

Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Christmas 2022



Church of Scotland

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From the Minister ...

Like many of you, it's taken a while for me to get used to the idea of going out to things in Edinburgh after all the restrictions of Covid. But recently, I went along to my old school and the annual lecture there, which took place in person again this year for the first time since 2019.

The speaker this year was Professor Mike Stroud OBE, whose lecture was entitled: "From Ice to Dust: Extreme Medicine". Mike Stroud is a Hospital Consultant Physician, perhaps best known for his expeditions with Sir Ranulph Fiennes, but he is also an author, motivational speaker and world authority on expedition medicine, human endurance and the benefits of healthy lifestyles.

His lecture gave a fascinating account of some of the many expeditions and races in which he has taken part, in both cold and hot climates. He and Ranulph Fiennes made several unsuccessful attempts to travel unsupported, on foot, to the North Pole but they then switched to Antarctica and the South Pole, where in 1992-3 they broke several records when completing the first unaided walk across the continent. At the time, this was the longest unsupported walk in history.

Mike's continuing interest in extreme challenges has led him to take part in ultra-distance races including the first two 800 km 'Eco-Challenge' multi-sport adventure races in 1995-6 and the completion in 2003, with Sir Ranulph, of seven full marathons, on seven continents in seven days. Some of us will be exhausted just thinking about it!

It was astounding to hear about Mike's many accomplishments, facing so many tough challenges in the adventures he had undertaken. He admitted that when on an expedition and really struggling, for example to face pulling his sled across the Antarctic ice for another gruelling 12-hour day, he would

say to himself: "I'm never going to do this again!". But then, when Sir Ranulph would come on the phone a while later with the next offer of a new adventure, he would be there! And then, not long into that challenge, he would find himself saying: "I said I was never going to do this again! Why am I here?!"

However, in the course of the many expeditions, races and adventures that Mike Stroud has undertaken with different companions, truly remarkable goals have been reached, huge amounts of money have been raised for charity, and an enormous amount has been learned through the research carried out along the way on human endurance, nutrition and survival under extreme conditions. Only in making the journeys, would all of these things have been accomplished.

Thinking about the journeys Mike has made and the challenges he faced, it set me



thinking, as we approach Christmas, about the most remarkable journey ever made - Jesus, God's Son, coming into our world as a tiny infant. In his coming, we see, amazingly, the eternal God take on human being with all the risk, challenge and suffering that would entail

Why would God put himself through that? The answer is - because God is Love and there are no limits to which God will not go in order to make known his love for us. His love is truly limitless.



As Sally Nelson writes in the introduction to this season's *Encounter with God* (Scripture Union Bible notes): "Love can be frightening *because of its* limitless character. Parents will sacrifice themselves for their children; friends will stand back and allow others to succeed, because of love."

And Jesus gave up everything to come amongst us and show us God's presence and love. He gave up everything to journey on through his life and ministry to the cross. And there he gave up his very life so that all the wrong of the world be taken away and a path to forgiveness and lasting life be offered to each of us through faith in him.

Such limitless love is a wonderful gift and hope offered to us. And learning to express limitless love is the way to which we are all called if we follow Jesus. Just like embarking on a momentous expedition, it demands everything from us. But if in every corner of our globe, we were all to practise such love towards each other, then we would find that we would also be given everything we need by others. That is the beautiful world God intended and intends through Jesus's coming.

This Advent and Christmas, may our hearts and minds be opened to see in new ways God's deep, deep love for us. And may we be inspired to join in causing that love to ripple out near and far, to bring the lasting light and hope of Christmas into our world.

With every blessing for a peaceful and hopeful
Christmas,

Your minister, **Lorna**



Cockpen and Carrington Parish Church

From the Church Registers

Baptisms

21 August 2022

Noah LIDDLE
By Rev'd Lorna Souter

7 September 2022

Leigh SNEDDON

7 September 2022

Michael DYER
Performed in the Manse Garden by
Rev'ds Lorna Souter and Louise Purdon

Weddings

20 August 2022 Fraser GILBERT to Rebecca WEATHERHEAD

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

Bereavements

24 September 2022

Joyce STOCKS

We remember the families in our prayers.

