

Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell
Parish Churches



Harvest 2025

The Church of Scotland

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SERVICES SEPTEMBER to DECEMBER 2025

DATE	LASSWADE & ROSEWELL (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)
31 August 12 after Pentecost	Three Churches Joint Service at 11.00 am at the Lasswade Leisure Centre	
7 September 13 after Pentecost	The Minister – Rosewell Service of Communion	The Minister Service of Blessing
14 September 14 after Pentecost	The Minister – Lasswade All-age Service	The Minister All-age Service
21 September 15 after Pentecost	Worship Team – Rosewell	Worship Team
28 September 16 after Pentecost	The Minister – Lasswade	Minister
5 October 17 after Pentecost	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister and Guild for GUILD DEDICATION SERVICE
12 October 18 after Pentecost	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister
19 October 19 after Pentecost	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister
26 October 20 after Pentecost	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister
2 November 21 after Pentecost	Worship Team – Rosewell	The Minister Service of Communion
9 November Remembrance Sunday 22 after Pentecost	Lay Pastor – Lasswade* The Minister – Rosewell at 10.00 am+	The Minister
16 November 23 after Pentecost	The Minister – Rosewell All-age Service	The Minister All-age Service
23 November Christ the King Sunday	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister
30 November First in Advent	Three Churches Joint Service at 11.00 am at the Lasswade Leisure Centre	
7 December Second in Advent	The Minister – Rosewell Toy Gift Service	The Minister Toy Gift Service
14 December Third in Advent	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister SERVICE OF REMEMBERING – 3.00 pm
21 December Fourth in Advent	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS – 7.00 pm
28 December First after Christmas	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister

Additional Christmas Services

Wed 24 December Christmas Eve	CHRISTINGLE SERVICE – Rosewell – 6.00 pm	WATCHNIGHT SERVICE – Cockpen – 11.20 pm
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* Lasswade War Memorial at 9.30 am before church service at 10.00 am;

+ Rosewell War Memorial at 10.50 am; also Polton War Memorial at 3.00 pm

From the Minister ...

*“ ... those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.” (Isaiah 40:31)*

A few weeks ago, I had the joy of going on retreat over on the west, crossing over the Corran Ferry near Fort William and heading about 10 miles further down the Ardgour peninsula to stay at the fairly new Abernethy Trust retreat centre on the shores of Loch Linnhe at Kilmalieu.



The location was formerly a place of retreat for the little-known Irish missionary, Saint Moluag, a contemporary of Saint Columba. In 562, St Moluag established his main base for reaching out to the Picts round about, on what is now known as the Isle of Lismore (*Lios Mór* – the Great Monastery) which lies just across the water from Kilmalieu. When Moluag needed some respite from monastery life, he would head over to Kilmalieu for times of quiet.



Looking across to Lismore island

The retreat I went on was themed ‘Mountain Pilgrimage’, and there was opportunity to go out each day on a low or high level walk to immerse ourselves in the beauty of God’s creation all around us.

On the first day, we took in the

big picture – the immensity of God as Creator, the enduring but constantly

changing landscape around us and our smallness within all of that. There was also, though, the constant reminder that while we may have felt so small in comparison to the mighty mountains around us, God's love for us in and through our Lord Jesus is amazing and means that we are each one so cherished by him.

On the second day, we took in the small picture as we explored one of the ancient oak woods over there, with a focus on the amazing world of lichens in all their intricate variety. There was also an encouragement to use all of our senses as we walked – not just sight, but hearing, touch, taste, smell, too - and to be more aware of the wonder of all that was around us.



And on the third day on our walks, we thought about what had shaped the landscape around us, and, in turn, what had shaped each of us through the journey of our lives of faith.

