

The Link

St Leonard's, Lasswade & Bonnyrigg with St Mary's, Dalkeith April 2014



Celebrating Passover

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If you were to google for images of Easter on the internet you would quickly come to the conclusion that Easter is about brightly coloured chocolate eggs, bunny rabbits and fluffy chicks. The symbolism of celebrating new life and vitality fits well with a northern hemisphere view of the world as we celebrate the arrival of Spring. However, are these signs of spring really appropriate for our fellow passengers on earth who live south of the Equator. For they are spiralling towards days of cold and darkness as their autumn and winter arrive. Yet Easter for all of us wherever we live in the world is a wonderful universal story, a message of hope filled with the promise of new life to come.

As Easter approaches I am wondering how should and could I communicate the Easter Message in a fresh way, how do I cut through the chocolate to the substance of the story and where to begin? As I write I am also preparing for our schools Easter Assemblies. The first week of April is the last week of the Midlothian school term. This is a full two weeks before Easter Sunday and to be honest it feels a little early to be celebrating Easter. It is nevertheless a wonderful opportunity to be invited into schools and to be given the task of sharing the Easter story with the pupils. For many of them this will be the only occasion when they will hear this "story". Sadly, however, there never seems to be the time to go deeper and to explore the what and why of Easter.

Likewise I sense that we too, through knowing the events of the story, can be in danger of treating the Easter message as just another story. Familiarity breeds contempt, and we need to guard ourselves against contempt and apathy while endeavouring to engage with the great mystery of Easter afresh each year.

So how do we bring that fresh focus to our Easter celebrations? Well as a starting point for this year can I be a little controversial and challenge us to move away from the word "Easter" and replace it with "Passover". In fact it is not a replacement but a return to the root and foundation of the festival.

It is debatable whether the word "Easter" is in fact a suitable word for the greatest mystery of our faith. "Easter" for some linguistics is derived from an old English word *Eostre* that comes from an adaptation of the Latin word *Pascha* this itself is from the Hebrew word *Pesach*. Which if you know your Hebrew is where the word Passover originates from. However, at the same time the word Easter can also lead us on a merry dance of hares, rabbits and eggs to the dawn goddess of *Eostre* to which St Bede highlights in his great work "The Ecclesiastical History of the English People" Here he notes that the worship of *Eostre* was replaced by the celebration of the Paschal Month which celebrates the resurrection of Jesus. This is where the waters of Easter become muddy between the old pagan customs and the early days of Christianity.

So to refresh our focus and deepen our understanding of the Paschal mystery let us this year endeavour to speak of the ancient feast of Passover and wish everyone a happy Passover and tell people we are looking forward to it.

Now I must warn you that this action could be controversial especially if the College of Bishops hears about this as I may end up being excommunicated! Church history shows that in the early days of the church around 195 AD there was much controversy around when the church should celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. Around this time Pope Victor the 1st declared that all those who celebrated the Passover and kept with the Jewish feast and their timings were to be excommunicated from the great Church of Christ.



I pray that things have settled by now and that the Christian faith would once again value the Passover and many other Jewish festivals for within them we can find seeds of the Gospel and a deeper understanding of the message we celebrate and rejoice in at this time.

If you want to read about the first Passover story then I point you towards the Old Testament book of Exodus and to Chapter 12 which tells us about the first Passover meal. After this event Moses lead the people out of Egypt on into the promised land (around 40 years later) and to remember this great achievement he called the Jewish people to keep a yearly celebration of the Passover.

The Passover reminds us that at one time the people of God were enslaved, trapped and daily facing death in Egypt. They had no life, no hope, no future, yet still they put their trust in Yahweh. Their pleas for help were heard and in time they were commanded to take innocent, perfect lambs and to sacrifice them and to use the blood to mark their households. Through trusting in God to accept the sacrifice and the blood of the lamb the people were saved from death and set free. Now with new life, new hope and a new future before them God's people were called to remember the Passover and to remember God's mercy and grace towards them and his faithfulness to his promises.

We too share in the joy of Passover for through Christ Jesus becoming for us the Lamb that was slain and trusting in his sacrifice and blood we too are released from our enslavement from sin and freed from our entrapment in death. Through Christ's Passover we have a new life, new hope, and a new future and are therefore called to remember and give thanks this Passover.

