

Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Easter 2019



Church of Scotland

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From the Minister ...

It's that wonderful time of year again when the days are getting longer and flowers begin to appear in the garden. This year may have seemed a bit extraordinary with snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils all blooming together in February and bumble bees already flying about the garden.

We can celebrate the energy and beauty of new life all about us. And it's a reminder of the celebration of new life that lies at the heart of Easter time. Jesus gave his life for us all upon the cross, taking away the barrier of sin that lay between us and God. He was then raised to life again by God three days later and so won for us newness and fullness of life everlasting through our faith in him. It's a lasting assurance and inspiration as we live lives for him.

From this personal assurance of new life and renewal, we have as church families at Cockpen & Carrington and Lasswade & Rosewell embarked on a new path that will help us breathe new life into ways of being and doing church today. That path is called 'Path of Renewal' and we along with five other congregations in Lothian Presbytery have just set out on this journey of discovery that will last over the coming two years.



'Path of Renewal' has been running for about four years now and was begun first of all nationwide across Scotland with 20 churches taking part. It's a programme that recognizes that the Church today is in a very different place to

50 years ago and more. Then a great many more people went to church routinely on a Sunday and our Sunday Schools were flourishing. Now Sundays are very busy for families and there's a lot to fit in. Many people have drifted away and lost their connection with church.

What we need therefore is to think differently and do things differently in order to offer church in fresh ways. We can think of stepping away from our rigid service format on a Sunday morning of five hymns, two prayers and a sermon and have much more interactive services at other times that are enjoyable for all the family.

We need to remember too that while it may be difficult to invite people back to church if they have lost their connection with it and they are busy on Sundays, we all have interests and hobbies we pursue out and about with others and there is opportunity here to make connections, build relationships and share our faith when opportunities arise.

The Path of Renewal programme seeks to encourage people to share their faith wherever they may be. It also encourages congregations to experiment with new ideas for doing church and seeing what happens. Some of those with new ideas may be on the fringes of our church families. They are often the ones with vision and energy and a sense of what can really work today in offering a more lively and interactive style of church. As the existing members of our churches, we are able to support and encourage them in trying out their ideas.

As we realise times are different and things need to change, Path of Renewal offers support and guidance to ministers and congregations to help them take positive steps forward. It isn't about changing everything. We need to hold onto our core values and vision for what lies at the heart of our Christian faith – our trust in God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; our trust in prayer and the Bible; our concern to love and care for one another and those around us. But alongside this, we can create a culture of experimentation, support and encouragement that will help us breathe new life and growth into all that we are and do as churches together.

This may be a different era and daunting for the Church. But these are also exciting times as we trust in the guidance and enabling of our risen Lord Jesus who provides the strength to do all things.

With all good wishes for a Happy Easter when it comes.

Your Minister,
Lorna Souter

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

SERVICES :: March to September 2019

DATE	LASSWADE & ROSEWELL (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)
07.04.19	Minister – Rosewell Communion Service and ASM	Fiona Devoy
14.04.19 Palm Sunday	Minister – Lasswade	Minister
21.04.19 Easter Sunday	Minister – Rosewell – 8.00 am Early Service followed by breakfast in the Hall 10.00 am All-Age Service	Minister - All-Age Service
28.04.19	Rev. Elisabeth Spence – Lasswade	Rev. Elisabeth Spence
05.05.19	Minister - Rosewell	Minister - Communion
12.05.19 Christian Aid Week	Minister – Lasswade Big Breakfast after service in aid of Christian Aid	Minister Buffet Lunch after the service in aid of Christian Aid
19.05.19	Service led by Elders - Rosewell	Service led by Elders
26.05.19	Minister – Lasswade	Minister
02.06.19	Joint All-Age Service at 10.00 am at Rosewell Church – Sunday School Prizegiving and L&R Cradle Roll Service Church Family Picnic in the church garden after the service	
09.06.19	Minister - Lasswade	Minister
16.06.19	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
23.06.19	Minister - Lasswade Communion	Fiona Devoy
30.06.19	Joint All-Age Service at 11.30 am at Cockpen Church	
07.07.19	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
14.07.19	Minister - Lasswade	Minister
21.07.19	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
28.07.19	Rev. Elisabeth Spence - Lasswade	Rev. Elisabeth Spence
04.08.19	Rev. Elisabeth Spence - Rosewell	Rev. Elisabeth Spence
11.08.19	Fiona Devoy - Lasswade	Fiona Devoy
18.08.19	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
25.08.19	Minister – Lasswade Back to School Sunday – All-age Service	Minister Back to School Sunday – All-Age Service
01.09.19	Minister – Rosewell Communion	tbc
08.09.19	Minister - Lasswade	Minister
15.09.19	Minister - Rosewell	Minister
22.09.19 Harvest	Minister - Lasswade All-Age Service	Minister – All-Age Service and Cradle Roll Service
30.09.19	Joint Service at 10.00 am at Lasswade Church	

