

Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell
Parish Churches



Easter 2025

Church of Scotland

Table of Contents

SERVICES APRIL 2025 to SEPTEMBER 2025	2
From the Minister	4
Cockpen and Carrington Parish Church	6
Baptisms	6
Weddings	6
Deaths	6
There's nothing the matter with me	7
Sunday Tea Rota.....	8
Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota 2025.....	8
“Behold your king” by Naomi Mitchison, published in 1957	9
From a book - ‘Facing the Storm’	11
News from Josh Keay, our Community Youth Worker Holiday Club	12
A Devotion for Easter.....	13
Old Spectacles	14
Life and Work Magazine	14
GUILD NEWS	15
World Day of Prayer 2025	16
KNIT AND NATTER	17
FROM THE ORGANIST	18
SPRING (Acrostic Poem).....	19
Eco Congregation News	20
Sweet tub success	20
The future without fear	21
The Journey to Easter	21
From the Flower Convenor	22
Gone From My Sight.....	23

Fun Space for Adults.....	24
LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH NEWS	25
Sacrament of Holy Communion.....	25
Final Service at Lasswade	26
Lasswade Flower Rota	27
Impressive Turnout:.....	28
Coffee Mornings:.....	28
Christian Aid Week 11 th – 17 th May 2025.....	28
Lasswade and Rosewell Christmas Fayre 2024 Winners.....	29
Rosewell Church Flower Rota.....	30
Flapjacks.....	31
THE HOLY HIKERS	32
WHO’S WHO	33
Children’s Page	34

SERVICES APRIL 2025 to SEPTEMBER 2025

DATE	LASSWADE & ROSEWELL (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)
6 April 5th Sunday in Lent	The Minister - Rosewell Communion Service	The Lay Pastor
13 April Palm Sunday	The Minister - Lasswade	The Minister
20 April Easter Day	8 am Service in Rosewell Church Garden 10 am Minister - Rosewell All Age Service	The Minister All Age Service
27 April Second Sunday of Easter	The Minister - Lasswade	The Minister
4 May Third Sunday of Easter	The Minister - Rosewell	The Minister Communion Service
11 May Christian Aid Week	L& R Worship Team Rosewell	The Minister
18 May Fifth Sunday of Easter	The Minister - Rosewell All Age Service	The Minister All Age Service
25 May Sixth Sunday of Easter	The Minister - Lasswade	The Minister
1 June Seventh Sunday of Easter	The Minister - Rosewell	The Minister
8 June Pentecost Sunday	The Minister - Lasswade	The Minister
15 June Trinity Sunday	The Minister - Rosewell	The Worship Team All Age Service
22 June Second after Pentecost	The Minister - Lasswade Communion Service	The Worship Team
29 June Third after Pentecost	Three Churches Joint Service Lasswade Leisure Centre at 10.00 am	
6 July Fourth after Pentecost	The Minister - Rosewell	The Minister
13 July Fifth after Pentecost	The Minister - Lasswade	The Minister
20 July Sixth after Pentecost	Worship Team - Rosewell	The Worship Team
27 July Seventh after Pentecost	Worship Team - Lasswade	The Worship Team
3 August Eighth after Pentecost	Worship Team - Rosewell	The Worship Team
10 August Ninth after Pentecost	The Minister - Lasswade	The Minister
17 August Tenth after Pentecost	The Minister - Rosewell All Age Service	The Minister All Age Service
24 August Eleventh after Pentecost	The Minister - Lasswade	The Minister

31 August Twelfth after Pentecost	Three Churches Joint Service Lasswade Leisure Centre at 10.00 am	
7 September Thirteenth after Pentecost	The Minister - Rosewell Communion Service	Elizabeth Mills
14 September Fourteenth after Pentecost	The Minister - Lasswade	The Minister
21 September Harvest	The Minister - Rosewell All Age Service	The Minister All Age Service
28 September Sixteenth after Pentecost	The Minister - Lasswade	The Minister

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

Morning Reflection Services at 9.00 to 9.30 am at the Pitcairn Centre, Monday to Friday

Day	Church	Time
Monday	Our Lady of Consolation, Bonnyrigg Stations of the Cross	7pm
Tuesday	Rosewell Church	7pm
Wednesday	Cockpen and Carrington Church	7pm
Maunder Thursday	St Leonard's Church	7pm
Good Friday	Lasswade Church	7pm



From the Minister ...

