

Cockpen & Carrington

The Link

Lasswade & Rosewell

Harvest 2009

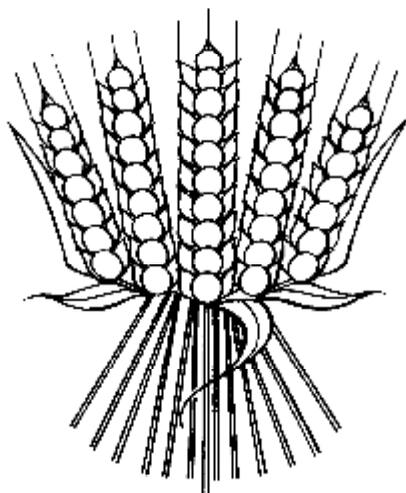


Table of Contents

WHO'S WHO	3
PULPIT SUPPLY ROTA - SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2009	4
Letter from the Manse	5
Introducing the Rev Matthew Z. Ross	6
From the interim Moderator	7
<i>COCKPEN & CARRINGTON SUNDAY SCHOOL</i>	8
Cities of the World Quiz - Answers	10
Edited and shortened version of a sermon preached by the Rev Matthew Ross on 9 th August 2009	11
Happy to be redundant	13
THE CROSS IN MY POCKET	13
Lasswade & Rosewell	14
Cleaner Wanted	14
Lasswade & Rosewell	15
Harvest Supper	15
Lasswade Church Flower Rota	16
Coffee Morning	16
Rosewell Annual Business Meeting	17
COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH	20
Baptisms	20
Weddings	20
Bereavements	20
New Member	21
From a book - 'Facing the Storm'	21
From the Clerk	22
Cockpen & Carrington Church Dance	22
GUILD NEWS	23
Cake Stall	23
Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota	24
Cockpen Cemetery Book	24
USED STAMP COLLECTION	24
Bonnyrigg Ranger Guides	25
Oasis	26
THE HOLY HIKERS	27
BLYTHSWOOD CARE CHRISTMAS BOXES	28
Cockpen & Carrington	28
Lasswade & Rosewell	28
Cities of the World Quiz	29

WHO'S WHO

MINISTER

Rev. Matthew Z. Ross
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663 6392

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PULPIT SUPPLY ROTA - SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2009

DATE	LASSWADE 10 AM	COCKPEN & CARRINGTON 11.30 AM	ROSEWELL
06.09.09	Service at ROSEWELL	The Minister	The Minister (10 AM)
13.09.09	The Minister	The Minister	Rev W Armitage (11.30AM)
20.09.09	The Minister	The Minister	Rev C Macpherson (11.30 AM)
27.09.09	The Minister Harvest Thanksgiving	The Minister	Service at LASSWADE (10 AM)
04.10.09	Service at ROSEWELL	Rev C Macpherson	The Minister (10 AM) (HC)
11.10.09	The Minister	The Minister	George Lyall (11.30 AM)
18.10.09	Rev M Schofield	Rev M Schofield	Eddy Yeoman (11.30 AM)
25.10.09	The Minister	The Minister	Service at LASSWADE (10 AM)
01.11.09	Service at ROSEWELL	The Minister (HC)	Rev M Schofield (10 AM)
08.11.09	The Minister 9.30 AM at War Memorial & 10 AM Church	The Minister	Martin McKean (10.50 AM)
15.11.09	The Minister	The Minister	Rev C Macpherson (11.30 AM)
22.11.09	Rev M Schofield	Rev M Schofield	Service at LASSWADE (10 AM)
29.11.09	Joint Service at ROSEWELL (10 AM)	Joint Service at ROSEWELL (10 AM)	The Minister (10 AM) JOINT SERVICE
06.12.09	Service at ROSEWELL	The Minister	The Minister (10 AM) Carol Party 7 pm
13.12.09	The Minister	The Minister	Rev J W Cook (11.30 AM)
20.12.09	The Minister	Minister (11.30 am) 9 Lessons & Carols 7pm	Rev M Schofield (11.30 AM)
24.12.09 Christmas Eve	The Minister Christingle 7 pm	The Minister Christmas Eve Service 11.20 pm	The Minister Service 8.30 pm
27.12.09	The Minister	The Minister	Service at LASSWADE (10 AM)

Letter from the Manse

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to write to you as your new minister. Thank you for inviting me to come to Cockpen and Carrington linked with Lasswade and Rosewell; the warmth of the welcome is very much appreciated. I look forward to getting to know you – please forgive me if it takes some time before I can remember everyone's name! There is an article about me elsewhere in the magazine.

I am happy to be of service; I can be contacted on 0131 663 6392 or by email to mzross@btinternet.com. If you or someone you know would like a visit at home or in hospital please do not hesitate to contact me. Please note that my wife Kristina and I will take Mondays as our “day off”.

I have been thinking about these words from the Bible in Philippians 4:4-8:

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.”

I find this a wonderful inspiration for the Church. When we lose sight of what the Church is really about, it is good to be reminded of these words of St Paul. The Church belongs to Christ – he is the King and Head of the Church. Here in Midlothian, I hope and pray that together we – the Church – can show such Christian love in all that we do.

Yours in Christ,

Rev Matthew Ross
Minister

Introducing the Rev Matthew Z. Ross



The Rev Matthew Ross was inducted as the new minister of the Parish Churches of Cockpen & Carrington linked with Lasswade & Rosewell on 30th July. Many thanks to everyone who helped to organise the service of induction and helped with the catering.