With love from Peter



**christian
aid
week**

**40th Anniversary
Book Sale -
George Street,
Edinburgh**

Appeal for donations

Books, paintings, printed ephemera, sheet music, antiques, records, stamps and postcards, and toys for donation may be brought to the church from Monday 28 April to Friday 2 May, 9am-9pm, Saturday 3 May 9am-5pm or Monday 5 to Wednesday 7 May, 9am-9pm.

The Book Sale

**Saturday 10 May, 10am-4pm; Monday 12 -
Wednesday 14 May, 10am-3.30pm; Thursday 15
May, 10am-7pm; Friday 16 May, 10am-3.30pm**
St Andrew's and St George's West Church, 13 George
Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PA

The Sale, which has taken place on George Street every year since 1974, and which has raised over £1 million for Christian Aid in the past 10 years, returns once again with its unrivalled range of books and more. Undercroft Cafe open all day. Prayers in the Undercroft chapel at 1pm.

For more information, please contact the church office on 0131 225 3847 or sale convenor Mary Davidson on 07714 186754. If [emailing the church](#), please also provide a telephone number so that the sale team can get in touch.



ULTREYA AT ST MARY'S TUESDAY 22ND APRIL AT 7.30PM

Cursillo in Scotland is a province wide movement within the Scottish Episcopal Church. (Cursillo is a Spanish word (pronounced kur-see-yo which means "short course") You may have heard people say "I've been on Cursillo. This means they have attended a Cursillo Weekend

A Cursillo weekend is a mystery - a mystery of Christ's endless love for us played out through Christian Community. The Cursillo weekend however, is not intended to be an end in itself. After the weekend the Cursillo method offers continuing support and encouragement for the journey. The Cursillo weekend may only last three days but - the impact of the message and gif lasts a lifetime All are welcome to come along to the Ultreya meeting on 22nd April at 7.30pm. (Ultreya again from the Spanish means "Onward")

The Aim of Cursillo is:

"To reawaken people to the calling they received in their baptism to be witnesses for Christ, to give them the stimulus to plan ways of doing this, and to provide support structures through which they can encourage each other and hold each other accountable before God for their lives as Christian witnesses."

Revd Canon Christopher Lewis, "Cursillo, a Sabbatical Study Report", 1991

Cursillo helps us:

- To grow into a deeper relationship with God through the person of Jesus Christ.
- To discover our personal vocations and to develop our individual gifts for Christian service and leadership.
- To become more effective witnesses to Jesus Christ in our lives.
- To bring about and to strengthen Christian commitment within a Community of Faith.

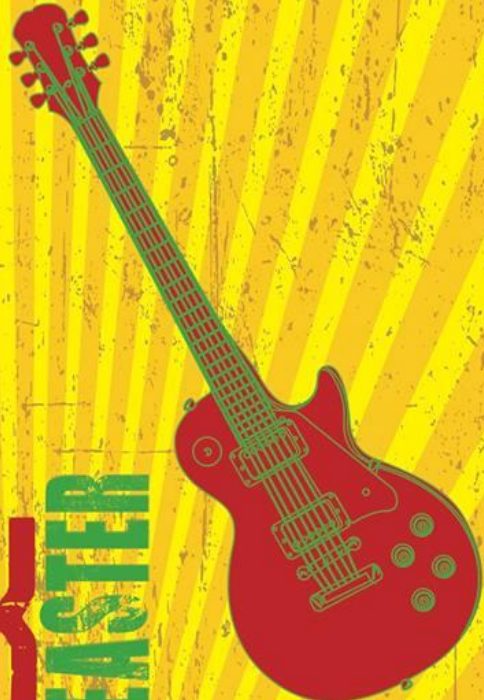
To build up the witness of the Church in the world that both may be renewed and transformed.

