't recognise him straight away. I don't understand what made him different after the resurrection. It isn't really important that I should.

The important thing is to realise that Jesus is unpredictable. He shows himself in whatever way he chooses; not capriciously, but in ways that startle, puzzle us, surprise us out of our easy assumptions; ways that widen our awareness.

In our insecurity, we try to make rules. *"This is how Christians should act."* *"This is how you recognise the Holy Spirit."* *"This is how ..."* and hard luck the Christian who breaks our rules. But Jesus breaks them all the time.

He broke the Sabbath rules to heal the sick, to respond to need with love, not law, and he still breaks them, to tell us that life can't be lived in a self-imposed straitjacket, that he can't be contained within our limited vision. Life is an unpredictable adventure, but that he's in it with us, even though we can't always see him, don't always recognise him. He tells us to look for goodness in unlikely places, to find him in unlikely people.

When we open our closed and timid minds to the glory of his presence, we shall find him everywhere and, in everyone.

***Loving Father, we too may often be like the disciples so teach us all to open our eyes so that we may see you in everything we do and say. G.S.***

# Guild News

Having started off the New Year with our usual Nibbles & Natter night the next meeting of our Guild found us enjoying a sing-a-long at the end of “*An Evening with Iain McPhail*”. Iain told us how he became a professional musician and of the tremendous opportunities here and abroad that have enriched his life through playing his accordion. He had brought along several instruments including his first basic accordion and the new hi-tec one he uses today. He closed the presentation by playing a few tunes such as *The Laird O’ Cockpen* and, as it was near Burns’ night, he included some of the Bard’s work as well.

Our next speaker told us of the Community Garden which is situated in the grounds of the New Community Hospital and which is open to all. The speaker was keen for us to spread the word that they would like more volunteers to participate in this wonderful garden project and told us all to look out for a table sale, perhaps weekly, at the hospital entrance where they will be selling surplus produce over the growing season.

Two university friends of our minister came to tell us of the work of a Glasgow-based charity called *Dwelling Places UK* that aims to help alleviate the plight of street children in Uganda. It is quite mind blowing how many children in the world have to live on the streets of cities through poverty.

We are preparing for spring by getting Vivian Wallace along to show us how we can improve our fitness by doing Armchair Keep Fit. Now that could prove a challenge for some!

On March 20th we have a talk from the Lothian Autistic Society.

We have gained 6 new members this session and have plenty room for more. Please take up our invitation to come along and see if you may like to join us and remember the invitation is to gentlemen as well as ladies.

Please keep in mind that our Closing Social will be held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup>. April and we are holding another Charity Afternoon Tea in May. Both these events are very popular and further details and tickets will be available soon.

*Helen*



# Hopefield Connection

It's been nearly three months now since I began the task of working in the new housing area of Hopefield. It's been a time of making links with people and beginning to see what the way forward is for the work.

I am using the title **Hopefield Connections** for the project with three aims: *Making Connections – Building Community – Sharing Faith*. This sums up what we are trying to achieve in the area and also makes it clear we are faith based.

There is a **Facebook** page called Hopefield Connections. Over Advent and also Lent there was a daily message and a picture for people to just take five minutes out of their day to think about something wider than the routine of living. The Facebook page is a great way to communicate with people and to build up a relationship with folk. If you use Facebook please like us! If you know someone who lives in Hopefield please tell them about the page.

At Christmas time I invited the Kevock Choir to come **Carol Singing** round the estate. We stopped in four places to sing a few carols. In spite of the pouring rain people came to their doors and I was able to have a chat with many folk about what we were trying to do in the area. The Carol Singing was well received and one lady put on Facebook the next day that she thought she had left the radio on and was listening to a professional choir – the Kevock Choir are a real band of angels!

On Sunday 16th April there will be an **Easter Event** with an Easter Egg Treasure Hunt, Easter crafts, a Puppet Show and the Connect Bus from Loanhead Parish Church will make its first appearance on the scene! I am very grateful to the ladies in the Knit & Natter group for rising to the challenge of producing 50 plus chicks plus Crème Eggs for the event.