HOLY WEEK SERVICES – 15th – 19th APRIL 2019

Sunday 14th April at **5.00 pm** – Lasswade Church, Songs of Praise Service
Monday 15th April at 7.30 pm - Our Lady of Consolation RC Church
Tuesday 16th April at 7.30 pm - Bonnyrigg Parish Church
Wednesday 17th April at 7.30 pm– Rosewell Church
Thursday 18th April at 7.30 pm – St Leonard's Episcopal Church
Good Friday 19th April at 7.30 pm – Cockpen & Carrington Parish Church

A Word in Season

Reading: John 21: 1-25

Consider: *Down the Path to the Well - a thought to remember along the way*

They gathered at the Cross that day - the women who loved Him; the guards who stole from Him; the crowd who watched Him - they were all there, to worship, to weep, to mock, to scorn - and to see! They were rich and poor; wise and unlearned; tall and thin, short and plump; well-dressed and in rags - they were all there... at the foot of the Cross.

We gather at the Cross today too - the people who love Him; the wicked who hate him; the indifferent who pass by Him. We're rich and poor; wise and unlearned; tall and thin, short and plump; we're well-dressed or in well-worn garments - we are all there... and level... at the foot of the Cross.

In society, education, government and the marketplace, it is not so! In business, law, medicine and the workplace, it is not so! There are ranks and orders, castes and divides-- and like it or not, we are often worlds apart. No meeting ground, no common ground... until...

We all arrive at the Cross - and there we find a different kind of ground. It's holy ground. It's level ground. We stand in awe, in reverence, in redemption, in the garments of His righteousness – OR we stand in mockery, in madness, in mankind's resistance and rejection, in the filthy rags of the unredeemed--but we're all there, all on the same level... at the foot of the Cross.

I want to stay there – to cling to that old rugged Cross; to bow and to adore the One who hangs there for me. I'm in the crowd... but yet I stand alone. I am one unique person, unlike any other in that crowd – and He sees me; He knows me; He loves me. I behold – and I bow – low... at the foot of the Cross!

Pray:

Lord, I mingle with the crowd who love you today; but I stand alone, unworthy, in your holy presence, except by the Blood of your Cross. I bow in adoration – and you see me there, Lord; you know me, and I am glad. I thank you, my Lord, In Jesus' Name.

FROM THE COCKPEN AND CARRINGTON CLERK

As winter turns to spring and days lengthen, the light brings hope and promise of Easter – and better times ahead. Where flowers bloom, so does hope. “Easter” literally means “*the feast of fresh flowers*”, celebrate it with pride and jubilation.

In the whirlwind of bunnies, chickens and chocolate eggs it can be hard to find the heart of Easter. But while Easter celebrations have changed over time, the meaning of Easter remains the same.

Easter is a time to look at the lives we have so generously been given and allow us to let fall away the useless baggage that we carry – old habits, old grudges, old secrets, old wounds and let us have the courage to begin again.

Life is very short, and we are no sooner here than it is time to depart again, and we should use to the full the time we still have.

We don't realise all the good we can do. A kind encouraging word or helping hand can bring many a person through dark valleys in their lives. We weren't put here to make money, or to acquire status or reputation. We were sent here to search for the light of Easter in our hearts, and when we find it, we are meant to give it away generously.

Take courage and do it.

Earth's saddest day and gladdest day were just three days apart.

May you have a very Happy Easter

Liz

Session Clerk

Reports from the Cockpen and Carrington ASM are available by email for any in the congregation who would like a copy. Please contact Andrew Jack on andrew.jack@live.co.uk. A paper copy will be available to read in the church.

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH

BLESSINGS

We are delighted to welcome the following who along with parents, families and friends, joined us at recent Blessing services.

10th February *Robbie George and Lucy Kelly*
Infant twins of David and Hayley ARTHUR
Great Grandchildren of Duncan and Margaret BARR

24th February *Samuel*
Infant Son of David and Stephanie RAPHAEL

'May the Lord Bless Thee and Keep Thee'

WEDDINGS

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

BEREAVEMENTS

12th January Morag MOORE
16th January Richard (Dick) SCOTT
30th January Stuart ROBERTSON
15th February Rev. Melville Frederick SCHOFIELD

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'



LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH NEWS

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

Sunday 7th April 2019 at 10.00am Rosewell Church

Sunday 23rd June 2019 at 10.00am Lasswade Church

All Welcome



Impressive Turnout:

A huge thank you to all who supported the Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday 8 December. The sum of £767 was raised for Church funds. This was a result of 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. Everyone is most welcome for a chance to meet new people, catch up with friends and enjoy some delicious home baking.



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: 11 April, 9 May, 13 June, 11 July and 8 August. We would like to thank you all for your continued support.

Food Bank:

A huge thank you to all who kindly contribute to our Food Bank boxes. Your contributions are extremely welcomed by the recipients – many who have never experienced hardship before, but do so now, due to redundancies, ill health, unemployment and seeking work but nothing available. Please keep your donations coming as the need is ever present just now.

