Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell Parish Churches

Easter 2024



Church of Scotland

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SERVICES March to September 2024

DATE	LASSWADE & ROSEWELL (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)	
10 March 4th Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
17 March 5th Sunday of Lent Passion Sunday	The Minister – Rosewell All-age Service	The Minister All-age Service	
24 March Palm Sunday HOLY WEEK	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
31 March	Joint	t Service	
Easter Day		on Church at 11.30 am	
7 April 2nd Sunday of Easter	The Minister – Rosewell Communion Service	Lay Pastor	
14 April Easter 3	Worship Team – Lasswade	Worship Team	
21 April	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister	
Easter 4	All-age Service	All-age Service	
28 April Easter 5	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
5 May Easter 6	Dorothy Spence - Rosewell	Minister Communion Service	
12 May Christian Aid Week	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
19 May Pentecost Sunday	The Minister – Rosewell All-age Service	The Minister	
26 May Trinity Sunday	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
2 June Pentecost 2	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister	
9 June Pentecost 3	The Minister – Lasswade – Communion Service	Lay Pastor	
16 June Pentecost 4	The Minister – Rosewell All age Service	The Minister	
23 June Pentecost 5	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
30 June	Joint Service		
Pentecost 6	Rosewell Church at 10.00 am		
7 July Pentecost 7	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister	
14 July Pentecost 8	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
21 July Pentecost 9	Worship Team – Rosewell	Worship Team	

28 July Pentecost 10	Worship Team – Lasswade	Worship Team	
4 August Pentecost 11	Worship Team - Rosewell	Worship Team	
11 August Pentecost 12	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
18 August Pentecost 13	The Minister – Rosewell All age Service	The Minister	
25 August Pentecost 14	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
1 September Pentecost 15	The Minister – Rosewell Communion Service	Lay Pastor	
8 September Pentecost 16	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
15 September HARVEST	The Minister – Rosewell All age Service	The Minister All age Service	
22 September Pentecost 18	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister	
29 September Pentecost 19	Joint Service Lasswade Church at 10.00 am		

Holy Week Services Monday 25th to Friday 29th March 2024

Morning Reflection Services at 8.30 am at the Pitcairn Centre, Monday to Friday

DAY	CHURCH	TIME	
Monday 25	Our Lady of Consolation RC Church		
	Stations of The Cross	7:30 pm	
Tuesday 26	Rosewell Church	7 pm	
Wednesday 27	Lasswade Church	7 pm	
Thursday 28	St Leonard's Scottish Episcopal Church	7 pm	
Friday 29	Cockpen and Carrington Church	7 pm	

From the Minister ...

I was delighted when down staying with my sister and the family in the Borders at Christmas and then at New Year to see snowdrops already well on their way to flowering in the front borders of their garden. It always seems such an amazing thing when we are still amidst short and rather cold, dreary days that these little flowers have already got underway and pushed their heads up from the cold, dark



ground to bring their cheerful, drop-like blooms to brighten our gardens and indeed carpet our parks and woodland spaces.

Snowdrops are such a hopeful little sign amidst the darker days of winter and bring that promise that Spring is coming again. It made me think about the wider picture of life itself, and that even when times may seem quite tough and uncertain, there are still signs of hope and promise to see around us.

Changes and closures continue to reshape the Church of Scotland, and we feel that keenly in the planned closure and sale of Lasswade Church in due course; in seeking to work out what can be manageable and work best in refurbishing Cockpen & Carrington Church; and in prayerfully discerning what is God's plan and purpose for our community of churches in these days and how we can be a part of what God is doing and open to where he is leading us all.

Amidst our challenging and uncertain times, there are, however, super things happening that are real encouragements. Toastie Tuesday has continued to grow and we now have over 300 young people coming across for their toastie, snack and drink each week. It's been good to get to know many of the young people better over the weeks and this can prayerfully expand into the new Friday night drop-in café that Josh, our Community Youth Worker, is beginning with a variety of games and hot chocolate as a fun and safe space for young people to come to at the Community Café.

Thinking of Josh, he has just celebrated his first anniversary with us and it is a real encouragement to see his ministry expand in supporting church events and developing his school chaplaincy role. He also had a lead organizational role for this year's Holiday Club during the February half-term break once again and we were delighted to have about 57 children from P1-P7 enthusiastically taking part over the two days which was marvelous. Toastie Tuesday and the Holiday Club come together with wonderful volunteers from all our local churches which is very exciting and special. On a final note, too, we give thanks and celebrate with Josh in his recent marriage to Keziah on 14th February and we can look forward to our church families being able to welcome her alongside Josh in the not-too-distant future.

We give thanks to God for these heartening happenings taking place, even as we look forward to the heartening celebrations of Easter once again very shortly. Delighting in Jesus and his love for us and sharing that with others, lies at the heart of all we seek to be and do as church and so we give thanks for the many opportunities that there will be to do just that over Easter time together.

With every blessing for Easter when it comes.

Your Minister,

Lorna Souter

Forest Church

Forest Church is an alternative form of church that is freer and more relaxed, as it happens out of doors. It takes place in and around the Little Wood area at Hopefield, Bonnyrigg, on the first Sunday of the month from 3.00 pm to 4.30 pm, meeting up at the Burnbrae Primary School car park and coming dressed for the weather!

Forest Church is an opportunity to worship God and fellowship together amidst the beauty and wonder of the natural world. Typically, we will take a walk together and have a theme each session for us to think about and explore. These have included:

- the wonder of trees, exploring how much shelter they give to so many different creatures and thinking about how they remind us of the spread and shelter of God's love that we are welcomed into;
- the importance of wild flowers, thinking about how they make our world so beautiful and how bees



spread their pollen so new flowers come each year. Through this, we were reminded how we are also called to make our world more beautiful as we follow the example of Jesus and to spread his love so others can grow and blossom in his care, too.