Working as a Pioneer Minister is a great adventure and there are many contacts to be made, people to engage with and fun to be had in Hopefield. Who knows where it will all end up and what it will look like but each small step moves us closer. I am excited to be the one coordinating the work and what we do and I am grateful for interest, support and help the local churches have already given me. Please keep the work and me in your prayers.

Blessings,

*Elisabeth Spence*

# Lasswade and Rosewell News .....

## An Invitation to our Holy Week Services

Tuesday 11 April at 7.30 p.m. at Rosewell Parish Church  
Preacher : Rev. Elisabeth Spence

Wednesday 12 April at 7.30 p.m. at Lasswade Parish Church  
Preacher : The Minister

Easter Sunday at 10.00 a.m. – Family Service at Rosewell Parish Church  
All will be made most welcome

### Impressive Turnout:

A huge thank you to all who supported the Christmas Fair on Saturday 10 December. The sum of £515.71 was raised for Church funds. This was a result of all efforts put in by many people – those who baked, donated items, manned the various stalls, served the tea and coffee, worked in the kitchen and others who worked behind the scenes. To all those who came along and supported in any way – a big thank you to them all.

### 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.

### 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 April, 11 May, 8 June, 13 July and 10 August. We would like to thank you all for your continued support.

### Bereavements:

During the past few months we have had a number of bereavements and we would ask that you remember the families and friends of:

Miss Ann Muir - 18 November 2016      Mrs Mary Boyle - 11 December 2016  
Mr Robert Blakebell - 18 January 2017      Mrs Ruby Gardner - 16 February 2017  
Mrs Millie Clark - 18 February 2017      Mrs Irene Moore - 20 February 2017

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

## **An Invitation to Holy Communion**

Sunday 2 April at 10.00 a.m. at Rosewell Parish Church  
Sunday 25 June at 10.00 a.m. at Lasswade Parish Church  
All Welcome

### **Lasswade Church Garden Club:**

Meeting on Monday evenings throughout the summer we tackle hedge trimming, and border maintenance in the fairly large rear garden, plant cultivation in the small front gardens and many other non-strenuous tasks. We would warmly welcome any new members. You can do as much or as little as you are able and do not have to commit to every evening.

Further information can be obtained from:

Charlie Adams 0131 663 4596

### **Lasswade and Rosewell Kirk Session Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 25 April at 7.00 p.m. in Rosewell Church Hall.

### **Presentation to Agnes Anderson:**

During morning worship at Rosewell Church on Sunday 5 March the Minister presented Agnes Anderson with a cheque and two troughs filled with Spring flowers in appreciation of her outstanding service to the Church for so many years. After the service folks joined Agnes for tea and cakes in the hall.



## THINGS GOD WON'T ASK ON *THAT DAY*

1. God won't ask what kind of car you drove.  
He'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transport.
2. God won't ask the square footage of your house.  
He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
3. God won't ask about the clothes you had in your wardrobe.  
He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.
4. God won't ask what your highest salary was.  
He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
5. God won't ask what your job title was.  
He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
6. God won't ask how many friends you had.  
He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.
7. God won't ask in what neighbourhood you lived.  
He'll ask how you treated your neighbours.
8. God won't ask about the colour of your skin.  
He'll ask about the content of your character.



## Christian Aid Week 14 - 20 May 2017 (60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

Jesus' passion for justice inspired the first Christian Aid Week collectors to come together to raise money for refugees in 1957.

Now, you can be part of this incredible story of the church in action.

Come along to our Coffee Morning on Saturday 13 May when we will be supporting Christian Aid In Rosewell Church Hall from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon.

Following morning worship at Lasswade Parish Church on Sunday 14 May we will be hosting our very own **Big Brekkie** and following in the footsteps of thousands of Christians who have made a huge impact over the last 60 years.

### **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 on Saturday 9 September. Rosewell Parish Church will be open from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon and Lasswade Parish Church will be open from 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.

# Heart and Soul 2017 : Sunday 21 May : Princes Street Gardens

## What is Heart and Soul?

In 2011, we decided that not enough was done to celebrate the life and work of the church with those who very much keep it alive and working – the members, volunteers, ministers and congregations alike! It was then that we hosted our first public celebration in Princes Street Gardens called "Roll Away the Stone".

