

September 2023

# MAXWEST CONTACT



Maxwelltown West Church - Dumfries  
[www.maxwelltownwest.org.uk](http://www.maxwelltownwest.org.uk)



The Church of Scotland



# MAXWELLTOWN WEST CHURCH

## Our Mission

*Maxwelltown West Church seeks to be a place of welcome to all in our parish; a centre of Christian worship and fellowship.  
We seek to provide a framework for family life and a place where young people may be nurtured in Christian values.*

## SUNDAY SERVICES – 11 am

Communion Service: Sunday 3rd September - 11am

## CONTACTS

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**Front cover:** Maxwelltown Brownies enjoy a visit to Dumfries Museum

**Above:** MaxWest Guild at their Afternoon Tea at Hetland Garden Centre

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## Rev Johannes

On our visit to Harris and Lewis I was very impressed by the fact that on a Sunday virtually all commercial activity ceases. When you go to Harris and Lewis you should always try to stay over a Sunday. For the quiet and calm there on a Sunday is really something special and wonderful.

From Germany I am used to closed shops on a Sunday. The German "Shop Closing Law" compels businesses to close on Sundays and Christian holidays. Nevertheless, museums, leisure centres, restaurants, cafes and filling stations are open so that there are still many places where you can go on a Sunday. In fact, the Sunday can be a very busy day.

But that is different on Harris and Lewis. Everything is closed on Sundays, even playgrounds. The only public building that is open is a church!

The reason for this ban is the fourth commandment: "Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy." Of course, the Sabbath in the Jewish tradition is the seventh day of the week and that is the Saturday. But since Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week, the Christians celebrate Jesus' resurrection on a Sunday and accordingly keep the Sunday holy. But what does it mean to keep a day holy? ►



*Remember the Sabbath  
and keep it holy.*

*Tràigh Ùige, Isle of Lewis*

► God is holy as it is stated in Leviticus 19:2, “Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.” Since God is holy, everything that belongs to him is holy as well. When a day is regarded as holy then this means that this day belongs to God. He alone is in command of this day. And that makes this day so special.

Six days of the week our activity is demanded, and we have to decide upon so many things. Time is given to us that we make something of it. But that also means that we have to bear the responsibility for what we do and what we fail to do. But that is different on a Sunday when the perspective changes completely. For this day belongs to God. We are not the masters of this day. And the time of a Sunday is not given to us but to God. We are unburdened from our responsibilities and that is why we can find rest on a Sunday. Six days of the week are given for our activity, but there is one day where we are reminded that all our activity is based on God’s activity alone. This finds its expression in the most passive human activity – at least when you look from the outside on it – and that is prayer.

During the week it can be difficult to find the time for prayer. But the Sunday is the day of prayer. We need to keep the Sunday holy because that keeps us aware that we are mere human beings. Even if we who are created in God’s image can mirror his creativity in our own works, we are nevertheless not the creator but part of his creation. If the Sunday is no longer kept as a holy day then we are in danger to overextend ourselves and to finally usurp God’s position. That is why the fourth commandment is an explanation of the first and second commandment, “You shall have no other gods but me. You shall not make for yourself any idol.” We are always in danger to look at us as if we were God and as if we were the masters of our life. Then we worship ourselves as idols.

Here in Dumfries, it is different to what I learned on Harris and Lewis. For many people here the Sunday is a working day. We cannot simply change this. But nevertheless, we can try to bring the calm of Sunday into our houses and gardens and make this day a special day following God’s example:

*“By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.” (Genesis 2:2-3)*

*Johannes Wildner*







## Mission Plan for the former Presbytery of Dumfries and Kirkcudbright Progress thus far 23rd July 2023

At the meeting of the Presbytery of the South West held in Kilmarnock on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023, the Mission Plan for the former Presbytery of Dumfries and Kirkcudbright was approved.

This was the original Mission Plan of March 2023 which proposed that Maxwelltown West be United with Lochend and New Abbey Church. Since then the Presbytery Mission Plan Implementation Group have also approved the Mission Plan, and a “Specific Purpose” meeting will be held via “Zoom” on

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August at which, we hope, the Mission Plan will receive “Concurrence” from the Faith Action Programme Leadership Team.

Final approval of the Mission Plan, which includes the Uniting of Maxwelltown West and Lochend and New Abbey Churches will then mean that the process of its implementation can begin.

