

August/September 2025

Issue 170

# The Link



*See how the wild flowers grow! They don't work to earn, or craft their own clothes, but even King Solomon with all his wealth was not dressed as well as they are. Lk 12:27-28*

**The magazine for the linked congregations and communities of the West Kirk of Calder and Polbeth Harwood.**

[www.west-kirk-polbeth-harwood.co.uk](http://www.west-kirk-polbeth-harwood.co.uk)

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## Letter from the Minister

*From the Manse.....(well not quite!)*



During the short but very, very warm spell of weather in July everything around us seemed brighter. While nature coped, we human beings struggled when the temperature spiked to between 27 and 30.....The trees greener, the fields more golden, the bees and butterflies seemed to enjoy the sunshine. Flowers in the garden bloomed in splendour. Vegetables in greenhouses came on a treat. The sunsets were lovely as were the sunrises. One night I took time to watch the moon as it travelled across the sky for an hour or two, it was amazing! It was so bright. And it made me think about how wonderful God's creation is, if you stop and take time to look. Even on the rainy days there is beauty in creation if you look around you.

How could anyone not be aware of the creator of heaven and earth?

As David says in Psalm 104:

*<sup>10</sup> He makes springs pour water into the ravines;  
it flows between the mountains.*

*<sup>11</sup> They give water to all the beasts of the field;  
the wild donkeys quench their thirst.*

*<sup>12</sup> The birds of the sky nest by the waters;  
they sing among the branches.*

- 13 He waters the mountains from his upper chambers;  
the land is satisfied by the fruit of his work.***
- 14 He makes grass grow for the cattle,  
and plants for people to cultivate—  
bringing forth food from the earth:***
- 15 wine that gladdens human hearts,  
oil to make their faces shine,  
and bread that sustains their hearts.***
- 16 The trees of the Lord are well watered,  
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.***
- 17 There the birds make their nests;  
the stork has its home in the junipers.***
- 18 The high mountains belong to the wild goats;  
the crags are a refuge for the hyrax...***

**When was the last time you stopped and said wow, as you looked at the sun, the moon, the stars, and even the rain? As you look at the familiar and the new, the large and the small, our hearts should sing to God, about our amazing world and everything in it. Pause and look out at what God has made, for our pleasure.**

**Why not take time to read the whole of Psalm 104? David's poetry is as wonderful as the world he is trying to describe and the praise he gives to God.**

**Blessings**

**Alison Quilter**

# If Only Things Were Different

Romans 8:18-25 (NLT)

## The Future Glory

***<sup>18</sup> Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. <sup>19</sup> For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. <sup>20</sup> Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, <sup>21</sup> the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. <sup>22</sup> For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup> And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us. <sup>24</sup> We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. <sup>25</sup> But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.)***

There's the story of an old farm worker, asked by a tourist for directions to get to the distant town. 'Oh! It is a difficult road', he

said, 'If I were going there I wouldn't start from here.' If only things were different. If things weren't so busy, if life wasn't so rough, if only we could see things more clearly, we'd be happier, and able to give more. Most of us waste time and nervous energy wishing things were better, creating fantasies about what we'd do if we could start with a different set of circumstances. But we can't change the rules, we have to accept things as they are, not with the inertia of fatalism but as a creative point of departure. The fatalist accepts things with a shrug of shoulders and says, 'That's how things always are.' The Christian starts by accepting, not kicking rebelliously, but saying 'OK, that's the way things are, the way people are – now let's see what we can do'.

After all, that was the way Jesus did it. Carlo Carretto, one of the Little Brothers of Jesus – writes in his book, *Summoned by Love: Faced with man's poverty, faced with the flood of pain, He did not ask the Father to alter things.....He could have asked for death to be abolished....He could have asked for Earth to be transformed into an Eden, where no one could ever be hungry again: He did not do so. He could, He the Omnipotent, the Well-Beloved, have Himself abolished pain and not endured it Himself: He did not ask for this. The real, the whole reality of the creation, made by God and corrupted by human disobedience and sin, had to be accepted as it was. He had to start from this. To accept it as a mystery. To accept it as supreme self-giving. Jesus bowed His head and accepted reality.*

He accepted reality was the starting point for his life and work. Your part of the world, or mine, may at this moment look beautiful or ugly, may be depressing or joyful. Probably it's a puzzling mixture. Whatever it is, that's where you are and you can only accept it – with thanks, if you can, although personally I find the apostle Paul's admonition, 'In all things to give thanks' very difficult. It is something I **aim for** rather than achieve. We may not like it but that's reality and, having accepted it, we can begin with love, patience, to transform it. The transformation may not be dramatic. Reality can resist change strongly, but love and patience can inject a note of redemption into many situations. Outwardly, the world carried on much as before after Christ's sacrifice, but the new note of reality is suffused with an indestructible hope, tested from time to time by doubt and loss of courage – but the answer to the farm worker is 'You can get there, from here – you have to!'