In the coming months, Forest Church will meet on Sunday 7th April, 5th May and 2nd June at 3.00 pm. People of all ages are welcome at Forest Church, on your own, as a couple, a group of friends or as a family, so if you would enjoy more informal, interactive, outdoor church where we appreciate God's wonderful creation around us and allow it to remind us of how amazing God is, do come along and join in! You'll be most welcome!

Cockpen and Carrington Parish Church From the Church Registers

New Member

We welcome to our congregation

Mrs Irene Rae

From Bonnyrigg

We trust that Irene will feel welcome here with us at Cockpen and Carrington Church. May your time with us be a blessing to you.

Baptisms

21 January 2024

Samuel James Brandwood Son of Kate and Paul

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

Weddings

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

Deaths

19 December 2023

Mr Eric King

We continue to pray for those in our Congregations (and outwith) who grieve at this time of loss. As a Church, we are here for any who feel that we can help in any way.

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



Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota 2024

2024

18

25

April		May	
7	Liz Mills	5	Sandra Crawford
14	Ian Bee	12	Moira Scott
21	Liz MacDonald	19	Liz MacDonald
28	Mary Logan		& Ian Richardson
	, ,	26	Dot Scott
June		July	
2	Jim Young	7	Liz Mills
9	Wilma Sweeney	14	John Adamson
16	Helen Renton	21	Liz MacDonald
23	Pat Grindlay	28	lan Fowler
Joint	Service – Rosewell		
August			·
4	Lynn Hanson		
11	Elspeth Brown		

Thank you to everyone who kindly donates to our Flower Fund helping to make things look really special in church every week and bringing so much joy to everyone. The flowers distributed afterwards also bring joy to people unable to attend church in person.

Margaret Porter

John Adamson

If you wish to discuss any flower arrangements, please see Anne Clark (01875 821717).



From the Flower Convenor A Pen Portrait

Hello to all my church family here at Cockpen and Carrington. I started to attend the church here back in April/ May of last year and very quickly felt that I was in the correct place of worship. Each week you all have made me feel so welcome and I thank you for that. In September last year it all started by me doing 'flower displays' for the Doors Open Day, then a short time after, Liz Mills (Session Clerk) asked me if I would like to be the Flower Convenor, and to that I felt very privileged and said 'yes'!!

I have to say while I'm in church each week doing the flowers I get a great feeling of God's presence. I knew Nancy Richardson, your previous flower convenor as I am the chairperson of the 'Dalkeith Floral Art Club', and Nancy was a very faithful member of the club for a number of years.

Well a bit about myself! I was born at Pencaitland and at nine months old, the family moved to Humbie where I was brought up through my school years and started to work in the Royal Bank of Scotland.

I met Chris, my husband to be, 47 years ago, and we were married in Humbie Parish Church. We moved to Blainslie, a small hamlet just outside Lauder, where we attended church and became involved with lots of organisations, but the church no matter where I was, was always a big part of my life. Both of our children were born while we lived at Blainslie. Mag, the oldest, now lives at Kelso on her own, while Helen, who is the younger, lives with her husband at Wallyford. After living at Blainslie for about 10 years, we moved back to Humbie

and I sort of picked up where I left off, plus became involved in even more organisations. I became a Sunday School teacher at Humbie and my parents were involved in the church and, along with them, we enjoyed raising funds for the church and various other charities. I always enjoyed arranging flowers, so I started to work in a florist shop in Haddington, and before long I had gone ahead and did my florist training and became a fully qualified florist. Then after about 13 years, we came to live in Gorebridge and once again I soon became involved in many things, but the church was always very close to my heart.



I was a member of the Church of Scotland in Gorebridge, then after a number of years moved to the United Free Church until it closed. After a few months had Back to Table of Contents

passed I knew something was missing in my life – it was my church, so I started to look for a new church to go to and Cockpen and Carrington turned out to be the church for me!

My husband Chris was always ready to help me in all the things I'd do and was often found doing all sorts of wee jobs that needed doing within all the organisations I was involved in.

Sadly as a lot of you know, he passed away very suddenly mid-November last year. To this I'd like to take this opportunity to say thanks for all your support to me and my family in my time of need and still do as I miss him so much. I thank Lorna our minister for all she has done for us as a family through this difficult time. In closing please feel free to contact me at any time re the flower rota. I will do my best to arrange the flowers in the church to everyone's satisfaction week by week. Sending my love to all.

Anne x

Anne Clark (01875 821717)

Sunday Tea Rota

Cockpen & Carrington

11th February	Helen and Moira
3rd March	John and Andrew
31st March	Wilma and Dot
21st April	Anne and Liz
12th May	Helen and John
9th June	Andrew and Liz
7th July	Wilma and Moira
4th August	Dot and Anne
8th September	Helen and John

One Minute Story

I love this analogy...

You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and bumps into you or shakes your arm, making you spill your coffee everywhere.

Why did you spill the coffee?

"Because someone bumped into me!!!"

Wrong answer.

You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup.

Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea.

Whatever is inside the cup is what will spill out.

Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which WILL happen), whatever is inside you will come out. It's easy to fake it, until you get rattled.

So, we must ask ourselves... "what's in my cup?"

When life gets tough, what spills over?

Joy, gratitude, peace and humility?

Anger, bitterness, victim mentality and quitting-tendencies?

Life provides the cup, YOU choose how to fill it.

Today let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, words of affirmation, resilience, positivity; and kindness, gentleness, and love for others.



The Growing Young Journey

THE GROWING YOUNG process has been supportive and encouraging in joining with eleven other churches from across our new Lothian & Borders Presbytery. Most of us are in the same position of not having many younger people in our church families, so there has been a sense of all starting from the same place.