Many thanks

Annual Stated Meeting:

The Annual Stated Meeting of the congregation is to take place immediately after worship on Sunday 7th April at Rosewell Church and as many members and friends of the congregation as possible are asked to attend. This meeting gives you the chance to hear how we have done financially in the previous year and of our plans for the future. With that in mind, your attendance is greatly appreciated.

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Church Register

We welcome the following member to our Church and hope that she will feel comfortable worshipping with us:

Mrs Yvonne Hillyard from Edinburgh, St. Giles' Cathedral

Bereavements

Mrs Maureen McGeachy – 29th December 2018

Mrs Mary Campbell – 4th January 2019

Mrs Elaine Reid – 15 February 2019

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



Christian Aid Week 12 – 18 May 2019

The focus for 2019 is Sierra Leone, a country rich in diamonds, yet one of the world's poorest and scarred by Ebola.

Do come along and support Christian Aid at our Coffee Morning on Saturday 11 May from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in Rosewell Church Hall and on Sunday 12 May following morning worship at Lasswade when we will be hosting a 'Big Brekkie' consisting of tea, coffee, croissants, with various fillings and fruits.

Reading in Church:

Would anyone like to join the rota to do readings in Church? Please speak to Dorothy about this if you are interested. We would very much like to have some new voices involved.

Keep the Children busy this Easter:

Easter Sponge Prints

Most arts and crafts shops have sponges in various shapes (you probably own some already) or you can make your own. Using sponges shaped as lambs, bunnies, ducks, crosses, eggs etc, dip the sponges into paint and remove the excess then press on a piece of paper to create an Easter scene.

Our '**Vintage Strawberry Fair**' will be held in Rosewell Church Hall/Garden on Saturday 18th May from 1.00pm -3.00pm. We hope that you will support this fund raiser. There will be games, raffles, guess the weight of the cake, refreshments and lots more. Come along and join in the fun when you can enjoy a Strawberry Afternoon Tea.



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

Children are NOT dropped off – come and join the fun with them. Messy Church

creatively explores Christian and moral themes through getting messy; with crafts, games, a story, prayer and songs and then it finishes with a special Messy meal together without you having to clear up or cook!

Do come and join us on Saturday 6 April, 4 May and 1 June from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. You can find us on Facebook at '**Rosewell Messy Church**'.

Lasswade and Rosewell Messy Church Team

KOREA – THE FORGOTTEN WAR A MEMORIAL

No doubt many from our congregations have visited Washington USA and have been impressed by the Lincoln Memorial and, of course, the White House.

As darkness fell, we came across the Korean War Memorial which was in the form of a Korean paddy field. We felt as though we were in one as we walked past in the evening darkness. This was indeed an unusual tribute to those who gave their lives in this conflict so far away from their homeland.

A few years later we visited Busan in South Korea and came across war graves dedicated to the Service Personnel who gave their lives in the conflict. There is a local connection, as servicemen from Glencorse Barracks took part in this –The Forgotten War.

Ian Murdoch

AN INSPIRATIONAL EASTER STORY

JEREMY'S EGG

Jeremy was born with a slow mind and chronic, terminal illness that had been slowly killing him all his young life. Still, his parents had tried to give him as normal a life as possible and had sent him to the local school. At the age of 12, Jeremy was only in P2, seemingly unable to learn. His teacher, Doris Miller often became exasperated with him. He would squirm in his seat and make grunting noises. At other times, he spoke clearly and distinctly, as if a spot of light had penetrated the darkness of his brain. Most of the time, however, Jeremy irritated his teacher. One day she called his parents and asked them to come to the school for a consultation.

As the Forresters sat quietly in the empty classroom, Doris said to them, "Jeremy really belongs in a special school". It isn't fair to him to be with younger children who don't have learning problems. There is a five-year gap between his age and that of the other children. Mrs Forrester cried softly into a tissue while her husband spoke, "Miss Miller," he said, "there is no school of that kind nearby. It would be a terrible shock for Jeremy if we had to take him out of this school. We know he really likes it here."

Doris sat for a long time after they left, staring at the snow outside the window. Its coldness seemed to seep into her soul. She wanted to sympathise with the Forrester's. After all, their only child had a terminal illness. But it wasn't fair to keep him in her class. She had 18 other children to teach and Jeremy was a distraction. Furthermore, he would never learn to read or write. Why waste any more time trying?

As she pondered the situation, guilt washed over her "Oh God, she said aloud, "here I am complaining when my problems are nothing compared with that poor family! Please help me to be more patient with Jeremy."

From that day on, she tried hard to ignore Jeremy's noises and his blank stares. Then one day he limped to her desk, "I love you Miss Miller", he exclaimed, loudly enough for the whole class to hear. The other children snickered, and Doris's face turned red. She stammered, "Wh-Why, that's very nice, Jeremy. Now please take your seat:

Spring came, and the children talked excitedly about the coming of Easter. Doris told them the story of Jesus, and then to emphasize the idea of new

life springing forth, she gave each of the children a large plastic egg. "Now," she said to them. "I want you to take this home and bring it back tomorrow with something inside that shows new life., do you understand?" Yes, Miss Miller the children responded – all except for Jeremy. He just listened intently; his eyes never left her face. Had he understood what she had said about Jesus' death and resurrection? Did he understand the assignment? Perhaps she should call his parents later. That evening Doris was extremely busy and forgot to call Jeremy's parents.