Rev Alison Quilter

## Our Move to the UK – by Herald Francis

My family arrived in the United Kingdom in January 2003. We came here as refugees, seeking asylum after fleeing persecution and threats from religious extremists. My father was a successful and influential figure in the Christian community, and that visibility made him a target.

I still remember one terrifying incident vividly. We had arranged a memorial service at home for my grandfather's anniversary. Friends and relatives from across the country had come to our house. It was around two o'clock in the afternoon. I was playing *Duke Nukem* on our computer when my cousin came running in, shouting, "There are men with guns in the house!"

I thought he was joking and carried on playing. Suddenly, I saw a tall figure in my peripheral vision entering the room. He demanded I come with him to the living room. His voice reminded me of a man who used to carpool us to school. He pointed something towards my face. I was too engrossed in the game to realise it was a loaded revolver. I instinctively pushed it away.

In response, he tore out the dial-up cables from the wall, socket and all, and struck me on the back of the head. Startled and frightened, I was dragged to the living room, along with my cousin. I sat beside my mother. The entire gathering had been forced into that room.

I don't remember everything clearly, but I recall three men with guns standing over us, arguing among themselves. My father, who had worked on oil fields and had been trained in negotiation, used his skills to speak to them calmly. He managed to make them question what they were doing. In the end, they took some money and left, but not without threatening to return for him.

This was not a one-off experience. While some incidents were extreme like this one, others were subtle but still painful. At restaurants, my father had to pay extra for the crockery and cutlery because once we used them, they would be discarded.

After that traumatic event, my father accepted severance and left his senior position. He began planning our migration. It took years to gather the evidence needed to support our visa applications. We tried to go to Canada through official channels but were rejected. The process was difficult, costly, and disheartening.

After the events of 9/11, I saw firsthand how attitudes changed. George Bush had deployed forces to Pakistan, suspecting Bin Laden was hiding there. Fear spread, and extremist groups influenced religious leaders to promote hate. Christians began to be viewed as aligned with the West, and the blasphemy law was weaponised to target minorities.

I personally felt the shift. My Muslim friends stopped speaking to me. I was bullied at school. There would be occasional beatings and other strange forms of torment. I expressed my fears to my mum and dad. I said, "What will you do if I just don't come home one day?" At this point my father rushed all his plans and made the arrangements for us to flee.

In January 2003, our journey began. Escorted by airport customs and a security officer who was a family friend, and accompanied by a priest from our church, we boarded a plane to Dubai and then flew to London Heathrow. Upon arrival, we spent 48 hours in an office room while my parents were interviewed and our case was filed. We were then housed at the Granada Hotel in Hounslow for three months before eventually being relocated to Glasgow once we were granted indefinite stay.

I still remember when our caseworker, Chris, showed us around

our new house in Glasgow. He told us, “If you want to drink, just drink straight from the tap.” I was stunned. In Pakistan, we only drank bottled water, or water my mother spent hours boiling and storing. The first time I drank tap water here, it was pure, cool, refreshing—it tasted almost sweet. It was heavenly. A truly spiritual experience.

As a child in Pakistan, I remember playing in 50C heat, desperately thirsty and unable to find clean water. I’d carry a bottle, but it never lasted. My throat would burn, and my nose would sting. Now, we have water in abundance.

That is how I feel about the freedom to practise my faith here in Scotland. I am free to declare my love for God. Free to serve without fear or judgement. Yes, we have differences among our denominations, but we are united in our love for Christ. We can say together, “We love you, Lord.”

This place is our little piece of heaven.