With live music, arts, exhibitions and a massed open-air worship in the gardens' Ross theatre. The event proved itself successful in bringing our church family together.

It was in 2012 that Heart and Soul became the new incarnation of Roll Away the Stone and has stuck with us each year since – building on the vibrant atmosphere every time.

As ever, Heart and Soul 2017 promises an exciting programme for all ages; with even more live music and performances on either of our "main stages", more energy and fun in our children and youth zones and an even greater worship experience – all with Jesus at the centre.

## A Penny for your Thoughts:

You've probably heard the story of the hen and the pig. As they walked down the farm road, they reflected that things weren't what they used to be. "Take the Scottish breakfast." said the hen. "Who tucks into bacon and eggs now? All these breakfast cereals make me feel so unwanted." Just then they came to a transport cafe at the end of the road. Outside was a placard advertising bacon and eggs at £2.50. "Look," said the hen, "we're needed after all!" But the pig didn't share her excitement. "It's all very well for you," he said. "You only have to make a contribution. For me, it's total commitment!" The story has many applications. It applies to life in our community. A few committed people, the "movers and shakers", work hard to make it a better place while the majority make the occasional contribution. And it's much the same in the church. Many of us make a contribution to the life of the congregation (and, of course, contributions of every kind are always welcome), but how much more dynamic, vigorous and fit for purpose the church would be if sacrificial commitment were the norm among us. The challenges we face in the church are many half empty pews, the task of reaching out to a generation who are lost to the church, financial shortfalls, the legacy of buildings largely unsuited to present needs, the erosion of faith, the uncertainty which now surrounds once clear moral codes and more. The challenges are many and call for a high degree of commitment from us all if they are to be met. While we don't pin our hopes for the church on our efforts but on the sovereign, renewing work of

God's Spirit, it is the case that God works through people who are consecrated to him.

**MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT TEAM:**

A big thank you was received for supporting Macmillan over the years and donating an amazing sum of £6,338.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone most sincerely for all the help given (in various ways).

*Agnes Anderson*

**Visit to Indonesia:**

A few years ago, May and I were on a Royal Caribbean Cruise and Stay calling at 2 places in Indonesia.

At one we boarded a steam train which puffed along a coastal countryside and were given sweets to give to local children who ran alongside the railway.

We then left at a station which contained old Dutch and German Steam Locomotives. The late Robert Moncrieff would have loved this: our train consisted of open sided carriages with wooden seats.

We visited a Park, which had 2 Komodo Dragons and were informed that they had to stop feeding them live prey, as a bite from these fearsome beasts brought a slow agonising death to any animal bitten by them. Our cruise itinerary did not include Komodo Island where they roam freely.

We then had to walk to an Arts and Craft Centre and on the way had to go very quietly as we passed a colony of Bats which were hanging over our heads.

We also were at Kuta Beach Town where not long after our visit there was a terrorist attack. So I do not know if cruise ships visit this country any more due to political instability in this area.

Other members of our congregation may have visited the Island of Bali, which mainly attracted tourists from Australia and Japan. We did get a reminder of home whilst in this country as the National Flag is the same colours as Bonnyrigg Rose Football Club.

*Ian Murdoch.*

## Lasswade and Rosewell Choir

Once again I have to extend my thanks to the regular choir for their continued support and my thanks also go to those who augmented the numbers at Christmas. I am extremely grateful to these ladies and gentlemen for giving their time and talent to further the musical contribution to our worship.

Readers may be interested to know that recently the Kirk Session gave permission for a young man who is learning to play the organ, and who is being taught by someone I know, to practise on the Lasswade instrument. This young man, who is still attending Lasswade High, has been in the church a number of times and it is good that we are encouraging young people in this way.

My article this time is really one of reflection as I still cannot see the way ahead clearly as far as music is concerned.