The next morning, 19 children came to school, and placed their eggs in the large basket on the table. After they had completed their arithmetic, it was time to open the eggs. In the first egg, Doris found a flower representing a sign of new life. The next egg contained a plastic butterfly, we all know that caterpillars change and grow into the new life of a butterfly she said. Next one contained a rock which moss had grown on, excellent she said. Doris opened the fourth egg. The egg was empty! Surely it must be Jeremy's she thought, he did not understand her instructions, if only she had called his parents. Because she did not want to embarrass him, she quietly set the egg aside and reached for another.

Suddenly Jeremy spoke up. "Miss Miller, aren't you going to talk about my egg?" Flustered, Doris replied, "but Jeremy - your egg is empty!" He looked into her eyes and said softly, "Yes, but Jesus' tomb was empty too!" Time stopped. When she could speak again, Doris asked him, "Do you know why the tomb was empty?" "Oh yes!", Jeremy explained. "Jesus was killed and put in there. Then his Father raised him up!" The recess bell rang. While the children excitedly ran out to the playground, Doris cried. The cold inside her melted completely away.

Three months later Jeremy died. Those who paid their respects at the funeral were surprised to see 19 eggs on top of his small coffin, all of them empty.

PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

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

A Bible Study group meets once a month for an hour on a Tuesday evening at 7pm.

Both meetings are open to the members of Cockpen and Carrington and Lasswade and Rosewell. If anyone would like to join in at these meetings, then please speak to the Minister.

Cockpen and Carrington News

CAKE STALL

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

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

Future dates for the stall are as follows –

25th April 2019

23rd May 2019

27th June 2019

25th July 2019

22nd August 2019

With all our best wishes for Easter.

Helen, Isabel and Wilma.

Spectacles



Do you have any old spectacles in the cupboard? If so, can you place them in the box provided in Church.

They will be taken to the Optician who, in turn sends them to Vision Aid Overseas. Parts are recycled to make glasses for people in need.

They need your help!!

Thanks,

Wilma

The Blessing of His Absence

Oh, the anguish of Mary, the depth of despair,
When she came to the tomb and the Lord was not there!
As she desolate stood with her balm and her myrrh,
And His winding sheet only was waiting for her!

Yes, but what if it had been otherwise...

Oh, the blackness of death, oh, life's utter despair,
Had she come to the tomb and the Lord had been there,
Lying wrapped in the sheet with the balm and the myrrh,
And no risen Redeemer had waited for her!

Source unknown.

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON CHURCH – FROM THE ORGANIST

After what felt like a brief interval between Christmas and Easter last year, this time round we have had the luxury of nearly seven weeks more rehearsal time - a blessing to those of us who took an extended holiday in February!

In Holy Week this year Cockpen & Carrington will as often in the past (though not last year) be hosting the service on Good Friday, when the choir will be performing two items appropriate to the day. Firstly, as in recent years we will be singing the first 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 verses and a setting by the Spanish 16th century composer Victoria of the refrain (“O my people, what have I done unto thee?”). By contrast the anthem we will sing is by a contemporary British composer, Jonathan Wikeley (rather alarmingly I see that I became the organist at Cockpen before he was born!). Entitled “My Lord is alone in his darkest hour”, its musical style draws on the tradition of spirituals, but with a modern angle.

On Easter Day we will be turning to the more traditional anthem repertoire, performing Stainer’s “They have taken away my Lord”. This opens with a brief but quite dramatic setting of the gospel account of the encounter between Mary Magdalene and Jesus on Easter morning and then moves into a chorus of rejoicing, “O death, where is thy sting?”. This is a piece we have performed a number of times over the years, in which our late tenor Alex Mitchell always took the male solo - we are reviving it this year for the first time since his passing by way of a tribute to him and his much-missed contribution to the choir.

The organ music I will be playing at the conclusion of the Easter service is by a modern Norwegian composer, Egil Hovland, and takes the form of a Toccata based on the chorale tune “Now thank we all our God”. Its festive mood will I hope, provide a suitable conclusion to this most celebratory of services.

The choir and I look forward to joining with you once again for this central part of the church’s year.

GMB

GUILD REPORT

We have 41 members who are very active in their membership of the Church of Scotland Guild and work enthusiastically for the Church and many worthwhile charities and causes. Our Charity Afternoon Tea in May led us to decorate the hall with red, white and blue bunting etc. and Bill Taylor's display table of war memorabilia set the scene for our recognition of the end of WW1. Those attending enjoyed a lovely tea, bought from the cake stall and if that wasn't enough joined in a sing along led by Graham Burnside on the piano. We managed to realize the sum of £1000 which was shared between The Sepsis Trust and one of the Military charities which help injured personnel.

Many of the speakers who come to give a talk to the members are so impressed by the happy and relaxed atmosphere within the group that they volunteer to come back to give a presentation on another topic in the future as they enjoyed their time with us so much.