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 2023

<p>January</p> <p>1 Mary Logan 8 Cathie Fisher 15 Pat Grindlay 22 John Adamson 29 Joint Service at Rosewell</p>	<p>March</p> <p>5 Maria Hall 12 John Adamson 19 Cathie Fisher 26 Sandra Crawford</p>
<p>February</p> <p>5 Karen Brown 12 Liz Mills 19 Joyce Black 26 Sandra Crawford</p>	<p>April</p> <p>2 Liz Mills 9 Nancy Richardson 16 Liz MacDonald 23 Mary Logan 30 Joint Service at Lasswade</p>

Many thanks to everyone for their donations to the Flower Fund. These flowers are so much appreciated by those attending church each Sunday and all the grateful people who receive them after worship to enjoy in their own homes.



Please contact me on 663 8517 or see Liz Mills in Church if you have any queries.

Nancy

SERVICES NOVEMBER 2022 TO APRIL 2023

DATE	LASSWADE & ROSEWELL (10.00 am)	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am)
27 November Advent 1	The Minister – Lasswade All-age service	The Minister All-age service
4 December Advent 2	The Minister – Rosewell Toy Gift Service	The Minister Toy Gift Service
11 December Advent 3	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister 3pm – Service of Remembering
18 December Advent 4	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister 7pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Saturday 24 December Christmas Eve	Christingle Service Rosewell – 6pm	Watchnight Service Cockpen & Carrington 11:20pm
25 December Christmas Day	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister
1 January 2023	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister
8 January	The Minister – Lasswade Communion Service	The Minister
15 January	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister
22 January	The Minister – Lasswade All-age Service	The Minister All-age Service
22 January	Parish Grouping Joint Service for Cockpen & Carrington, Lasswade & Rosewell and Bonnyrigg Church Lasswade Leisure Centre at 6.30 pm	
29 January	Joint Service in Rosewell Church at 10.00 am led by Worship Team	
5 February	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister Communion Service
12 February	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister
19 February	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister
26 February 1st in Lent	The Minister – Lasswade All-age Service	The Minister All-age Service
Friday 3 March	World Day of Prayer Service at 7.00 pm at St Leonard's Church	
5 March 2nd in Lent	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister
12 March 3rd in Lent	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister
19 March 4th in Lent	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister
26 March 5th in Lent	The Minister – Lasswade All-age Service	The Minister All-age Service
2 April	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister

Palm Sunday	Communion Service	
9 April	The Minister – Lasswade	The Minister
Easter Sunday		
16 April	The Minister – Rosewell	The Minister
23 April	The Minister – Lasswade All-age Service	The Minister
30 April	Joint Service Lasswade Church at 10.00 am	

Holy Week Services Monday 3 April to Friday 7 April 2023 - tbc

Introducing Parish Grouping for Cockpen & Carrington, Lasswade & Rosewell and Bonnyrigg Church – ‘Bonnyrigg United’

As we continue with the Presbytery Mission Plan for our local area, we can look forward to joining together more, step by step, in a parish grouping with the Rev Louise Purden and the congregation at Bonnyrigg Church.

We have already begun to work together in exciting ways this last year through the Holiday Club run last February half-term, and also running an Alpha Course together from February to April.

As we continue to come together gradually as a parish grouping, we are planning to have a number of joint services through the year when we all meet for worship and fellowship. The first of these will be on Sunday 22nd January at 6.30 pm at the Lasswade Leisure Centre and will hopefully be a special occasion together.

Also, next year, we will look forward to running the Holiday Club again in the February half-term from Monday 13th to Wednesday 15th February, 10.00 am till 12.30 pm for children aged 4-12 years old, with an Arctic Explorer theme this time!

We can look forward to sharing these things together to encourage each other and share resources in reaching out in our community.

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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 session clerk.

GUILD NEWS

The Guild's new session got off to a good start with a very enjoyable talk by our minister Lorna, on this year's theme of *Wee Seeds and Big Trees*. It is always interesting to hear the different thoughts and understanding by others on a topic and Lorna explained how she thought the theme could help us work towards grow in faith and we didn't do too badly in the quiz she had prepared for us. We shall have to wait a while though to find out who has nurtured their acorn planted that day with any success.