If you would like to find out more about Cursillo speak to Cheryl Prior, Ruth Simpson, Bill Elliot or Peter



ST JOLNS AND KINGS PARK PARISH CHURCH

ROCK THE FLOCK EASTER



Saturday 12th April

All proceeds go to Releasing children from poverty
Compassion
in Jesus' name

7:30PM tickets £4 From the church or pay on the door

charity no. sc008958

Diocesan Synod Report 1st March 2014



Here is a brief and imperfect summary of the above

Quota so going up this year by 5% instead of the usual 3%!

There was an acknowledgement that Quota is an increasing problem for smaller churches but the formula for calculating Quota offers a fair proportional spreading of cost across all the churches.

Buildings Insurance our own Rector, Rev P Harris raised this point and proposed that the church (SEC) should be working collectively to implement a scheme for lowering insurance costs. The Buildings Committee will consider this suggestion.

PVG pro format document the province is about to produce a new document soon.

Mission and Ministry It was encouraging to hear about positive approaches to mission in the life of the church. If possible the Synod would like to move forward in appointing Mission Officer to encourage mission across the Diocese.

The Five Points of Mission and Ministry - PRISM

P for Proclaiming the Good News/Gospel

R for Responding to Human Needs

I for Investing in People

S for Safeguarding God's Creation - Ecology etc

M for Making and Nurturing followers of Christ

A Mission Officer to encourage and equip mission and evangelism.

The Hilda's Fund (start up grants to help churches in doing new mission work)

St Columba by the castle - Identity & Mission Media

St James, Leith - Partnership with local Primary schools exploring faith through art.

St Martin's, Tynecastle - refurbishing church building for local community use & forming St Martin's Community Resource Centre in partnership thus freeing up the congregation from financial burden.

Area councils

Question - How do we improve the work of the area councils? In some places they don't appear to be working but Borders Area Council and that of West Forth seem to be working well.

Same-sex Relationships

A whole church discussion paper of for this has been presented by Bishop Nigel Peyton of Brechin. A cascading discussion will take place throughout this year moving towards discussion at Provincial Synod and the possible changes to Canon Law regarding the definition of marriage.

For more information of this report please speak to Vicki Clark or John Fleming our Lay Reps. *Representing St Leonard's and St Mary's at Synod*

Magazine Subscription

It's that time of year again when it's time to renew your subscription to your church magazine. The annual cost remains at **£5**. Please put the money in the envelope included in this magazine it would be useful to have names to ensure that those who want a magazine continue to receive one and to make sure that sufficient magazines are being printed. Either pass your envelope to the treasurer or simply put it in the offering plate. Spare envelopes can be found at the back of church.

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BISHOP'S PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Now that Spring is arriving (yes, it really is!) we are running a competition for the best photographs of your church buildings. There will be 2 categories:

- Children (up to 14 years)
- Adults



Even if your church is not of the highest architectural merit, it can look just as lovely as those ones, from the view of a good photographer. Think about what you like about your church building, and take a picture of that. It could be a view from the distant hills, or it can be some small detail inside, close-up.

The Bishop (with a little help!) will judge the entries, with prizes of gift/book tokens for the winners of each section, and a runner-up in each. **Send your entries to Simon Filsell, Diocesan Administrator, Diocesan Office, 21a Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 5EL**
office@edinburgh.anglican.org