*David Johnson - Joint Session Clerk*

### *Flower Ministry*

You may not know that each week volunteers visit members and deliver flowers to those who are unwell, have had a bereavement or are celebrating a happy event such as a special birthday. Flowers are often given simply to say, ‘thank you’ or ‘we are thinking of you’. It is one way that Maxwelltown West Church connects with people at home. Flowers are always well received with a friendly chat and perhaps a surprise. This visit allows us to know how all are getting on.

The flowers that are delivered are donated by members and decorate the Church each week. Since Covid, the flower list is functioning again, so many dates to donate are now available. You may have a special birthday or memorial to commemorate and would like to choose a date for flowers to grace the church. If you are not able to buy these flowers and put them in church, you may wish for someone else to do this for you.

Please phone Anne Dunbar 01387 251455 for more information. If you would like to volunteer to deliver flowers after Church on a Sunday, please phone Lesley Lindsay 01387 252408.

### ✠ CHURCH REGISTER ✠

Our condolences to the  
family and friends of:

Mr Jock Mackinnon  
7th April 2023

Mr William Redding  
14th May 2023

Mrs Pearl Mitchell  
26th June 2023

Mr William McMinn  
29th June 2023

Mrs Helen Pearson  
24th July 2023

May they Rest in Peace



## Guild News

This summer we celebrated the Coronation with a delicious afternoon tea at Hetland Garden Centre on a very warm day.



Another celebration at this event was the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Wilson and Irene Ogilvie. Our longest serving member, May Haining and husband Bert, also celebrated their Diamond Wedding in June. Very many congratulations and blessings from the Guild to both couples on reaching this wonderful date. Now, moving forward into a new Guild Session, most of us are aware

our Church is changing for many reasons - so will the Guild embrace changes also?

Max West Guild has been an integral part of our church for almost 93 years and part of one of Scotland's largest voluntary organisations. We know it will be a challenge to move forward from the saying: "It's aye been", but the world is always changing. One successful change made, many years ago, was when we invited men to join us and I'm delighted that some are now members of our committee. However, we must look for other adaptations which will enrich and extend the life of our Guild. Perhaps by joining other groups, sharing talents, reducing pressure and reaching out to more people? If you are worried about this thought, perhaps some words of wisdom from the Dali Lama may help: "Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values."

**The first meeting of our new session is on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 2pm when Rev, Johannes will entertain us.** Please come along to meet us and enjoy an interesting programme.

This year is the final year of our strategy, "Look Forward in Faith" and we are supporting the project "Beat" which focuses on eating disorders and mental health. There are many talks including, "The History of Laurieknowe", "Dumfries House" and social events such as our Christmas party!

Looking forward to seeing you all in October!

*Anne Dunbar*



# Sunday School Trips of Yesteryear ~ by Kathleen McMillan

"The morning was dull, and the heavy clouds threatened a repetition of the rain of the previous days, but by noon, the sun shone and the afternoon was warm and bright."



Maxwelltown Station (from 'Dumfries & Galloway's Lost Railways')

Just as today, the Scottish summer weather in July determined the success of the annual Sunday School trips in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. In July 1890 the Maxwelltown Free Church children and accompanying teachers and friends set off for Main Hills farm near Lochanhead on a special steam train from Maxwelltown Station to enjoy a fun filled day, until leaving for home around 7.00 pm.

Sunday school trips or annual outings during the late 1800s took place on Thursdays. At that time the numbers of children on these Maxwelltown Free Church Sabbath School trips

numbered between 100 and 200. The usual time for setting off was around noon and they would often not return to the Church until after 9.00 pm, depending on where they had visited.