As with all groups there is often a drop-in membership numbers through illness, relocation or sometimes it's just not for them. Fortunately for us we continue each year to attract a few new faces, which is a real joy as fresh ideas and feedback are what is needed to keep stagnation at bay. We certainly try our best not to utter the phrase "it's aye been done this way" as we try to move in time with the world around us.

Our theme over this year and the following two is One Journey Many Roads and this year's challenge is to think about "Seeking the Way". Our syllabus this year has certainly reflected our endeavour to explore as many paths on our journeys whilst enjoying the ups and learning to challenge downs with courage and understanding.

Our minister Lorna, and Elisabeth Spence the Pioneer Minister at Hopefield, have both visited us and helped us seek the spiritual path through their talks and Catherine Devlin's presentation of her trip to Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand certainly illustrated what an interesting and beautiful world we can explore in the physical sense.

Other talks have included The Yard, Commonwealth Graves War Commission, the Boy's Brigade, the Strange World of the Amish and Shakers, the Sepsis Trust, Social Bite and the Salvation Army. All very informative and interesting.

We are very appreciative of the support given by the congregation and friends and love to see so many come along to join us at special occasions. However, we would love to see more of you all (yes, gentlemen too) coming along to join us even for one night if you are particularly interested in one of the topics. You will be assured a warm welcome.

Liz and Helen

SUNDAY TEA ROTA

Cockpen and Carrington

2019

April 7th	Muriel Calder Moira Scott Mary Logan	July 7th	Mary Logan Nancy Richardson Betty Finlay
May 12th Christian Aid Brunch	Dorothy Scott Madge Commins John Adamson	August 4th	Moira Scott Dorothy Scott Andrew Jack
June 9th	Isobel Watson Andrew Jack Liz MacDonald	September 1st	Muriel Calder Isobel Watson Helen Renton
June 30th Joint Service	Vi Gibson Wilma Sweeney Helen Renton		

First Sunday of the month unless otherwise stated.

KNIT AND NATTER

The Knit and Natter group continues to flourish on a Thursday afternoon in Cockpen and Carrington Church hall at 1.30pm.

Since resuming after the Christmas break, we have continued to knit Trauma Teddies and babies premature clothes for the babies in the Neo Natal unit at Simpsons (RIE), and some Easter novelties for our Easter Coffee Morning.

Being prepared for Christmas, yes Christmas!! Shepherds, Kings, Angels and animals have been knitted to compile a Nativity collection for our Pioneering Minister, Elisabeth Spence, to present to the children at the local school this Christmas. Elisabeth has a great relationship with the school, and we are always happy to help where we can.

If you fancy an afternoon out with good company, a chat and a cup of tea, then come along and feel free to bring a friend. Our doors are open to all in the community.

Liz

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Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota

2019

April 7 14 21 28	Liz Mills Nancy Richardson Liz MacDonald Mary Logan
May 5 12 19 26	Liz MacDonald Moira Scott Maureen Peden Dorothy Scott
June 2 9 16 24 30	Prize-giving - Rosewell Irene Ramsay/ Wilma Sweeney Helen Renton Frances Wilkie Joint Service - Cockpen
July 7 14 21 28	Liz Laidlaw Liz Mills Jim Dyer Liz MacDonald
August 4 11 18 25	Lynn Hansen/ Ian Fowler Elspeth Brown Margaret Porter 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

Concert by Quern
The Life, Songs & Poems of Robert Burns



Thank you from Dot & Jim Scott

Dot & Jim would like to thank everyone who came along or helped in any way to make the QUERN Concert such a success back in January. QUERN told the life story of Robert Burns with music and poems. A lovely evening was had by all and raised the sum of £626.00 for Cockpen & Carrington Church Funds. Thanks again for your support.

Cockpen and Carrington Church



**Our Easter Coffee Morning will be held in the
Church Hall on Saturday 6th April at 10am.
Tickets £3**

Home Baking Soft Goods Bottle Tombola.

**Do come along and enjoy our freshly baked
scones and cakes with coffee and a selection
of various teas.**

Gift Aid

What is Gift Aid?

This is a government scheme allowing the Church to reclaim the tax paid on the monies given in Gift Aid offerings.

How does the Church benefit?

With the basic rate of Income Tax at 20% the Church can recover Gift Aid at the rate of 25% e.g.

£ 1	becomes	£ 1.25
£ 4	becomes	£ 5.00
£ 10	becomes	£ 12.50
£ 100	becomes	£ 125.00
£1000	becomes	£ 1,250.00 and so on.

Who can Gift Aid?

Anyone who pays Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax which is annually at least equal to Gift Aid recovered.

What is required?

Sign a Gift Aid Declaration form and give your offerings through the Freewill Offering envelopes, Bank Standing order (BACS) or by cheque, whatever suits you best.

This enables the Church with the necessary record of Gift Aid givings and, of course, all this information is held in strict confidence.

You do not need:

To promise a specified amount

To promise to give for a specific period of time

You can cancel your Gift Aid Declaration at any time as your circumstance may change, e.g. you may no longer be a tax payer or you feel that you just wish to withdraw from the scheme.