Matthew (41) is married to the Rev Kristina Herbold Ross. Mrs Ross is from the City of Göttingen in Germany, is an ordained minister of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Hanover and has been accepted to transfer to the Church of Scotland. Before moving to Scotland she was a minister in the town of Osterholz-Scharmbeck, near Bremen and earlier worked in Vienna for the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE). As part of the

transfer process, Mrs Ross is working at Greyfriars Kirk in Edinburgh until she can be called to her own charge in 2010.

Matthew was born in Dundee and has also lived in Edinburgh, Bristol, London, Fife and Brussels. In case you were wondering, his middle name is Zachary. Between 1986 and 1990 he was a law student at the University of Edinburgh, graduating LLB (Hons). After a year working in the House of Commons as a research assistant to two Scottish MPs, he worked in public relations in Edinburgh until returning to the University of Edinburgh in 1993 to study divinity and was accepted as a candidate for the ministry. As a ministry student, he was attached to Granton and Corstorphine Old Parish Churches in Edinburgh, plus summer student locumships at Aberfeldy in Perthshire and Reay in Caithness. In 1996 he graduated BD (Hons) and was licensed as a probationer for the ministry by the Church of Scotland's Presbytery of Edinburgh, thereafter working at Duddingston Kirk. He later studied part-time at the University of Glasgow for a postgraduate Master of Theology (MTh) degree.

On 4th February 1998 Matthew was ordained by the Presbytery of St Andrews and inducted as minister at Ceres & Springfield Parish Church, near Cupar, Fife. The following year he was appointed to serve on the Church of Scotland's Board of Practice & Procedure and Legal Questions Committee. In 2002-3 he

served as acting Depute Clerk to the General Assembly.

In 2003, Matthew was seconded by the Church of Scotland to work in Brussels, Belgium as Executive Secretary of the Church & Society Commission of the Conference of European Churches (CEC). This work took him to almost every country of Europe and gave him a considerable insight into different church traditions, such as the Orthodox Churches in Eastern Europe. In 2009 he was Moderator of the Church of Scotland's Presbytery of Europe. He also served as Interim Moderator of St Andrew's Church of Scotland in Lisbon, Portugal, 2004-2006, where the Rev John Weir Cook was locum minister.

As well as parish duties, ministers have to take a part in the wider work of the church. Matthew is a member of the Church of Scotland's Church & Society Council and Ecumenical Relations Committee.

Matthew enjoys history, music and travel (especially by rail). He is a supporter of Dundee United FC. He is an elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. He can speak French, is trying to improve his German and can manage some Dutch and Finnish, plus a few words in several other European languages. Matthew said "I believe that the Church should offer a caring, welcoming Christian presence to all - whether regular churchgoers or not. I spent six very interesting years in Brussels, but I'm

delighted to be returning to parish ministry in Scotland and look forward to playing an active role in local community life in Midlothian."

From the interim Moderator

Just a note of thanks to everyone in Cockpen and Carrington linked with Lasswade and Rosewell for all your help, support and friendship over my time as Interim Moderator, and for the very generous gift presented at Matthew's induction. I had a chance at the induction social to say a few words, but some of them maybe bear repeating, which is to say that it was a real pleasure and privilege to serve as Interim Moderator and a source of great joy to see the congregations and Matthew so happily settled. It has been a long vacancy and an unsettling time but I am confident that you all have a bright future together.

Sandy Horsburgh

COCKPEN & CARRINGTON SUNDAY SCHOOL

COMIC RELIEF



We had a wonderful time at Comic Relief. We all came to Sunday School in our pyjamas! Yes, ALL OF US! We were joined by Bill Brown, Sunday School Elder. The day was full of nonsense with lots of fun and plenty of eats.

Bill looked very like Wee Willie Winkie but it seems that's how everyone dresses in Temple! He then told the sad story of a neighbour of his: An old woman who swallowed a fly! As usual he had us in fits of giggles...thanks Bill. We raised £70 for Comic Relief.



NEW MINISTER

On 26th April the Sunday School headed down to Lasswade Church to hear our sole nominee, Rev Matthew Ross, preach. What a warm welcome you gave

us. The children had been following the process quite carefully particularly as Rosalind was a member of the nominating committee. Anyway there was great excitement at going down to Lasswade. The children were slightly disappointed that Matthew didn't have his pet rabbit with him - those who follow these articles are aware of the Sunday School's range of 'adopted' pets! However, Matthew enthralled them with his story of St Andrew ably assisted by the children in holding up his Scottish flag. He had been forewarned that shy and retiring we are not!

The children were very much engaged in the selection process and had expressed concern that they couldn't vote. We regularly debate "X-Factor" & "Britain's got Talent" so the concept of voting was not lost on them! It was really special then that Rev Sandy Horsburgh invited the children to present their wishes - thank you Sandy.

After being in Church for a short while, we then headed up the brae to the Hall to continue with our normal Sunday School. Thanks to Pat & Dot for making the Hall so welcoming - we hope it won't be as long before we visit you again.

PICNIC

Yet another good day at East Links Family Park in Dunbar on Sunday 17 May - this time Dunbar proved still to be the sunniest place in Scotland....but it was awfy cold! The children didn't seem to notice. Some of the adults came close to having us evicted from the park - Jessie Dolan take note! The go-karts were never designed for 80 year olds to be 'wedged' in the front! The bus was searched on the return journey to ensure we hadn't 'adopted' the baby Shetland pony or any of the ducklings & goslings!