Our first evening meeting had the members transported "online" to Copenhagen to see taste and learn about the city and Danish culture thanks to Catherine Devlin.

Earlier this week of writing we had an open meeting to allow as many as possible to hear a unique presentation from Graeme Hawley who explained with humour, pathos, and enthusiasm how the book titles of some of the thousands of publications in the general Collections held in the National Libraries for Scotland under his care illustrate what a wonderful world and life we have to enjoy and appreciate.

We are preparing decorations for our Christmas tree and in December being guided by Joyce Thompson on card making.

The Guild Carol Party will be held on **Monday 12th December at 7.30 pm.**, to which all are warmly invited.

A FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES

Please support our new venture by popping down to the church at Cockpen to view the Christmas Trees decorated by the local parish schools and youth organisations, groups that meet within the Church Hall and several congregational groups. The trees will reflect the nature of each group participating and should be a lovely sight to behold in such a lovely space. With background music we hope the event will bring much needed Festive joy.

The Cockpen and Carrington Church will be open for viewing the trees from 3-5pm on Friday 9th December and 12 noon – 4pm on Saturday 10th December.

Yard by Yard

Yard by yard
they stormed the beach,
while brothers fell
from guns far out of reach.

There was no withdraw,
there was no retreat,
just a hail of bullets
and a blood-soaked beach.

Move forward or die,
the order was given —
the beach is a graveyard,
no place for the living.

So, we crawled forward,
our faces in the sand,
prayed for salvation
by God's mighty hand;

and triumphed we did
by the end of the day;
but so many lost
on the longest day.

Life and Work Magazine

If you would like to place an order for this magazine or cancel your current order please contact me as soon as possible on 0131 663 6546. The cost from January is £42 per annum.

Wilma.

Thanks

Many thanks to everyone who left old spectacles in the box provided at Church. They have now been taken to the Opticians where they were gratefully received and will, in due course, be sent to countries to help people less fortunate than us.

Wilma

Sunday After Church Tea Rota

We will be having teas and coffees after the morning service on the following dates:

22nd January	Mary Logan	Betty Finlay
19th February	Moira Scott	Vi Gibson
19th March	Liz MacDonald	Dot Scott
23rd April	Helen Renton	Wilma Sweeney

Blythwood Shoebox Appeal

Sincere thanks to everyone who again took the time to prepare and fill a shoebox for the Blythwood Appeal. It is a delight to see that everyone continues to support this appeal and remember those year after year who are disadvantaged.

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON CHURCH – CHRISTMAS MUSIC 2022

Christmas has become rather a nervous season for the choir and myself, after two years of cancellations - and at the very last minute, in the case of the '9 Lessons' planned for last year. Will it finally take place this time? We can only move forward in a spirit of hope for a return to our happy Christmas celebrations of past years. With fingers crossed therefore this is the Christmas programme we are hoping to present:

Wednesday 7 December

One of the choir's longest-serving members, Betty Miller, has recently moved to Springfield Bank, along with her husband George. We thought it would be a nice way to mark the start of the Christmas season for a few of the choir to join the regular service held there by the Minister and sing some carols, taking place at 2 pm. Not an event for the congregation at large therefore but an important part of our contribution to the season, nonetheless.

Monday 12 December

Our season proper will start with the always popular **Guild Carol Party** - one of the few events which actually took place last year - which as ever will be held at 7.30 in the church hall. While this is first and foremost an evening for all to enjoy singing a selection of the best-loved Christmas carols it will also be an opportunity to hear the choir's own repertoire for this year. I'm sure that as always the refreshments provided will be one of the main attractions of the evening! This is of course an open event, and all will be made welcome.