I have learned to trust in God’s plans. Yes, I experience doubt, sadness, and moments of hopelessness. But I truly believe God loves all of us. Even in suffering, there is love, though we may not understand it immediately. In time, God’s grace becomes clear. I recognise that my family’s hardships for the freedom to practice Christianity was extreme. But suffering comes in many forms here too. It can be an exam someone is anxious about, an interview for a new job, a loved one’s illness, or even our own. All of it is temporary. It will pass. Or it can be a struggle that is internal in the form of mental health like depression and anxiety.

Recently, I felt overwhelmed. Alone, I prayed. I cried. I asked for guidance, for a sign. I poured out my love for God. In that moment, I felt God’s embrace. A warmth surrounded me. I could not stop crying. My heart was racing. There was no one around,

so I opened my Bible to search for a message. That is when I saw it: Jeremiah 31. I encourage you to read it. It gave me reassurance. God loves me. My suffering will not last forever.

There is reward in the end.

Please do not misunderstand me. I am not here to spread hate against another faith. I hold nothing against Islam. Time has passed, and the world has changed. Much still needs to be done, but if you visit Pakistan today, you will be met with warmth and hospitality. It is a beautiful country with loving people. Yet, for local minorities, life remains difficult. There is another side to the story for them that has no solution. The reality has not changed for the local Pakistani Christians.

Here, in the United Kingdom, we have safety, security, and the freedom to worship. I feel God's presence in this church, in this community. You are the Body of Christ. Christ suffered on the cross for our sins and all that is asked of us is to Love Him and share it with others. I am privileged that I can do that so freely.

I see God's love in how we care for one another. In how we protect the vulnerable. In Sandra, Reeta, Eleanor and others who guide our children in JAM Club. In Nanda and Alison, whose sermons radiate God's love and Wisdom. Even in every cup of coffee served by Margaret, I see grace.

It is all an expression of God's love, shown to me through each of you.

So, I say: thank you, God. And thank you all.

# Shoeboxes have arrived in Polbeth

Christmas might seem a long way away but, here in Polbeth, we are preparing early. A small group of ladies have prefilled shoeboxes ready to be shipped off in November.

These will be available to purchase for £10 from October so no need for you to stress about what to fill your box with.

More information will follow nearer the time.



## Picture This

**James 1:23-24 (NIV)**

***Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.***

I love pictures! Have you ever wondered who invented the camera? Many believe George Eastman invented the roll film camera in 1888. But actually, somebody else made the camera first. The first camera that was small and portable enough to be practical for photography was built by Johann Zahn in 1685.

Pictures allow us to capture moments in time, to make memories that last forever. And with the technology available today, we can have these keepsakes in seconds!

When it comes to memorising Scripture, a picture captured in the mind, never to be erased, would be wonderful! James says that anyone who 'looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it – he will be blessed in what he does.'

Do you want freedom? Do you want to be blessed? Find a way to memorise Scripture and obey it. Don't just walk away from hearing God's Word at Church and forget what you learned. Write it down. Use your mind like a camera and take a 'picture' of God's spoken promises that you can reflect on for years to come!

***Dear Lord, help me remember Your Word. Help me learn how to memorise Scripture. I want to reflect on Your promises to me all the days of my life. Amen.***

Rev Alison Quilter

## Norwegian Cruise

How was I to know such a great holiday adventure was about to begin after my son, Paul, asked me 'mum, do you have a valid passport?'

This was in February. The month of a big birthday!

In July, Paul, his wife, their two girls and I were going to spend 2 nights in Copenhagen followed by a seven night cruise through the Norwegian Fjords.

We set off for Edinburgh airport for our flight to Copenhagen where we got a taxi to our airbnb. We had a lovely time exploring the city and seeing the beautiful flower displays all over this clean and vibrant city. We visited the food market and managed to fit in shopping and plenty of food along the way.

When it was time to board the ship we excitedly got to our cabins (with the luxury of balconies to enhance the view) then explored the ship before setting sail.

Our first stop was in Warnemunde where new passengers boarded the ship. We took the train to Rostock. A lovely little town but, as it was Sunday, most of the shops were closed.

Fortunately the cafes were open so we had lunch before going back to explore the sandy beach in Warnemunde. One of the local seagulls had a lovely feast when it swooped down and stole one of our ice creams. The victim had at least managed a couple of licks before it was taken! We were all trying not to laugh, as were other bystanders.