The training and input from our leaders has been a helpful combination of in-person half-day conference sessions and evening Webinars on Zoom. It's been important to understand a few key points as we press on in the process:

- That Growing Young is more than a programme to get children and teenagers into church. It is about changing the culture of our church so that rather than young people being on the fringes of what we are and do, they are embraced at the heart of our church life and given freedom to be a voice and presence to help shape and lead church for today and tomorrow.
- Another major point to grasp has been that when we speak about 'young' people,
 we're thinking of people under the age of 50 years old. For many congregations today
 the youngest people regularly attending are in their 60s and so there is a great lack of
 20-50 year olds, as well as teenagers and children and families.
- A further key point to appreciate has been the importance of not overlooking or
 forgetting our older people as we journey to grow young. They are vital and
 invaluable in what they have to share in faith, insight and encouragement with our
 younger generations. They preciously hold the baton of faith to hand on to our
 younger people.
- And a final key point to appreciate in embarking on the Growing Young process has
 been that it is like a marathon, not a sprint; that it is a slow cooker process, not like a
 microwave. It takes time to change the culture of a church family. It won't happen
 overnight and there is a need to press on and stick at it before beginning to see
 transformation happening bit by bit.

There is a lot to take on board in the Growing Young process and many possible ideas to pursue. But what has been helpful is being encouraged to ask first of all: "Where do we see our strength lies just now and which core principle will we pursue first in new projects we will offer?"

After some reflection, we've seen our main strength in pursuing the core principle, 'Be the best neighbours' and there has been real encouragement for our churches in seeing the growth in contact with young people at Lasswade High School through 'Toastie Tuesday'.

We will also continue to explore offering a 'Wellbeing' course to local schools in order to help support young people in the worries and pressures they can face today and offer them tools to maintaining good mental health.

These are early beginnings and we look forward to all that can unfold in the next steps of our Growing Young journey.

The Growing Young Team

Views on The Resurrection

"The proposal that Jesus was bodily raised from the dead possesses unrivalled power to explain the historical data at the heart of early Christianity" (N.T. Wright: The Resurrection of the Son of God: 2003)

by which N.T. Wright means not only the empty tomb and post burial appearances of Jesus, but certain attested circumstances as he relates - the early Christians, "remarkably soon", began to regard the first day of the week as their special day. There is no evidence whatever that anyone ever venerated Jesus' tomb.

There was never a question of anyone performing a secondary burial for Jesus - standard practice was to collect the bones, after a time of between six months and two years, and place them in an ossuary, either in a niche in the same cave or nearby. If there had been a body to decompose someone, most likely Joseph of Arimathea, would sooner or later have returned to carry out this final act of tribute.

On the other hand, "...rarely has an incredible fact been worse attested and never has a badly attested fact been intrinsically less credible" (concluded David Friedrich Strauss: Der Alte und Der Neue Glaube 1872 trans. by M. Blind 1873 as The Old and The New Faith).

These two opposing views are offered by Geza Vermes in his own study of the Resurrection (in several works).

As he notes, no New Testament text attempts to describe the actual return to life of the dead Jesus, all we have are two sets of circumstantial evidence –that of the missing body of Jesus from what was believed to have been his place of burial. It is worth noting here that only in MATTHEW is it claimed that this rock tomb belonged to Joseph of Arimathea. JOHN specifically states that Joseph and Nicodemus chose a particular rock tomb "since it was the day before the Sabbath and because the tomb was close by" (the place where Jesus had been put to death) ...which suggests that they were in a hurry.

Testimony of his appearance without any detail on whether he had changed at all from before the crucifixion, at various places and various times to various of his followers. Vermes goes on to consider five alternative explanations to resurrection for the missing body:

- (1) The body was removed by someone unconnected to Jesus.
- Vermes considers that the fact that the organisers of the burial, Joseph of Arimathea and possibly Nicodemus, only mentioned in JOHN, the latter were well known and could easily have been asked for and supplied an explanation make this unlikely.
- (2) The body of Jesus was stolen by his disciples.

MATTHEW, the only Gospel to mention a guard on the tomb, relates that "some of the soldiers guarding the tomb went back to the city and told the chief priests everything that had happened" – which had in no way involved the disciples. The chief priests and elders then "made their plan; they gave a large sum of money to the

soldiers and said 'You are to say that his disciples came during the night and stole his body while you were asleep' "

This is the scenario closely followed in the feature film "RISEN", released in 2016 by Affirm Films, a Faith-based subsidiary of Sony Pictures Entertainment Company, which portrays the reality of the Resurrection.

Vermes simply comments that this theory's value for the interpretation of the Resurrection "is next to nil".

- (3) The empty tomb visited by his followers was not the tomb of Jesus/ Mistaken identity of the tomb, "not inconceivable" but "certainly does not impose itself", says Vermes. However, he simply assumes that Joseph of Arimathea was the owner of the tomb and could have been consulted, whereas only MATTHEW specifies that he was. Vermes considers that if the rock cavity into which Jesus was laid had been freshly prepared for someone else it was probably in a location with similar tombs surrounding it. In the semi-darkness of dawn, a mistake was easy.
- (4) Buried alive Jesus later revived and somehow left the tomb. Not very likely says Vermes.

Some modern writers and novelists have speculated on this possible (?) recovery, e.g. Schonfield "The Passover Plot" and Dan Brown in "The Da Vinci Code". Vermes also cites Flavius Josephus who apparently knew of at least one recovery having been taken down from the cross However given all the other circumstances this can be discounted.

(5) Do the subsequent appearances, given that they were reportedly (only?) to committed followers of Jesus suggest spiritual, not bodily resurrection? Resurrection as a purely spiritual entity, says Vermes, is best appropriately expressed by visions and cancels the need for an empty tomb so that interpretation does nothing to explain the finding by Mary Magdalene and others that the body of Jesus was missing.

