

Lammermuir Parish Newsletter June 2024



Yester Church with the Northern Lights – with thanks to Anna Tolley

Lammermuir Parish Church
Church of Scotland
Scottish Charity Number: SC015414
www.lammermuirchurch.org

Facebook facebook.com/LammermuirChurch
YouTube – search for 'Lammermuir Church'
Instagram instagram.com/lammermuirchurch

Next newsletter deadline: Monday 19 August 2024



The Church of Scotland

Minister's Letter

It's an interesting season. If you have watched your gardens, and the fields and woods around us closely, you will have seen subtle changes every day – from the miles of daffodils along the roadsides in April to the hedges gradually turning bright green, flowers and shrubs growing and budding, the apple and cherry blossom all bright a couple of weeks ago but now largely blown away, to the lilac and elderflower in full bloom right now. Everything is changing all the time – we may only notice when there is a clear difference to what has been there before, but in reality, all of these changes are gradual and ever ongoing.

It's an interesting season in the church, too. From the reflective, inward-looking time of Lent to the high drama of Holy Week, to the celebration of Easter. And a few weeks later, we have just been celebrating the Ascension and Pentecost. Why do we still remember and celebrate these occasions, why do we read the stories of how they began, and engage with them still? What the stories tell us is that after his death and resurrection, it took the disciples a while to grasp and even begin to understand how Jesus could still be present with them. He, in turn, whenever he appeared to them, continued teaching them, continued to equip and encourage them, so that they would eventually become ready to continue his ministry, and participate in the work of God's love in the world. At Ascension, we hear how Jesus eventually went to join God, and at Pentecost, how the Holy Spirit was granted to all of those who were gathered in Jerusalem, old and new disciples, people who had met Jesus, people who believed he was God's Son, people who would dare to take on the commission to continue telling the stories about Jesus and about God, and spread the message of God's love for the world throughout all of this world.

That's all a long time ago now, and it's still relevant for us today. That was the beginning of the Church. Over the centuries, the Church has changed so much, and taken on different forms. There are many different denominations, different ways of celebrating services and expressing faith, and yet, at the end of the day, we all follow and serve the same God. Even while our church, the church that we know and love, is changing, too, God's love for us and God's presence with us remain the same. And the commission given to the first Christians so long ago also remains the same today: to love the world, to live out God's love in the world. The way we do that might change, the way in which we are the Church may change, too, but God's love for us, God's presence in the world, they remain the same.

Have a good summer,
Anikó

Our Church Family

Baptisms

12 May, Rose Livia Scott Buchan, daughter of Elspeth Scott and Philip Buchan, Pencaitland

26 May, Angus William John Hogg, son of Emma and John Hogg, Longyester

Weddings

27 April, Sarah-Lizzie Cottrell, Kirkbridge, Humbie, and Blair Walker, Bothwell, at Humbie Church

25 May, Henrietta Hocknell and Jonathan Sage, York (Pencaitland), at Saltoun Church

1 June, Leanne Bathgate and William Cooper, Haddington (Gifford), at Yester Church

Deaths

13 February, Marion Martin, Gifford

17 March, Janet Murphy, formerly of Gifford and Humbie

19 April, Peter Sandilands, of East Saltoun

21 April, Alistair Scott, of East Saltoun

Messy Church is coming back!

We are planning to restart our Messy Church events for children and their grown-ups after the summer. Some of you may remember the happy and imaginative events we ran before the pandemic, and we are now ready to get them going again. Each event will focus on one biblical story or theme, and explore these through crafts, conversation and song. There will then be a shared meal for the children. The events will be particularly aimed at children of pre-school and primary-school age, and there will be some provision for babies and toddlers.



Contacts

We have about 25 active elders, and many others who are involved in organising various aspects of our church life. Here are the main contacts – and we're very happy to put you in touch with others if you have specific questions.

Minister	Anikó Schütz Bradwell	01620 811193 07936 042191	AnikoSB@churchofscotland.org.uk
<i>The minister's time off is usually Saturdays and Mondays.</i>			
Session Clerks	John Macfarlane Alex Campbell	01875 341311 07876 347135	jmacfarlane9@btinternet.com amg.campbell@gmail.com
Depute Session Clerk & Gift Aid Treasurer	Paul Sales	01620 811260	paulsales457@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Wendy Ferguson	01620 11069	wendyferguson.wf@gmail.com
Safeguarding	Ian Jameson	07803 93970	dianjameson@aol.com
Newsletter	David Bradwell	01620 811193	djbradwell@gmail.com
Website and social media	Cressida Douglas-Miller	07789 931737	cressida@thehopesestate.com

Church Flowers – Yester Kirk

We continue to be grateful to everyone who provides the flowers for the church services. They are then passed on to anyone we feel would like a little colour in their lives. We now have the dates of the services of the next six months and would like names please of anyone willing to put in flowers. You do not have to be a member of Yester to do this! If you are not physically able to do this yourself either Jean or Sylvia would put them in for you. You will also be reminded of your date the week before. If you know of anyone who would benefit from the flowers please let us know. Thank you.