After a full day at sea during which we visited the onboard shopping mall, took part (and won) a quiz and checked out the professional photos that had been taken.

Our next stop was Eidfjord where we had pre-booked an excursion to Voss. There were lots of stops at waterfalls for

photos and walkabouts. The waterfalls were spectacular. We had a lovely lunch in a hotel in Voss before it was time to head back to the ship.

Our next stop in Bergen allowed us to get a cable car to the top of the mountain where we petted the goats which are part of Norway's eco system!

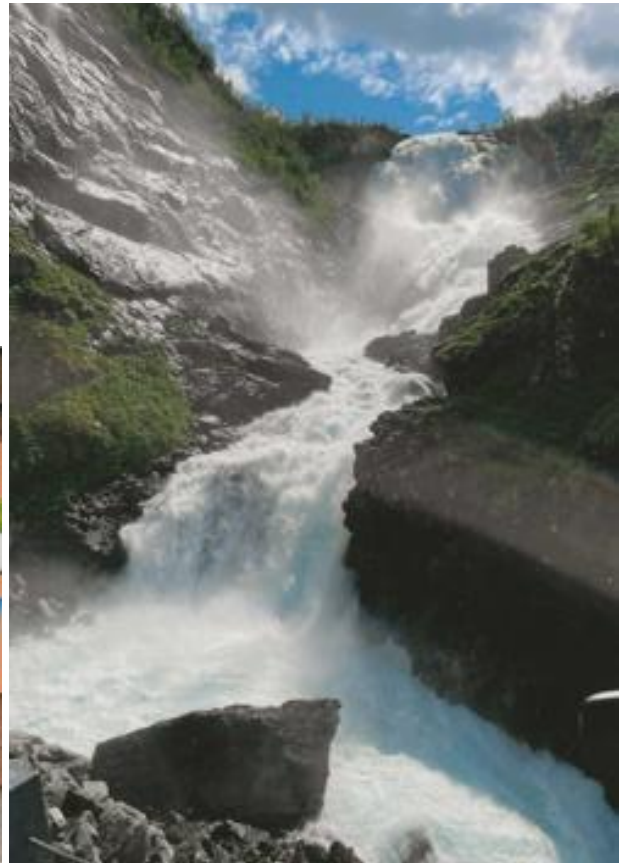
When we next docked it was in Lyngdal. The ship is too big for the port so we had to get off by tender which I was not looking forward to but the crew members were so helpful getting me on and off. Lyngdal is a lovely little place with wooden houses painted in different colours and styles. Again, plenty of lovely food was found in the cafes.

Our final stop was in Oslo which is a lovely city. We had a look around the opera house which has a rooftop space with great views. There are loads of beautiful flowers in the parks and pedestrianised streets as well as outside houses and on balconies. We managed more pastries and ice cream (without the seagull this time) before heading back to the ship for our last night on board.

There were so many varied activities on the ship and loads of different foods to try. I particularly enjoyed sitting on my balcony watching the other boats go past and when people waved to me I felt like the Queen waving back.

What a wonderful trip.

Margaret Hampson



## AUTUMN FUN DAY AT THE WEST KIRK

The fund raising group at the West Kirk are holding a Fun Day on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August from 11am to 3 pm.

Inside we will have our usual selection of delicious home baking etc and we will be serving Cream Teas. Outside there will be BBQ Food, Ice Cream,

A Bottle Stall, & Luck Dip with games for the children.

Hope to see you all there & fingers crossed for a dry & sunny day.