It was a wonderful time – so well looked after by the centre team, sharing with ten others from many different places and walks of life, and sensing God's hand at work in awakening, renewing and restoring as we took time to savour his presence and to wonder at creation in deeper ways. The weather was at times challenging with lots of wind and rain happening, but that didn't seem to matter; and in the midst of everything there was a lot of wildlife to enjoy – red deer on the hills; cheerful larks singing overhead; mountaineering frogs; otters swimming just off shore, and for those on the lower level walk the first day, two golden eagles soaring high up above the hillside beside them. Sadly, I missed out on that experience having gone on the higher level walk that day, but it was still special to hear of the wonderful sight it had been to have eagles soaring

majestically overhead. When an eagle comes into view, that is so often what stands out – the power and grace with which they soar in the sky.

It is a wonderful picture, therefore, that Isaiah uses to convey the difference it makes to trust in the Lord in Isaiah 40:31. Those who trust and hope in the Lord will never do so in vain. Such trust is a source of renewing strength for each day. I'm sure we'll recognise how important that is. There is so much going on, so much to see to, so many cares and concerns so often swamping us that we can feel overwhelmed. In the pressing nature of it all, we forget to take time to pray and take everything to God, and we find ourselves trying to deal with everything in our own strength and thinking, until we are worn out.

Recently, I was chatting with a friend and we were thinking about how things were going and the approach we can have to what we're doing. My friend made the point that so often our efforts can be like we are rowing really hard in a boat in all we are trying to do and achieve, and we become run down and exhausted. Instead, she said, what is really needed is for us to stop, refocus and prayerfully let the Holy Spirit fill our sails. It's a beautiful picture isn't it? The Spirit is waiting in the wings to guide us, direct us and power us along, but we can be so preoccupied that we forget to open ourselves to his presence and entrust ourselves to his enabling. But when we do, and prayerfully wait for the Lord, coming back to the picture of eagles, we can soar with the uplift of the Holy Spirit around us and within, enabling us to go further and to do more without becoming weary.

May we remember to keep our trust and hope in the Lord and know the thrill of soaring on wings like eagles as we follow and serve him each day.

Blessings, *Lorna*.



Formal Launch of The Harbour Project

On Sunday 29th June, there was a joint service for our three churches – Cockpen & Carrington, Lasswade & Rosewell and Bonnyrigg Parish. This was held in the morning at the Lasswade Leisure Centre, and as well as being a wonderful occasion to gather and worship together, it was an opportunity formally to launch The Harbour project that we share in together as three churches.



The vision for The Harbour project is for us as churches together to be able to offer welcoming places of healing and restoration to those around us, to offer spiritual havens for people of every generation in Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Rosewell so they can find encouragement and hope in discovering Jesus's love for them. This has already begun

through the mission work that Josh Keay, our Community Youth Worker, has been doing through Toastie Tuesday and Drop-In on Thursday evenings during term-time, seeking to connect and build relationships with some of our young people and share Jesus's love with them.

Other parts of the project at present include the annual Holiday Club in February; F4 for families on a Friday lunchtime during term that includes lunch, Bible stories, crafts and games; Messy Church at Rosewell; and the 'Good Grief' sessions at the Pitcairn Centre to help support those coming to terms with losing loved ones.

We received great news in January this year that our application for Seeds For Growth funding had been successful. In May, we received our first payment. The funding that we have been awarded is to continue the youth work that Josh has started, and to compliment this shortly with the addition of a part-time Children's and Family Worker who will also seek to support families in our community.

These are exciting times as we share in these missional activities together and see God's hand at work. As we were thinking about at the service to launch The Harbour project, to be with Jesus changes lives.

As we develop our activities, we can look forward to seeing people's lives transformed by the life-changing love of our living Lord Jesus and to them finding renewed purpose and hope for each day.

Lorna, the Minister

The Sacrament of Baptism

Service of Blessing

Lucas William HUNTER
Service conducted by Revd Lorna Souter

Weddings

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

Deaths

Agnes DALGLEISH

We remember the families of Malcolm, and Agnes 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'



Sunday Tea Rota Cockpen & Carrington



14th September	Liz MacD and John
5th October	Vi and Andrew
9th November	Dot and Moira
14th December	Helen and Wilma