A sixth possibility mentioned by Wright but not by Vermes is that there had been an incident of "the fairly common practice of grave robbery, tombs were often robbed in the ancient world" (p. 688). However, he is adamant that had the tomb been empty, whether by grave robbery or otherwise, with no other unusual occurrences, no one would have said that Jesus was the Messiah or the Lord of the world.

The conclusion holds then that an empty tomb, by itself, could not have functioned as a sufficient condition of early Christian belief in Jesus' resurrection. However, Wright, unlike Vermes, holds that the combination of empty tomb and appearances of the living Jesus forms a set of circumstances which is itself both necessary and sufficient for the rise of early Christian belief.

Although at one point Vermes has said that "The helping hand that gave them (the disciples) strength to carry on their task was the proof that Jesus had risen from the tomb". He also concludes that it was the conviction in the spiritual presence of the living Jesus - resurrection in the hearts of men - that accounts for the resurgence of the Jesus movement after the crucifixion.

Bill MacDonald

Spending Time

This post was shared to me by an amazing young woman, Nicole, whom I first met when she was an American Girl Scout, camping with Girlguiding Midlothian during our 'Rainbow Camps' ... many years ago (1986?) Our daughter Fiona, and she have remained friends throughout the years and she even keeps in contact with Keith and me. I just have loved to hear her mature and become this lovely being who thinks it worth her time to share posts like this ... and means it!!!

Please take time to read ...

Time is just the most precious thing. The older you get, I guess the more you realize this. Maybe it's not even an age thing. Maybe it's a maturity thing, but none of us really knows for sure exactly how much of it we're going to be given, and so when you truly grow, you learn to prioritize it well.

You learn to value your time and take it for the gift that it is. Not tomorrow. Not a year from now. Not when you graduate, or when you meet "the one," or when you have enough money. Not when you finally have all your ducks in a row, or when all your dreams come true. But now.

You learn to say no, and you learn to have boundaries. You learn that some people just aren't going to be your people, and you learn that things normally work out the way they're supposed to. You learn that there will be bumps and detours along the way, and sometimes nothing goes as planned. You learn that nobody really knows exactly what they're doing and that everyone has a story to tell if we'd just care enough to listen.

You learn to really choose your friends well, and you learn to invest in people who make your heart shine and your soul feel at peace. You learn to let the wrong ones go without throwing a fit, and you learn to forgive, because bitterness is such a waste.

You learn humility, because no matter what you have and what you achieve, you're no better and no worse than anyone else. We're all just people doing the best we can. We all have a place in this big ole world and none of it really revolves around us.

You learn to try and fail and then get up and try again. You learn that even sadness and grief are part of being human and part of what makes a rainbow is so beautiful is the fact that it doesn't happen until after the storm.

You learn that returning hate for hate has never done any good, and some people are just angry and insecure, and it has nothing to do with you. You pray for them, and you move on and you resolve to stay soft and pure and to keeping putting your best out there anyway.

You learn to call your mom a little more and throw on the stupid bathing suit and jump in the pool with your kids when they ask because who cares about cellulite when they giggle and their eyes light up like that? You learn to pause and to rest and to watch the sun as it sinks and paints the sky in strokes of water-coloured brilliance.

It's this kind of sad/happy thing that happens all at once. You learn that time isn't promised, and life feels a lot shorter than you thought it would when you were young, but you also learn to burn your favourite candles even when no company is coming over, and to give gifts even when there's no occasion. You learn to sip your coffee slowly and to savour that very last drop and that stuff is just stuff, but people are irreplaceable. You learn that dishes can normally wait and that dance parties in the kitchen almost never can.

You learn to live, because that's really all we can do: live well and love like crazy because time is a precious thing and no matter how hard we try, we don't get any of it back. So spend it well, friends. Spend it well. Feel the things. Enjoy your people. Listen to good music and give thanks for every moment.

Catherine Devlin

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Life and Work Magazine

Orders for this magazine are due to be placed soon. If you would like to cancel your current order or, place an order for 2024, please contact me as soon as possible on 0131 663 6546.

The cost is £42 per annum.

Wilma.

Old Spectacles

As it's nearly time to think about Spring cleaning if you have any old spectacles you want rid of, we have a box at the Church where you can deposit them.

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

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

Many thanks.

Wilma

GUILD NEWS

On 4th December a very special visitor came to the Guild from 'Therapet'. Sandy gave an excellent talk about the sterling work done by Therapet but he was upstaged by wee 'Billy' who came along dressed in the Santa outfit he had been bought to wear when going along to the various schools he and his owner Sandy visit. I am posting a photo of him if John and Willie can squeeze it into the magazine.

We only had a week before Graham and the choir came to lead us at our annual Carol Party but as always the event was a success and Graham got a box of cakes to take home with him.



This was the first year we had planned to have no Guild meetings in January but continue into May instead of April prior to our summer recess and we shall have to discuss the feelings from the members about doing the same in the future.

We got back together on the first Monday afternoon of February to a presentation from Maureen and Tom Kelly titled Jacobite tales and what an informative talk it was. They are always popular.

Two weeks later at our evening meeting a representative from Newbattle Bee Keepers came to tell us many facts about these fascinating creatures and share with us what can be done to help them endure the dangers they face from Global Warming, pesticides, and loss of habitat. We were told what variety of plants could be planted to ensure twelve month's supply of pollen and encouraged to remember that early flowering weeds such as dandelions could offer lifesaving cold season nourishment for them in early spring so that's going to be my excuse for not digging them out too quickly.

Monday 4th March brings someone from LivingWell to lead us all in an Armchair Workout to loosen up the joints and get the blood flowing better. At the March 18th evening meeting a representative from the Vine Trust will let us know how the fund raising from the CofS Guilds has helped their Kazuna Village of Hope project which is working to provide care and life skill education for those most vulnerable orphans in the area around Lake Victoria.

On April 1st we will hear about the Murals which now decorate the Colington Tunnel which was such a mess before the project was undertaken and for the evening meeting on April 15th someone from Air Ambulance Scotland will tell us about the important work they do.