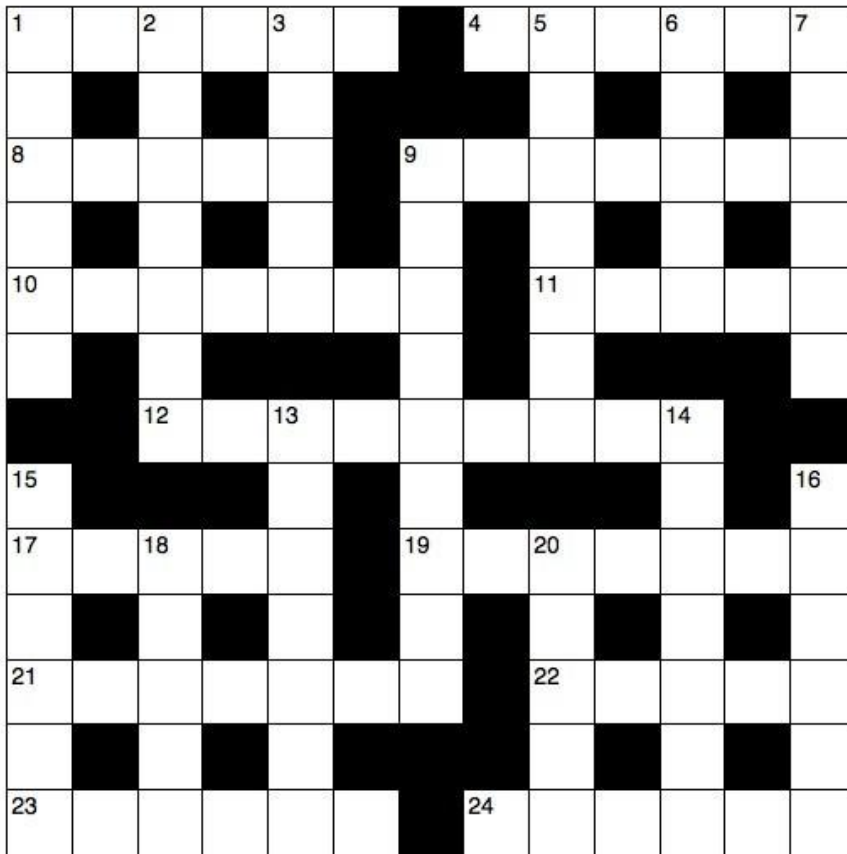
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### **Some Holy Wit! From Rev James Simpson**

The mailing label for a magazine was returned from the Post Office marked : 'Deceased. Address Unknown.'

A man from Leicester tells how he was asked to arrange the transport of a coffin from Dublin to the west coast of Ireland. The only way to take it was by train, so he telephoned the Irish Rail Office to enquire the fare. 'Certainly sir', the girl replied, 'Was is single or return?'

An elder tells of calling on an old lady shortly after the induction of their new minister, the Rev. Bill Macmillan. Mr Macmillian's wife was an *anaesthetist* in a city hospital. Discussing their new minister, the old lady expressed her regret however, that such a fine minister should have a wife who was an *atheist*.



## Across

- 1 'The people were — at his teaching' (Mark 1:22) (6)
- 4 'He saved —; let him save himself' (Luke 23:35) (6)
- 8 He addressed the crowd in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:14) (5)
- 9 Father of James and John (Matthew 4:21) (7)

10 One who charges another with an offence (Job 31:35) (7)

11 ' — thy ministers with righteousness' (Book of Common Prayer) (5)

12 and 15 Down 'All — is God-breathed and is — for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16) (9,6)

17 'No — of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up' (Genesis 2:5) (5)

19 Made to feel embarrassed (Isaiah 24:23) (7)

21 This man built his house on sand (Matthew 7:26) (7)

22 David's hypocritical message to Joab on the death in battle of Uriah: 'Don't let this — you' (2 Samuel 11:25) (5)

23 Detest (Job 10:1) (6)

24 'God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day and the — light to govern the night' (Genesis 1:16) (6)

## Down

- 1 To make a serious request (1 Corinthians 1:10) (6)
- 2 Launches an assault against (Genesis 32:8) (7)
- 3 'The wicked man — deceptive wages' (Proverbs 11:18) (5)
- 5 Tuba ale (anag.) (7)
- 6 'The day thou gavest, Lord, is — ' (5)
- 7 Old Testament measure of weight, equivalent to about 12 grammes (Exodus 30:13) (6)
- 9 Where Elijah restored life to the son of a widow with whom he lodged (1 Kings 17:10) (9)
- 13 Paul said of whatever was to his profit, 'I consider them — , that I may gain Christ and be found in him' (Philippians 3:8) (7)
- 14 City visited by Paul, described by the city clerk as 'the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis' (Acts 19:35) (7)
- 15 See 12 Across
- 16 Rioted (anag.) (6)
- 18 She had a surprise when she answered the door and found 8 Across outside (Acts 12:13) (5)
- 20 Maltreat (1 Chronicles 10:4) (5)

## Answers for issue 169

### ACROSS:

8, Grandchildren. 9, Pro. 10, Marvelled. 11, Strut. 13, Startle. 16, Babysit. 19, Orate. 22, Eucharist. 24, Map. 25, Commissioners.