Print Size: A4 or A5 ideally

Email Size: Max 3mb and 1920x1080 pixels

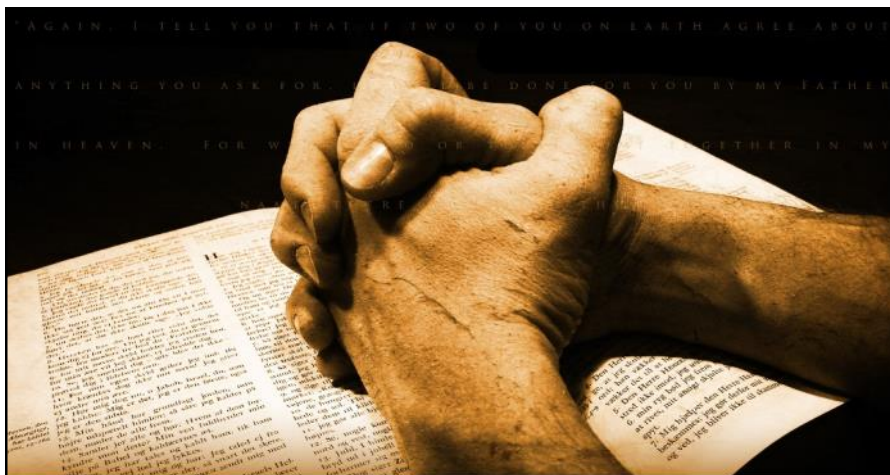
CLOSING DATE: Tuesday 6th May 2014

THE SMALL PRINT: WE MAY WISH TO USE THE ENTRIES IN THE FUTURE, IN *THE EDGE* AND OTHER PLACES, SUCH AS THE DIOCESAN WEBSITE. BY SUBMITTING AN ENTRY, YOU AGREE TO THIS, BUT WE WILL ALWAYS ENDEAVOUR TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE PHOTO WHEN IT IS USED, AND WILL NOT SELL IT OR USE IT FOR PROFIT/FINANCIAL GAIN.

Good luck!

St Leonard's and St Mary's Prayer Diary

APRIL 2014



**And pray in the Spirit on all occasions
with all kinds of prayers and requests.**

**With this in mind, be alert
and always keep on praying (Ephesians 6:18)**

We hope you will find this prayer sheet a helpful addition to your own prayer life. Please let us know how you use this and if there is anything you would like us to add or change.

A prayer to start the day

O Lord, you are in charge of everything that will happen to me today, the good and the bad, the happy and the sad, the positive and the negative. Please make me thankful for everything that happens in my life today. Amen.

Specific things to pray for this month

Agriculture and Horticulture – as Spring arrives, pray for all agricultural and horticultural workers, giving thanks for their skill and asking that God will sustain them in their hard work.

Pray for emergency and rescue workers, that God will keep them safe and sustain them in the difficult situations they have to face.

Lent Study Courses. Pray for all leading and participating in Lent study groups.

Holy Week and Easter – pray for clergy and others as they prepare for this significant time in our church year.

'Standing Orders' - things to pray for all the time

Church, Family and Friends

Give thanks for your family and friends and ask God's blessing on them. Give thanks for St Leonard's and St Mary's church family. Pray that we will continue to grow in faith and the ways that we honour God in every aspect of our lives. Pray for all the groups associated with our two churches, for David and Shelley Stokes, our mission partners in Argentina and for the work of Scripture Union locally. Pray for those who are to be married or baptised at this time, for their families and for all preparing to take part in church services this week. Give thanks for our clergy teams and all that they do for us. Pray for the Vestries that they will be guided and inspired by God in all the decisions that they make.



Our local community

Pray for the folk in your neighbourhood that they may know God's love. Ask his blessing on your work colleagues and the people you come into contact with every day. Pray for the work of local churches and organisations, that God will guide them to where they are most needed as they share his love and encouragement with the communities they serve. Ask God to show you how you can work for his kingdom.



Children and young People

Pray for children and young people in nursery, primary and secondary school and in higher education especially those who because of personal difficulties struggle with the school environment. Pray that they will be nourished and inspired by their environment and that they will be safe from abuse, bullying and exploitation. Pray for all who work in educational establishments.



The Environment

Give thanks for the world and all its riches and ask God to teach us to be good stewards of all he has blessed us with.

The vulnerable, those who suffer and those in need, those who are lonely or sick, the bereaved and anxious

Pray for those you know who have short or long term illness or disability, for older people discouraged by their increasing frailty, for the anxious, the lonely and the bereaved, that they will know God's strength and comfort. Pray for those struggling with mental illness, those battling addictions or incurable illnesses, those in great pain and those coming to the end of their earthly lives. Pray for those suffering persecution, exploitation and abuse. Especially remember all who are finding life tough just now.

Families

Pray for healing in families where relationships are damaged or broken, and for families who are feeling under a lot of pressure financially.



ANSWERED
PRAYERS

Prayers Answered

Give thanks for prayers answered and for all the good things that have happened for you, your family, friends and neighbours.