On the first Monday in May we plan to hold an Afternoon Tea and hope as many as possible will support us by coming along to be well fed and entertained.

May 20th will be a short business meeting followed by a speaker from one of the other projects supported by the Church of Scotland's Guilds but this time a Scottish one called *Home For Good*.

Many thanks to Vi Gibson and Elaine Christie for their efficiency in organising the speakers for this session and as Elaine has to cut down on her commitments, thanks to Vi for offering to continue doing the secretarial work. Hope your arm heals quickly Vi!

Please all keep Elaine in your thoughts as she undergoes her medical treatment - with such a positive manner she is a great inspiration.

All are very welcome to join us at any or all of these meetings.

At the time of writing Moira Scott has yet again been busy making seasonal items to sell from an Easter Sale Stall at the first March meeting of the Guild and of the Knit & Natter.

She has also knitted Humpty Dumpty sitting on a wall and from folk guessing the date of his birthday she has already accumulated £90 prior to the sale.

For all those who tried to guess the name of the Terry's Chocolate orange 'Highland Coo', the lucky winner was Jack Peat who chose the winning name Ruskin. Congratulations to Jack and many thanks to Moira for raising so much from her efforts on our behalf. She's a real Worker Bee.

Liz and Helen

Holiday Club 12th and 13th February 2024

Thank you to all who volunteered in different ways to help make the Holiday Club such a success again this year. We had around 57 children coming along for the two days, and they had a great time with the 'Super Mario' theme, focusing on the exploits of Mario and Luigi, whom many of you may be familiar with. With assorted games, songs, crafts and snacks (toasties included!), the young people had lots of fun and engaged very well with the Bible teaching each morning.

This year, we thought about the importance of the tiny mustard seed (Matthew 13: 31-32) that can grow into a tree, and this encouraged the children that though they may be small and what they might do for Jesus seems small, still even the smallest things we seek to do for Jesus can grow into something bigger than we can imagine with his blessing. Through Jesus's Parable of the Great Dinner (Luke 14: 15-24), we also encouraged them to know that they are each one welcomed into God's family. Here are a few photos!







COCKPEN & CARRINGTON CHURCH From the Organist

As I write we are at that happy point in the year when the first signs are appearing that winter is coming to its close and that spring is not too far away. Musically speaking, while it doesn't feel so long since the Christmas season, as this is a year where Easter falls comparatively early the time is already upon us to start rehearsals for Holy Week.

This year services are being held on each evening in Holy Week at one or other of the local churches. As often in the past Cockpen & Carrington will be hosting the service on Good Friday evening (29 March). The service will be a meditative one, following a similar pattern to recent years, and along with seasonal hymns the choir will as in a number of past years now be singing the ancient plainsong 'Reproaches', which have formed part of the traditional Good Friday liturgy for more than a thousand years. We will also be singing my own arrangement of the well-known Gospel song, 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?'. The service will take place at 7 pm.

We have a new anthem for Easter Day, again one of my own arrangements, entitled 'There's a light upon the mountains'. This based around a hymn tune I came across last year, thanks to choir member Andrew Jack who lent me a Welsh hymn book he had acquired in which it appears. The text and tune (originally, I think from the Methodist tradition) were entirely new to me but seemed to me to capture exactly the positive and uplifting spirit of the Easter season. I will leave you to decide whether you agree!

As many of you may recall, I most often conclude our Easter service with one of the celebratory works from the great French organ composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. This year though I'm coming closer to home with the 'Postlude in D' by Henry Smart. A very well-known organist and composer in his day (his dates are 1813 – 1879), you will all know at least one of Smart's compositions, namely the splendid hymn tune 'Regent Square', which we sing to 'Glory be to God the Father' (and sometimes to other words too). The Postlude is one of his best-known organ works and, despite its rather prosaic title, makes a very effective conclusion to a service of celebration. It was clearly written by someone who knew how to get the most out of the instrument, though it does require rather a lot of nimble footwork!

We hope as many as possible will join us to mark this very special time of the church's year.

GMB

Knit and Natter

The group resumed on the 12th of January after the Christmas break when everyone was delighted to be back enjoying their Thursday get-together.

Prior to Christmas we knitted over a hundred small Christmas Puddings and filled them with Ferrero Rocher chocolates for the *Maggies Centre* to sell for funds. After this being so successful, we have knitted over two hundred Easter Chicks and over fifty Easter Baskets, all filled with chocolate eggs. These should raise over £400 for the charity.

We are averaging around 26 people attending each week, but we are always happy to see new faces, so please do come and pop into the hall any Thursday between 1.30 and 3.30pm for a chat and a cuppa.





Knitted Easter Egg Chicks

Used Stamps

Thank you to everyone for their donations of used stamps. They have been trimmed and divided into British and Foreign and were sent to The Air Ambulance Appeal.



Dorothy Bennett

Christmas Guess The Name Winners

Guess the name of the Heilan' Coo (chocolate orange) was drawn on 29th November '23 at the St Andrew's afternoon. The winner was Mr Jack Peat and the Coo's name was RUSKIN.

Thanks to all who took part.

MS

The Taste of Easter

Hot Cross Truffles

Makes 18
120ml double cream
450g milk chocolate, chopped
I tbsp glucose
I tsp ground cinnamon
I tsp mixed spice
80g mixed dried fruit, chopped
zest of I orange
70g white chocolate
large, flat oven tray
baking paper

Pour the double cream into a saucepan and bring to the boil, then, off the heat, add 200g of the milk chocolate and leave to stand for 5 mins. Stir the double cream and chocolate together until smooth, then mix the glucose, cinnamon, mixed spice, dried fruit and orange zest. Chill the mixture for 30 mins until it becomes firm.