CARLISLE, DUMFRIES, KILMARNOCK and GALLOWAY RAILWAY									
See p. 10. H. G. Galloway									
St. James Street	London Road	St. James Street	London Road	St. James Street	London Road	St. James Street	London Road	St. James Street	London Road
11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30
11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40
11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50
11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50	1.00
11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50	1.00	1.10
11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50	1.00	1.10	1.20
12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30
12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40
12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50
12.30	12.40	12.50	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	2.00
12.40	12.50	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	2.00	2.10
12.50	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	2.00	2.10	2.20
1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30
1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40
1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50
1.30	1.40	1.50	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	3.00
1.40	1.50	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	3.00	3.10
1.50	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	3.00	3.10	3.20
2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30
2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40
2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50
2.30	2.40	2.50	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	4.00
2.40	2.50	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	4.00	4.10
2.50	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	4.00	4.10	4.20
3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30
3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40
3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50
3.30	3.40	3.50	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	5.00
3.40	3.50	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	5.00	5.10
3.50	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	5.00	5.10	5.20
4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30
4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40
4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50
4.30	4.40	4.50	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00
4.40	4.50	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10
4.50	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20
5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30
5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40
5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40	6.50
5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40	6.50	7.00
5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40	6.50	7.00	7.10
5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40	6.50	7.00	7.10	7.20
6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40	6.50	7.00	7.10	7.20	7.30
6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40	6.50	7.00	7.10	7.20	7.30	7.40
6.20	6.30	6.40	6.50	7.00	7.10	7.20	7.30	7.40	7.50
6.30	6.40	6.50	7.00	7.10	7.20	7.30	7.40	7.50	8.00
6.40	6.50	7.00	7.10	7.20	7.30	7.40	7.50	8.00	8.10
6.50	7.00	7.10	7.20	7.30	7.40	7.50	8.00	8.10	8.20
7.00	7.10	7.20	7.30	7.40	7.50	8.00	8.10	8.20	8.30
7.10	7.20	7.30	7.40	7.50	8.00	8.10	8.20	8.30	8.40
7.20	7.30	7.40	7.50	8.00	8.10	8.20	8.30	8.40	8.50
7.30	7.40	7.50	8.00	8.10	8.20	8.30	8.40	8.50	9.00
7.40	7.50	8.00	8.10	8.20	8.30	8.40	8.50	9.00	9.10
7.50	8.00	8.10	8.20	8.30	8.40	8.50	9.00	9.10	9.20
8.00	8.10	8.20	8.30	8.40	8.50	9.00	9.10	9.20	9.30
8.10	8.20	8.30	8.40	8.50	9.00	9.10	9.20	9.30	9.40
8.20	8.30	8.40	8.50	9.00	9.10	9.20	9.30	9.40	9.50
8.30	8.40	8.50	9.00	9.10	9.20	9.30	9.40	9.50	10.00
8.40	8.50	9.00	9.10	9.20	9.30	9.40	9.50	10.00	10.10
8.50	9.00	9.10	9.20	9.30	9.40	9.50	10.00	10.10	10.20
9.00	9.10	9.20	9.30	9.40	9.50	10.00	10.10	10.20	10.30
9.10	9.20	9.30	9.40	9.50	10.00	10.10	10.20	10.30	10.40
9.20	9.30	9.40	9.50	10.00	10.10	10.20	10.30	10.40	10.50
9.30	9.40	9.50	10.00	10.10	10.20	10.30	10.40	10.50	11.00
9.40	9.50	10.00	10.10	10.20	10.30	10.40	10.50	11.00	11.10
9.50	10.00	10.10	10.20	10.30	10.40	10.50	11.00	11.10	11.20
10.00	10.10	10.20	10.30	10.40	10.50	11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30
10.10	10.20	10.30	10.40	10.50	11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40
10.20	10.30	10.40	10.50	11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50
10.30	10.40	10.50	11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00
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10.50	11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20
11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30
11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40
11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50
11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50	1.00
11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	1.00	1.10	1.20
11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30
12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40
12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50
12.20	12.30	12.40	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60
12.30	12.40	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60	1.70
12.40	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.80
12.50	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.90
1.00	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00
1.10	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10
1.20	1.40	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20
1.30	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30
1.40	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40
1.50	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50
2.00	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.60
2.10	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.70
2.20	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.70	2.80
2.30	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.70	2.80	2.90
2.40	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.70	2.80	2.90	3.00
2.50	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.70	2.80	2.90	3.00	3.10
3.00	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.70	2.80	2.90	3.00	3.10	3.20
3.10	2.50	2.60	2.70	2.80	2.90	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30
3.20	2.60	2.70	2.80	2.90	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40
3.30	2.70	2.80	2.90	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50
3.40	2.80	2.90	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	3.60
3.50	2.90	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	3.60	3.70
4.00	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	3.60	3.70	3.80
4.10	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	3.60	3.70	3.80	3.90
4.20	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	3.60	3.70	3.80	3.90	4.00
4.30	3.30	3.40	3.50	3.60	3.70	3.80	3.90	4.00	4.10
4.40	3.40	3.50	3.60	3.70	3.80	3.90	4.00	4.10	4.20
4.50	3.50	3.60	3.70	3.80	3.90	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30
5.00	3.60	3.70	3.80	3.90	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40
5.10	3.70	3.80	3.90	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50
5.20	3.80	3.90	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	4.60
5.30	3.90	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	4.60	4.70
5.40	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	4.60	4.70	4.80
5.50	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	4.60	4.70	4.80	4.90
6.00	4.20	4.30	4.40	4.50	4.60	4.70	4.80	4.90	5.00
6.10	4.30	4.40	4.50	4.60	4.70	4.80	4.90	5.00	5.10
6.20	4.40	4.50	4.60	4.70	4.80	4.90	5.00	5.10	5.20
6.30	4.50	4.60	4.70	4.80	4.90	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30
6.40	4.60	4.70	4.80	4.90	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40
6.50	4.70	4.80	4.90	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50
7.00	4.80	4.90	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00
7.10	4.90	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10
7.20	5.00	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20
7.30	5.10	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30
7.40	5.20	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40
7.50	5.30	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40	6.50
8.00	5.40	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6.30	6.40	6.50	7.00
8.10	5.50	6.00	6.10	6.20	6				