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

Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota 2025

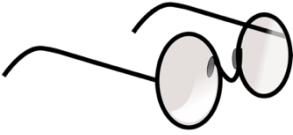
September 7 14 21 28	Liz MacDonald Dot Scott Dorothy Bennett Ian Bee
October 5 12 19 26	The Guild Irene McGhee Wilma Sweeney John Adamson
November 2 9 16 23 30	Liz Mills Lynsey Stevenson Bill Taylor Liz MacDonald & Betty Finlay Joint Service
December 7 14 21 28	Pat Mitchell Ian Richardson Christmas Flowers Christmas Flowers



Photo © John Adamson

Anne Clark
Flower Convenor
Tel: 01875 821717
or Mob. 07929 446 662

Old Spectacles



If you have any old spectacles you want to dispose 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

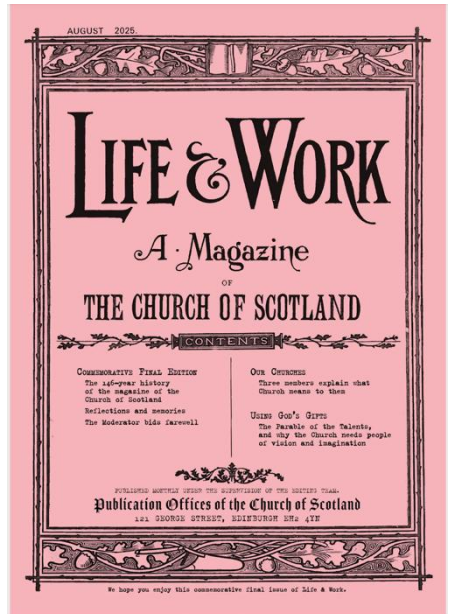
Life and Work Magazine

After 146 years, *Life and Work* has ceased publication as from August 2025.

I would like to express a big thank you to all those who subscribed to the magazine over the many years.

Wilma.

There is a Commemorative Final Edition which will be sent out free to all those who subscribe to a paper copy. It will be available to read on the Church of Scotland's website at the web address below:



<https://digital.lifeandwork.org/magazine/reader/281729?pageNumber=1>

A Scottish Barbecue

COME AND JOIN US

By The Corries

CHORUS: Come and join us.
Come and join us.
We are the chosen few.
Come and join us. Come and
join us at a Scottish barbecue.



1. Now, when the charcoal's
burnin' fiercely, and the smoke
gets in your eyes,
The steaks all taste like fried toothpaste, and your mouth is full of flies,
You know you've been accepted. You've joined the chosen few,
When you have been invited to a green-belt barbecue. **CHORUS**

2. Now, when the summer sun is burnin' in Scotland's happy land,
Round countless fires in strange attires, on many solemn bands
Of unhappy Scotsmen watching their lunch go up in flames,
By the smoke and the smell, you can plainly tell it's barbie time again.
CHORUS

3. Now, the English love their roast beef, the French eat snails and frogs,
The Greeks go crackers over their moussakas, and the Chinese love hot dogs.
A Welshman loves to have a leek, the Irish eat their stew,
But you just can't beat that half-cooked meat at a Scottish barbecue.
CHORUS

4. Now, there's flies stuck in the butter, the bread has gone brick-hard,
The kids are fightin', and the midges are bitin'. Who forgot the Aeroguard?
There's cinders in your whisky, and the beer is running out,
And what you saw in Mum's coleslaw you just don't think about.
CHORUS

5. And then when the barbie's over, your homeward way you wend.
With a queasy tummy on the family dunny many lonely hours you spend.
You might find yourself reflecting as many others do:
"Come rain or shine, that's the last time I'm goin' to a barbecue."
CHORUS

The Slippy Stane

*Ca' canny thro' this weary warld,
And pick your steps wi' care,
And never dae your neighbour wrang,
But aye dae what is fair.
Amen fa' and never rise again,
Wha never fell afore:
There's aye a muckle slippy stane,
At ilka body's door.*

*And gin your neighbour chance to fa',
Ye manna let him lie,
But gie a hand to help him up,
As ye are passing bye,
The case may be your ain some day,
Though guides ye hae in store,
There's aye a muckle slippy stane,
At ilka body's door.*