### DOWN:

1, Egypt's. 2, Favour. 3, Edomites. 4, Thorns. 5, Blue. 6, Armlet. 7, On edge. 12, Tea. 14, Adoption. 15, Lot. 16, Breach. 17, Become. 18, This So. 20, Armies. 21, Expose. 23, Avid.

## AWAY DAY ON THE TRAIN TO HELENSBURGH

In a previous Link I told you that my grandson Nathan loves taking photographs and if he can combine that with a train trip, he's over the moon.

We had planned during the Easter Holidays to visit various places including Largs and Helensburgh however we didn't manage either of them.

So, timetable checked, snacks and camera packed we set off last Friday from Livingston North to Helensburgh. Having spent the first 25 years of my life in Glasgow I was used to holidays on the west coast and trips 'Doon the Watter' but this was new territory for Nathan. On arrival we headed for the recently refurbished Hillhouse designed for the Blackie Family by Charles Rennie McIntosh and his wife Margaret McDonald McIntosh between 1902 & 1904. I have admired his work for many years and, in fact, the primary school I attended was also designed by him and is now a museum of education.

Mr & Mrs Blackie who owned a publishing business became lifelong friends with the McIntoshes and even got him to design covers for children's educational and story books.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit and tour around the house, I'm not 100% sure that Nathan did, however I know he enjoyed his lunch. (Wherever we go he always checks out if there is a Wetherspoon, KFC or McDonalds). On this visit it was a Wetherspoon named after another famous Helensburgh person, Henry Bell, who was a famous Scottish engineer known for introducing the first successful passenger steamboat service in Europe and was also the first Provost of Helensburgh. After we had a walk around the town, been down to the water and had an ice cream, we headed back to the station for our trip home and to tick off another place on our must visit list.

Hopefully we will manage to get to Largs (and Nardini's) before the end of the school holidays.

M Hogg

## Davaar Island

At the end of June five of us travelled to Campbeltown on the Mull of Kintyre for a few days in the Scottish sunshine! It is a part of the world I have never really visited before so the whole experience was new. Machrihanish beach proved very popular with the dog and the three distilleries were a draw for the other members of the party. I am not a whisky lover so was the designated driver for these visits. The most excellent fish shop in the town provided us with wonderful fresh seafood in our self-catering cottage.

On the final day before returning home we decided to walk to Davaar Island which is located at the mouth of Campbeltown Loch off the east coast of the peninsula. It is a tidal island linked to the mainland at low tide by a natural shingle causeway called The Doirlinn. The walk is only possible three hours either side of low tide, so planning is essential to ensure you are not stranded on the island. In our case this meant we had to be at the start of the walk by around 8am on what proved to be a rather dreich morning on the west coast.

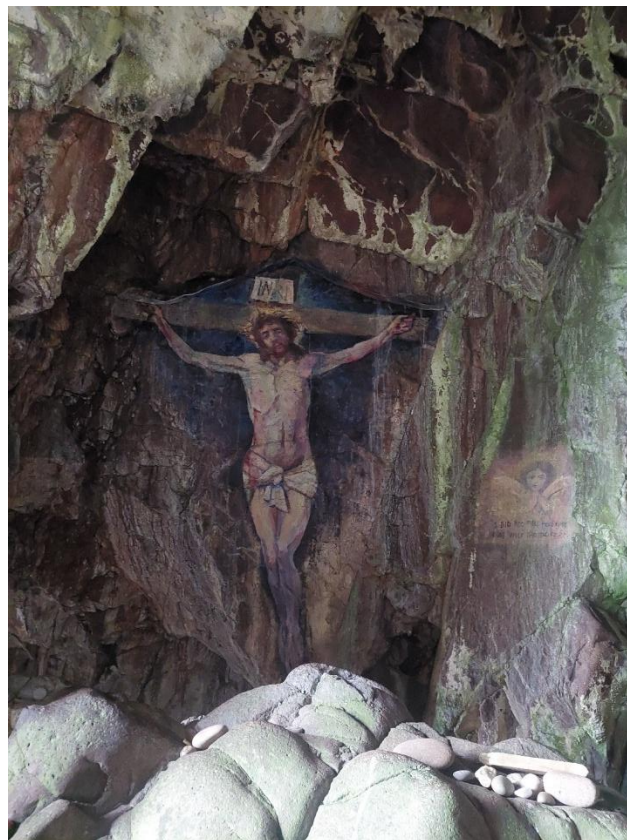
The walk across the causeway takes around 40 minutes and once on the island we set off along the bottom of the cliffs which involved some scrambling over rocks as we headed for the sea caves some of which were easier to explore than others.