A few weeks ago I came into the church in the late afternoon on one of these glorious winter days. The sun was setting and the sunlight was streaming through the stained glass Memorial Windows on the west wall and really setting them alive. The lower light on the right of the right hand window as you look at the pulpit was particularly radiant. This features Dorcas, which is the Greek translation for Tabitha, who was a believer in Joppa. Dorcas means “a deer” and she made shirts and coats and spent all her time helping the poor. In fact the quotation on the window is “This woman was full of good works”. In the Acts of the Apostles we read that Dorcas took ill and died. Peter was summoned from nearby Lydda. He faced Dorcas’ body and commanded her to get up. After summoning the believers and the widows who were in another room he presented Dorcas to them, alive. It was rather appropriate that when I saw the sun lighting up this window, this particular light featuring Dorcas was really set alive.

President Trump, Brexit, IndyRef2, the Changing Pattern of Services and Future Focus are all issues which affect us, or could affect us, in varying degrees. No one is able to say what the outcome of any of them will be. I am reminded of the well-known hymn “My times are in Thy hand”, written by William Freeman Lloyd who lived in Gloucestershire between 1794 and 1853. Mr. Lloyd took a great interest in Sunday School work and in 1810 he was appointed as one of the Secretaries of the Sunday School Union. The hymn can be sung to several tunes, including “*Dennis*” which was

composed by Johann Georg Nageli. In these uncertain times one could reflect on the words:-

*My times are in Thy hand,  
Why should I doubt or fear?  
My Father's hand will never cause  
His child a needless tear.*

HLRD



Visiting organists at Lasswade Church on Christmas Day.

# David Dunn Fitness Trail

David Dunn was tragically killed while stopping a bank robbery on the High Street in Bonnyrigg 22 years ago. The fitness trail is dedicated to his bravery and community spirit.

## DAVID DUNN FITNESS TRAIL

***This trail stands in memory of David Dunn (1933-1994)***

On October 19th 1994 he was tragically killed in Bonnyrigg town centre whilst courageously stopping an armed robbery from the Bank of Scotland.

This fitness trail can be used by adults and children over 14 years (*as per safety instructions below*). Suitable for all fitness levels to get fit and keep fit.

Follow the route walking/jogging/running between stations at your own pace.

We hope you enjoy using it.



# THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Let's start our Easter article as usual by looking back over the past few months at what's been going on:

## 1. CHRISTMAS 2016

We had two coaches full for our Christmas outing to the pantomime to see Jack and the Beanstalk and it was fabulous - there were more adults than children there!

Our Nativity Play was a wonderful occasion - Steven Skirving, our Sunday School photographer (!), has kindly provided some photos for you all to see. Our play was "The very hopeless camel" - some of you may remember it from around 14/15 years ago! Layla Adam was the very hopeless camel who simply kept getting lost! She was ably supported by her two fellow camels: Levi Boyle & Ryan Scott. Their costumes were made all those years ago by Pamela Renton - thanks again Pamela. Meadow McCabe & Gracie Adam were stars and Meadow's Papa Jim had made a new star for the occasion; thanks Jim. Our angels were: Gabriel - Aimee Scott, with Molly Adam, Cameryn Crombie and Rosie Skirving. Mary & Joseph were again played by Gillian & Graeme Scott. Herod was played by Craig Adam; our innkeeper and wife played by Sharyn McKenzie & Kim Skirving and of course our Wise Men: Sara Adam, Nadia Boyle & Margaret Gordon. Blair Skirving, Ian McCabe & Jim Scott were shepherds. Brodie Boyle was our narrator. All were amazing and through song and the beautifully read narration we were all able to follow this lovely story. One of the most touching moments was a solo sung by (then) 10 year old Aimee Scott - probably the youngest soloist we've ever had in church and I'm certain both Herbert and Graham would love to recruit her for their choirs.

Well done everyone.

Again one of the things which makes our Nativity extra-special is the fact that adults and children appear alongside one another - this is a daunting experience for all ages, but as ever, by working together you achieved an incredible production.

You will have admired our new manger during our services, which should last many years. Thanks again to Johnny Lumsden for making this.

Baby Jesus was loaned by Emily Gray, one of our former pupils, who is quite poignantly working with Syrian refugee children in Turkey.

Thank you for another generous retiring offering at Lasswade.

## **2. FRIENDS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL**

We are indebted to a number of people known to us as "Friends of the Sunday School". - You know who you are, but your generous contributions allow the Sunday School to be self-sufficient and enjoy our trips and helps to pay for all our outgoings. We are so blessed that you remember us. Thank you all.