*There's slippy stanes where'er ye gang,
By cottage, hut, and ha',
Any you maun pick your steps wi' care,
Or ower them ye may fa'.
For Emperors and Kings hae fa'en,
For bye there's mony a score,
There's aye a muckle slippy stane,
At ilka body's door.*

*Ca' cannily and watch your step
And dinna cease to pray,
That He who guides the sun and stars,
Will help you on your way.
Step by Step He'll lead you safe,
And from His boundless store,
He'll help you o'er each slippy stane,
Right up to Heaven's Door.*

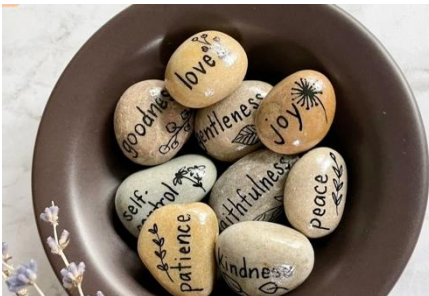
GUILD NEWS

We closed our 2024-25 session with a very successful Afternoon Tea for charity and realised the sum of £660.00 to be divided between “Scotland’s Charity Air Ambulance” and “Blood Banks Scotland”. Both organisations were most appreciative as can be seen from the replies acknowledging the receipt of the cheques and the Guild are so grateful for the continued support from the congregation and friends who attended the event. Last year’s speakers were without exception very interesting, thought provoking and entertaining, plus the members had a lot of fun, enjoyment and laughter along the way. The committee has prepared a promising programme for the next session which starts on Monday 6th, October in the church hall at 2pm. The Guild Service of Dedication will be held in the church on Sunday 5th October at the usual time of service - 11.30am.



Vi Gibson has really done a wonderful job in putting it all together and yet again John Adamson has offered to print out the syllabus for us.

We asked some of our newer members to write about their own experience coming along to join the group and they have kindly obliged. Several more have joined over the past couple of years as they find they now have fewer commitments and can now manage to come, or they are new to the area and want to meet new friends. Others joined us as they prefer to attend in the afternoon, and some have come because their previous groups have sadly now disbanded. We have been pleased to



Living Stones

welcome quite a few gentlemen who come along occasionally when the speaker is covering a subject that appeals to them. They all seem to have enjoyed it as they do come back – not only for the tea and biscuits I am told!

Hope to see all the well kent and some more new faces soon

Helen and Liz

Letters of Thanks



Blood Bikes Scotland
Scottish Charity Register Number - SC049314

112 Echline Drive
South Queensferry
EH30 9YG

Mrs. Wilma Sweeney
Treasurer
Cockpen & Carrington Guild

12th June 2025

Dear Wilma,

£330.00 Donation

I just wanted to confirm receipt and thank the Cockpen & Carrington Church Guild for the generous donation of £330.00 sent over to Blood Bikes Scotland following our recent Talk. It's a wonderful feeling when we secure funding of this nature from active Community Groups like yours and we are both humbled and grateful. This money will really help us to support our charity as these difficult times continue for the NHS. Our service expanded across all of the NHS regions we cover during the Covid-19 pandemic and we continue to undertake around 850 runs per month for the NHS, providing them with additional support where we can.

Without supporters like you, we would simply not be able to operate the service we provide. The operation has significantly grown in recent months. In 2024 we completed a total of 5113 jobs for the NHS saving them over £352,000 and fully anticipate this to grow again in 2025. The service remains hugely valued by all the NHS Boards that we support in Scotland, including Lothian. As you may be aware, all volunteers for the charity give their time freely and all money raised by generous donors like this, goes directly to professionally maintaining our fleet of vehicles so that they are always safe, reliable and appropriate to the job.

Thank you again for your very welcome support and on behalf of the whole BBS team we wish you all an excellent Summer!

Yours Sincerely,

Tim Bartlett
Tim Bartlett
Chairman - Blood Bikes Scotland
timbartlett@bloodbikesScotland.org



SCAA
SCOTLAND'S CHARITY AIR AMBULANCE
The Control Tower
Perth Airport
Perth, Scotland, PH2 4PL
Tel: 0800 113 1111
Email: info@scaa.org.uk
Website: www.scaa.org.uk
Scottish Charity: SC241845

Wilma Sweeney
Cockpen & Carrington Guild

13 June 2025

"Without SCAA, we could have lost Riley that day. Every breath could have been his last."