As I write, we are once again in the season of Lent in our travels through the church year. Lent is a season of preparation, when many Christians take time to reflect on their life and on deepening their relationship with God in preparation for Easter.

Lent is also associated with the theme of wilderness. In particular, we reflect on Jesus's time in the wilderness for 40 days and nights without anything to eat, a time of testing and challenge for him in preparation for embarking on his years of ministry ahead.



As we read in Matthew 4: 1-11, at the end of his time in the wilderness, Jesus was tempted repeatedly by Satan to misuse his divine power and authority and to deny God. Even though utterly drained and exhausted, Jesus rebuked Satan's tempting whispers with powerful words of scripture and stood firm in his love for and obedience to God, his Heavenly Father.

Through this testing time, Jesus was bolstered by the words God had spoken over him at his baptism just before he was sent by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness. God said: *"You are my son! You are the one I love! You make me very glad"* (Mark 1: 11). Jesus was wonderfully affirmed and upheld in his Father's love for all that lay ahead.

I wonder if we are aware of the words of love that God speaks to us in our lives. Many of us will struggle to perceive that God would reach out to us in such a way. Since God is eternal and almighty, we might see ourselves as far too insignificant for God to think of us in such a personal, cherished way; we might feel unworthy of so much love. Yet God is speaking to us with whispers of love and he is longing that we will hear messages like: 'I love you.' 'You're precious to me.' 'I can help you.' The trouble is, we may never hear him because we're so busy and distracted in our lives. We don't realise his words of love are there for us.

At the heart of life, there is a vital need to be aware of the hidden presence of God. We can't see him; we can't hear him as we do a human voice speaking clearly into our day. Yet through Jesus's coming and through his willingness to choose, from the time of his baptism, to walk the long path to the cross, because Jesus was willing to face all of that and win through triumphantly to secure God's eternal plan of salvation by giving his life for us on the cross and in that way freely to take away our sin and give us his goodness instead, we know that God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is utterly for us. He wants first and foremost that we will each find love, meaning, purpose and life in all its fulness through faith and trust in him.

Life can seem at times like a challenging wilderness in all that it throws at us. We may face its big questions: Who am I? Where am I going? What really matters? When we take time to slow down and be still, we can learn to hear God's small voice speaking loving, affirming words to us: 'I love you.' 'I'm here for you.' 'You're not alone.' Jesus was lastingly affirmed through God's words to him and he was made ready for the way ahead in all that it held. We can be, too. God's affirming words of love are always there for us — will we hear and receive them?

With every blessing for Easter when it comes.

Your Minister,
Lorna Souter

Cockpen and Carrington Parish Church

From the Church Registers

Baptisms

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

Weddings

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

Deaths

25 February 2025

Mrs Dorothy Peat (née Dick)

9 March 2025

Mrs Jessie Hume (née Law)

We remember the families of Dorothy and Jessie in our prayers and give thanks to those who cared for them.

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'



There's nothing the matter with me

There's nothing the matter with me.
I am as healthy as I can be.

I have arthritis in both of my knees
and when I walk I walk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak, and my blood is thin
but I am awfully well for the shape I am in.

Arch supports I have for my feet:
or wouldn't be able to be on the street.
Sleep is denied me night after night.
My memory's failing, my hearts in a spin
but I am awfully well for the shape I am in.

Old age is golden, I've heard it said
but sometimes I wonder as I get into bed
with my ears in the drawer and my teeth in a cup.
E'er sleep overtakes me I say to myself,
is there anything else I could lay on the shelf?

When I was young my slippers were red:
I could kick my heels right over my head.
When I was older my slippers were blue
but still I could dance the whole night through.
Now I am old my slippers are black.
I walk to the shops – and puff my way back.

My moral is this as my tale I unfold,
that for you and me who are growing old,
it's better to say, I am fine with a grin,
than to let folks know the shape we are in.
I get up each morning and dust off my wits
and pick up the paper and read the obits.
If my name is still missing, I know am not dead,
so I have a good breakfast and go back to bed.

Attributed to Constance O'Neon, 1953

Sunday Tea Rota Cockpen & Carrington



11th May	Helen and Wilma
15th June	Liz MacD and John
13th July	Vi and Andrew
17th August	Dot and Moira
14th September	Helen and Wilma

If you would be willing to join the tea rota, please speak to Liz Mills.

Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota 2025

<p>May 4 11 18 25</p>	<p>Sandra Crawford Moira Scott Ian Richardson Dorothy Scott</p>	<p>June 1 8 15 22 29</p>	<p>Jim Young Wilma Sweeney Helen Renton FREE Joint Service</p>
<p>July 6 13 20 27</p>	<p>Liz Mills John Adamson Liz MacDonald Ian Fowler</p>	<p>August 3 10 17 24 31</p>	<p>Lynn Hanson Elspeth Brown Margaret Porter John Adamson Joint Service</p>
<p>September 7 14 21 28</p>	<p>Liz MacDonald Dorothy Scott Dorothy Bennett Ian Bee</p>		



“Behold your king” by Naomi Mitchison, published in 1957

Zechariah, a prophet of the Old Testament, recorded prophecies and visions in the sixth century B.C.E. His Ch. 9, v. 9 reads:

“Rejoice, rejoice people of Zion! Shout for joy, you people of Jerusalem! Look, your king is coming to you! He comes triumphant and victorious, but humble and riding on a donkey - on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

This happening, as predicted by Zechariah, is recorded in all four Gospels as preceding the entry of Jesus and his disciples to Jerusalem before the Passion and Resurrection, though John plays it down by stating only “Jesus found a donkey”. However, John also quotes Pilate as having taken Jesus out of his palace at almost noon on the day before the Passover and announced to the crowd: “Here is your King!”

Several books have been written with this or a similar title. They include one by the former Bishop of Edinburgh, Richard Holloway in 1995, subtitled “Meditations on the Death and Resurrection of Christ” in which he confesses: “When I had been a priest for five years, I realised that I no longer believed in God. I felt forsaken.”

More inspiring of faith and an absorbing read in itself, is the much earlier historical novel by Naomi Mitchison, self-described humanist, campaigning feminist and socialist wife of Labour M.P. Dick Mitchison who was granted a life peerage in 1964 as Baron Mitchison of Carradale in the County of Argyll. She never accepted the accompanying title of Lady Mitchison.

First published in 1957, it was reissued in 2009 as part of the Naomi Mitchison Library with an eight-page introduction by Moira Burgess, herself born in Campbeltown, only fifteen miles away from the Mitchison’s home in Carradale.

Naomi (Nov 1897-Jan 1999) was an extraordinary woman, whose life spanned almost three centuries, and this is an extraordinary book. Written while she was on a visit to Jerusalem in March 1956 (confirmed by her detailed knowledge of the city’s architecture such as the Ophel and the Hasmonean Palace) it has many variations and expansions on the Gospel accounts.

For example, following Matthew in relating that Joseph of Arimathea had Christ’s body prepared and placed in his own rock tomb, while Matthew states that Joseph acted alone, Mitchison has Joseph, John, Simon, Nicodemus, Salome, Mary Magdalene, John Priest (the disciple whom Jesus loved), Mary, the mother of Jesus, and a few of the men all involved in these tasks. Another significant addition is that a psychotic episode is attributed to Mary Magdalene while witnessing the crucifixion site. This is made central to the history of Christianity since it is her healing by “Rocky” (Peter) which shows the disciples that the spirit of Jesus remains with them and that they can and should carry on his mission. Peter is known throughout the narrative as “Rocky”, James and John as “Stormy” and “Flash” respectively, following

the custom of fishing villages throughout the world, including Mitchison's Carradale, of referring to fishermen by their nicknames.

There are several other ideas proposed by Mitchison on what might have happened. As the novel is constructed on the basis of a chapter for each successive hour of Good Friday, she gives herself ample scope for this.

There is an initially successful rescue of Jesus from Pilate's Roman soldiers and Caiaphas's Temple guards outside the Hasmonean Palace. This is by the "Bar Rabban" gang and Jesus's Galilean fishermen disciples led by Malachi bar Joses who dies in the struggle. Jesus however insists on returning to captivity, upset that his rescuers still do not fully understand his mission and destiny.

Pilate's wife is given the name of Lady Claudia and made to express an interest in hearing about the teaching of Jesus. She has Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's secretary, brought to her to inform her. Joanna asks her to intervene on Jesus's behalf if he is brought to trial. She responds, "I will try" (p59).

Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, both identified by Mitchison as Pharisees, are made by her to intervene early on with Caiaphas, both declaring their belief in Jesus as the Messiah.