PRIZEGIVING

Our Prizegiving was held on 24 May. We were delighted to be under the care of Rev Melville Schofield - a firm favourite with the children and someone we hope to see in the future even though we now have our new minister. We had invited Miss Agnes Anderson, former Session Clerk, from Rosewell to present the prizes. Agnes has been a great supporter of Rosewell Sunday School and continued to offer us her support when we all came together - it was therefore only fitting that she presented the prizes and we were delighted she could join us - thank you Agnes. Sad to say cheerio to Holly Gordon who had decided to move on from Sunday School. Holly joined Lasswade Sunday School when she was still tiny as she came along with Mum, Margaret. Holly

has always been good fun. Thank you Holly for the time you have spent with us; look in on us from time to time and we all wish you joy and happiness in everything you do in future.

MINISTER'S INDUCTION

I'm sure there will be reference to Matthew's induction throughout the magazine, but what a wonderful service. Louise Gillespie, one of our most loyal attendees, and certainly the youngest to attend on the night came along and presented flowers to Kristina, Matthew's wife. Well done, Louise. It was especially nice to see Louise alongside one of our slightly older members of the congregation, Mrs Winnie Brown - Winnie being a great supporter of this Sunday School.

AND WE'RE BACK

What seems like only yesterday we were looking forward to our long Summer break and that's it over. Sunday School returns on 30 August meeting at 10am in the Church Hall, Dundas Street, Bonnyrigg - all are welcome. We look forward to welcoming you all back and there's always space for any new faces who'd care to join us.

We hope to return to our regular Family Services in Church and are excited about this new phase in our journey with our new Minister.

REMEMBER

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: CHRISTMAS OUTING TO MATINEE PERFORMANCE OF ROBINSON CRUSOE AT THE KING'S THEATRE ON SAT 12 DECEMBER - BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN.

Cities of the World Quiz - Answers

Don't read the following unless you want to spoil the quiz on the back page.

1 Rome, 2 London, 3 Madrid, 4 Oslo, 5 Athens, 6 Paris, 7 Venice, 8 Amsterdam, 9 Moscow, 10 Istanbul, 11 Copenhagen, 12 Berlin, 13 Vienna, 14 Geneva, 15 Marseilles, 16 Lisbon, 17 Dublin, 18 Prague, 19 Munich, 20 Warsaw.

Edited and shortened version of a sermon preached by the Rev Matthew Ross on 9th August 2009

Text: “Be imitators of God, therefore, and live a life of love just as Christ loved us...” (Ephesians 5:1)

This is a time of new beginnings. You have a new minister; I have a new congregation. I have a great deal to learn about the parishes, the communities and above all – YOU the people of God gathered together that we call the Church. There will be frustrations – you have a minister who is still settling in and is not yet wholly familiar with what needs to be done. One example: I had to buy a new computer but my old printer proved incompatible. So it meant buying a new printer too.

But these are trivial compared to the great issues. I have not come to talk about computers. It is my task to share with you the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. What flows from that will transform lives.

We come to worship to give thanks and praise to God. Services are not haphazard: they are constructed carefully – with prayers of adoration and confession, with thanksgiving and intercession, with a chance to make an offering and to sing our praise. Hearing God’s word preached is also central to worship – opening up God’s word to us and letting it touch our hearts. Can we let the love of God touch our hearts?

In his letter to the Ephesians, St Paul writes about how Christians should live. At first, much of what he writes may seem somewhat legalistic and prescriptive. He starts with a series of “do nots” – no lying, no stealing, no bad language, get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger and so on. It’s all good sensible stuff and may not strike us as particularly imaginative or original. Paul also adds “Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold”. Apart from this reference to the devil, none of Paul’s assertions seem like a threat, instead each appeals to our Christian identity that is regarded as a given. After the “do nots” comes a positive message: be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. But this is not the end of the message; NOW comes the major challenge, the major implication: “Be imitators of God, therefore, and live a life of love just as Christ loved us...”

This is a very hard message indeed. The word “imitation” has a poor image – we think of fake goods. How then are we to appropriately imitate

God in all we think, say or do? Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, so the saying goes. But in our worship and in our lifestyle, God is not looking for our flattery – instead he wants a loving relationship with us. Worst of all is when people imitate God wrongly. We only have to see how some people misuse knowledge, power or judgement to see the terrible results. It's not just world leaders or captains of industry who fall into this trap; we can see this to a large or small degree in all walks of life. What Paul points towards is that particular character of God's love towards humankind, a love clearly seen in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. Whilst Christ's sacrifice is unique, we are called to a level of love, care, forgiveness and kindness that marks us out as authentically Christian. God's action in Christ demands certain behaviour of us humans, but along with these demands comes gifts that make the demands feasible – membership of Christ's church, the seal of the Holy Spirit, the forgiveness of God and the love of Christ.

The message of the love of Christ in this context is also conveyed by our Gospel reading. Christ gives us the energy to carry on. Who could not fail to be stirred by those wonderful words of Jesus "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty". It's quite a contrast from our Old Testament reading from Psalm 130. Here King David is trying to articulate his sense of grief at the death of his rebellious third son Absalom. (This is more fully described in 2 Samuel 18.) In Psalm 130 we read the words of a confused, grief-stricken man, with a sense of guilt and loss. It goes to the very heart of the human condition. But finally he shows his trust in God despite his grief: "O Israel put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption."