Eventually we reached the cave where there is a life size painting of the crucifixion. This painting was originally discovered in 1887 by some fishermen who thought it must be a miraculous sign from God. In fact, the painting had been done by local art teacher Archibald MacKinnon who claimed the image had come to him in a dream. The story goes that the artist was exiled from the town when the locals discovered it was MacKinnon, and not God, who was responsible for the artwork.

Mackinnon returned to the area several times in later life and retouched his painting. More recently in 2006 the painting was vandalised when the face of Che Guevara was superimposed on that of Christ. A full restoration of the painting was undertaken, and it is now believed to be as like the original as it was possible to make it. It is certainly a striking image to find in a dark dank cave.

The island is farmed and is home to a herd of wild goats and a haven for seabirds and other wildlife. It is also popular with people collecting whelks and winkles which we saw being carried home in nets by bicycle. On a clear day the views will be spectacular and if your interest is in Lighthouses then you can also walk to the one built in 1854 by David and Thomas Stevenson.

Time was pressing so we made our way back across the causeway just as the rain really got going!



## The Bridge



**'16 to 25+ year olds'**

'The Bridge' for young folk aged 16 to 25+ years old is held quarterly. A get together and a blether, sharing a meal or light snack and explore our faith and discuss things that matter to you as young folk in 21stC.

If you are interested please get in touch with myself or Nanda and bring a friend along too!

We meet in Polbeth Harwood Church Café Area on a **Wednesday at 7pm**. However, our next scheduled meeting will be on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>** August where we will meet in Livingston at 6pm for a meal. Check the whatsapp group for details.

The Bridge let's stay connected! Look forward to seeing you there!

Nanda, Sandra and Alison



# The Quiet Service

The next quiet service in Polbeth Harwood will be held on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30pm** in the 'quiet room'. All are welcome to this short service followed by tea, coffee, biscuits and a 'blether'.

Entry via the Ramp Door.

Anyone who would like to come and needs assistance with transport should call Sandra Dixon on 07855861223.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Sandra and Alison

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## August 25

Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	United Morning Worship	Polbeth Harwood	11.15
Monday - Friday	4 <sup>th</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Club	Polbeth Harwood	19.00
Friday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Club Open Evening	Polbeth Harwood	10.00
Sundays	10 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> 31 <sup>st</sup>	United Morning Worship	Polbeth Harwood	11.15
Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup>	The Bridge	Meal Out	18.00
Friday	29 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Group		19.00
Saturday	30 <sup>th</sup>	Autumn Fun Day	West Kirk	11.00

## September 25

Thursday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Session Meeting	West Kirk	19.00
Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion	West Kirk	09.30
		Bible Class	Polbeth Harwood	11.15
			West Kirk	09.30
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday Warblers	West Kirk	11.30
		Quiet Service	Polbeth Harwood	15.30
Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup>	Beyond Kirk Walls Services	Dickson Court	13.45
			Burngrange Home	15.00
Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship	West Kirk	09.45
			Polbeth Harwood	11.15
Sunday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Morning Worship	West Kirk	09.45
			Polbeth Harwood	11.15
Friday	26 <sup>th</sup>	Youth Group		19.00
Sunday	28 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship	West Kirk	09.30
			Polbeth Harwood	11.15

# Parish Record



## Deaths

*Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life."*

*To all who have lost a loved one we extend our sincere sympathies and prayers.*

28<sup>th</sup> June – Bruce le Lievre, Hermand House, West Calder

15<sup>th</sup> July – Ian Macaulay, The Glebe, West Calder

Caring God,

You have promised your comfort  
to those overwhelmed by grief.

Hold on to all who walk through the valley of tears.

May your Spirit console and comfort them;  
May your Spirit strengthen and support them;

Reach out to them,  
and grant them the knowledge  
that you are with them,  
sharing their pain and moved by their sorrow.

Amen.

A picture to colour