"We have been with him," Nicodemus said "And I warn you Caiaphas, if you murder the Messiah who is to save Israel there will be no forgiveness for you either now or hereafter". A warning which had no effect then.

Mitchison was more agnostic than atheist and according to Burgess had half believed throughout her life that there "might be something out there". However she has also allowed Simon to think (p180): "He would make a coffin for his brother... once they got the body home to Nazareth he'd do that before he laid a finger on any other job", and Salome to state (p148): "When the Sabbath's over we'll do everything that should be done and then we'll take that poor broken-up body of his back to Galilee."

Burgess writes in her Introduction that Mitchison has never written anything better than the final sentences of this novel, carefully crafted so that the reader can choose an ending according to his or her belief or lack of belief.

Behold your King does not go as far as Easter Sunday, and this is how it ends:

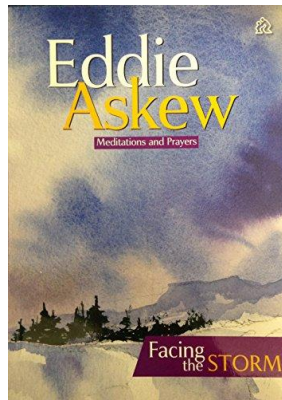
"There should be an answer. [John] did not know it yet. He looked instead at the great stone in front of the tomb that he had found so heavy... gradually they were all looking. The moonlight shone on it very coldly and distinctly, the stone between them and him. (p183).

I commend the novel as a fascinating description of what might have happened on the day of the Crucifixion.

Bill MacDonald

From a book - 'Facing the Storm'

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



Now in his eighties, the author Laurens van der Post was walking through one of the remaining wild parts of his beloved Africa.

His companion referred gently to his age and asked, '*Laurens, are you looking at all this as though it might be the last time you see it?*'

'Yes, there's always that thought,' he replied, *'But it's much more important to try and see it as though for the first time.'*

Think about it. There's more wonder in it that way. To see something you love, as you did the first time. The joy of discovery, the sudden breathtaking revelation of beauty - whether a view of nature, a painting, a piece of music, or a person.

We grow used to things, to people. We grow comfortable with them. It's a good thing in its own way, a quieter, different kind of love but that can slip imperceptibly, dangerously, into a taking for granted, into a lack of appreciation.

'Behold,' says Jesus, *'I make all things new'*. In him we are given a new view of the world, and of people, a new vision of what creation was meant to be. Something glorious and full of beauty. A world of wonder and delight.

Look at what we've made of it. Forgive us, Lord.

News from Josh Keay, our Community Youth Worker Holiday Club

In February, we ran our 4th annual Holiday Club for the primary school children in Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Rosewell. It was a huge success and a great chance to bring the gospel message to young people in the area whilst also showing them the love which God has for them first hand through the games and crafts we were providing. It was so wonderful to see so many returning kids as well as new kids coming along to experience the love which the church and Jesus wish to show them, and we look forward to building deeper relationships with all the families involved. A huge thank you to all our volunteer and YF helpers during the Holiday Club as they made the week possible. It was a joy to see God's Kingdom coming together!



Mario and Luigi leading
Holiday Club 2024

Youth Work

The youth work in Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Rosewell is continuing to grow! We continue to run Toastie Tuesday for the High School, reaching around 400 teenagers each week with that first step towards knowing God personally! Not only are we able to reach a wide range of teenagers, but Tuesdays have been providing a great space to grow deeper relationships with young people who are on the fringes of church. As well as Toastie Tuesday, we are continuing to grow the Thursday night Drop-In, now running in Cockpen church hall, which is a great space to grow deeper relationships with young people, building towards us telling them the gospel message. Please continue to join us in praying for the continued growth of the youth work in the area, as we seek to grow a leadership team and build solid relationships with the young people in the area. Thank you for all your support, and I look forward to sharing further growth updates in the future.

A Devotion for Easter

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.

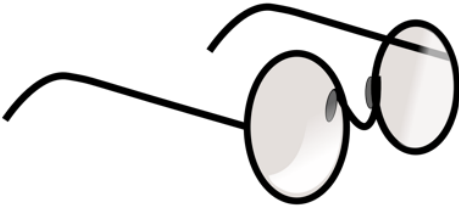
I want to stay there — to cling to that old rugged Cross; to bow and to adore the One who hangs there for me. I'm in the crowd... but yet I stand alone. I am one unique person, unlike any other in that crowd – and He sees me; He knows me; He loves me. I behold — and I bow — low... at the foot of the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

Peggie Bohanon 2005

Old Spectacles



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

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

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

Many thanks.