Life throws up many trials, temptations and difficulties. Without recourse to God's word, we are left to our own devices. As with computer printers and the like, the instruction manual alone can be beyond us, what we sometimes need is someone to guide us through the process. Our guide for life is Christ Jesus, who calls us to live a life of love. So I close with the words of St Paul: "Be imitators of God, therefore, and live a life of love just as Christ loved us..."

Happy to be redundant

I am glad to have this opportunity to thank the congregations of Cockpen Lasswade and Rosewell for their generosity to me following my necessary redundancy (quite a redundancy package) I thoroughly enjoyed my time with you. I experienced a quality of worship, devotion, musical praise and a response of thoughtful attention to the preaching of the word. I hope we all learned.

I went back to my own church to be pew fodder on Sunday and experienced a warm welcome too. But I am hoping soon to be preaching again. An offer from Lisbon, which Matthew knows well, may prove to be irresistible. Best wishes to you all and your new minister and his lady.

Blessings John

John Weir Cook

THE CROSS IN MY POCKET

As we now reach the time of year when the nights get shorter, it is a time when we often reminisce about our holidays. This year Gillian and I did a cruise round the British Isles, when one of our ports of call was St Peter Port on Guernsey. While there we visited The Little Chapel in St Martins Village. This is the smallest consecrated church in the world, built as a labour of love. The design based on the Grotto at Lourdes, is decorated as a mosaic with shells and donated fragments of Wedgewood and Royal Doulton. If we had a church that size we certainly could fill it several times over for a Sunday service.

We also always attend the Interdenominational Service which is held on board the ship. And the following is the reading which was read at the service ;

THE CROSS IN MY POCKET

I carry a cross in my pocket
A simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian
No matter where I may be

This little cross is not magic
Nor is it a good luck charm
It isn't meant to protect me
From every physical harm

It's not for identification
For all the world to see
It's simply an understanding
Between my Saviour and me

When I put my hand in my pocket
To bring out a coin or a key
The cross is there to remind me
Of the price he paid for me

It reminds me too, to be thankful
For my blessings day by day
And to strive to serve him better
In all that I do and say

It's also a daily reminder
Of the peace and comfort I share
With all who know my Master
And give themselves to his care

So, I carry a cross in my pocket
Reminding no one but me
That Jesus Christ Is Lord of my life
If only I'll let him be

Andrew Renwick

Lasswade & Rosewell

Thursday 30th July 2009 was an extremely important date in the life of the Lasswade and Rosewell Congregation .It was on that date that Rev Matthew Ross was inducted as the first Minister of the United Congregation .It is just over a year since the Union took place and during that time we have been well served by the Locum John Weir Cook and our other friends who have provided Pulpit Supply, not only during the vacancy but also over many years .While we have been fortunate to have been served by so many excellent Preachers, whom we hope to see back with us from time to time, it is not the same as having your own Minister. For quite some time now it has been a case of marking time and keeping things going, but now with our own Minister we can now look ahead and plan for the future. There is much work to be done by us all and with Matthew leading us I am sure our Church does have a rosy future. For those of our number who are able to come to Church, but have been missing for whatever reason, I hope that you may wish to join in our Worship on a Sunday morning either at Lasswade or Rosewell as this is a new beginning for us all. For those who are housebound or unable to attend Church on a Sunday morning Matthew has already made a start at visiting those people. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit, Matthew would be more than happy to hear from you either directly or through one of the Elders. During the winter months it is hoped to organise one or two social events.

A social committee has been formed and they are busy making plans at present for a Harvest Supper and they will then look to arrange some other events. One existing event which deserves support is the coffee morning which is held on the second Saturday of every month in the hall at Rosewell. This is an ideal opportunity to meet friends for a chat while enjoying a nice cup of tea or coffee and lovely home baking while also providing funds for the church. Our church has a great deal to offer in many ways and so many of our congregation have much to offer the church. Together we can work together to strengthen our congregation and also the church in the community.

Andrew Renwick
Session Clerk
Lass wade & Rosewell

Cleaner Wanted

Lasswade Church is looking for a cleaner for a couple of hours a week. For further information please contact Pat Lawrie on 0131 663 7597.

Lasswade & Rosewell



First of all, like everyone else, we welcome Mr & Mrs Ross to this area and hope they will be happy among us. Over the coming months we look forward to getting to know them better and to sharing our activities with them.

The summer months are always a 'close' season as far as choir activities are concerned but, having said that, we participated in Mr Ross's Induction Service and in the social which followed. We are also preparing to practice a couple of items for a Harvest Supper which will be held at Rosewell on 27th September. After that, Christmas will be looming on the horizon and no doubt we shall be doing something during that season.

We also hope that during the autumn or winter we shall have the pleasure of having the choir of Hawthornden Primary School sharing a service of worship with us and at another service perhaps Abigail Young, the young violinist from Rosewell, will participate. You will remember that Abigail, along with her sister Chloe who plays the harp, took part in a service in February but Chloe will shortly be undertaking her studies at the Royal

Northern College of Music in Manchester and we wish her well.

Last year several members of the congregation volunteered to augment the choir for special services and I very much appreciate the help and assistance which these ladies and gentlemen give, as I do the ongoing support and work of the regular choir throughout the year. If there is anyone else who would like to join the choir for special services e.g. at Christmas etc. please have a word with me. I am in church most Sundays or you can telephone me on 663 8895.

Keep watching this space!