This space is for you to write your own prayers and concerns

Please remember that you can add your prayer requests to the Prayer Diary at St Mary's or add them to the Prayer Tree at St Leonard's. Please also update us on answered prayer as we believe God is at work through us.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours,
Now and forever. **Amen**

Lectionary Readings April

The lectionary list is provided for those who are preparing to read and lead in church for the main Sunday Service. However, this list is also for all of us to be prepared for worship each Sunday and to consider what the passages means to us as we come to seek God and open ourselves to hear from him before we hear the sermon and what the preacher thinks.

6th April Fifth Sunday of Lent

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:17-45

13th April Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11 — Liturgy of the Palms

Matthew 27:11-54 — Liturgy of the Passion

20th April Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 28:1-10

27th April Second Sunday of Easter

1st Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

4th May Third Sunday of Easter

1st Peter 1: 17-23

Luke 24:13-35

11th May Fourth Sunday of Easter

1st Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

18th May Fifth Sunday of Easter

1st Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

Holy Week Service 2014



Join with us through out the week at the following Ecumenical Services as we journey through Holy Week and prepare to celebrate the great Easter celebration of the risen Lord.

Bonnyrigg & Lasswade & Rosewell meetings at 7pm

Monday 14th April Our Lady RC Church

Tuesday 15th April Rosewell Parish

Wednesday 16th Cockpen & Carrington Parish

Maundy Thur 17th St Leonard's Episcopal Church

Good Friday 18th Lasswade Parish

Dalkeith Area meetings at 7.30pm

Monday 14th April 7.30pm St John's King's Park

Tuesday 15th April 7.30pm Full Gospel Church

Wednesday 16th April 7.30pm St Mary's

Maundy Thursday 17th 7.30pm St Nicholas Buccleuch

Good Friday 18th 7.30pm Baptist Church

Friday 18th April 10am **Walk of Witness** beginning at St Mary's and walking through town stopping at Jarnac court for an act of worship before continuing onto St David's for Buns & Tea

Sunday 20th April 7am **Early Easter Morning Service** in Dalkeith Country Park at the Orangerie behind the stable.



Paschal Candle Competition

As per last year we are holding another competition to design the transfer for this years Paschal Candle.

Entries are welcome from any one old or young member of the church or not.

The winning designs from last year can be seen here..

Entries need to be sent either via email or posted to the Rectory by Palm Sunday 13th April.



Calling all Photographers

We want to include our own photos and pictures of church events in our Magazine, Pew Sheets and on our Website.

If you can help please do bring your camera along to church events and even have them handy for those special moments within our services (*like when the rector falls of his stool*) and then email us your photo's. Send them to revpharris@gmail.com

Check Out our New Look Websites
We would love to see your photos there!

Fundraising Baking stall at the Pitcairn Centre Bonnyrigg



Our next 2014 baking stall is on **Thursday 1st May** and then on 5th June

We need a small team of people throughout the morning to cover the stall. From 9-1pm

We also need a variety of home baked items each month including scones, pancakes, as well as seasonal items. If you can offer baking even if it is not every month please let me know. Thank You

Fiona Harris

St Leonard's Rota

Sunday	Sidespersons	Coffee	Flowers	Cleaning
April 6 O: V Clark C: N Stewart R: I Bolan I: M: V Scott	A & I Bolan	C Todd A Bruce A Thomson	LENT	Fri 4th & Sat 5th Spring Clean
April 13 O: N Stewart C: V Clark R: T Mooney I: V Clark M: E Stewart	M Hall D Reid	R Simpson A McKenzie B Polouse	Palm Sunday	M Kurian B Poulouse
April 20 O: A Bruce C: T Mooney R: P Johnson I: N Stewart M: V Scott	J Shannon J Strong	J Mellon D Reid J Connor	Easter	J & T Mooney
April 27 O: T Mooney C: N Stewart R: Sunday Club I: C Todd M:	V Scott R Garrod	A Bolan J Strong N Duthie	Easter flowers	A McKenzie V Clark
May 4 O: N Stewart C: V Scott R: Mary J I: R Garrod M: E Thompson	J Forsyth	N Whannell A Cunningham	Easter flowers	J & J Mellon

O = Officiant, **C** = Chalice, **R** = Reader, **I** = Intercessions & **M** = Music