Wilma

Life and Work Magazine

Orders for this magazine are due to be placed soon. If you would like to place an order for 2026 or cancel your current order, please contact me as soon as possible on 0131 663 6546.

The cost is £42 per annum.

Wilma.



GUILD NEWS



This year is the first when we have had all our meetings in the afternoon and to have no meetings at all in January but extend the session to the end of May. It seems to have worked well but of course the membership have to be the ones who decide, and this will be voted on at our Business Meeting.

We have continued to flourish with 40 members and at least 6 ladies from the Guild in Bonnyrigg Church Guild joining us in the afternoons. We have also had a few of the men join us when there is a topic, in which they are particularly interested, and we hope they will continue to come along to other meetings.

Anyone who would like to “check out” what a Guild meeting is like would be made most welcome and we are opening our doors wide on April 21st, when we are to have someone tell us about Dumfries House. The story of its acquisition, restoration and development is remarkable and we feel many of the congregation and friends would find it interesting so please come along that day from 2-4pm to join us.

We hope to arrange another Charity Afternoon Tea this summer but will have to see if that will be possible.

Many thanks must be made to our secretary Vi Gibson and treasurer Wilma Sweeney for ensuring all goes well but thanks also to all our members for their support and cheerfulness – we have indeed a great group.

Helen and Liz

World Day of Prayer 2025

Bonnyrigg Church hosted this year's World Day of Prayer this year "*I Made You Wonderful*" written by the ladies of the Cook Islands.

It was a wonderful service when members from Bonnyrigg, St Leonards, Cockpen and Carrington, Lasswade and Rosewell and St Mathews/ Our Lady of Consolation all took part.

It was great for us all to come together for such a wonderful occasion and also enjoy lots of chat over a cup of tea and home bakes afterwards.



KNIT AND NATTER



Our Knit and Natter group continues to be extremely popular with ladies not only from our church, but from other churches and many from the community with no connection to a church. These ladies, that are not connected to Cockpen and Carrington Church, are extremely generous in supporting our many church events by purchasing tickets and contributing to our various events with knitted goods and tombola prizes; this is so much appreciated.

The little group that we had in the early days has expanded greatly and we now average 24 ladies attending each week.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in coming along, just for a little natter and a cup of tea, then please ensure them that they will be most welcome any Thursday from 1.30pm to 3.30pm up until the end of May, when we close for the summer.

FROM THE ORGANIST

As those of you who attended will know, when I was abroad last month the music was supplied for one of the Sunday services from our archive of hymn recordings. We are fortunate to have access to these (thanks mainly to the tireless efforts of Andrew Jack) so that on the (hopefully rare) occasions when no organist is available we are still able to have our singing led by our own organ and choir.

Many of you will be aware that we have also made our bank of recordings freely available to other churches who find themselves without a regular organist. There has been quite a wide take up, mainly from churches in Scotland but from one or two in England and Wales also. Recently though there has been a further and unexpected development in that last month I was contacted by a film company asking if they could incorporate one of our recordings in their upcoming production! Apparently the film includes a funeral scene and they were looking for an authentic- sounding recording of a choir and congregation singing 'Abide with me'. The film - starring Benedict Cumberbatch no less - is to be called 'The Thing with Feathers'; as I understand it is not as the title might suggest some sort of horror story but rather an exploration of the effects of bereavement on a family. I'm not sure yet when it will reach cinemas but if any of you do see it in due course make sure you stay to the end to catch the credit for the Cockpen & Carrington Choir!

Turning now to our programme for the season, probably the best known musical setting of the Passion story in English is Sir John Stainer's 'Crucifixion' and this year the choir's contribution to Holy Week will be one of the best loved passages from that work, 'God so loved the world'. The text is of course taken from chapter 3 of St John's Gospel, perhaps one of the most famous in all of scripture. For the majority of recent years Cockpen & Carrington has hosted the service on Good Friday but this year our Holy Week service will take place on **Wednesday 16 April**, commencing at 7 pm.

On Easter Day itself (**Sunday 20 April**) the choir will be singing a second work by Stainer, this time his anthem 'They have taken away my Lord'.