HLRD

Harvest Supper

27 September

—

HARVEST SUPPER IN ROSEWELL
CHURCH/HALL

—

DETAILS WILL BE SUPPLIED
LATER

Lasswade Church Flower Rota



September

13th Mrs G Renwick
20th Mr W Culton
27th Mrs M Campbell

October

11th Mrs M Murdoch
18th Mrs D Spence
25th Mrs M Rennie

November

8th Remembrance Sunday
15th Mrs J Campbell
22nd Mrs M Dryden
29th Mrs M Murdoch

December

13th Mrs A Macdonald
20th Mrs C Connor
27th Mrs G Renwick

The fresh flowers, along with the living plants, are a reminder of the beauty of the Creation in our place of worship. The flowers are much appreciated by the recipients. Thank you to everyone who takes part in this service. If you have any difficulties with 'your' Sunday please speak to me and I will be happy to help.

Moira Dryden

Coffee Morning

Why not come along with your friends and enjoy a coffee and home baking on the 2nd Saturday of the month at Rosewell Church Hall 10-12 noon. Everyone is welcome.

OOOOOOOOOOOOOO

HELP!!!!

If you have a couple of hours to spare occasionally Rosewell requires some help at the Coffee Morning either serving coffee or at the home baking stall (phone Agnes 440 0282) or at the Home baking Stall at the Pitcairn (phone Moira 440 2611)

OOOOOOOOOOOOOO

Rosewell Annual Business Meeting

I usually start by saying that nothing very much has been happening but I cannot say that this year and things are definitely moving but I will say more about that later.

I will start with the Statistics which we send to Presbytery every year – you will find that in the Magazine. I would like to say that our Roll is definitely on the downward trend and perhaps we are more aware of this because of the small numbers to start with – we started last year with 137 and ended with 130 a drop of seven which is a fairly reduced number.

We took part in World Day of Prayer and Holy Week Services which are organised locally.

Harvest Gift Service – the project was financing Smoke Hoods – Eleanor will I am sure be able to give us some idea of what sum we sent.

Carol Party which was different this year – unfortunately neither of the Choirs were able to join us however we looked elsewhere.

Theatre Group of 15 and we have an outing about 4 shows a year.

Some of us attend Cockpen Womens' Guild when they have special evenings.

We do try and support the other Churches when possible.

Rev Wendy Drake retired on 10 November and a Social evening was held in Cockpen Church Hall in December and members of this congregation attended – cheque for £1000 was handed over together with flowers (which I presented) and I also conveyed the good wishes from Rosewell.

As you are all aware something had to be done about Rosewell, the attendance on a Sunday was so poor. Presbytery Plan being that in the event of a vacancy Lasswade and Rosewell would form a union but in fact this was being spoken about by Mrs Drake and office bearers earlier in the year however when Mrs Drake indicated that she was retiring the whole position changed. We have had joint meeting with Interim Moderator and Presbytery and outcome is that Lasswade/Rosewell office bearers have agreed that we form a Union and move forward but the final decision rests with the congregation and you will be given the opportunity on 30 March to do so. If everything goes through then Presbytery will give us the approval at some date to call a Minister and we can start the process of calling a Minister – you will be kept informed what is happening because it also depends on the other churches – what they decide on the 30th.

I speak for all of this congregation when I thank the following for, without their help, we would not function on a Sunday morning and in fact throughout the year.

Pulpit Supply – the preachers have become very much a part of our Church here in Rosewell and we find their message very stimulating and encouraging.

Organist (Kenny Wight) - very committed and willing to do that little bit extra. (Kenny also collects the baking for the Pitcairn Stall)

Church Officer (Moira Campbell) – Church and hall are kept so well and not forgetting Jim who is a great assistant.

Groundsman (Douglas Paton) – The grounds are kept well and last year it must have been very difficult to keep on top with all the rain we had.

Flower Team – Jean Lindsay, Moira Campbell, Nancy Donaldson, Jean Ferguson and Una Warden. Jean and Una found it necessary in July to withdraw from the team after a number of years and wish to thank them both for the service given to the Church in this way. The floral displays in the Church on a Sunday morning are much appreciated by the Congregation and I know those receiving the flowers after the Service also appreciate them. Jean and Moira are very willing to cover the vacant three months so obviously they enjoy giving of their time in this way.

Ellen Livingstone who distributes the Life and Work

Julie Brown who audits the accounts

Ella Thomson our Roll keeper who makes sure that this is kept up-to-date. Ella also attends Presbytery as our representative Elder.

Clerk to the Board, Treasurer and all the Office bearers who have worked well together over what has been a difficult 31/2 years.

Our Locum – Rev John Cook for chairing our meeting today and also for the way you explain everything – things take on a new meaning even the hymns.

Since this will be my last meeting as Session Clerk of Rosewell I would like to say a personal thank you to all the office bearers and you the congregation for all the support given me throughout the years for without your help there would be no church here in Rosewell.

Agnes Anderson



All Aboard!

On a beautifully sunny morning in April we, Guild members, set off by coach for our annual outing. No need to be encumbered by raincoats and umbrellas – the weather forecast was favourable. Within minutes we were in the country. Fields with cows, fields with horses, trees with freshly unfurled green leaves, the grace and beauty of larch trees, wild garlic and cowslips, dandelions and daisies. We should indeed “raise a sacrifice of praise for the beauty of the earth”.