St Mary's Rota

Sunday	Sidespersons	Coffee	Flowers	Cleaning
April 6 O: J du Rocher C: J Stuart R: A MacKay I: A Watt M: N Grieve	Andrew Watt & Cheryl Prior	Mary McPhail John Fleming	John Fleming	Betty Tinley Julia Davis
April 13 O: L McEwan C: J Fleming R: Betty Tinley I: A Mackay M: E Stewart	Robin & Kathleen Donald	Pat Elliot & Phil Blamire	John Fleming	Betty Tinley Julia Davis
April 20 O: A Watt C: J Stuart R: N Hallworth I: J Du Rocher M: D Law	Mary McPhail & Anne MacKay	Betty Tinley Julia Davis	John Fleming	Betty Tinley Julia Davis
April 27 O: C McEwan C: J Fleming R: K Donald I: R Donald M:	Alice Cathie & Phil Blamire	Robin & Kathleen Donald	John Fleming	Betty Tinley Julia Davis
May 4th O: J du Rocher C: J Stuart R: A Watt I: C McEwan M:	Nigel & Barbara Hallworth	Noreen & David Grieve	Mary McPhail	David & Noreen Grieve

O = Officiant, **C** = Chalice, **R** = Reader, **I** = Intercessions & **M** = Music

Church Directory

Rector	Reverend Peter Harris	663 7000
Assistant Priest	Reverend Elizabeth Jones	440 2602
	Reverend Jennie Godfrey	660 6145
	Reverend Bill Elliot	663 1369

St Leonard's

Rector's	Martin Johnson	
Warden	01875 320458	
People's	Ian Nicolson	
Warden	654 2247	
Secretary	John Mellon	6638796
Treasurer	Tom Mooney	663 0889
Lay Rep	Vicki Clark	660 6681
Sacristan	Vicki Clark	660 6681
Sunday Club	John Mellon	663 8796
Flowers	Ruth Simpson	663 2242
Coffee	Jean Mellon	6638796
Cleaning	Joy Mooney	663 0889
Fair Trade	Joy Mooney	663 0889

St Mary's

	Robin Donald	
	663 1821	
	Anne Mackay	
	663 5008	
	Andrew Watt	663 3197
	Nigel Hallworth	663 4580
	John Fleming	660 2336
	John Fleming	660 2336
	Kathleen Donald	663 1821
	Kathleen Donald	663 1821
	Sue Blamire	663 0678
	Betty Tinley	654 9042
	Phil Blamire	663 0678

Tuesday Club	Daphne Farquharson	663 9338
For Housebound	Mary Foreman	660 1307
House Groups	Reflections	663 1209
	Mondays	663 3197
	Tuesdays	660 6681

Church Magazine

Editors	Fiona Harris	
Distribution	Dorothy Walter	654 2951

Hall/Keys	Christine Wight	660 9859
Hall Bookings	John Mellon	663 8796

Where to find us



St Leonard's Church

Dobbies Rd

Lasswade & Bonnyrigg

Sunday at 11.15am

with Children's Sunday Club

www.stleonardslasswade.org.uk

St Mary's Church

The church in the park

Dalkeith Country Park

High St,

Dalkeith

www.stmarysdalkeith.org.uk



More Information and Enquiries:

For more information about each of the churches we invite you to visit the websites of each church, you can also find us on

facebook under "St Leonard's & St Mary's"

or to contact the Church Office on

 0131 663 7000 or email  revpharris@googlemail.com

Both Churches are registered with the Scottish Charity Register as

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677

Items for inclusion in the April edition of *The Link* should be passed to Fiona by Sunday **20th April 2014**

Editor's Note

Opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editor or the Churches. Please could anyone submitting an article for inclusion ensure that the content is suitable for a church magazine?

Coffee Morning



Everyone Welcome



church
In the
park

St Mary's
Dalkeith Country Park
High St, Dalkeith

www.stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

Sat 26th April 10-12noon



At St Leonard's Church

Dobbies Rd, Lasswade

Saturday 17th May

12 noon-4pm

Stalls will include: Independent Craft Stalls, Model Railway,

Bric-a-brac, Tombola, Home baking, Books,

Refreshments, Toys, Games, & BBQ