Cover the oven tray with a piece of baking paper. Using a melon baller or teaspoon, scoop out balls of the chilled mixture the size of a marble, rolling the chocolate into balls if necessary.

Place the remaining milk chocolate in a microwaveable bowl and microwave for $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 mins until the chocolate can be mixed smooth.

Using tongs, dip each ball into the melted chocolate to coat, then place back on the lined tray. Leave to chill for 30 mins.

Place the white chocolate in a microwaveable bowl and microwave for I-1½ mins until the chocolate can be mixed smooth. Using a spoon or piping bad, drizzle crosses on each of the chocolates. Leave to chill for 30 mins, then serve.

Let everything you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16: 14

Eco Congregations News

Helping charity and the environment

Thank you to everyone who brought me plastic sweet and biscuit tubs. This was in response to a fund-raising endeavour, known as Tub2Pub, run by *Greene King* pubs. They arrange for the tubs to be taken to a plastic reprocessing centre, where they are shredded, before being sold onto plastic manufacturers, to use in place of virgin plastics. All money raised from the sale of Tub2Pub plastics is given directly to *Macmillan Cancer Support*. Tens of millions of plastic tubs are sold in the UK every year. Obviously, it is preferable for a charity to benefit from our chocolate, sweet and biscuit indulgence, rather than the tubs being binned. As an ecocongregation we also want to do our bit to help the environment. We collected 38 tubs, and no doubt could have got more had we known about it earlier. Heroes, followed by Celebrations were the most popular brands. Thanks to Andrew Jack, who alerted me to this, having seen another church promoting the collection. Hopefully we can participate next year and give you advance warning before Christmas.

Elizabeth MacDonald



LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH NEWS



www.lasswadechurch.co.uk



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

Lent began with Ash Wednesday, which fell on 14th February this year. Before Lent begins, many people like to follow the tradition of eating loads of pancakes! Pancake Day, known as Shrove Tuesday in churchy circles, is symbolically marked by eating up fat things (aka "Mardi Gras") on the night before the fasting season of Lent begins. Now is the time to find your favourite pancake recipe! Which kind do you prefer?





Sacrament of Holy Communion

You are warmly invited to celebrate
The Lord's Supper on
Sunday 7th April at 10.00 a.m. in
Rosewell Church

All are welcome to share in this important part of the life of Lasswade and Rosewell Church



St. Giles' Cathedral - 900 years on

This year St. Giles' Cathedral celebrates 900 years of witness to the City and beyond and various events are being planned to mark this achievement. In 1124 a church was founded on the present site in the reign of David 1st who was one of the sons of Queen Margaret. The Queen, and her daughter Matilda, cared a lot for the sick and needy and would probably have come into contact with people who had leprosy. King David therefore would have had first-hand experience of this disease. The King passed the responsibility for looking after the early Church to the Order of the Lazarites and one of their responsibilities was to care for people with leprosy. Either King David or the Lazarites named the Church for St. Giles who is the patron saint of lepers and people with other disabilities. The leprosy connection continues in the church today because there is a plaque in memory of Wellesley Bailey who founded what was originally called the Mission to Lepers but which was renamed in 1965 as The Leprosy Mission, thereby removing the negative stigma attached to people with the disease.

Over the centuries there have been a number of Bonnyrigg/Lasswade connections with St. Giles' and, while there may well have been many more, I am going to mention four of them.

Some of you may remember Rosemary Garrod who was a member of St. Leonard's. This Lady was descended from the Mylne (or Milne) family of master stone masons. In 1637 following the Church being designated a Cathedral in the reign of Charles 1st John Mylne repaired the, then, Great East Window. In 1649, while repair work was being done on the roof and steeple, John Mylne replaced the stone obelisk at the top of the crown where the carved stone heads represent the four winds. In 1657 a clock still had to be set from the time shown on a sundial so Mr. Mylne erected a great vertical stone sundial on the south side of the Old Kirk to set the steeple clock.

Some of our readers may remember Mrs. Margaret McLeman who was an active member of Bonnyrigg Church for many years. Her husband, Alistair, was a Church of Scotland Chaplain in World War Two and his name is inscribed on a memorial to the Chaplains who fell in the 1939-45 War. This Memorial is on the East Wall of the Holy Cross Aisle.

In previous articles I have referred to Dr. Douglas Strachan, probably the leading stained-glass artist of his time. Born in Aberdeen in 1875 and educated at Robert Gordon's College and Gray's School of Art in Aberdeen he pursued careers as a black and white artist on several newspapers and as a political cartoonist for the Manchester Evening Chronicle before learning to work as a stained-glass artist in 1898/99. A lot of his windows can be seen around Scotland and beyond - and that includes the Palace of Peace in The Hague. Several of his windows can be seen in St. Giles', in particular the Great North Window depicting Christ stilling the tempest and walking on the water and also the window of St. Andrew in the Thistle Chapel. The windows in the Scottish National War Memorial at the Castle are also by Dr. Strachan as are the windows in the Chapel to St. Margaret at the Castle.

In 1928 Dr. Strachan and his family moved to Pittendreich House in Lasswade where he lived until his death in 1950. Mrs. Strachan died in 1960.

Dr. Strachan's foreman was Mr. James Scullion, the father of Anne who was involved with the Girl Guide Movement in the area for many years, and the grandfather of Eleanor Marshall. Betty Finlay's father, Mr. Brown, also worked with Dr. Strachan.

Another Anniversary and a Personal Encounter

As most people will know, the Olympic Games are being held in Paris this summer. One hundred years ago, in July 1924, the Olympics were also held in Paris. In the course of these Games Eric Liddell ran in, and won, the 400 metres in a world record time of 47.6 seconds.