We stopped at a garden centre in Polmont for coffee. Then back on the coach and off to Bo’ness and Kinneil to board the steam train. Then the reminiscing started! We remembered the old fashioned compartments where we sat facing each other. We remembered the pictures above the seats of well known holiday resorts and above them the string luggage racks. Some of us had travelled to work every day by train, some had crossed the Forth Rail Bridge on holiday, always remembering to throw a coin out of the window into the River Forth for good luck. One person brought up in the north east remembered how the steam train stopped at Banff Links before it came to the station to allow the Sunday School picnic children to run straight on to the beach.

But back to today. Our coach then took us to Stirling where we enjoyed an hour in the pedestrian shopping centre. The sun was still shining! No need to get on the bus again, our restaurant was here in the centre. We had a beautifully cooked meal in spacious and comfortable surroundings with tables nicely set for two or four people.

We are blessed to have a secretary and treasurer who so carefully and efficiently organised it all for us. May our Guild, with God’s help, continue to flourish.

Anne McDonald



COCKPEN & CARRINGTON PARISH CHURCH.

Baptisms

It was so nice to welcome the following babies, along with parents, families and supporters at recent Baptismal Services. We hope that all felt happy being amongst us at such a special time.

Darcy and Ruby Cairns, twin daughters of Gary and Sheryl.
Rebecca Jamieson, daughter of David and Gail.
Miley Sarah Samantha Gemmell, daughter of Lee and Alison.
Neve Helen Anderson, daughter of James and Lynn.
Ava Leigh Morton, daughter of Ian and Lynne.
Ross Matthew Neill, son of Robert and Julie.

Darcy and Ruby baptized by the Rev. Matthew Ross, Rebecca, Miley Neve and Ava by the Rev. John Weir Cook and Ross by the Rev. Melville Schofield.

'May the Lord Bless Thee and Keep Thee.'

Weddings

As a Congregation, we are delighted to congratulate the following couples who have been married in Church recently. We wish them all the very best for a happy life together.

23rd May. Lisa Thomson to Sean Noble.
(Rev. Colin Macpherson).

31st May. Lynn Cairns to Marc Clugston.
(Rev. Colin Macpherson).
31st July. Stacey Cooper to Craig Brown.
(Rev. Colin Macpherson).
8th August. Sarah Pajak to Ryan Beck.
(Rev. Tom Gordon).

We again thank all Ministers, Organists and Church Officers who officiated at these Baptisms and Weddings during this time of vacancy.

Bereavements

It is, with much sadness, that we record the deaths of three of our older and much respected members.
Mrs. Agnes (Nessie) Forrest, formerly of Waverley Crescent but, for some time in nursing care in Penicuik. (March 2009)
Mrs. Ann (Betty) Murphy, formerly of Sherwood but, for some time a resident at Nazereth House. (April 2009)
Mrs. Agnes Carr, formerly of Durham Place but, for some time a resident at Pinevilla Care Home. (July 2009).

We pray for all the families and, any others whether members of the Congregation or not, who grieve at this time.

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

New Member

We are delighted to welcome Mrs. Marnie Crawford, Broomieknowe who has joined us here at Cockpen and Carrington. It is always lovely to welcome new folks and, we hope that Marnie will be happy amongst us all.

From a book - 'Facing the Storm'

You will remember that I have included two articles written by Eddie Askew in previous magazines which I thought were quite thought provoking. I would like to share another article with you from the same book which is taken from **St. Luke chapter 22, verses 19 - 20.**

Leonardo da Vinci's painting of 'The Last Supper' is well known. It's a mural - painted directly onto a wall. The twelve disciples are all grouped around Jesus on the far side of the Table and down to the ends.

The near side, nearest the spectator, is empty.

It's a convention that's used a lot on stage and in films. The side of any table nearest the viewer is left empty, so that nothing is obscured. You can see the faces of everyone involved in the drama. There are no shoulders to look over.

I believe there's another reason too. The viewer takes his or her place at

the Table, not just as a **spectator**, but, as a **participant**. We share in the drama, there's a place at the Table for **us** and, that's what makes it real.

So, too, with the painting, a great work of art, truly, but rather more. It was painted on the end wall of a refectory- the dining room - of a monastery. When the monks sat down to eat, their tables were a continuation of the Table on the wall. **They were dining with Jesus** - every meal was with **him**.

'This is my body, broken for you,' said Jesus. Not just for the original twelve gathered around, but, for all of us willing to take our place at the Table.

We share in the reality, not simply gaze at an interpretation. The host at the Table invites us to join **him**, asks for our involvement.

*And, as I take my seat, wondering
just what to say or do,
I understand I'm not a transitory
guest,
My welcome soon outlived, but one
of the family.
My place secure, my presence
welcomed.*

*From Meditations and Prayers by
Eddie Askew.*

From the Clerk.

By the time you read this, our new Minister, Matthew, along with his wife Kristina will be amongst us all. What joy for us all here and at Lasswade and Rosewell to be, at last, settled after such a long period of uncertainty.

Matthew was Inducted to his charges on Thursday 30th July at a lovely Service held in Lasswade Church which was followed by a social (in Church) and then, the customary 'Kirk tea and goodies'.

Many people worked very hard to make this night the success it was and, without naming them, I would extend my grateful thanks to all of them for all that was done.

I'm sure (and sincerely hope), that others will make mention in this edition of the evening and indeed, the long and sometimes frustrating road before we reached the 30th July. Frustrating or not, we now move forward with joy and, much more confidence in the knowledge that we have a new and energetic Minister in Matthew. **But, let us not forget, Matthew cannot be expected to do everything himself.** We, his people also made promises on the night of the 30th so, let's get our sleeves rolled up and get on with the job!

