

Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Parish Churches

Christmas 2023



Church of Scotland

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SERVICES DECEMBER 2023 TO APRIL 2024

| DATE | LASSWADE & ROSEWELL (10.00 am) | COCKPEN & CARRINGTON (11.30 am) |
|--|--|--|
| 3 December Advent 1 | The Minister – Rosewell Toy Gift Service | The Minister Toy Gift Service |
| 10 December Advent 2 | The Minister – Lasswade Service of Remembering 3pm – Lasswade | The Minister |
| 17 December Advent 3 | The Minister – Rosewell All-age Service | The Minister – All-age Service Nine Lessons and Carols 7pm |
| 24 December Advent 4 Christmas Eve | The Minister – Lasswade Christingle Service – 6pm – Rosewell | The Minister Watchnight Service – 11:20pm – Cockpen |
| 31 December First Sunday of Christmas | Joint Service Lasswade Church at 10 am | |
| 7 January 2024 The Baptism of Jesus | The Minister – Rosewell | The Minister |
| 14 January 2nd Sunday of Epiphany | The Worship Team – Lasswade | The Worship Team |
| 21 January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany | The Minister – Rosewell All-age Service | The Minister All-age Service – Baptism |
| 21 January | Parish Grouping Joint Service for Cockpen & Carrington, Lasswade & Rosewell and Bonnyrigg Parish Churches in Lasswade Leisure Centre at 3.00 pm | |
| 28 January 4th Sunday of Epiphany | The Minister – Lasswade Communion Service | The Lay Pastor |
| 4 February 2nd Sunday before Lent | The Lay Pastor – Rosewell | The Minister Communion Service |
| 11 February The Sunday before Lent | The Minister – Lasswade | The Minister |
| 18 February First Sunday of Lent | The Minister – Rosewell All-age Service | The Minister All-age Service |
| 25 February Second Sunday of Lent | The Minister – Lasswade | The Minister |
| Friday 1 March | World Day of Prayer Service at 7.00 pm at Our Lady of Consolation Church | |
| 3 March | The Minister – Rosewell | The Minister |

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Third Sunday of Lent | | |
| 10 March Fourth Sunday of Lent <i>Mothering Sunday</i> | The Minister – Lasswade | The Minister |
| 17 March Fifth Sunday of Lent | The Minister – Rosewell All-age Service | The Minister All-age Service |
| 24 March Palm Sunday Holy Week | The Minister – Lasswade | The Minister |
| 31 March Easter Day | Joint Service Cockpen & Carrington Church at 11.30 am | |
| 7 April Second Sunday of Easter | The Minister – Rosewell Communion Service | Lay Pastor |
| 14 April Third Sunday of Easter | Worship Team – Lasswade | Worship Team |
| 21 April Fourth Sunday of Easter | The Minister – Rosewell All-age Service | The Minister All-age Service |
| 28 April Fifth Sunday of Easter | The Minister – Lasswade | The Minister |

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

You might like to fill in the information when the services have been decided.

| DAY | CHURCH | TIME |
|-----------|--------|------|
| Monday | | |
| Tuesday | | |
| Wednesday | | |
| Thursday | | |
| Friday | | |

From the Minister ...

As I am writing this for our Christmas magazine, the terrible conflict between Israel and Gaza is raging on and the suffering has been immense. It is not a new conflict, but the tragic levels of violence that have erupted this time seem to have been worse than ever before. Many feel helpless as we look on and see so much destruction and the loss of so many innocent lives. Where will it all end? How can it all end?

As we approach Christmas and the celebration of Jesus's birth once again in Bethlehem, the war between Israel and Gaza hangs like a dark shadow across the Holy Land. Jesus, God's Son, came into the world as 'Prince of Peace'. The angels sang out in the skies: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (Luke 2: 14, King James Version). The heart of Jesus's teaching was that we might be aware of God's immense love for us and so love him in return and learn to love each other as we love ourselves (Matthew 22: 36-40). Why do we as human beings so often find it so hard to be able to do that and ensure each person and family is able to live and blossom in security and wellbeing in the land where they are?