While I did not have the pleasure of meeting Eric Liddell I did have an encounter with his sister, Jenny, who was married to one of the local doctors in this area, Dr. Charles Somerville. When I was six and coming home from School - Lasswade School at that time was in the village - someone pushed me down the embankment at the bridge. I walked up the Wee Brae crying because my arm was so sore. Coming down the Brae was a lady who told me to stop crying and to remember the people who had died in the War. This lady was Eric Liddell's sister, Mrs. Jenny Somerville. What Mrs. Somerville did not know was that in an hour or two her stepson, Dr. Arnold Somerville (who was an elder for many years in

Lasswade Church), would be making arrangements for me to go into the Sick Children's Hospital where I underwent an operation for a broken arm. Over the years I have read a lot about Eric Liddell and I appreciate Mrs. Somerville had good reasons to hold the views she did but at the time that was no comfort to a six year old.

HLRD

LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2023

On the evening before the Lasswade and Rosewell Christmas Fayre much effort went into deciding the best way to lay out the hall to maximise the stalls and the tables for 'tea/coffee and bacon rolls'. After many rearranging, a solution was arrived at with agreement from all.



The final layout achieved

The following were winners on the day: -

Christmas Hampers	Guess the Cake Weight	Guess the Sweets the in Jar
Margaret Gordon	4lb 4oz	123
June Murray	Anne Wemyss	Margaret McColl
Ann Pryde		

Thanks to everyone who contributed and came along to make the event a success with the grand sum of £1,086 being achieved.

The Church Family Bereavements

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

Mrs Elizabeth (Betty) Burns - 9th January 2024

Mrs Isobel Faichney - 8th February 2024

Mrs Elizabeth (Betty) Thomson - 9th February 2024

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

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 giving a chance to meet new people, catch up with friends and enjoy some delicious home baking.



LENT is a wonderful time for us to have a clear out, both physically and spiritually. We wonder if God is challenging us to put some of our attitudes and opinions in the bin. Maybe God is challenging us to get rid of something we have been storing for too long. We will feel better and lighter if we do.

Stated Annual Meeting:

This year's Stated Annual Meeting of the congregation will take place immediately after worship on Sunday 7th April at Rosewell Church. An update will be given on the Church accounts and other Church activities. All are welcome to attend.



Christian Aid Week 12th - 18th May 2024

This year, Christian Aid Week will focus on the costof-living crisis faced by many people around the world.

Do come along and support Christian Aid at our Coffee Morning on Saturday 11th May from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in Rosewell Church Hall.

We will also have retiring offerings after the services on 12th May at Lasswade and 19th May at Rosewell.

No Bake Orange Cheesecake

15 digestive biscuits
6 tablespoons butter -melted.
400g cream cheese
grated zest 3 oranges, save the
segments for the decoration.
200g mascarpone cheese
100g caster sugar
3 tbsp milk
184ml pot double cream



Method:

Crush the biscuits roughly. You can do this by putting them in a plastic food bag and crushing them with a wooden spoon.

Put the biscuits into a bowl and mix in the melted butter. Put the mixture into a 23cm cheesecake tin, then use the back of a spoon to spread it evenly and press it down in the tin to form the base. Put the tin into the fridge to set.

This should take about 30 mins.

Put cream cheese, orange zest, mascarpone, sugar, and milk into a bowl and mix it well with the wooden spoon.

Put the cream in a clean bowl and whisk until it is the consistency of thick custard. Add to the orange mixture and mix thoroughly.

Remove the cheesecake tin from the fridge. Pour the filling over the biscuit base and spread evenly.

Decorate with segments of orange and return to the fridge until ready to serve (at least 4 hours) or over-night.

The Fund-Raising Team are hosting the following events:

'Andrew Dick in Concert.' Join us for a night of 50/60s music, including a few spiritual songs, on Friday 19th April in Rosewell Church Hall at 7.00 p.m. Entry fee, includes refreshments, Adults £6.00, Children free. In aid of Church funds. There will also be a raffle. Pay at the door. All welcome.

A Beetle Drive will be held on Friday 17th May in Rosewell Church Hall at 7.00 p.m. Entry fee, includes refreshments, Adults £5.00, Children £2.00. In aid of Church funds. Pay at the door. All welcome.

Eleanor, Margaret, and May.



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, 4th May, and 1st 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

Lasswade Church Flower Rota

May 12th Leslie Wilson May 26th Norma Horsburgh

June 9th Elaine Thomson June 23rd Alison Branch

July 14th Margaret Gordon July 28th Nita Adams

August 11th Shona Howden
August 25th Moira Dryden

I would like to thank all the many folk who have helped to provide flowers for Lasswade Church over many years. You have contributed to the life of the church and the community in which we live.

Thank you Moira

Bibles and Hymnbooks waiting to be Reunited with Families

Work has already started to prepare for the closure of Lasswade Church. In going through the inventory of fixtures and fittings we notice that there are a number of bibles and hymn books lying in the pews, some of which have been there for many years. A list of some of the items (which were lying upstairs in the Church) follows, together with details of the inscriptions in the books.

Church Hymnary Fourth Edition Melody Version:

Moira Scott, 32 Brixwold Drive, Bonnyrigg

Good News Bible: John and Betty Burns

Various Holy Bibles, incorporating Psalter and Church Hymnary:

Presented to Roger Smith 1964

Presented to Jacqueline Alexander, Lasswade Sunday School 1972-73

Inscription: Marion Wilson

The Church Hymnary Revised Edition, with Melodies: C. M. Sinclair 1929

Holy Bible, with Psalter and Paraphrases, with "Whitehill" engraved on cover – Alexander Lothian, with reference to Strathesk Church and his, then, address Holy Bible, with Psalter and Paraphrases, W. N. Robertson, Whitehill Villa

Holy Bible, with Psalter and Hymnary: William S. Wylie 1943 Holy Bible: From Walter Macfarlane to his sister Jane? 1864

The Church Hymnary: I. Balgarnie, 13 Polton Street

Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version: Betty Briggs (with best wishes from a family in Osnabruck 1969)

Church Hymnary, Third Edition, words only: Betty Briggs

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

The chances are that a similar article will appear in due course relating to items that are downstairs.