On Sunday 2nd August we welcomed a good friend of Matthew, the Rev. Dr. Marjory MacLean who 'preached him in'. A lovely service but, it would have been so nice to see more of you there! Of course, I realise that this is the holiday season but please remember, **Church is every Sunday at 11.30 a.m.** and you will be made most welcome.

Yours, in friendship,
George.

Cockpen & Carrington Church Dance

The Autumn Dance will be held in The Masonic Hall Bonnyrigg on Friday 9th October at 7.30pm.

Music by Duncan McBain.

Tickets at £5 including a light Buffet, available from Jean, Wilma, Dorothy or Helen.

GUILD NEWS

The Guild session ended in April on a high with Gillian Haycock and friends accompanied on the piano by Graham Burnside entertaining a full “house” with a varied and thoroughly enjoyable programme of music, song and some very amusing recitations. The artistes were excellent and we are much indebted to them all. As usual we then had an enjoyable day-trip and this year we visited Boness Steam Railway and then had high tea in Stirling.

The committee have come up with some interesting ideas for speakers etc. for our 2009-2010 session and by the time you read this we will have finalised the programme due as usual to the efficiency of our secretary Nancy Richardson.

The coming year our theme is “Called to act justly” and on our first meeting which is Monday 5th October we normally have the minister helping us explore what this means. However as yet we don't know if Mr Ross will manage or if someone else will have to be invited to speak. However he will see us as usual in Church for the Guild dedication service on Sunday 4th Oct.

It is not only a new minister we are welcoming this year but also two new conveners. Liz Mills and Rae Roe have kindly offered (no arm twisting !!!) to become joint conveners with myself.

We are always thrilled when new members come along and although the guild has a healthy membership there is plenty room for more. PLEASE consider coming along to a few meetings to try it out. There is a lot of useful knowledge gained from the speakers and of course we have fun and friendship as well. I promise you will be made most welcome by all.

Helen Renton

Cake Stall

Once again, can I take this opportunity to thank everyone who provides the goods for our cake stall at the Pitcairn Centre. Also, thanks to all who assist in other ways - helpers and transport people.

Of course, without you, the customers who buy the goods, the work would be in vain. I hope you continue to enjoy the ‘goodies’.

The next dates for the stall are –

3rd September and
1st October.

Best wishes to you all,

Wilma.

Cockpen & Carrington Flower Rota

September

6th Flower Fund
13th Betty Wilson
20th Dorothy Bennett
27th Nancy Richardson

October

4th Jim Dyer
11th M. Robson
18th Jean Sharpe
25th Wilma Sweeney

November

1st Agnes Dalglish
8th Lindsay Stevenson
15th Mrs Robertson

November (cont)

22nd Flower Fund
29th Liz Mills

December

6th Susan McKechnie
13th Nancy Richardson
20th Sunday School
27th Liz Laidlaw



Thank you for your continued support of the flower fund, contact me on 663 1825 if there is any problem. You may have noticed some extra flowers in Church lately due to the many donations I have received this year.

Irene Ramsay

Cockpen Cemetery Book

The latest book compiled by "Recording Angels" is of Cockpen Cemetery (excluding the new cemetery), is now available from Jean Sharpe or at Church for the sum of £9.

USED STAMP COLLECTION

Just a reminder that there are collection boxes at the doors of the church and church hall for used stamps.

These are taken to the Mission Aid office to be sold and the monies raised help fund some of their projects.

If you have the time please trim the stamps with a ¼" border of envelope.

Many thanks to all those who support this project.

Dorothy Bennett

Bonnyrigg Ranger Guides

Bonnyrigg Rangers have been very busy since the Easter edition with all of our Rangers working hard for their exams at school. None the less we have managed to take part in a very exciting and varied programme throughout this hectic period for the girls.

At the end of March, we had a skiing trip to Hillend. We took ten girls with a range of experiences and they had an absolute ball. Some came off the slopes a little wetter than they went on but they all had great fun and managed to come off the slopes in one piece. Catsy and I can recommend the chocolate and orange muffins from the café if skiing isn't really for you either.

On Saturday 28th March, 10 of us took the train through to Stirling for the evening. We stayed at the Youth Hostel next to the Castle. We did quite a bit of shopping on the Saturday afternoon. The girls found the most amazing milkshake bar which I think we all visited three times during our stay. On the Saturday night, we cooked pizzas and had lots of chocolate treats to eat as we played a selection of group games and chatted in the common area of the hostel. On the Sunday, all the girls said their promise at the feet of Sir William Wallace before enjoying a full tour of Stirling Castle itself. After a final visit to the milkshake bar and a quick 30 minutes in Primark, we

returned safely to Edinburgh by train. This was our first overnight stay for a while and we really did have a great time.

Since April, we have also enjoyed a Ready Steady Cook evening in which the girls prepared some lovely dishes from limited resources, a games night where we played Bop It, In Our Company and Cranium, a Salsacise evening followed by a healthy fruit buffet, a trip to Lucas to escape exam pressures, a birthday celebration for Catsy and a BBQ at Vogrie during the better weather.

We are due to restart Rangers after the summer holidays towards the end of August and have already scheduled a trip to the Camera Obscura, a wall climb to build good team working skills and a pamper evening. We are also hoping to plan another weekend away trip.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Rangers the very best of luck with their forthcoming exam results.

Rangers meet every second Tuesday in the Guide Hall on Dobbies Road, so if anyone (between the ages of 14 and 26) is interested in joining us, please feel free to contact me on Tel No 0131 454 9278. It would be lovely to have you join us!