This opens with an almost operatic setting of the meeting in the garden between Jesus and Mary Magdalene, to which the choir responds with the joyful chorus ‘O death, where is thy sting?’.

As often in the past I will be concluding our Easter service with one of the celebratory works from the great French organ composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. This year’s choice is a celebratory work by Alexandre Guilmant, his *Grand Choeur alla Handel*, which as the name suggests adopts something of the musical style of Handel, but with a strong added French romantic accent! Guilmant (1837 - 1911) was for many years the organist of *Saint-Trinité*, then as now one of Paris’s foremost churches.

On a final note, everyone connected to the choir was very sad to hear of the recent passing of Jessie Hume. Jessie was a faithful member of the choir for a long number of years and indeed was one of its most loyal supporters, rarely missing a Sunday until her health began to falter in her last years. We miss her greatly. We are fortunate in having a number of very faithful choir members, but as people pass on we do need replacements! We are very open to anyone who can sing with us even on an occasional basis so if you think you could help or know of someone who might, please let me know. No prior musical experience is required!

GMB

March 2025

SPRING (Acrostic Poem)

Spring has arrived with armfuls of blossom,
Petals of every colour and hue.
Rain and sun caressing the earth,
Inspiring spring bulbs to come into view.
Now is the time of new beginnings,
Giving us pleasure all season through.

Eco Congregation News

Sweet tub success



We had a great response to our appeal for empty sweet tubs after Christmas. The congregation at Bonnyrigg Parish Church was also asked to participate and between the two parishes 312 tubs were collected and delivered to Elginhaugh Farm restaurant, owned by the brewer Greene King. This necessitated three car trips, well laden with tubs. Last year we had little time to publicise the appeal and just got 38 tubs. People have already started giving me tubs for next year. Hopefully we can target 500 tubs and still enjoy sweet treats in moderation! Thanks to everyone who participated.

The plastic tubs are not suitable for recycling at kerbside waste collections. The network of pubs provides convenient drop-off points for customers looking for a recycling solution and doing their bit for the environment. The tubs are turned into granulated plastic which is then made into recycled plastic outdoor products, such as garden furniture and generate funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. Over the last five years, the **Tub2Pub** initiative has



collected 26,253kg of plastic, which is around 230,000 tubs, raising £23,908.

Some of you may have seen on the BBC news a report of a 6-year-old boy, called Teddy, from Hampshire, who collected more than 2,500 tubs. His amazing achievement resulted in his school receiving a bench made from recycled plastic tubs. “Everyone can make a difference, it doesn’t matter how small you are,” said Teddy, as the bench was unveiled. Wise and encouraging words from a young lad.

Liz MacDonald

The future without fear

Fear not - that's Sunday's word

For I am with you - that's Monday's word

Be not dismayed - that's Tuesday's word

For I am your God - that's Wednesday's word

I will strengthen you - that's Thursday's word

I will help you - that's Friday's word

I will uphold you with my victorious right hand - that's Saturday's word.

Note: the words 'I' and 'you' tell you this is a personal message.

Isaiah Ch 41 v 10

The Journey to Easter

By focusing on existential hunger and spiritual receptiveness, Lent ultimately points to the fullness of life found in Jesus at Easter (or *Pascha* in Greek and Latin, which means "Passover").

All of Lent's penitential practices and acts of spiritual renewal find their meaning in the journey of self-emptying and self-giving love that Jesus undertakes in his death and resurrection: "*As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love*" (John 15: 9).

In this way, Christians discover that they can make the Paschal journey with Jesus, just as they have made the Lenten journey, because they — along with all humanity — are loved and "loved lavishly", as Draško Dizdar writes, "gratuitously; yes, even recklessly, exultantly; indeed, absolutely and unconditionally, by the One [God] who knows us better than we know ourselves, and yet desires nothing other than that we should all flourish in the radiant light of his love."

This journey of love is first made by Christians sacramentally in baptism and then is spiritually renewed at Lent. With Jesus as companion and guide, Christians are moved to "Passover" from the "world" of selfishness, evil, and pain into the gratuitous and unconditional love of God experienced at Easter.

Joel Hodge, Senior Lecturer in Systematic Theology, Australia.