Sunday 18 December

After falling at the final fence last year (and no Christmas services at all the previous one) I'm sure many will be looking forward to this year's **Service of 9 Lessons and Carols**, our candle-lit celebration of the season. The choir's contribution this year will have as often have an international angle, as in addition to two traditional carols from different parts of England we will be singing items from opposite ends of the globe, namely Norway and New Zealand. The last of these, 'O Little

Star', is an arrangement of my own of a melody I came across by a local New Zealand composer, Colin Gibson. To broaden things further, I will be concluding the service with a recently composed 'Festive Toccata' by the French-Canadian organist, Denis Bédard.

This service is always a special occasion and we do hope as many as possible will come to share the music and fellowship. Please note that the service will start at **7 pm**.

Saturday 24 December

For many years past (but not of course the last two years) the choir has sung carols on Christmas Eve at Dalhousie Castle and other venues.

At the time of writing, it remains to be seen whether any of these events will take place this time round. What is certainly planned though is our traditional **Watchnight Service**, taking place as always at **11.20 pm**. While this was one service which did go ahead last year, choir participation was not permitted so this year we will really be looking forward to contributing once again, performing an unusual setting of

'O little town of Bethlehem', which while written by a British composer has a feel of the 'barber shop' tradition of the US. This and the usual programme of carols for all the congregation will take us up to the ringing of the church bell marking the arrival of Christmas Day. Let's hope the weather will not be too challenging!

Sunday 25 December

Christmas of course falls on a Sunday this year so our morning service will be taking place as always at 11.30 am, probably with something of a family theme.

Finally, can I conclude with a reminder that the **Cockpen & Carrington Choir CD**, 'Sing, Church of God!' remains available and as it contains a large proportion of Christmas music makes an excellent seasonal gift, not least at its modest price! If you would like a copy, please just contact myself or any member of the choir.

GMB

Knit and Natter

The Knit and Natter is once again meeting in the hall on a Thursday from 1.30 to 3.30pm. I am really pleased to say that this group is really going from strength to strength with an average of 27 people attending on a weekly basis. Our work travels far and wide making new friends and connections also. Receiving letters like this is always appreciated.

From: David May

Subject: David May St. Mary's Church Richmond Va USA

Date: 26 October 2022 18:32:48 BST

To: Liz. F. Mills

Dear Liz,

A member of our parish, Jan Betts, has a sister who lives near you. Apparently you were both at lunch together one day when Jan's sister described how women in our parish knit baby blankets to present to families when their babies are baptized. Well, apparently, one thing led to the other and you and a group you are a part of (Knitters and Natters!) decided to knit blankets for us! God bless you all! As it ends up, we received eight beautiful blankets from the Knitters and Natters just when we needed them. We are baptizing seven little ones this coming All Saints Sunday and we – somehow – had run out of blankets to give. So you came to the rescue maybe even if you didn't know that's what you were doing!

I thank God for you, Liz, and for all the beautiful souls who make up the Knitters and Natters! Thank you so very much for this act of generosity and kindness – something our world needs a lot more of!

I send you greeting from all the people of St. Mary's! We will be thinking about you and your beautiful gifts on All Saints Sunday in particular. May God bless each of you, always!

David+

The Rev. David H. May, Rector
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
12291 River Road
Richmond, VA 23238
804/784-5678

Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal Sunday 4th December

We will again be supporting the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal when children's toys, books, games, and sweets are collected from members of the congregation. Also required are toiletries or gifts for teenagers.

These presents should be brought to the Church on 4th December **unwrapped** and will be delivered to the Salvation Army the following day.

Used Stamps

Please leave any British or foreign stamps you may collect over the Christmas period in the box in the vestibule at church or the box in the Church Hall.

Dorothy Bennett

Christmas Coffee Morning

A Christmas Coffee Morning with Tombola, home baking, and Christmas goods will be held in the hall on Saturday 19th November between 10am and 12noon.

Bright Ideas Required

In the last issue of the link I mentioned the situation we find ourselves in regarding the current Presbytery Plan, the result of which means we have to decide between keeping the Church or the Hall.

The Kirk Session propose to try and keep the Church as their preference, however we are keen to hear from members of the Congregation and local communities as to what facilities are needed, and how the church building could be adapted to suit these, on days it is not used for worship.(i.e. most days!)

We are looking to engage an Architects firm to carry out a feasibility study of what alterations might be possible to adapt the church building for more general use.