Gift Aid is good Stewardship

Giving offerings through Gift Aid increases the value of your offerings by 25% and more monies coming in helps to secure the future of the Church and sharing the Gospel through the work of our Church and the wider Church. (Gift Aid recovered increases the annual income of the Church of Scotland by more than £10 million).

If anyone is interested in the Gift Aid Scheme or would like more information please let me know.

Bill Brown
Gift Aid Convenor
Cockpen and Carrington Church

Rev. Melville Schofield

An Appreciation

Everyone who knew him, not just within this Linked Charge but beyond, would be saddened to learn of Melville's passing in February.

When Rev. Wendy Drake began her ministry among us in the early 1990s services were conducted in all three churches every Sunday. From a practical point of view the Minister could only do two of these services so cover had to be found to do the third service. We could have had a variety of different people each week but to try and maintain a bit of continuity a rota was drawn up involving, basically, three gentlemen who became known as "Wendy's Boys" - although all the "boys" were older than the Mother! One of the regulars was Tom Gordon, at that time Chaplain to the Marie Curie, another was Norman Faulds, recently retired from an East Lothian parish, and the other was Melville who was still, when we first knew him, Chaplain at the Western General. From time to time other people conducted the service in the third church but it was the regular three that we got to know, and got to know well.

Melville had been out to this area once or twice but the present incumbent at the organ in Lasswade must have been on holiday and the first time he met Melville was when he, Melville, spoke at a Bank of Scotland Pensioners' Association meeting. He was much in demand as a speaker at these sorts of gatherings and his reputation went before him. As many of you know he was an authority on Robert Burns and spoke at Burns Suppers etc., not just here but in the Canadian Province of either Saskatchewan or Manitoba.

Melville soon gained the affection of us all. I think Melville enjoyed coming to our Linked Charges because he knew the area fairly well, having spent time in this part of the world in his younger days. He attended Dalkeith High School for a while and that is where he first met Christine. Christine often accompanied him when he was preaching in our churches and we got to know her well. Christine was a lovely singer. Melville was an excellent preacher who loved

to share the Good News of the Gospel with others and many of his sermons contained references to his own experiences. Melville was also a true gentleman in every sense of the word and cared for those with whom he came in contact and many will bear testimony to that. Agnes Anderson echoed these sentiments when she recalled that when she was talking to him in the vestry, she tended to stand but Melville, being a gentleman, encouraged her to sit.

Also, Melville mentioned that by ministering to us it was a completely different environment from his daily work at the Western General. His ministry at the Western General was vital, though, not only to the patients and their families but also to the nursing staff for whom he also cared, and Liz Mills is aware of him marrying many of the nurses and subsequently baptising their children.

Melville arrived in good time when he was conducting a service and this enabled him to talk to people beforehand, a gesture which was much appreciated. While these conversations could at times be humorous in content, involving a joke or a story, they nevertheless provided an opportunity for Melville to share his thoughts on a wide range of issues, some of them relating to the faith. These were valuable moments for those whom he was addressing. One of our members remembers Melville telling a story about taking little Glasgow boys out in his three wheeled Reliant Robin. It was a great treat for them so he squeezed in as many as he could. A Rolls Royce overtook them which made the wee boys shout "Come on, Mr. Schofield, pass him back".

Not only did he give up his time on a Sunday to be with us he did it at other times. When Lasswade was setting up a Worship Group, whose members conducted the service on the fifth Sunday if it fell in Lasswade, Melville came out for several weeks to give people some training in how to put a service together and where to look for material for prayers and sermons. In many ways he immersed himself in the lives of the congregations.

Melville was a man of many talents, working with wood being one of them. He was skilled at woodturning and one Sunday he brought some of his work for us to see. Wood which had been discarded from other uses was turned into pens, pencils etc. Melville used his

expertise to encourage people involved in the Grassmarket Community Project/ Greyfriars Project to develop their skills in this craft. Along with Christine he enjoyed the music provided by John Kitchen at the monthly “Get Organised” organ recitals in the Usher Hall and he used to talk about these performances.

Melville tended to leave the choice of hymns to the organists in the three charges. The Lasswade organist recalls that he preached at Lasswade the Sunday after 9/11 and there was a lot of communication between Minister and organist in the preceding days about what we would sing. The words of different hymns were looked at from various angles but, in the end, both were comfortable with the final choices.

You may be interested to know that Melville’s favourite hymn was “My song is love unknown”. The words made a deep impression on him. The words are challenging and thought provoking and they are sung to a lovely, simple, tune by John Nicholson Ireland. Melville also had a strong bond with the tune “Kilmarnock”, a town where he had carried out his ministry for some years.

Melville always delivered a very strong, pertinent and relevant sermon but one stands out above all others. Christine predeceased Melville by about eighteen months or so and her loss very much affected Melville. Those of us who were present when he preached for the first time after her death were moved by his very personal, yet powerful, address. It took tremendous courage to say what he did, and it came from the heart.