From the Flower Convenor

Hello to all my dear family and friends. Well it's almost Easter once again and that means a wee update from me, your Flower Convenor. Things are going well due to a big thank you to yourselves on the Flower Rota for your kind donations of money week by week. The next big event in the Church is the Flowers for Easter, so hopefully the daffodils are still around and last, as Easter is very late this year! The flowers in the church each week are being well received by all the Church Family and further afield, whether it's a bereavement, illness or just someone who is down in spirits and needs a wee bunch of flowers to cheer them up. Please let me know if you happen to be aware of someone who would benefit from these as it's the only way we know who might be in need of cheering up.

I enjoy doing the flowers week by week in the church, so thank you to those who make it possible by your donations. **The Dalkeith Floral Art Club** are having a *Charity Event* on Sunday, 1st June, 2pm to 4pm in The Beacon at Gorebridge. The title of the event is *Friendship, Flowers, Music and Song*. If you happen to be interested please feel free to contact me to get information or tickets, which cost £15 per head. I'm also running a bus to Jedburgh to the **Woollen Mills**, then onto to **Monteviot House** to walk round all the gardens. This will be on Wednesday 11th June. All meals throughout the day are included in the ticket price. Again please contact me for information.

The Dalkeith Floral Art Club

Sunday 1st June, 2-4pm

Friendship, Flowers, Music and Song

Outing to Jedburgh, Woolen Mills and Monteviot House

Wednesday 11 June

God bless, and love from

Anne Clark xx

Flower Convenor

Tel: 01875 821717 or Mob. 07929 446 662

Gone From My Sight

Gone From My Sight

By Rev. Luther F. Beecher (1813-1903)

I am standing upon the seashore.
A ship at my side spreads her white sails
to the morning breeze, and starts for the blue ocean.
She is an object of beauty and strength,
and I stand and watch her until she hangs
like a speck of white cloud just where
the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other.
Then someone at my side says: "There she goes!"
Gone where? Gone from my sight – that is all.
She is just as large in mast and hull and spar
as she was when she left my side,
and just as able to bear her load of living freight
to the place of destination.
Her diminished size is in me, and not in her.

And just at the moment
when someone at my side says: "There she goes!"
There are other eyes that are watching for her coming;
and other voices ready to take up the glad shout:
"Here she comes!"

Fun Space for Adults



We all need to take time for fun, relaxation and company in the midst of our busy lives. 'Fun Space' is for adults of all ages to come and enjoy games of all kinds as well as jigsaws and crafts. For those with accompanying pre-school children, the team will be happy to help look after them while you have time for the game or activity you would like to do. And we always stop for tea/coffee, biscuits and chat, too! So why not come along and have some time out.

You will be most welcome!

**Each Thursday 10.00 to 11.30 am
at Rosewell Church Hall**

LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH NEWS

www.lasswadechurch.co.uk

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

Daffodils have many spiritual meanings, including rebirth, renewal and hope. May God shower you with blessings, love and peace this Easter.



Sacrament of Holy Communion



An Invitation to a Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Sunday 6th April at 10.00 a.m. Rosewell Church
Sunday 22nd June at 10.00 a.m. Lasswade Church
Sunday 7th September at 10.00 a.m. Rosewell Church

A warm invitation is extended to you all.

Final Service at Lasswade

If, and only if, I am still occupying the role which I currently fill, I would like to do some special music on the last Sunday for services at Lasswade. However, I need voices for this. If anyone would like to be part of a choir to carry out this function would you please contact me in one of the ways listed below.

The date for the final service has not yet been decided and I believe we should get plenty of notice about this. I would like to be ahead of the game so that when we know when it is we can start planning a few choir practices etc.

Further intimations about this will be made nearer the time. I also feel it would be nice if, in the weeks leading up to the final service, any favourite hymns could be sung. If any member of the congregation has a favourite hymn could they please let me know - and it would be interesting to know the reason behind your choice.

My contact details for both potential choir members and for the favourite hymns are:-

Either see me in Lasswade Church
or
Email: herbertandmoira@googlemail.com

HLRD

Lasswade Flower Rota

For the last few months I have been saying that I am preparing a flower rota for Lasswade in the knowledge that the church will be closing at some time.

Thank you to all the folk who have consistently helped me with the flower rota. Without your help over the years, my job would have been very challenging.

Thank you.
Moira

May 11th Dorothy Spence
May 25th Nita Adams

June 8th Marlyn Davidson
June 22nd Andrew Renwick
June 29th Pat Lawrie

July 13th Moira Dryden
July 27th Shona Howden

August 10th Sheena Blair
August 24th Moira Dryden

Impressive Turnout:

A huge thank you to all who supported the Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday 14th December. The amazing sum of £1,338 was raised for Church fund This was a result of efforts put in by many people – those who baked, donated items, and manned the various stalls, served the tea and coffee, worked in the kitchen (cooking bacon rolls) 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 (except January) 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 tea, coffee, home baking and a warm welcome!