As many of you know the building and area well, we invite you to consider how you feel we could adapt the church to become a more accessible building for more general use.

As a guideline we accept the interior may need considerable alteration including the possible removal of the current pew seating arrangement, and segregation of one or more areas.

If you have any views or feel you, or anyone you know would like to make suggestions please do get in touch with anyone involved with the Church (See the Who's Who page) or by emailing contact@church.cockpen.co.uk

Willie Tulloch.

The Way the Truth and the Life

Jesus said 'I am the way the Truth and the Life, no one comes to the father except through me'.

Life may seem out of control at times, and we do not always know exactly which path to take but the closer we walk with God, the clearer we see his guidance.

I firmly believe that we, the Congregation of Cockpen and Carrington Church, know where our future lies.

Our church sits in an unique position on crossroads just to the south of the town, having occupied the same prominent position for over 200 years having always existed for the benefit of people in the surrounding community at their time of greatest need.

Our congregation embraces and welcomes all the new housing developments which now surrounds our church. We extend the hand of Christian Fellowship to all the new residents, invites them to join with us in fellowship and in the worship of God.

In addition, we are planning a building programme to develop our church building for the future needs of the community and to adapt it for more multipurpose use. Once completed these facilities will be made available for all in the wider community.

Our mission and our prayer is that despite the current upheaval in the church, the Lord will, as he has promised, build his church in ways that may surprise us, bringing about a growing gospel church, securely founded on Christ, faithful in preaching the Bible and vibrant in Spiritual Life, Worship, Witness and Service all for the glory of God.

Cockpen and Carrington Church is dependent on the faithful service of all it's members.

Your church needs you all now more than ever.

Our trust is in our risen and reigning Lord Jesus Christ.

Jim Young

LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH NEWS ...

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

Marking Advent in Church wouldn't be the same without the magic of our Advent Wreath mysteriously appearing marking a countdown to Christmas. The Advent candles represent the fragile light of hope amidst the deep dark of the season. As Christ's Advent or "coming" draws nearer, a new candle is lit each week, combining with the candle of the passing week.

INVITATION

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated
in Lasswade Church
on Sunday 8th January 2023 at 10.00 a.m.
You are warmly invited to share in this important part of
the life of the Church

CHURCH REGISTER

Bereavements

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

Miss Mary Sharpe - 12th August 2022
Mr Loui Gracie - 25th August 2022
Mr William Robertson - 8th September 2022

Jesus said 'I am the Resurrection and the Life

Harvest Donations:

Very grateful thanks to all who contributed so generously in making Harvest donations of food items, toiletries and cleaning materials which were handed into the Midlothian Food Bank and your generosity was much appreciated by the Manager and the Team.

The Alternative Christmas Gift List!

(No queuing to buy them and no wrapping needed)

Put **Love** at the top of your gift list
For those who are hard to please,
It's a present that all will enjoy
And it can be given - with ease.

Give **Kindness** to those who are lonely,
And if this gift should be returned,
Then you shall be surely rewarded,
For kindness should never be spurned.

Give **Understanding** to those not knowing
What it's like to be understood,
To help share another one's burden
Makes life worthwhile and good.

Give **Praise** to those down-trodden,
With problems and cares of the day,
Uplifting words and a handshake
Will surely lighten the way.

Give **Encouragement** to those discouraged,
A smile instead of a frown
Will help one who is lonesome
To look up - instead of down.
These gifts do not have a price tag,
Not one penny is the cost to you.
Yet, when they are freely given,
They will last a whole lifetime through.

Coffee Mornings:

On the second Saturday of each month a Coffee Morning is held in Rosewell Church Hall from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. Everyone is most welcome for a chance to meet new people, catch up with friends and enjoy some delicious home baking.



BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL 2022

A big thank you to everyone who donated to this year's appeal. We sent off 51 filled and decorated shoe boxes and bags.

Despite the difficulties that they face every day through poverty, illness, disability, or other disadvantages, receiving a shoebox brings such joy to children and adults in Eastern Europe that their faces light up with huge smiles.



'Warm Space' at Rosewell Church Hall



Every Wednesday morning from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon.