Melville, as has already been said, was a true gentleman in every sense of the word and cared for people and we are so very grateful that he shared part of the journey on life’s way with us. He was an excellent preacher, but he knew The Master about whom he was talking. Thank you, Melville, for everything.

(I wish to record my appreciation to people from across the Linking who shared their reflections on Melville with me and whose contributions made the above Tribute possible. HLRD)

Lasswade and Rosewell Choir

As usual I start with expressing my deep appreciation to the Choir – both to the regular members who come out Sunday by Sunday and to those who augment it for special services – for all their support, enthusiasm and hard work over the months. Without their help the musical life of the congregation would be all the poorer. We have, on the whole, managed an introit most Sundays but being small in numbers there were times when unsuspecting people were asked if they could come into the choir to make the introit possible and I thank these people for their ready cooperation. Over and above the introit programme the Choir sang a couple of anthems on Christmas Sunday.

Spring and Easter are the times for renewal, when things come back to life again after the winter. On Sunday mornings and at other times when I am in the church, I constantly look at the Memorial Windows on either side of the pulpit and when the sun is streaming in, they really come alive. They were executed and installed in 1894 by the Edinburgh stained glass firm of Messrs. Ballantine and Gardiner, and it was at Mr. Ballantine's suggestion that the Dove window at the front of the church in the gallery was inserted.

As you may be aware the Reformers in 1560 did not like anything that bordered on idolatry and this included removing, destroying or whitewashing over any stained glass in places of worship. For over 250 years following the Reformation no stained glass had been made in Scotland but in 1837 James Ballantine, a former house painter, founded his glass studio in Edinburgh. When Lord Provost William Chambers, co-founder of the printing and publishing firm W. & R. Chambers, was planning extensive alterations to the interior of St. Giles' Cathedral his vision included reintroducing the stained glass windows and he enlisted the help of Mr. Ballantine's firm. A lot (but not all) of the stained glass windows which you see in St. Giles' today date from the Chambers' alterations of the 19th Century.

A number of visitors to whom I talk during my guiding stints at St. Giles' are surprised that, in a Presbyterian Church, there is stained glass. But why not? At one time before the majority of people had access to Bibles stained glass windows were classified as "the poor man's Bible". I think stained glass in a church, or anywhere, is lovely and can be very thought provoking when one studies the details. Equally so, plain glass can be very inspiring when you see lovely views through the clear glass.

The Kirk of the Canongate in Edinburgh has a lovely clear view to the Calton Hill, some of the windows in some of the churches in the Lake District draw one's eyes to the hills and there are churches in our country that guide the eyes to the sea or fields.

When the sun shines through stained glass the windows become alive. Equally so when one looks through plain glass at the natural world beyond then one's mind becomes alive to the glories of creation. To me, one of the fundamental aspects of the Resurrection is when memories or experiences whether these be of nature or people or whatever remain with you and live on in your mind. No one can take these memories away – they live for ever.

HLRD

Lasswade Church Flower Rota

May 12th Margaret Gordon
May 26th Elaine Thomson

June 9th Stewart Renwick
June 23rd Alison Branch

July 14th Shona Howden
July 28th Sheila Turner

August 11th Margaret Dalglish
August 25th Moira Dryden

I would like to thank all the people who help to provide the flowers for Lasswade.

The flowers are much admired in the Church and then go on to brighten the day for members of the wider Church community.

As well as flowers on the Communion Table, flowering plants appear on the windowsills.

These plants were provided and maintained by Sheila Turner but in recent times have been provided by Nita Adams. Thank you for helping to maintain a thriving plant collection.

Moira Dryden

Rosewell Church Flower Rota 2019

May 5th 19th	Cecile Gillespie Myra McLean
June 2nd 16th	Betty Hogg Wendy Farrow
July 7th 21st	Morag McFarlane Adrian & Linda Fisher
August 4th 18th	Sandra Ross Muriel Keith

Sadly, after many years as a flower helper, Agnes Anderson has decided to retire from that duty, and we have to thank her most sincerely for another task she has undertaken unfliningly. Fortunately, she will still be able to keep us in touch with happenings in the village where flowers would be appropriate and welcome.

Therefore Moira, Sandra and I would be very grateful if we could find a fourth helper to share with us in organising Sunday flowers in Rosewell church. On a rota basis, this only means three times a year, and now for only two Sundays each month.

Please speak to me at church, or phone me at 440 2176 if you would be interested in helping out.

*Jean
Lindsay.*



Hopefield Connections

It's been an exciting time over the last few months with various new events and projects beginning to take shape. It's been very encouraging that the events called *Hopefield Connections Does ...* have been well received and there have been a number of families who have come to each event. The combination of crafts, activities, a short reflection and spending time together is proving to be a popular way forward.

A new initiative is an opportunity for people to come together to do some adult colouring. It's called **Coffee, Chat & Colouring**. It's an invite to come along if you enjoy coffee, like a chat and can colour between the lines! This is still very new venture so who knows what will happen.