Jean Peat 07827 222116
Sylvia Anderson 01620 810678

REMAP – making things possible for disabled people

REMAP is a unique national charity which seeks to improve the quality of life of disabled people. It achieves this by making and providing them with custom-made equipment, to meet their exact needs. As everyone's requirements are different, the equipment is created to each individual's specifications to help them achieve their goals. They will work with anyone currently experiencing disability, regardless of age or condition. To ensure that everyone gets the help they need, a network of skilled volunteers is on hand. They consist of people with special skills and knowledge such as engineers, designers and craftspeople. Together they are able to respond to requests every year from the relatively simple to the more complex.

The equipment provided can be for a range of purposes. It might help with day-to-day tasks like getting out and about, eating, cooking or washing. Or they can allow people to take part in hobbies or activities that they either want to try or are no longer able to fully enjoy. This can include playing a musical instrument, riding a bike, taking part in a sport or being creative through drawing or painting. Here are just a few examples of people REMAP has helped:

- ❖ Natalie approached REMAP as she was expecting her first baby and needed help to make everything suitable for her as a wheelchair user. A special pram was created using a car seat and a metal frame which could be safely attached to her wheelchair. In addition, a safety gate was adapted so she could open and close it and a cot was altered so that it opened at the side.



- ❖ REMAP engineers created a bespoke bow mount for Clare, so she could fulfil her ambition of becoming an archer. Having seen her husband and daughter take part in archery sessions, she was keen to have ago herself but her disability meant that she didn't have the

arm strength to hold a bow. REMAP created a stand which took the weight the bow and also attached securely to her wheelchair for stability.



REMAP remains the UK's only charity providing custom-made equipment, free of charge for people with disabilities, helping people every year.

If you or someone you know could benefit or if you're interested in volunteering, visit: lothian.remap.org.uk

Paul Wightman, Secretary Lothian, Fife & Forth Valley REMAP, and Humber resident

Your opinion is needed: timing of services

Our congregation for Sunday services is lively and provides a joyful opportunity for fellowship and communal worship, especially since we joined our services together into one weekly Sunday service. However, some of our members find the 10am timing too early for them to get to, as their health conditions require some more time for them to get going in the morning. The Kirk Session is therefore considering changing the timing of Sunday services to 10.30am, and would very much like to hear your opinion. Please cut off the strip below and hand it back on a Sunday (boxes are provided at the church doors), by Sunday, 28th July.

My preference for the time of the Sunday service is (mark with a x):

10.00am	
10.30am	
I would be happy with either time.	

If the service was at your preferred time, how many Sunday services would you attend?

Every week	
Every fortnight	
Once a month	
Less frequently	

UK Parliament General Election – July 4 2024

The Church of Scotland does not endorse or support individual candidates or parties, but as part of our commitment to the common good many congregations and Christian organisations support participation in democratic activity, including discussion and debate, the sharing of ideas and opinions, building relationships with candidates and elected politicians, voting, and praying for all those involved and affected by political decisions.

The national Church is encouraging all congregations to promote among members ways to make sure they don't lose the chance to cast their vote and that we can show support for our democratic institutions – regardless which party we vote for.

If you (or your friends or family) have recently moved or if you think you might not be registered to vote, you need to do so by 18 June

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

There has been a change which means you must present photo ID if you want to vote – you can check online if you have eligible and valid ID for this. If you don't have the right photo ID or you are not sure you can apply for a free 'Voter Authority Certificate' but you need to do so by 26 June

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>

As the election is falling in the East Lothian school holidays, make sure you don't get caught out by being away on July 4th. You can apply for a postal vote – by 19 June – or proxy vote – by 26 June.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote>

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote>

Humbie, East & West Saltoun and Bolton Community Council are (at the time of going to press) hoping to organise a community hustings towards the end of June. Please keep an eye on the weekly emails from Anikó for details.