## **3. PANTO 2017!**

Yes if it's the Easter magazine, then we must be thinking about Christmas outings! We are booked again for **Sunday 3 December at 5pm** for the pantomime at the Kings Theatre, which is Cinderella! Please book early. Final numbers and payment required by **3 September**.

## **4. ALL AGE SERVICES**

The Minister has continued to hold a monthly all age service. She has encouraged the children to read the lessons and participate in her sermons. The visual aids are great.

## **5. NEW CHURCH MEMBER**

Ian McCabe decided to join Cockpen & Carrington church and his admission was witnessed by family, friends and his Sunday School family at the all age service in February. It was a lovely service and something not often seen by the children in our congregation. Ian has shown a long, dedicated commitment to his Christian faith and we will all benefit from his membership. We wish him great joy on this journey.

## **6. EASTER**

The combined Sunday School expects to be at Rosewell Parish Church on 16 April for our traditional Easter festivities.

## **7. PRIZEGIVING**

Our prizegiving will be held on Sunday 11 June at 10am in Lasswade Church. This will be a joint service for both congregations.

## **8. PICNIC**

We are still to finalise arrangements for this year's trip but will intimate these in due course.

## **9. DAVID DUNN FITNESS TRAIL**

Many of you will now be familiar with the news of the David Dunn Fitness Trail in King George V park in Bonnyrigg. David's Grand daughter, Sharyn, is a stalwart of the Sunday School and sadly David never met his great grand children: Jacob & Drew have moved on from Sunday School but Cameryn is still at Sunday School.

**A selection of Photos from the Sunday School Nativity Play**







Colour versions of the photographs will be on display in church.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017

<i>Sunday 29 January 2017</i>	<i>All age service Rosewell Church 10am for all congregations</i>
<i>Sunday 5 February 2017</i>	<i>Communion — no Sunday School at C&amp;C. Sunday School at Rosewell 10am.</i>
<i>Sunday 12 February 2017</i>	<b>HOLIDAY</b>
<i>Sunday 19 February 2017</i>	<i>Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 26 February 2017</i>	<i>All age service at Cockpen &amp; Carrington Church 11.30am</i>
<i>Sunday 5 March 2017</i>	<i>Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am &amp; Sunday School at Rosewell 10am.</i>
<i>Sunday 12 March 2017</i>	<i>Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 19 March 2017</i>	<i>Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 26 March 2017</i>	<i>Cradle Roll service at Cockpen &amp; Carrington Church 11.30am</i>
<i>Sunday 2 April 2017</i>	<b>HOLIDAY</b>
<i>Sunday 9 April 2017</i>	<b>HOLIDAY</b>
<i>Sunday 16 April 2017</i>	<i>Easter Sunday — all-age service at Rosewell (details to be confirmed)</i>
<i>Sunday 23 April 2017</i>	<i>Sunday School in Cockpen hall 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 30 April 2017</i>	<i>All age service — Cockpen &amp; Carrington Church 10am</i>
<i>Sunday 7 May 2017</i>	<i>Communion — no Sunday School at C&amp;C. Sunday School at Rosewell 10am</i>
<i>Dates for May/June still to be finalised</i>	

# Rosewell Flower Rota

**2017**

May        7th   Cecile Gillespie  
             21st   Myra McLean

June        4th   Betty Hogg  
             18th   Wendy Farrow

July         2nd   Morag McFarlane  
             16th   Adrian & Linda Fisher

August     6th   Sandra Ross  
             20th   Muriel Keith

Many thanks to everyone who contributes and helps organise our church flower arrangements.

Jean Lindsay



## Lasswade Church Flower Rota

Thank you to all the “Flower Folk” who donate the flowers for the church at Lasswade. We are so lucky to have such a great band of helpers. With the change in the order of church services, this has meant an adjustment to the number of flowers for distribution. Thank you for your understanding in these changing times.