Over the next few months now the better weather is here we will also be having a few **Car Boot Sales**. There is no charge for the pitch so look out for dates. A great time to get rid of stuff or indeed collect more!

The next **Hopefield Connections Does ... is Easter** on Sunday 14th April from 3 -4pm at Burnbrae Primary School. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt, Easter crafts and activities including a Puppet Show. Please feel free to come along and join in the fun.

As I'm out and about around Hopefield I often see small gatherings of mums chatting after dropping the children off at school. As you know there is no shop or any other facilities other than the school in Hopefield so there is no obvious social space. I have a bit of a notion that if we could set something up on the car park opposite the school then that might be a place for people to come. At the moment I am planning to do something in May for a week when the weather is nicer. I'm looking for a mobile home or a caravan that I might borrow to use as a base. If anyone can help, I'd be thrilled! I'll also be looking for folk to come and help.

All of these activities bring people together and gives myself and others an opportunity to talk with them, be interested in them and by doing so we are showing Christ's love in action just by sharing time with people. Each event plants a small seed and we all know from a seed as tiny as a mustard seed, big things can grow.



Rev. Elisabeth Spence

SUNDAY SCHOOL

It seems a long time since Christmas, but I think our Nativity went down well at both Lasswade and Cockpen Churches. The children as usual were outstanding and I think they enjoyed it as much as the Congregations.

We are pleased to have the continued support of Agnes Renton & Libby again this session and we are very appreciative of their commitment. We have not long returned from the February mid-term break. We had two weeks off this year because so many people were away during the holiday.

Due to preaching at 2 services each week Lorna has been unable to visit us at Sunday School so far. Arrangements have been made for a replacement preacher at Rosewell and we are looking forward to the minister joining us on 17th March.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY.

I have again booked seats at the Kings Theatre for “Goldilocks and the Three Bears” for Sunday 1st December at 5pm. Unfortunately, I could not get the stalls this year, but I have obtained tickets for the Upper Circle. I hope this will not preclude anyone from coming, as there is no lift and the Upper Circle is up 2 flights of stairs. The payment date for tickets has also changed from September last year to **JULY** this year. It’s very early I think, but obviously, they are trying to ensure everyone pays well before the show.

I will have “booking forms” available shortly.

Jim Scott

THE HOLY HIKERS

*"The beauty is in the walking,
But we are betrayed by destinations".
Gwynn Thomas*



Our November walk, around Humbie, was taken from an article in "East Lothian Life" magazine and was a circular walk by Humbie Church and Keith Water a fascinating walk in an area we had not been to before. Nine of us enjoyed a pleasant sunny day at the edge of the Lammermuirs.

In December we had a lovely walk around the centre of Dalkeith taking in the history and buildings of the town. The stroll ended at the Justinlees Inn where we enjoyed a Festive Lunch.

There was no walk in January and when we met up again in February, we took the bus to Roslin and followed the old railway line to Shawfair. This was a super walk, easy, but affording a much different aspect to a well-known area.

In March we had our Walking Weekend which this year went to Irvine in Ayrshire. We had such lovely weather in February and we had been hoping it would last into March. (Yes! I know, this is Scotland.) As the trip got nearer, the weather got worse and the weekend forecast was not good.

We travelled to Galston where we met up for coffee before starting our first walk which was called the Burn Anne Walk. The "burn" was more of a torrent and the ground was sodden and muddy. To be fair we did get some sunshine, but we also got some rain, hail and even snow. As always, the Holy Hikers rose to the occasion and completed the 5.5mile walk tired, wet and very muddy.

Our hotel in Irvine was the Riverside Lodge and was lovely. Once we got dry and warm all was well with the world, until Sunday morning!! We awoke to heavy rain which eased a bit as we did our Town Walk round Irvine, showing its associations with Robert Burns, but as we left the town centre and began to cross a bit of open ground to see a Burns Statue we were hit by a bit of a gale, and that's putting it mildly. With the wind came huge hailstones which blew right into our faces.

Having had completed about half of the walk we retired to the enclosed safety of Riverside Shopping Mall before returning to the hotel "drookit" again.

As Monday morning dawned so too did the sun which shone almost all the way round our walk in Eglinton Country Park. We finished off in the café for tea & coffee before driving home. Despite the weather we all voted our weekend a resounding success.

It's not just about the walking it's also about being in the company of good friends and enjoying time together.

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

Happy Hiking

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CHRISTMAS VICTORIAN FAIR

Our first Victorian Fair proved a huge success with many coming along and joining in the fun. The ladies dressed accordingly with mop caps and aprons, kindly made by Helen. The gents also participated wearing waistcoats

It was a most enjoyable occasion when people enjoyed homemade mince pies and shortbread with their tea and coffee. Many also enjoyed a glass of the delicious mulled wine made by Mary Logan.

Thanks to the hard work by all concerned the sum of £1,500 was raised. Huge thanks to everyone that helped on the day, donated goods and prizes, and those that came along to support us.

Liz



Victorian Fair



Victorian Fair



Share your news, views or ideas in the Harvest Issue of “The Link” send them to Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk by Sunday, 18th August 2019