Anyone from the community who would appreciate some warmth, company and a hot drink and snack are most welcome (there is NO cost).

Please do come along and if you bring a thermos flask, we can fill it up for you to take home.

Reflections In Glass

I am privileged to show visitors round St. Giles' Cathedral and in doing so I spend a little time talking about a few of the magnificent stained-glass windows. The Great East Window, executed by the Edinburgh firm of James Ballantine and Son - the same family firm who executed the Memorial Windows and the Dove Window in Lasswade Church - reflects on the Crucifixion, the Ascension, and the Heavenly Host. In the Crucifixion lights there is a mother and child whose hands stretch beyond the borders of the window as if to draw those who are looking at the window into the incident being carried out. Interestingly, while the face of the child is facing outwards towards those who are looking at the window, the face of the mother is drawn towards what is happening.

The Great North Window (my favourite) portrays Christ stilling the storm in the upper lights and walking on the water, when all is calm, in the lower lights, with a rainbow, a promise of God, in the tracery. The artist was Douglas Strachan who lived in Pittendreich House, Lasswade and who was Scotland's greatest stained-glass artist of his time. Dr. Strachan has vividly captured the faces of the frightened fishermen as they strive to save their boat. This is not Dr. Strachan's only window in St. Giles'. He was the artist of the East Window in the Thistle Chapel which depicts Saint Andrew, Scotland's Patron Saint, and Patron Saint of the Order of the Thistle, with his nets and basket of fish. The artist has also painted the Shield of the Lion Rampant with the words "Nemo Me Impune Lacessit".

Dr. Strachan was also the artist of the lantern which hangs in the Chambers Aisle and which shows Saints Andrew, Giles, Ninian and Columba and I believe this was a gift from Dr. and Mrs. Strachan who worshipped at St. Giles. In the South Clerestory the windows showing St. Giles with his hind and with a spear being driven through his hand together with the seal and chapter of St. Giles and the one of Edwin, King of Northumbria are by Douglas Strachan as are the widows in the North Clerestory depicting St. Raphael and St. Michael and also the Good Samaritan. In the Good Samaritan window there are three people shown - one is walking away but another is tending to the traveller.

The Great West Window is interesting. The artist is a man from Iceland, Leifur Breidfjord, and it is a Memorial Window to Robert Burns and portrays three aspects of the Poet's character - Nature, the Brotherhood of Man with a chain linking people together, and Love with the rays of the

Sun round a red rose. However, there is a figure of a man, thought to be Robert Burns, but you only see the back of his head. Mr. Breidfjord had done his homework on Robert Burns before he started on this window and came to the conclusion that, as the Poet challenged a lot of the church's principles, he was not a church man. For that reason, Robert Burns is shown as looking away from the church, rather than looking to the inside. Robert Burns' poems reflect many Christian beliefs and practices and perhaps Mr. Breidfjord's assessment is unfair. No matter how supportive or loyal we are to an institution we have the right to voice our concern on matters with which we do not agree but that does not make us ante whatever.

If you have a free moment, go into St. Giles' and have a look at these - and the other - windows and if you stand under the organ and look directly across the Church you will see Douglas Strachan's Great North Window in all its splendour, particularly if the sun is shining. Outside, at the east end of the Church (ie the Mercat Cross end) leading into Parliament Square you see the exterior walls of the Thistle Chapel. You can see a statue of Saint Andrew, with angels holding his cross and crown and Andrew is clutching two fish. Under each window are the armorial bearings of the Knights of the Thistle who were around in 1911 when the Chapel was completed.

I have referred several times to Saint Andrew and as 30th November draws near it is worthwhile, once again, to reflect on this quiet man who obeyed the summons to follow Jesus and who, over the next few years, got to know Christ, to walk with Him, to eat with Him and to serve Him and who, at the end of his life, chose a Saltire as his Cross of Crucifixion because he felt unworthy to die on the same form of Cross as his Master. Saint Andrew is Patron Saint of a few countries and what an honour it is for Scotland to be one of those.