May 14<sup>th</sup> Margaret Gordon  
May 28<sup>th</sup> Elaine Thomson

June 11<sup>th</sup> Stewart Renwick  
June 25<sup>th</sup> Alison Branch

July 9<sup>th</sup> Mary Hay  
July 23<sup>rd</sup> Margaret Michael  
July 30<sup>th</sup> Margaret Dalglish

August 13<sup>th</sup> Shona Howden  
August 27<sup>th</sup> Moira Dryden

September 10<sup>th</sup> Moira Scott  
September 24<sup>th</sup> Margaret Stewart

If anyone needs help on any of these dates, please let me know.  
*Moira Dryden*



# THE HOLY HIKERS

"After a day's walk everything has twice  
its usual value"

George Macauley Trevelyan



Our November walk took us round Roslin and the Esk Valley on a six-mile excursion which 12 of the group enjoyed very much. This was led by Hilary and Glen.

On Saturday 10th December they once again led us on a short walk round the Bush Estate. This was followed by lunch at Cibo Restaurant at Gowkley Moss. The meal was superb and we all had a lovely afternoon.

There was no walk in January and unfortunately we had to cancel February's trip to East Linton due to bad weather.

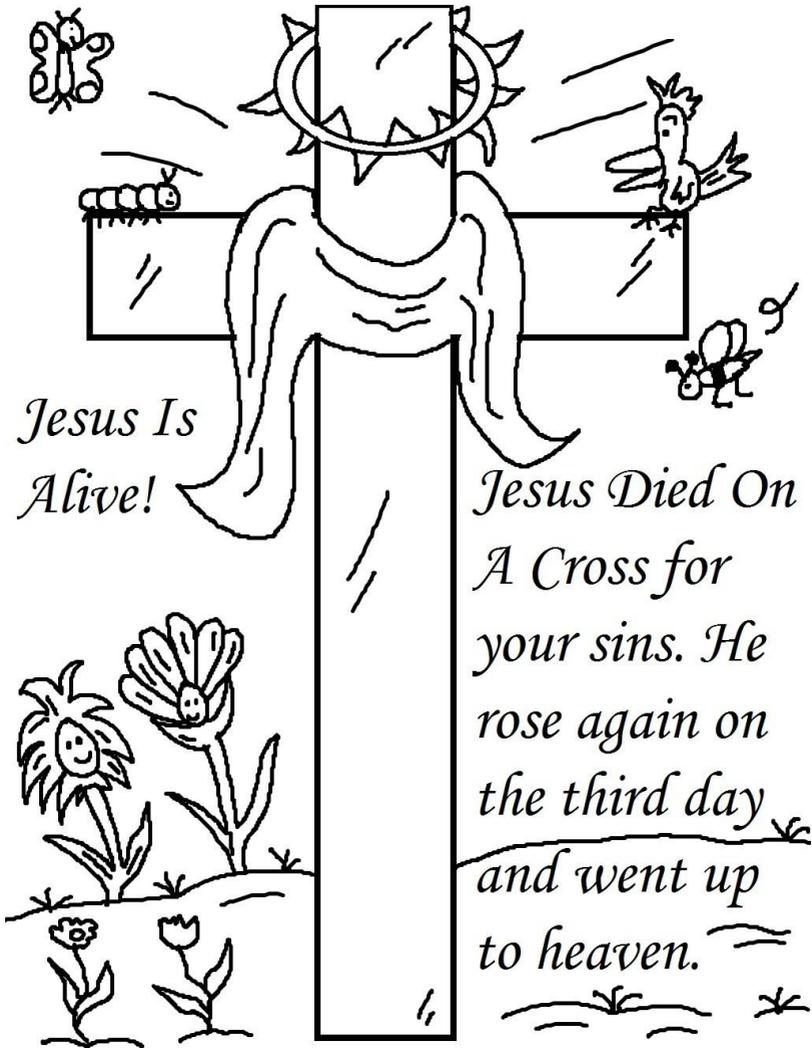
We will walk in the Meldon Hills in March and later in the month go for our Weekend Away to Northumberland.

We welcome new members. Contact me on 0131 660 1147

Happy Hiking  
*Jim Scott*



# Children's page



*Jesus Is  
Alive!*

*Jesus Died On  
A Cross for  
your sins. He  
rose again on  
the third day  
and went up  
to heaven.*

Share your news, views or ideas in the Harvest Issue of "The Link" send them to [Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk](mailto:Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk) by Sunday, 13th August 2017