When we are troubled and concerned by these global events that affect so many, we can stand with them in prayers for reconciliation and peace and pray that the resolution that is found will be deep, all-encompassing, and lasting. And we must trust that God's purpose for peace *will* at last prevail as this traditional Christmas carol reminds us:

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good will to you
from heaven's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

But with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angels' hymn have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and warring humankind hears not
the love-song which they bring;
oh, hush the noise and still the strife
to hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet bards foretold,
when, with the ever-rolling years,
still dawns the Age of Gold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876)

With every blessing for a peace-filled Christmas
and hopeful journey into 2024 when it comes,

Your minister, *Lorna*



Holiday Club Feb 2024

**Mon 12th Feb and Tues 13th Feb
10-1pm**

If you're free either/both days and would like to
join the team for holiday club next year
then please **speak to Josh** (07907 437818)

Lots of different skills will be required -
there's always a place in the team for you!



Cockpen and Carrington Parish Church

From the Church Registers

New Member

We welcome to our congregation

Mrs Annie B Clark From Gorebridge

We hope that Anne will feel welcome here with us at Cockpen and Carrington Church.

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

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

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



Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota 2024

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| January | | March | |
| 7 | Mary Logan | 3 | Pat Grindlay |
| 14 | Cathie Fisher | 10 | John Adamson |
| 21 | Ian Fowler | 17 | Cathie Fisher |
| 28 | John Adamson | 24 | Sandra Crawford |
| | | 31 | Anne Clark |
| February | | April | |
| 4 | Lynn Hanson | 7 | Liz Mills |
| 11 | Karen Brown | 14 | Ian Bee |
| 18 | Joyce Black | 21 | Liz MacDonald |
| 25 | Helen Renton | 28 | Mary Logan |

Thank you to everyone who kindly donates to our Flower Fund helping to make things look really special in church every week and bringing so much joy to everyone.

Best wishes to everyone for the Christmas season.

Liz



New Flower Convenor

I am delighted to say that we have managed to fill the vacancy of Flower Convenor.

Anne Clark kindly offered to do some floral arrangements for our Doors Open Day and decorated the church beautifully for Harvest. Anne decided after this that she would be happy to take on the job of ensuring our church always looks beautifully decorated whether it be each Sunday or on special occasions.

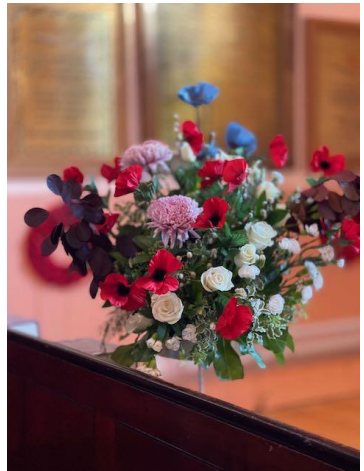
Anne is a trained florist and extremely talented. We do appreciate her taking on this job and we look forward to enjoying her floral arrangements.

I will be working alongside Anne for a little while, until she gets to know everyone and finds her way.