Herbert Dryden (0131 663 8895)

Life in the Manse

At six weeks old in 1945 I arrived at Strathesk Church Manse with my mum and dad, my dad Rev James Hutchison, having recently been inducted to the charge of Strathesk Church as a newly ordained minister.

The manse was an old Victorian style building with many large rooms, some of which had coal fires, but had no heating so was a cold and, in many ways, an unwelcoming house particularly during the winter months when often the windows would freeze over. The manse was at the top of a steep drive off Polton Road and was in large grounds with lots of trees. The garden backed onto houses in Broomieknowe and from the front you looked onto the railway viaduct and over the valley to Kevock.

As I grew older, I loved playing in the garden and would climb the trees to watch what traffic there was at that time going up and down Polton Road. Sometimes children from Broomieknowe and the houses in Polton Road would play with me in the garden, we had great fun. When I was four my brother Robert was born, then in 1954 my youngest brother Paul was born.

On a Sunday morning the family would of course attend church, sitting in the manse pew which was at the right-hand side of the pulpit. I also attended Sunday School.

I attended Lasswade Primary School and would walk down Polton Road every school day and walk home at lunchtime and at the end of the school day.

In 1955 it was decided that Lasswade Old Parish Church and Strathesk Church should unite, so my dad was unable to continue as minister and had to look for a new charge. He was called to St Thomas's in Leith which was in Mill Lane close to Leith Hospital. To say it was a change would be an understatement. The manse was in Ferry Road and was in the middle of a block of three houses although it did have a small garden at the back of the house. When I first moved there, I attended Wardie Primary School, travelling by tram to school. It was at Wardie that I met Pat Lawrie. After many years we met again when Pat moved to Bonnyrigg, and she is now Lasswade Church treasurer. After leaving primary school I attended Trinity Academy which was close to the manse. It was there that I met Vi Gibson who also now lives in Bonnyrigg and is a member of Cockpen and Carrington Church. Although I took part in many

church activities in Leith, like the rest of the family I missed the life in the country and my dad found being minister at St Thomas's was not really what he wanted so in 1959 we were on the move again this time to Berwickshire.

My dad accepted a call to Reston Church which was linked to Bonkyll Church in Duns Presbytery. The manse was like Lasswade although the garden was not as big but was surrounded by fields mostly with sheep. The family all settled down and enjoyed life back in the countryside. We attended both Reston and Bonkyll churches, alternating between them. Like Lasswade there was a manse pew in Reston Church but not in Bonkyll. I attended Berwickshire High School in Duns and had to get the school bus every day. This was known as "The Kipper Bus" as its starting point was in Eyemouth. The first year we were there, there was terrible snow and for several days the school bus could not get up the hill where the manse was, which meant a few days off school as the bus could not get to Duns. I really enjoyed my time in Berwickshire possibly because I was a bit older and Reston as a village was a pleasant place to stay. My time in Reston was restricted to three years as I left school and there was little employment so although the rest of the family spent a further six years there I got a job in Edinburgh and lived with my grandparents in Bonnyrigg and used to go home at weekends.

Any weekends I did not go home I would attend Lasswade Church and would go to the Youth Fellowship. There was a Saturday Social once a month which I would go to and by coincidence Andrew Renwick was always there and I suppose as they say the rest is history, After a while my weekends home became fewer and fewer and Lasswade Church became a bigger part of my life.

Lasswade Church means different things to many people but for the first ten years of my life I lived in the manse, and it was my dad's first charge as a minister. After seven years of being away I came back to live in Bonnyrigg and for the past sixty years Lasswade Church has been a huge part of my life. While change is necessary, I am not looking forward to the day the doors are closed for the last time.

Gillian Renwick nee Hutchison

THE HOLY HIKERS

"Everywhere is walking distance if you have the time."

Steven Wright



There is not a lot to report on this time, as the winter weather has impacted on our Programme.

Our walk round the Bush Estate in November was one I was not familiar with, but it was excellent. The weather was kind to us and there were 11 walkers and Fern. This was "home turf" for Fern and she knew where to go. Assisted by Hilary and Glen, she led us on a circular walk from Gowkleymoss Roundabout on a lovely path to Bush house and back.

Our December walk through the Hermitage of Braid was postponed due to the rain. We will save it for another time. We had no walk in January and February's outing was cancelled due to wet weather again.

We plan to have a belated "Xmas Lunch" in March and walks for the next few months have yet to be firmed up. I will update the Holy Hikers section of the Church website as soon as these are organised.

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

Happy Hiking Jim

WHO'S WHO

MINISTER

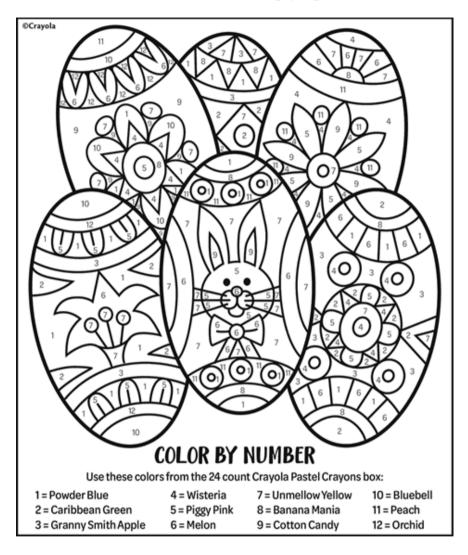
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Cockpen & Carrington Parish Church (Church of Scotland) - Scottish Registered Charity SC013139 Lasswade & Rosewell Parish Church (Church of Scotland) - Scottish Registered Charity SC015878

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

Easter colouring page



Share your news, views, or ideas in the Harvest Issue of "The Link". Send them to Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk by Sunday, 4th August 2024.