Lydney Stevenson



Oasis

Our "BLINGO" evening which took place on Friday 6th March was a huge success. We sold out the Masonic Hall and we managed to raise a great deal of money for the Maggie's Centre and the Church once again. The evening was well supported by Church members and I would like to thank everyone for attending or their donations to the raffle. The ladies present enjoyed a few games of bingo, a disco and a few even managed to dress up in their finest bling!

In April, we visited the Dean Tavern in Newtongrange for a pole dancing exercise lesson. It was most amusing and exceptionally hard work. It took me three whole days to recover from my exertions on the pole!

In May, a Midlothian Ranger took us on an evening ramble to Roslin Glen around the gun powder plots and was able to point out all the wildlife and share the interesting history of that area. We enjoyed the ramble so much that a number of us have booked up for a bat walk in late August. Thanks to Elaine Hall for organising these two evenings.

In June, we invited a reflexology expert along to share with us the benefits of this alternative therapy and also allow a few of our group to reap the benefits. She was also able to give head and shoulder massages to a number of us too. It was a lovely relaxing evening and thanks to Gillian, one of our members, for arranging on our behalf.

At the start of July, a few of us tried out the newly refurbished Sun Inn for supper. The feedback was very positive and a return trip may be planned for later in the year.

Due to holidays, we have decided not to meet in August but we will return to Oasis in September to plan our programme in the lead up to Christmas.

There are currently about 15 ladies who attend regularly and we meet the first Thursday of every month. If anyone is interested in joining us, please feel free to contact me on Tel No 0131 454 9278. We would be delighted to see you. It is always very informal and there is no requirement to attend every month.

Lynsey Stevenson

THE HOLY HIKERS

Everywhere is Walking distance
If you have the time
Steven Wright



I'm sure avid readers of The Link realised that once again I had missed "The Deadline" for the Easter issue. To be frank, I totally forgot until it was too late! Since then our schedule has been very varied: At the end of last year and into the beginning of 2009 our walks took us to Fairmilehead and the Caiystane (Dec), Inveresk and Musselburgh Riverside walk (Jan), St Ronan's Wells, Innerleithen (Feb), changed to April due to weather and Hopes Reservoir, Gifford (March). The May outing should have been Fala Moor but we ended up at Pencaitland, not due to bad map reading but changeable weather forced us to avoid the open moor and instead we walked in Winton Woods.

As in previous years walks in June, July and August have been on a Wednesday night. Lowries Den by Penicuik was a lovely evening stroll, Woodhall Dene near Spott, Dunbar was a fascinating walk into the remnants of an old oak forest and in August we did part of the Railway walk from Rosewell to Penicuik.

In past years I have planned longer walks for the second Saturday of the month in June, July and August and this year has been no exception. In June four of us did a good 14 mile Pentland Hills Walk and in July six members walked the Cloich Hills near Eddleston and Romano Bridge. It was a lovely day and the walk was approximately 12 miles. In August five of us did a 14 mile hike in the Lammermuirs (see picture) and again the weather favoured us. This year we have been very fortunate with the weather on all of our longer walks. We will be meeting soon to arrange our next walking programme. If anyone is interested in joining our group they will be most welcome. Please contact me on 0131 660 1147.



Happy Hiking,

Jim Scott

BLYTHSWOOD CARE CHRISTMAS BOXES

Cockpen & Carrington

I have ordered some leaflets which will be available, at the church door, the Guild or bric-a-brac, which give instructions for filling a shoebox to be sent by Blythswood care to children and adults in need. Last year's appeal led to 132,000 donated boxes being sent to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, India, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Sri Lanka and Ukraine.

The boxes will have to be taken to the pick up point by the first week of November so I would appreciate any donations to be handed in via the Church, Bric-a-brac on Thursday mornings or the Guild.

Basic items requested include- soap, facecloth, toothbrush, toothpaste, glove, hat, scarf, hairbrush, comb, socks, pants and stationary items, sweets with a best before date March 2010 (no chocolate, lollies or loose unwrapped sweets) for all age groups

Simple toys /colouring books and pens for children.

Sanitary products, make-up and household items e.g. sewing / cooking aids for women.

Tools (screwdrivers/ pliers etc.), razors, shaving foam, candles for men

Please phone one of the numbers below if you would like more information or if you need someone to collect a box.

Pamela Renton

Pamela - 0131 663 7432

Walter/Helen – 0131 663 1489

Lasswade & Rosewell

“MAKE SOMEONE SMILE THIS CHRISTMAS “

Leaflets are available in both Lasswade and Rosewell Church detailing the basic items required to fill a box. Boxes should be handed into either Lasswade or Rosewell Church by 25 October 2009. Boxes will eventually be uplifted from Rosewell Church. Any queries re leaflets or collecting of boxes please phone Agnes (440 0282)

Thank you

Cities of the World Quiz

See if you can identify the Cities around the world, if you give up the answers can be found elsewhere in the magazine.

1. OREM _____
2. NOODL _____
3. DMRIDA _____
4. LOOS _____
5. NEHTAS _____
6. ARIP _____
7. NEVIEC _____
8. SAMAMTRED _____
9. OMWOCS _____
10. TANSILUB _____
11. EGPOCHENAN _____
12. RIBENL _____
13. NNAIVE _____
14. VEENGA _____
15. LASRELEMIS _____
16. BILNOS _____
17. NUBLID _____
18. ERPUGA _____
19. CINHUM _____
20. SRWAWA _____