Liz

Anne Clark 07929 446 662

Liz Mills 07875 485 973



WHO'S WHO

MINISTER

The Revd Lorna M Souter MA BD MSc
Email: LSouter@churchofscotland.org.uk

Tel: 0131 663 6392
Mob: 07889 566418

| Office | Cockpen & Carrington | Lasswade & Rosewell |
|--|--|--|
| SESSION CLERK: | Elizabeth [Liz] Mills 07875 485 973 | Dorothy Spence 07445 139 138 |
| CHURCH OFFICER / LOCAL CONTACT: | Ian Bee 07760 176 471 | Andrew Renwick (L) 0131 663 7678 Jimmy Ross (R) 0131 440 3610 |
| TREASURER: | Walter Renton 0131 663 1489 | Pat Lawrie 0131 663 7597 |
| ORGANIST (& CHOIR MASTER): | Graham Burnside 0131 556 1751 | Lasswade - Vacant Kenneth Wight (Rosewell) 0131 663 2777 |
| HALL CARETAKER: | Bill MacDonald 0131 654 1838 E: hall@church.cockpen.co.uk | Eleanor Marshall 0131 660 1029 |
| GIFT AID: | Liz MacDonald 0131 654 1838 | Eleanor Marshall 0131 660 1029 |
| FREEWILL OFFERINGS: | | |
| ROLL-KEEPER: | Dorothy Scott 0131 660 1147 | Ross Lyall 07981 854 829 |
| SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR: | John Adamson 07960 716 015 | Dorothy Spence 07445 139 138 |
| MAGAZINE EDITORS: | John Adamson 07960 716 015 Willie Tulloch 07850 188 812 | |
| | Send any correspondence to: magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk | |
| HEALTH & SAFETY CONTACT: | James Young 07753 376 036 | |
| LIFE AND WORK: | Wilma Sweeney 0131 663 6546 | May Murdoch 0131 663 8454 |
| COMMUNITY YOUTH WORKER | Josh Keay | |

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

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

GUILD NEWS

We have had a lovely time catching up with each other after the summer break and having taken part in the Service of Dedication on Sunday 1st October, Liz and I were more than happy to pass the reins over to Jim and Moira Scott on the Monday for our first afternoon meeting.

Jim chose the reading and hymns, and his programme of songs took us back to when he first started to strum his guitar, then having first Moira to join him and then others over the years. Because of his health issues Jim left Moira to lead us in singing the songs as he accompanied us with keyboard or guitar. However, he was in good fettle that day and could not resist singing as well at times. Despite admitting to a few nerves beforehand he and Moira took as through the many years they as an entertainment Duo had entertained so many audiences until covid and Jim's illness brought things to a halt.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the craic and music so much that I'm sure Jim must have been proud of himself and rightly so.

The first evening Guild brought our minister along to speak on the Guild's theme this year 'New Wine, New Wineskins'. Unfortunately, I was absent that night, but many have told me Lorna was very interesting and engaging. I was also told how much the members appreciated her chatting with them over tea and coffee.

On Wednesday 29th November we are holding a St Andrew's Social - afternoon tea with entertainment provided by Stuart Anderson on his accordion.

Our annual Carol Party, led by our organist Graham Burnside and the choir, will be held on **Monday 11th December in the Church Hall, Dundas Street at 7.30 pm** and is open to ALL.

With other good speakers booked for November and December we have a lot to look forward to and if you would like to join us please do.

Helen and Liz.

The Guild Syllabus

Our Syllabus until Easter

1st Monday of each month except January at 2pm
3rd Monday of each month except January at 7.30pm

2023

- Oct. 2nd. The Songs We Love So Well - Jim and Moira Scott
Oct. 16th Guild Theme - Rev. Lorna Souter
Nov. 6th Red Dot Radio – Jim Ruxton
Nov. 20th Africa Charity Talk – Mairi Collie
Nov. 29th St. Andrews Social – Stuart Anderson
Dec. 4th Therapet - Sandy and Elaine Christie
Dec. 11th Carol Party – Graham Burnside & The Choir

2024

- Feb. 5th Jacobite Tales – Maureen and Tom Kelly
Feb. 19th Newbattle Bee Keepers
Mar. 4th Armchair workout
Mar. 18th Kazunu Village of Hope – Vine Trust

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|---|
| <p>The Guild Carol Party will be held on Monday 11th December at 7.30 pm., to which all are warmly invited.</p> |
|---|

Tea and Toast Morning

Our Tea and Toast morning on 21st October once again proved to be very popular despite the rather wet and blustery weather and raised the sum of £735.

Life and Work Magazine

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

The cost is £42 per annum.

Wilma.

Lighting the Church Red for Remembrance

Once again Cockpen and Carrington Church was lit up red for Remembrance weekend. A faithful group of helpers braved the elements – cold and rain, to light up the church for Remembrance weekend. We were there Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening to light up our beautiful church building in red to remember those who had given their lives in the two World Wars, and other conflicts. Built in 1820, the Cockpen Church Building has survived both great wars. If only those walls could talk I'm sure there would be many stories to tell, of both sad and joyous occasions.