HLRD



Messy Church, held in Rosewell Church Hall, begins with a warm welcome so if you have not been to Messy Church for a while, or never been before – please check us out. 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 **3rd December, 4th February, 4th March and 1st April** from 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. It is very informal, full of fun and very friendly. You can find us on Facebook at '**Rosewell Messy Church**'.



Christingle Service at Rosewell Church

On Christmas Eve at 6.00 p.m.

A Christmas Service for all the Family

Everyone Welcome

May the spirit of **Christmas** bring you peace
The gladness of Christmas give you **Hope**
AND

The warmth of Christmas **grant u love**

Happy Christmas

Lasswade & Rosewell Parish Church

Christmas Coffee Morning

In: ROSEWELL CHURCH HALL

On: Saturday 10th December

From 10:00am to 12 noon

Home Baking, Tombola, Raffle,
Christmas Music and Plants.

Tea/Coffee served with Bacon Rolls



Everyone Welcome

Memorial Service

You are warmly invited to a Memorial Service for the late Miss Agnes Anderson on Sunday 4th December at 3.00 p.m. in Rosewell Church.

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH

Jenni, Annabel, and the family join me in thanking so many dear folks who have been so thoughtful and supportive in lovingly remembering Ray.

Many thanks to Lorna for all her care and to the church family for their card and comforting wishes, and to all those who so kindly sent cards and flowers, including those from the Lasswade Primary School children, very much appreciated.

A very special thanks to Herbert for his profound and touching thoughts about Ray in the last issue of The Link, It was full of such fond memories of Ray's life interests and work in the community and especially his love of music enjoyed by so many. Ray loved his membership of Lasswade Church down all the days.

Thank you all again and I look forward to continuing to be a part of our church family in the coming years.

With all good wishes

ALISON BRANCH

Lasswade Flower Rota

At the time of writing, I feel we are surrounded by question marks. I envisage folk walking around with question marks above their heads.

The questions are about many things... health, family, or life in general. These are things which concern us but perhaps if we take time to think and look, the answers may be found in the wonderful world in which we live.

I am very grateful to all the 'Flower Folk', who help to enhance the beauty of the church. Some of these folk have provided flowers for many years.

I would greatly appreciate some new names to add to the list.

Please contact me if you feel you could provide flowers for a Sunday.

Thank you
Moira Dryden
663 8895

January 8th The Renwick Family
January 22nd Moira Dryden

February 11th Anne Wemyss
February 25th Sheena Blair

March 12th Pat Lawrie
March 26th Cathie Drysdale

April 9th EASTER
April 23rd Marlyn Davidson
April 30th Nita Adams

THE HOLY HIKERS

"The best remedy for a short temper
is a long walk."

Jaqueline Schiff



Well after disappearing into the sunset at the last issue of the "Link", I'm back writing the article for the Christmas Edition. Ann McGrath has taken over as leader of our Walking Group and she has got off to a cracking start with a great programme of walks.

Our September walk was a repeat of one of our favourite walks but in reverse direction from the last time we did it.

Starting from the Bonnyrigg Park as usual, down to Polton village, up to Mavisbank then along to Lasswade returning to the park via Polton Road & Dobbies Road. About 5 miles and the weather was lovely, unlike the last time we walked there.

In October Ann planned something totally different, "The Holy Hikers Treasure Trail of the Old Town". Thirteen of us met at St Giles in Edinburgh. We were given a sheet and a treasure map and tasked with following various clues around the closes of the High Street, the Grassmarket, and the Canongate finishing at The Kilderkin pub for scones and coffee. Nobody won outright but it was a fun day in the busy Royal Mile which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. The November walk is going to be around Roslin led by Hilary and Glen.

Our other walks for next year have still to be confirmed,

Happy Hiking

Jim Scott.

Christmas Word Search

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



ANGEL
 MERRY
 SEASON
 WREATH
 RUDOLPH
 GINGERBREAD

STAR
 BELLS
 CHIMNEY
 GIFT
 SANTA
 TREE

CHRISTMAS
 CANDLES
 ORNAMENTS
 CARDS
 ELVES
 CAROL



Share your news, views, or ideas in the Easter Issue of "The Link" send them to Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk by Sunday, 5th March 2023.

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