# CONTACT

## 70 YEARS

Jane Marchbank looks back...

The first edition of "Contact" was produced sometime in 1953. Seventy years later, it is still being produced and distributed to the Congregation, four times a year by the District Elders in the weeks leading up to Communion. Although the format has changed greatly over the seven decades, the aim of providing information and stories of interest for members of Max West remains the same. One of the main reasons for change in the style over the years has been the advance of technology, resulting in the all-colour format with photographs which we have today. "MaxWest Contact" would not exist without an Editorial Team to put it together. We are grateful to all those who, during these 70 years, have given their time to ensure the continued production of our magazine.

**Maxwelltown West Church**  
CONGREGATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

OCTOBER, 1954. No. 4.

**Minister:**  
Rev. H. G. A. SIMMONS, M.A.,  
West Mains, To. 725.

**Session Clerk:** Mr. GEORGE MCCALL, 14 Priest-  
lands Drive, To. 1755.

**Deacons' Court Clerk:** Mr. JOHN A. CAMPBELL,  
R.L., The Laurels, Victoria Road, To. 557.

**Treasurer:** Mr. D. S. BROCKLEBANK, Glenview,  
Edinburgh Road, To. 581.

**Free Will Offering Secretary:** Mr. CHARLES MILLIGAN, Rocklands, Hobbell Road,  
Clerk of the Roll—Mr. MATTHEW BEYRON, The South, Dalkeith Road, To. 791.

**Letting of Seals:** Mr. W. L. LAWSON, 20 Lauricknowe.

**Seat Letting Treasurer:** Mr. KEVILLE H. MACDONALD, A.E.A., 93 Irish Street,  
Glasgow. Mr. J. A. H. SWEET, L.A.M.

**Church Officer:** Mr. JOHN WILSON, Deanton Cottage, Church Street.

**Sunday Services** ..... 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
**Sunday Schools** ..... Primary and Senior School, 12.30 p.m.  
**Bible Classes** ..... Junior and Senior, 5 p.m.

**WEEK-NIGHT ACTIVITIES.**

Monday at 6.15 p.m.—Girl Guides.  
Tuesday at 7.20 p.m.—Women's Guild.  
Tuesday at 7.30 p.m.—Balminton Club.  
Wednesday at 6.30 p.m.—Youth Club.  
Thursday at 3 p.m.—Women's Social  
Circle.

Thursday at 7.30 p.m.—Balminton  
Friday at 6.15 p.m.—Bowlers.  
Friday at 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts.  
Friday at 7.30 p.m.—Choir Practice.

Arrangements regarding resumption of Girls' Association and Men's Club will be  
intimated from the pulpit at a later date.

**MINISTER'S FOREWORD.**

With this issue of the Supplement another winter's work is upon us and already many of our organisations have wakened up from their summer sleep with renewed energy and enthusiasm. Side by side with our ordinary activities will march this year our preparation for the "Tell Scotland" campaign, in which as a faithful congregation of the Church we must perforce play our part. You will be hearing a good deal more of this as the weeks and months go by. It will make demands upon us and present fresh challenges to us in many ways, but I am confident that once aroused we shall acquit ourselves loyally and well.

Since the last issue we have lost our devoted Session Clerk and editor, Mr. John W. Pirie. To the production of this little news sheet he gave all the great love and energy for which he was so notable. Not for a few brief months only, but for many a long day to come shall we continue to miss him and to mourn our great and unexpected loss. In the Session decessor, Mr. McCall has been one of us since he was admitted to our fellowship in baptism. He brings his youth and great love for this place to its service. In return we must encourage him with our support and our prayers. If he have these in his heavy task he shall not falter nor fail. There are two other quarters which I feel should receive special mention in this foreword. We are highly honoured as a congregation by the appointment of our treasurer, Mr. D. S. Brocklebank, as convener of a special committee on finance of the Presbytery of Dumfries. We

**Contact**  
The Quarterly Congregational Review



SEND FOR THE TIMES  
- when they come a loan with God. See  
Ecclesiastes, Ch. 3, v. 1

**Maxwelltown West**  
LAURICKNOWE, DUMFRIES

Vol. 3, No. 4

**A. By Profession.**  
Miss Anne Caven, Sec.  
Miss Joan Dobie, Kin  
Miss Anne Dobie, Te.  
Miss Catherine Todric  
Miss Finella Todrick.