My family have been associated with this building for many years with Great Grandparents and Great Aunts and Uncles buried in the graveyard of the old ground adjoining the church. This building has stood testament to all the changes seen in the intervening time since the first stone was laid just over 200 years ago. Despite the changes seen in those years the one thing that has remained constant is the faith of the people who have entered the church and sought spiritual sustenance from the many ministers who have preached the gospel there. The Church (of Scotland) is going through a period of major change, and we don't know what the future holds for many buildings, however, we do have a future; and we give thanks for the men and women who gave their lives in the great wars so that we could have the future that was denied to them. Lest We Forget.
JA



Blythswood Shoebox Appeal



Once again many have filled a shoebox for this wonderful cause with a selection of items that I am sure will be much appreciated and bring a smile to many faces – young and old.

Along with the many boxes hats and scarfs have also been knitted for children and adults and many cash donations were received.

Share a Christmas Card

It has been observed that hundreds of Christmas Cards are exchanged between members of our Church Family over the Christmas period.

While this is a nice gesture it is a huge operation by everyone buying, writing and distributing the cards. It has been suggested that instead of exchanging so many cards with each other, people might like to write just one card, enclosing a small donation for church funds, and place it in one of the boxes which will be in the Hall or in the church. The cards will all be displayed on a tree in the church over the Christmas period.

Quote for Christmas

We cannot start a new life,
but we can start a new day, every day.

The Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal

Sunday 3rd December 2023



Our annual Toy Gift service will be held on Sunday 3rd December when we ask you to bring along a suitable toy for a boy or girl of one to eleven years old. Gifts for teenagers are also required.

The gifts will be delivered to the Salvation Army who will distribute the gifts to deserving families.

Please **do not wrap** the gifts, however, rolls of wrapping paper can be donated.

From the Salvation Army website:

“Last year, we distributed more than 76,000 gifts! This year, we are expecting the number of families requesting help to rise as a result of the cost-of-living crisis.”

Suggested Gift List for Children and Young People

We believe every child deserves a new gift at Christmas, so we are unable to take used or second-hand items for the Christmas Present Appeal.

- 0-3 years: dolls, teddy bears, cot mobiles, baby clothes, bath toys, CDs of suitable music and nursery rhymes, puzzles.
- 3-5: dolls and action figures, cars, lorries, DVDs and CDs (music and nursery rhymes), colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles.
- 5-9: educational games & toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), CDs & family friendly DVDs, books, puzzles, wordsearch, crosswords.
- 9-12: games and toys, stationery, DVDs, books, t-shirts, hair accessories, gloves, scarves, hats.
- 13-16: books, make-up and toiletries (please try to ensure non-allergic ingredients if possible), gloves, scarves, hats, t-shirts, hair accessories and gift vouchers.

It's Christmas Day, All is Secure

T'was the night before Christmas he lived all alone
in a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.
I had come down the chimney with presents to give
and to see just who in this home did live.

I looked all about a strange sight I did see
no tinsel, no presents Not even a tree.
No stocking by the mantle just boots filled with sand
on the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.

With medals and badges awards of all kinds
a sober thought came through my mind.

For this house was different it was dark and dreary
I found the home of a soldier once I could see clearly.
The soldier lay sleeping silent, Alone
curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.

The face was so gentle the room in such disorder
not how I pictured a lone British soldier.
Was this the hero of whom I'd just read?
curled up on a poncho the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night
owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.
Soon round the world the children would play
and grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas Day.

They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year
because of the soldiers like the one lying here.
I couldn't help wonder how many alone
on a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.

The very thought brought a tear to my eye
I dropped to my knees and started to cry.
The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice
"Santa, don't cry This life is my choice.

I fight for freedom I don't ask for more
my life is my God, My Country, my Corps."
The soldier rolled over and drifted to sleep
I couldn't control it I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours so silent and still
and we both sat & shivered from the cold night's chill.
I didn't want to leave on that cold, Dark Night
this guardian of honour so willing to fight.

Then the soldier rolled over with a voice, Soft And Pure,
Whispered, "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas Day, All Is Secure."
One look at my watch and I knew he was right
"Merry Christmas my friend and To All A Good Night."