Across 5. favourite 8. affresco 9. acre 10. balsa 11. gritter 13. archery
15. Betty 18. asks 19. unending 20. returners
Down 1. bairns 2. toast 3. armoury 4. at last 6. albatross 7. Argentina
12. arduous 14. hasten 16. endure 17. Beano

Future of Saltoun's Village Hall

Previous Parish Newsletters have mentioned the decommissioning and likely sale of the Saltoun church building, as well as the concerns of a few residents who wished to investigate possible options for future community acquisition of the building. An open meeting, held at the end of March, discussed the considerable challenges involved. The Community Council has subsequently agreed to lead a feasibility study to determine what, if anything, might be possible.

The village hall (Fletcher Hall) and its surrounding grounds are owned and managed by Saltoun Community Association (SCA) on behalf of the local community. Because the 100-year-old hall building is seriously compromised and in need of replacement, SCA has been asked on a number of occasions if the church building might be an alternative option to replacing the hall on its present site.

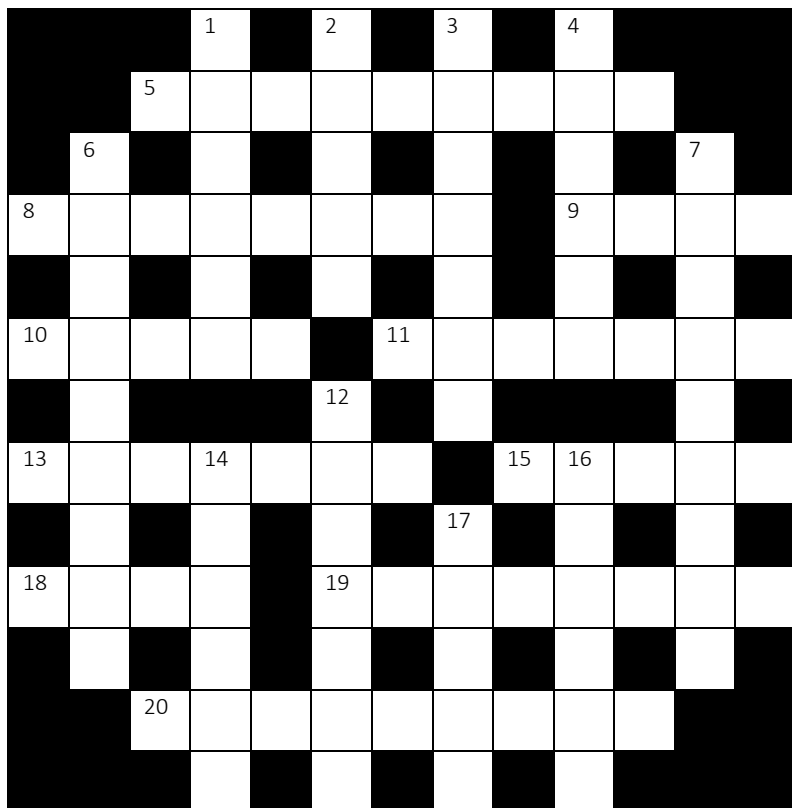
The SCA trustees concluded however that the church building is not a viable replacement option for the village hall. Apart from the burden of ongoing repairs, maintenance and insurance on a much older, listed building, the building's unusual layout would be extremely challenging to convert and develop into appropriate facilities, while also lacking the advantages of the hall's current location, including full water and sewerage services, vehicular and pedestrian access, parking and recreation space. The SCA's view is that taking on responsibility for the church building would be an additional burden on the SCA and the community, and that our priority must be in securing the longer-term future of the village hall by other means.

Alastair Wyllie, Chair, Saltoun Community Association

General Assembly

In May our Minister Anikó was a Commissioner (member) of the Church of Scotland General Assembly meeting in Edinburgh. The Assembly saw the installation of a new Moderator – Rt Rev Dr Shaw Paterson – who acts as the Church's ambassador at home and abroad for the next 12 months. You can read more about the decisions taken by the Assembly on the Church of Scotland website www.churchofscotland.org.uk or in Life & Work. Or speak to Anikó!