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.

Christian Aid Week 11th – 17th May 2025



This year's Christian Aid theme is supporting farmers and communities facing the challenges of poverty and climate change. Will you donate this Christian Aid Week?

Do come along and support Christian Aid at our Coffee Morning on Saturday 10th May from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon in Rosewell Church Hall.

We will also have retiring offerings after the services on 11th and 18th May.

Lasswade and Rosewell Christmas Fayre 2024 Winners

Hamper Raffle

1. Rosemary McMahon
2. Margaret McCall
3. Margaret Gordon
4. Elizabeth Wison
5. Robert Goodfellow

Guess the weight of the Cake

Nessie Oakley

Weight 5lb. 12 ozs.

Guess the number of sweets in the jar

Annabelle Cameron

Number 143



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 5th April, 3rd May and 7th 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

Rosewell Church Flower Rota

May 4th	Cecile Gillespie
May 18th	Vacant
June 1st	Kofi Seowofia
June 15th	Joan Cameron
July 6th	Morag McFarlane
July 20th	May Chapman
August 3rd	Sandra Ross
August 17th	Muriel Keith
September 7th	Ella Thomson
September 21st	Vacant
October 5th	Kenny Wight
October 19th	Eleanor Marshall
November 2nd	Una Warden
November 16th	Moira Campbell
December 7th	Morag Rennie
December 21st	Sandra Ross

There are still some vacant dates if anyone would like to put their name on the rota.

Thank you,
Sandra Ross

Flapjacks

Ingredients:

125g butter, extra for greasing tin

90g golden syrup

90g light muscovado sugar

250g rolled oats

Tray-bake tin approx. 8x12 inches, lightly greased.

Method:

Combine the butter, syrup and sugar in a saucepan and heat gently until the ingredients have melted and dissolved. Stir in the oats and mix well.

Spoon into prepared tin and smooth the surface with a palette knife.

Bake in a pre-heated oven at 180°C, fan 160°C for about 30 minutes.

Leave to cool in the tin for about 5 minutes, then mark into 24 fingers or squares,

Leave to cool completely. Cut and remove from tin.

Enjoy!!



THE HOLY HIKERS

"It is solved by walking."

A Latin Proverb



We visited Rosewell Church Coffee Morning before our November Walk. 14 Hikers, Elizabeth & David's grandson Kaiden, and 3 dogs Rocky, Lily and Rowan on her maiden walk with the hikers. We then enjoyed a short circular walk around Rosewell. There was no walk in December or January but in February the walk was around Rosewell once again, we are getting quite familiar with that area! After the walk Denise had also arranged a meal at Beetroot in Bonnyrigg. 10 members did the walk, and 2 others joined the group for the meal, which was very much appreciated. Thanks Denise!

The report for March was written by Denise. Our walk on 8th March was in Dalkeith Country Park where 10 of us plus Rowan enjoyed a walk of 3-4 miles in the beautiful spring sunshine. We were joined by a new member Christine Irvine, who was welcomed into the group. It was so warm while walking that most of us had to take our jackets off - never been known before in March! There were masses of snowdrops, and the primroses were blooming too - surely a sign that spring is here at last. We stopped for a leisurely picnic lunch - everyone was enjoying the sunshine so much they were reluctant to move!

Our next walk on 12th April will be led by Hilary & Glen in Vogrie Country Park, meet at the park as usual.

Everyone is welcome to join our friendly group - just turn up in the car park at Bonnyrigg Park at 11am on the second Saturday of the month. For more information contact Denise Thomson 0780 4982310.

Happy Hiking,

Denise & Jim.

It is with great sadness I must mention one of our past members Mrs Jessie Hume sadly passed away on Sunday 9th March at Newbyres Care Home, Gorebridge. Jessie enjoyed many walks with us but has been unable to join us for some time due to ill health.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Lorna Munro, Jessie's granddaughter and all the family. Jim Scott

WHO'S WHO

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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

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Children's Page



Share your news, views, or ideas in the Harvest Issue of "The Link". Send them to Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk by Sunday, 3rd August 2025.



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