Submitted by Tom McArthur

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON CHURCH – CHRISTMAS MUSIC 2023

It was a pleasure and a great relief last year to hold our full Christmas services once again after two years of cancellations during the pandemic. Let us hope that all of that is behind us once and for all!

The choir and I look forward to welcoming you once again to our various events and services and these are the dates for your diary:

Monday 11 December

As is usually the case, the opening event of our season will be the very popular **Guild Carol Party** which as always will be held at 7.30 in the church hall. While the main purpose of the evening is to give everyone the opportunity to enjoy singing many favourite Christmas hymns and carols it is also your first chance to hear what the choir has been working on this year. It goes without saying too that the refreshments on offer will be one of the main attractions of the evening! The event is of course open to all and everyone will be made very welcome.

Sunday 17 December

Because of the way Christmas falls this year our annual candle-lit **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols** will be on its earliest possible date, which means the choir and I have to make sure we're fully rehearsed in time! The carols the choir will be performing this year come from Germany, Austria and, closer to home, Wales and England. Three of these were composed at various dates ranging from the 16th to the 20th centuries, while the fourth is my own arrangement of a traditional Welsh carol, 'Dark the night'.

In the traditional way we will conclude the service by singing 'Hark, the herald angels sing' and I will be following this with a very recently composed Toccata on that famous hymn, written very much in the French style by the Bristol-based composer David Bednall.

For many this is a service which really encapsulates the spirit of Christmas and we do hope as many as possible will come to share in the singing and the fellowship. Please note that the service will start at **7 pm**.

Sunday 24 December

Our traditional **Watchnight Service** will take place as always at **11.20 pm**. This year the choir will be performing “O Little Star”, an item we sang for the first time in last year’s ‘9 Lessons’ service. This is an arrangement of my own based on a carol from New Zealand which I found in a collection which long-standing choir member Moira Scott brought back from one of her visits there. I mentioned above that after this year’s ‘9 Lessons’ service I will be playing a piece written in the French style, and I will be concluding the Watchnight service with the real thing, a stirring piece based on ‘O come all ye faithful’ by Pierre Cochereau, who for many years was organist at Notre Dame in Paris. This was in fact an improvisation which one of his pupils transcribed from a recording - no mean feat in itself I may say.

All will be welcome at this joyful occasion, taking us up to the ringing of the church bell marking the arrival of Christmas Day.

Finally, I will just mention again that the **Cockpen & Carrington Choir CD**, ‘*Sing, Church of God!*’ remains available and as a significant part of its contents are Christmas music it would make an excellent seasonal gift, not least at its modest price! If you would like a copy, please contact myself or any member of the choir.

GMB



Brownies give support to Poppy Scotland

The Brownies held a fundraising evening for Poppy Scotland in the Cockpen Church hall on 5th October with entertainment for both adults and children. A representative from Poppy Scotland gave a talk on the work that they do, and in doing so, support so many people. The marvellous sum of £540 was raised from the event.

The Brownies also took on the project of making 28 small wooden crosses and one will be placed at all the war graves in Cockpen Cemetery.

Thank you and well done to all the Brownies.



Crosses made for War Graves by the Brownies



Brownies busy making Crosses for War Graves



3rd Bonnyrigg Brownies with cheque for Poppy Scotland

Doors Open Day

On the 9th September we once again participated in the “Doors Open Day” when over eighty people visited our church.

The church looked wonderful with so many pieces of historical interest to be studied. There were also many floral displays to be admired, two of which depicted favourite hymns – ‘The Lords my Shepherd’ and ‘All things bright and beautiful’.

Although our organist, Graham Burnside was unable to give us an organ recital this year due to holidays, Andrew Jack organised a variety of choir and organ pieces which people were able to watch and listen to on the screens.



“The Lord’s My Shepherd”



“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Knit and Natter

The Knit and Natter group started up again in September after the summer break. It is again proving very popular with an average of 27 ladies attending each week. It would be nice to welcome some new ladies.