Nicolle, eight-year-old Riley's mum

Dear Wilma,

Thank you to everyone at Cockpen & Carrington Guild for your generous donation of £330.00 to Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance raised at your recent Charity Afternoon Tea. With your support, our air ambulance crew can reach more people across Scotland when they need help. People like Riley, who swallowed a £2 coin.

"I knew things were really serious and Riley was in real danger of suffocating if the coin moved again. Throughout the entire emergency, the paramedics were focussed on Riley - they weren't going to let anything happen to him," said Nicolle.

Without your support, we couldn't have turned the hour-long drive to hospital into a ten minute flight, making sure that Riley's mum and dad tucked up three children in bed that night rather than two.

At the start of this year we launched Operation Skyward, our plan to bring Scotland the most capable air ambulance of its kind in the UK. The new H145 DS aircraft will enable us to fly for longer, reach patients faster, and save more lives. It will also cost SCAA an extra £2 million every year. We believe saving lives is worth that cost - but we can't do it without you.

SCAA is 100% funded by the people of Scotland, for the people of Scotland. That makes you an essential part of our crew - thank you again for your generous gift which will help to fly us into the future.

Yours sincerely,

Ann McLaughlin
Ann McLaughlin
Community Fundraiser

At Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance, we are committed to protecting your personal data and being transparent about how we handle it and how we use it. For more information on our privacy policy, please visit www.scaa.org.uk/privacy-policy. If you would prefer a hard copy, please get in touch.

New Guild Members

Why and How I joined Cockpen & Carrington Church Guild

On 3rd. March 2022 I was asked by Simba Charity to speak to the Guild at Cockpen & Carrington Church. I have been a volunteer with the charity for 11 years now.

My granddaughter Susanna was born sleeping. Simba make up Memory Boxes to send to the Maternity Hospital to be given to parents whose baby has not survived.

I was presented with the most beautiful basket of knitted items from the Guild and the Knit & Natter Group, full of items that we put in the memory boxes.

After my presentation we had a cup of tea and a chat with some of the members. Everyone was so friendly it made me feel like I wanted to be part of the Guild.

I am now on the committee.

A few weeks later I transferred my lines from my church in Paisley. Eighteen months later I was asked if I would take on the role of Treasurer, and on 8th December 2024 I was admitted as an Elder, having been ordained in Greenlaw Church Paisley in 1987.

The rest is history.

Jean I. Somerville

-- o o O o o --

An Advert for the Guild

I have enjoyed my first year with the Guild very much and my husband has also enjoyed coming along with me

on several afternoons when the talks have been of particular interest to him. Any talks related to gardening or War stories appeal to him.

I think having the meetings in the afternoon is welcome especially during the winter months.

Having experience of being a committee member in various groups over the years, I know and appreciate all the effort and time that goes into all these enterprises. Thanks especially go to the secretary Vi Gibson.

Kind regards

Eileen and Duncan McIntyre

-- o o O o o --

When I first came along to the Guild I was immediately made to feel welcome and so my first impressions were good! I have found the speakers and topics during my first couple of years interesting and thought-provoking, and a lot of effort has gone into arranging varied afternoons for us. At the end of my first year I was asked to come onto the committee and without much persuasion I found myself a committee member.

The move to afternoon meetings has been a success and has worked out well for me personally, and I'm sure for others too. The home baking that is provided for special occasions is second to none – that could be another reason for being so happy to be a member of Cockpen Guild!

Name supplied.

KNIT AND NATTER



The Knit and Natter has taken a break for the summer but will resume again on 11th September 2025.

The group now has 32 ladies attending regularly on a Thursday to enjoy the time chatting, knitting and drinking tea. It is a very friendly group and there is always room for more.

Many squares were knitted over the last few months, and these squares were made into lovely colourful blankets which were given to some of our ladies who are in nursing homes or housebound.