Lammermuir Crossword No.2



Across

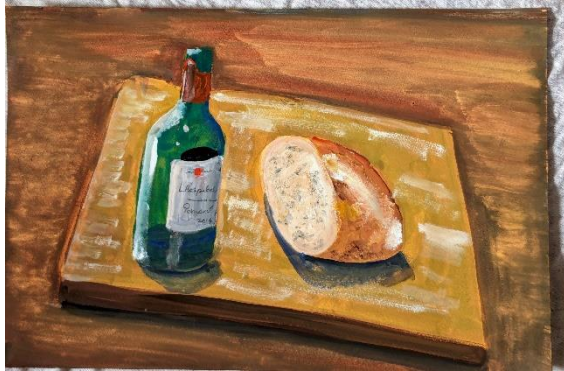
5. The one that is liked best (9)
8. Taking place in the open air (8)
9. 4,840 sq. yards (4)
10. A tree with extremely strong, light wood (5)
11. A special vehicle which appears when the roads are icy (7)
13. This sport is known as toxophily (7)
15. The name of Fred Flintstone's best friend's wife (5)
18. Enquiries (4)
19. Never finishing (8)
20. People who go back to work after a career break (9)

Down

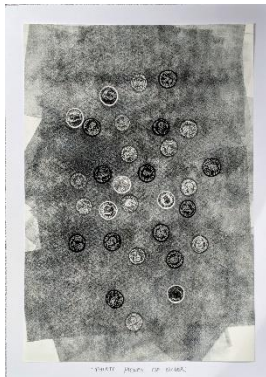
1. Scottish children (6)
2. Bread browned with dry heat (5)
3. A place where guns, rifles, ammunition etc. are stored (7)
4. Finally (2,4)
6. The bird which appears in *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* (9)
7. Juan Peron was president of this country (9)
12. Exhausting; laborious (7)
14. Quicken (6)
16. Suffer something patiently (6)
17. The sister paper of the Dandy (5)

Holy Week images

Thank you to the very talented artists who created new images that were used in our Holy Week and Easter services.

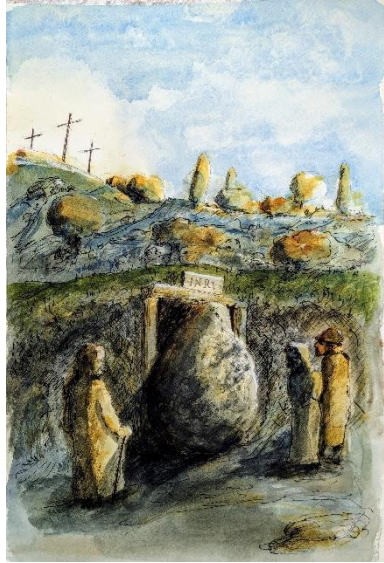


Aggerte, tveite, tveite to a word, new



WHITE PEARLS OF DARK





Outdoor service and lunch

Like last summer, we are planning to have an outdoor service again this year, on 7th July at Keith Marischal at the later time of 11am. Many thanks to Alex and Sophy Campbell for their hospitality. We hope to be outside, but a marquee will be provided in case of wet weather.

We would then like to have a bring-and-share lunch together. All contributions very welcome – please speak to Margo Hodge and Christine Gillies, who are coordinating contributions (to avoid too many duplications) about what you would like to bring.

To get to Keith Marischal, at the Humber War Memorial crossing, drive straight on towards Peaston on the B6371 (rather than turning right towards the church or left towards the village). After roughly a mile, you'll see the gate into Keith Marischal on your right (and we'll have a sign there). Come up the gravel drive towards the house. Alternatively, you can also take the road from West Sالتون and find Keith Marischal beyond Duncrahill and Keith Mains.

Sunday Services take place at 10am, led by the Rev Anikó Schütz Bradwell (unless noted below). Streaming or recording available, check on the website for details www.lammermuirchurch.org

JUNE

2	Humbie	Coffee and tea after service
9	Yester	Sunday Club
16	Saltoun	Coffee and tea after service
23	Yester	
30	Bolton	Baptism

JULY

7	Humbie 11am	Outdoor service at Keith Marischal, followed by joint lunch
14	Yester	Led by the Rev Rolf Billes
21	Bolton*	Led by the Worship Team
28	Yester	Holy Communion. Coffee and tea after service

AUGUST

4	Humbie	Coffee and tea after service
11	Yester	Songs of Praise. <i>Please give hymn requests to Anikó by 04.08.</i>
18	Saltoun*	Coffee and tea after service
25	Yester	

SEPTEMBER

1	Humbie	Coffee and tea after service
8	Yester	Sunday Club
15	Bolton*	Holy Communion
22	Yester	
29	Yester	

* Services will continue at Bolton and Saltoun Churches until the General Trustees have agreed a sale or community buyout for them. We should have a sufficient notice period before that. However, should one or both of the buildings close before the publication of the next newsletter, the alternative venue for services scheduled there will be Yester Church.