The ladies are knitting small hats and cardigans for premature babies at the RIE special care baby unit. We also continue to knit for the SIMBA memory boxes, and also hats to send to Ukraine.

The group is open to all and if you would like to join us, then please pop along to the hall any **Thursday at 1.30pm** where you will be made most welcome.

Christmas wishes to everyone from all at the Knit and Natter group.

To make you smile...

Seen on a church noticeboard

- Eight new Choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- Pot Luck Supper, Sunday 5.00pm — Prayer and Medication to follow.
- Weight Watchers will meet in the Hall at 7pm. Please use the large double doors at the side entrance.
- Miss Charlotte Mason sang, "I will not pass this way again", giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- Don't let worry kill you off — let the Church help.
- The Fasting and Prayer conference — includes meals.

Smile Lines – Come Back to Church!

To encourage you to attend, what if we offered:

- Beds – for those who say Sunday is their day to sleep-in.
- Safety helmets – for anyone who fears the roof would fall in if they entered a church door.
- Blankets and hot water bottles – for those who find our church too cold.
- Fans and ice cream for those who find our church too hot.
- Cushion – for anyone who finds our seats too hard.
- Bicycles - for those who exercise on Sunday mornings
- Hearing aids-for those who find the minister speaks too softly
- Cotton wool - for those who find the minister speaks too loudly
- Scorecards - for all who want to rate the hymns/ sermons/ coffee
- Ready-meals – for anyone who can't come because they have to cook Sunday lunch.
- Some flowers – for those who prefer to seek God in nature.
- Christmas poinsettias and Easter palms – for those who have never seen the church without them!

See you Sunday!

LASSWADE AND ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH NEWS ...

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

Our thoughts are turning towards Christmas. The shops are full of attractive things to buy, the television programmes are advertising 'specials' and kitchens are filled with smells, spices and baking. What about our preparations? ADVENT means 'COMING'. The Bible reminds us that God promised to send someone special into our world with the power to save us from sin.

INVITATION



**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated
in Lasswade Church**

on Sunday 28th January 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

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

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. Please note that there is not a Coffee Morning in January but will start again in February.



BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL 2023

A big thank you to everyone who donated to this year's appeal. We sent off 32 filled and decorated shoe boxes.

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.



The Closure of Lasswade Church

There has been some confusion about the date when Lasswade Church will close. This is to confirm that it **will not** be on 31st December 2023.

At present, the marketing process with the Church of Scotland Law Department has only recently begun and there is some considerable way to go in pursuing the different stages of this. It has been the Kirk Session's desire that the church will remain open for as long as possible for worship. As it is very uncertain at present when a definite offer to purchase the building will be received, it is anticipated that the church will remain open for some time still to come.

Lorna, the Minister

Lasswade Connection with Otago University, Dunedin

Dr. John Hislop, LL.D., FRSE

Moira and I recently met up with a friend whose granddaughter is a student at Otago University and I remembered we had a local connection with that Institution.

John Hislop, who ultimately became one of New Zealand's foremost pioneer educationalists, was born at Old Pentland on 7th December 1821 and was subsequently baptised at Lasswade. John went on to gain first prizes in all the classes he attended at Edinburgh School of Arts, now Napier University, and in 1841 became Assistant Master at Lasswade School before taking up appointments at Colinton, Cults and Kirknewton. He then applied for, and obtained, an appointment as teacher under the Provincial Government of Otago and arrived at Port Chalmers on 2nd October 1856. He taught at the newly opened school at East Taleri, Otago and in 1861 he was appointed Secretary of Education and Inspector of Schools for the Province of Otago. He became a key figure in establishing the country's education system based on the Scottish educational model.

On the establishment of Otago University in 1869 Mr. Hislop became the University's first Secretary and Registrar and in 1878 he became the first Secretary of the newly formed Education Department of New Zealand in Wellington. He took a great interest in the Caledonian Society's evening classes for youth and I understand his portrait adorns the walls of the University of Otago Library.

Mr. Hislop's work was recognised by the University of Edinburgh who awarded him an Honorary Degree of LL.D. and he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

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!