Before taking a break for summer on 22nd of May, we all enjoyed a lovely lunch at Broomieknowe Golf Club.

EDINBURGH POLICE CHOIR

A concert by the Edinburgh Police Choir will be held in the church on Saturday 27th September at 2:30 pm.

Tickets £10 Children accompanied by adults, free.

Proceeds will be divided between Alzheimer Scotland and Cockpen and Carrington Church.

Angus MacVicar and Angus MacVicar

Angus MacVicar Senior was the well-loved minister, usually known as “The Padre”, of the Church of Scotland at Southend on the southern edge of the Mull of Kintyre for 47 years from 1910 to 1957. Two of his sons, one also known as Angus, had early callings to the ministry, but having taken an MA at Glasgow University, Angus Junior soon realised he was not cut out for it. Kenneth, his younger brother, did qualify and was chaplain to the Queen in Scotland for a time.

Angus Junior was born in Duror, in northern Argyll, in 1908, just down from Ballachulish, near the site of the Appin Murder, the shooting dead of the “Red Fox” in 1752 in the aftermath of the Jacobite uprisings. This had featured prominently in “Kidnapped,” one of Stevenson’s classic novels, so was an eminently suitable place for the birthplace of one of Scotland’s most prolific and talented 20th century writers and broadcasters.

His career did not begin well. In the early thirties, after winning first prize in a short story competition run by the Scottish Daily Express, he joined the “Campbeltown Courier” as an all-round dogsbody and part-time reporter. His first attempt at a full-length thriller brought him a review by the established writer Dorothy L Sayers including this:

“It opens prominently with the murder of three clergymen, but from then on it becomes unmitigated drivel.”

The experience didn’t deter him. Thrillers such as “Murder at the Open” and “Death by the Mistletoe” were a success. Thrillers were to be a major brand of his writing but only a start. Science fiction, adventure stories for children, plays for his local amateur drama group and above all, volumes of reminiscences made more impact. The titles alone are memorable:

“Capers in my Kirk”, “Salt in my porridge”, “Silver in my sporran”, “Bees in my bonnet”, “Heather in my ears”, “Scotch in my rocks”, “Gremlins in my garden”.

Apart from his early years at Duror and war service as a Captain in the Royal Scots Fusiliers, he lived his life out at Southend with his wife Jean in a bungalow half a mile beyond Southend towards the Mull. This overlooked Dunaverty Rock at the far end of the beach and golf course.

I had the good fortune to visit them and his son Jock, when he was at home, several times, as my parents were close friends of the MacVicars through golf, education,

Christianity, a common interest in local affairs and wartime experiences. Angus himself was both Captain and Champion at Dunaverty Golf Club at a time when the famous Belle Robertson was a member there. She was seven times Scottish Amateur winner, once British, several times Curtis Cup Team member.

Jock was Scottish Daily Express golf and other sports correspondent and was sent to Melbourne by the paper to cover the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. Jock brought me back a copy of the glossy Games programme, which I treasured for a long time. It was a Games of famous incidents; in particular the “blood in the pool” water-polo match semi-final between Hungary and Russia. Russia had recently invaded Hungary and the Hungarian men’s team were out for some physical revenge as well as going on to win the title. Chris Brasher, joint London Marathon founder, was unexpected winner of the 3000m steeplechase, and French Algerian, Alain Mimoun, much decorated in WW2 and badly injured at Monte Cassino fighting for the Allies, at last beat the great Emile Zatopek to win the marathon gold.

Meantime Angus from the fifties had many irons in the fire. He was invited by the BBC to write and present a documentary from Carradale on the other side of the Mull, 20 miles north, on herring fishing. That was for Children’s Hour. Subsequently he provided the BBC with more than 500 radio and TV scripts, many of them for children’s programmes based on his own novels. The only one of these I remember reading was “Dinny Smith Comes Home”. I do remember well listening in to his “Lost Planet” science fiction series on the radio.

In the 1950’s he scripted “The Glens of Glendale” which ran for 117 episodes on Radio Scotland. It featured a minister, played by Alex Allan, brother of the Rev Tom Allan, leader of the evangelistic Tell Scotland movement. On top of all this he was the scriptwriter for the local Dunaverty Amateur Drama Club, wrote seven plays and made several long bus trips with them round the top of the Mull to compete in the all-Scotland Amateur Drama contests.

Angus died in 2001 at the venerable age of 93. He has been sadly missed but left us a rich treasury of stories, anecdotes and memories. Many of these are still available in book or Kindle form. Although he never became a Minister, he was a committed Elder as long as he was able.

**An amusing anecdote from “Bees in my bonnet”
originally published in 1982.**

“One day, in his vestry before the morning service, the minister was approached by one of his elders, an aged farmer who was almost stone deaf.

“Minister, wad ye intimate that last nicht I lost a young cattle beast frae the laich meadow?”

“All right, John”

“An’ wad ye ask the folk tae keep a guid look oot for her?”

“Certainly”

“An seein’ I’m a wee bit deaf, wad ye gi’e the pulpit a bit dirl when ye mak’ the intimation, so as I’ll ken ye’ve done it?”

“I’ll do that John, don’t worry “.

The time for the “Intimations” came. The Minister began with an announcement that a new district nurse had been appointed. “I hope,” he said, “that she will receive from all of us the warmest of welcomes. Our parish has the reputation of being one of the kindest and most hospitable. Let us remember this when a young and somewhat inexperienced girl enters the community”. And to emphasize the point he struck his hand hard on the pulpit board.

Sitting in the front pew, hearing nothing, old John saw the gesture and took it for the promised ‘dir!’ Excitedly he rose to his feet.

“An’ ye’ll ken her fine if ye see her” he told an entranced congregation

“She’s got a big broon spot on her belly an’ she’s in calf!”

Bill MacDonald

A Devotional

Read Psalm 113

Consider:

How great God is. He is exalted over all the nations – and, therefore, over all earthly rulers, no matter how powerful they appear to be. He sits enthroned in glory, high above the heavens. He *stoops* to look on the heavens and the earth – His creation!

Pictures sent back from space by the Hubble telescope show the Cone Nebula, 2,500 light years from earth and the Tadpole Galaxy a staggering 450 million light years away. Distances like that are, to most people, utterly incomprehensible, yet God created these things and stoops to look at them.

How small we try to make God at times in order to try to understand Him, and how great, far beyond our comprehension, He really is.

And yet: -

He is not remote

He sees and cares for and loves us as individuals –

raising the poor and needy

meeting our needs

desiring that we have a personal relationship with Him.

No wonder the psalmist begins and ends the psalm with a call for people to praise the Lord.

Pray –

Almighty God,

There is no way we can comprehend your greatness, glory, majesty. Forgive us when we try to bring you down to a level we can understand.

Help us to simply bow in awe and reverence before you and praise you for who you are.

How we thank you, however, that you do not remain aloof, remote. You not only stoop down to look on us, you actually came down to earth in the person of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you that, through faith in Him, we can know forgiveness of our sin and have a personal relationship with you.

Thank you for your individual care and love for each one of us – for me.
Praise you, Lord. Amen.

Dr Catherine M Robertson

Harvest Photos

I asked a few people if they had a harvest themed photograph of the local area suitable for the front cover of the harvest edition of *The Link* magazine. I had lots to choose from, so it was a difficult decision which one to choose. So, rather than disappoint those who took the effort to send them, I thought we could all enjoy them on this page. Many thanks to all who contributed.



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!

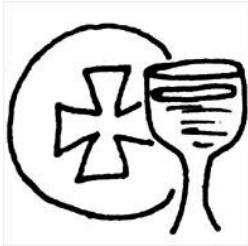
**Each Thursday 10.00 to 11.30 am
at Rosewell Church Hall**

LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH NEWS

www.lasswadchurch.co.uk

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

Sacrament of Holy Communion



**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
will be celebrated at**

**Rosewell Parish Church
at 10.00 a.m. on Sunday 7th September.**

**You are warmly invited to share in this
important part of the life of the Church.**

Toy Gift Service:

Again, we will be supporting the Salvation Army's Toy Gift Appeal at our service at Rosewell on Sunday 7th December. Please, if you can, bring along unwrapped gifts suitable for children and teenagers. Your support is much appreciated.

BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL 2025

It is time once again to start thinking about filling a shoebox – the articles do not need to be expensive but are appreciated whatever the gift. It will take the usual form of shoeboxes for all ages male/female – toiletries, toothpaste/ brush,



comb/brush, socks/tights, cosy hat/scarf/gloves, underwear, pjs, t-shirt, pens/pencils, notepads/colouring books, etc. small toy (new) sweets (no chocolate or loose sweets) etc.

It is sometimes nice to include a Christmas/Greeting card from 'a friend in Scotland'.

Please do not feel you have to fill a box - loose donations will be welcome and will be incorporated.

Leaflets are available at both Lasswade and Rosewell churches giving details of suitable items. **Once filled please bring them along on Saturday 11th October to Rosewell Church Hall between 10.00 a.m. and 12 noon.**

Please contact Dorothy Spence (07445 139 138) if any further details are required.

Blythswood have been on the go for many years, work all the year round, have a base in many of the Eastern European Countries, so please be assured; these donations will go directly to the right destinations!!

Let's make it as big a total of boxes as we can and thank you for your support.

Coffee Mornings:

The popular Coffee Mornings in Rosewell Church Hall, every second Saturday from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon, offer an opportunity to catch up with friends over a coffee or tea, scones and cakes.



Harvest Service Invitation



We extend a warm invitation to join us at our Harvest Service on **Sunday 14th September** at **10.00 a.m.** at Lasswade Parish Church.

All gifts of non-perishable food, coffee, teabags, diluting fruit juice, toiletry and household cleaning items donated by the congregation, will be distributed to the Midlothian Food Bank.

Your support is very much appreciated.



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 6th September, 4th October, 1st November and 6th December 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

Sweet Potato and Parsnip Soup

Ingredients:

2 sweet potatoes peeled and chopped,
4 parsnips peeled and chopped,
1 large onion peeled and chopped,
1 tablespoon oil,
1 ½ pints vegetable stock approx.



Method:

Heat oil in deep pan, add vegetables and allow to soften without colouring. Add stock, bring to the boil, and allow to simmer for 20 – 30 mins until all veg are soft. Allow to cool slightly and then liquidise. Return to pan, adjust seasoning and re-heat. Can be frozen. Enjoy!!!!

Lasswade Church Flower Rota

Each time I prepare a Lasswade Church flower rota, I prepare it with the knowledge that all the dates may not be required.

I am so grateful for the kind offers of help.

Thank you to everyone who has been part of the flower rota at Lasswade without you, there would be no flowers to enhance our beautiful building. Without you there would be no flowers to distribute after each service.

September 14th

Harvest

September 28th

Margaret Gordon

Eleanor Marshall

October 12th

October 26th

Anne Pryde

Dorothy Spence

November 9th

Remembrance Sunday

November 23rd

Joan Campbell

Sheila Turner

December 14th

December 28th

Pat Lawrie

Sandra Thomson

Thank you,

Moirra Dryden

Rosewell Church Flower Rota

September 7th

September 21st

Ella Thomson

Vacant

October 5th

October 19th

Kenny Wight

Eleanor Marshall

November 2nd

November 16th

Una Warden

Moirra Campbell

December 7th

December 21st

Morag Rennie

Sandra Ross

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

Thank you,

Sandra Ross

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

Bible Quiz

JOHN 3:16-17

*Find the below bold words in the puzzle.
Words may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal,
forwards or backwards, and may overlap.*

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

For **GOD** so **LOVED** the world that he **GAVE** his one and **ONLY SON**, that **WHOEVER BELIEVES** in him shall not **PERISH** but have **ETERNAL LIFE**. For God did not **SEND** his Son into the world to **CONDEMN** the **WORLD**, but to **SAVE** the world through him.

Share your news, views, or ideas in the Christmas Issue of “*The Link*”. Send them to Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk by Sunday, 9th November 2025.



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