Please do consider joining us on Saturday **2nd December, 3rd February, 2nd March and 6th 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



Rosewell Church on
Sunday 24th December at 6.00 pm.



A Christmas Service for all the family.

Everyone Welcome!

(Retiring Offering in aid of 'Play Therapy' which is a local Children's Mental Health Charity based at Hardengreen)

Bereavement Service
Sunday 10th December at 3.00 pm
Lasswade Church



Many have experienced bereavement through this year or continue to miss loved ones no longer with us.

This service will offer space amidst the Christmas rush and bustle for remembering and giving thanks for those we have lost, with stillness and music and reflective words.

All who would find this service helpful are most welcome.
Lorna, the Minister.

Christmas Jewels

Ingredients:

8 oz. digestive biscuits crushed. 1 oz. sugar. 4 oz. cherries, 4 oz. sultanas, 4 oz. butter. 2 oz. flaked almonds, small tin condensed milk.

Method:

Melt butter and sugar over low heat, add biscuits. Press into lightly greased Swiss roll tin.

Sprinkle fruits and nuts on top. Drizzle over condensed milk. Bake in mod. oven for about 20 mins. Cut into fingers or squares. Enjoy!!



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 PARISH CHURCH HALL

On: Saturday 9th December

From 10:00am to 12 noon

**Home Baking, Tombola, Raffle,
Guess the Weight of the Cake, Gifts, Christmas
Music and Plants. Tea/Coffee served with Bacon
Rolls**



Everyone Welcome

Lasswade Church Flower Rota

January 14th Andrew Renwick

January 28th Moira Dryden

February 11th Anne Wemyss

February 25th Sheena Blair

March 10th Dorothy Spence

March 24th Nita Adams

April 14th Pat Lawrie

April 28th Marlyn Davidson

When I wrote a short message to accompany the 'flower rota' for the Harvest 2023 Link, I presumed that it would be my last contribution.

Lasswade Church's future is to be a short one, but until the building is closed 'normal' services will be held. For this reason I have tried to compose a rota which may not be required.

Thank you for your help and understanding.

Moira

Answers to Word Scramble on back page.

Tree, Angel, Santa, Holly, Stocking, Turkey, Presents, Sleigh, Elves, Carols

Poppy Displays at Rosewell Church



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THE HOLY HIKERS

"It is not talking but walking that will bring us to heaven."

Matthew Henry



I will start just where I left off in the last issue of the Link. Eight walkers attended the evening walk on Wednesday 9th August. I was on holiday, so Ann led them on a ramble round Bonnyrigg which they all enjoyed. Ann also led 11 of us on our September walk in Gosford Estate near Longniddry, somewhere I had never been before. It was really stunning, lovely woods, ponds, and a beautiful house. I must return later when the autumn leaves are turning.

In October, our walk was in Peebles and 14 members did a short but lovely walk round Haystoun and The Cut. A Cut is a ditch between two fields to allow water to run off from each side. The farmers "cut" down to the burn from one side, then, further along "cut" down from the opposite side to allow animals in either field to access water. As I was explaining it to the group, right on cue, and as if to demonstrate, a cow came down from the opposite field to drink. I could not have planned it better! The weather was cold, but the sky was clear and blue.

In November Hilary will be leading us around Glencorse and the Bush. In December, our walk will take us through the Hermitage of Braid. We will be using public transport on that day.

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

Happy Hiking

Jim Scott.

Christmas Word Scramble

ERET

LENGA

NAŞAT

HYOLL

KOGIŞCTN

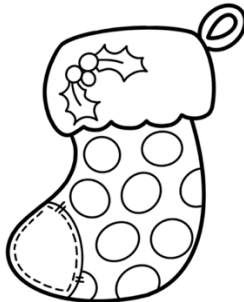
KÜTERY

NTPERŞŞE

HLIEŞG

VLEES

LOŞRCA



Answers on Page 29.

Share your news, views, or ideas in the Easter Issue of "The Link". Send them to Magazine@church.cockpen.co.uk by Sunday, 3rd March 2024.

T: 0131 663 5305 M: 07443 425125 www.gladstonemedia.co.uk
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