**B. By Certificate**  
Mr and Mrs Ian You  
Mr George Graham, J.  
Mr and Mrs John Be

October 1954

**Maxwelltown West Church**  
Lauricknowe, Dumfries

DECEMBER 1989

**CONTACT**

December 1989

DECEMBER 1991

**CONTACT**

December 1991

DECEMBER 1993

**CONTACT**

150 YRS  
1843-1993

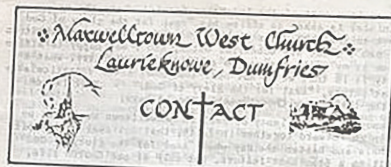
December 1993

**Maxwelltown West Church**  
**CONTACT**

September



Morning Service	11 a.m.
(Primary Sunday School during Service)	
Junior and Senior Sunday School	12:15 p.m.
Junior Bible Class	12:15 p.m.
Senior Bible Class	12:15 p.m.
Evening Service	6 p.m.
Youth Fellowship	7 p.m.
<b>MONDAY</b>	
Cub Scouts	6:15 p.m.
<b>TUESDAY</b>	
Brownie Guides	6:15 p.m.
Woman's Guild	7:30 p.m.
(Bible Study on alternate Thursdays at 3 p.m.)	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	
Scout Club	6:30 p.m.
Girl Guides	6:30 p.m.
<b>THURSDAY</b>	
Girl Guides	6:30 p.m.
Men's Fellowship (Fortnightly)	7:45 p.m.
Senior Youth Club	7:45 p.m.
<b>FRIDAY</b>	
Prayer	6:15 p.m.
Men's Fellowship	7:30 p.m.
Prayer	7:30 p.m.
<b>SATURDAY</b>	

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WOMAN'S GUILD

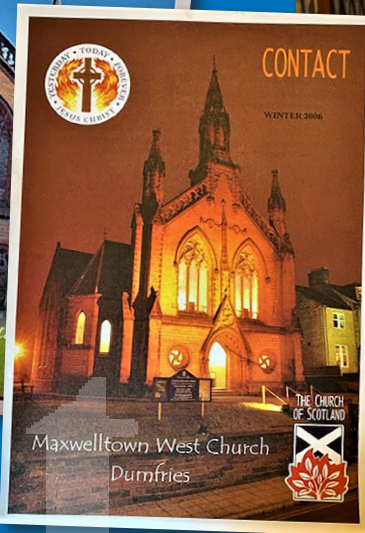
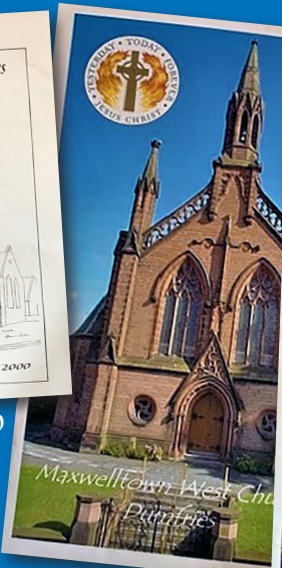
**SYLLABUS**  
single vol. 7.50

**CHURCH NOTICES**

Sunday, 19th October—Harvest Thanksgiving.  
Sunday, 9th November—Remembrance Day.  
Sunday, 14th December—Communion Sunday.  
Sunday, 21st December—Christmas Services.  
Sunday, 28th December—Communion Service 6 p.m.

March 1984  
Rev. Gordon Savage  
becomes Minister

June 1969



December 2021  
Rev. Johannes Wildner  
is our new Minister



## Jubilee Celebration on Coronation Weekend



**Sunday 7th May 2023:** King Charles III had been crowned the previous day; Queen of the South had won their final match of the season, and as a celebration with royal connections a walk along the Jubilee Path between Rockcliffe and Kippford was organised. The path was so named to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee and the land we walked through is managed by The National Trust for Scotland to encourage wildlife and recreation.

Twenty five of us, church members and Ukrainian friends, had set out from Dumfries in brilliant warm sunshine but by the time we reached Rockcliffe's top car park the clouds had rolled in and a chilly wind was blowing onshore from the Solway. Undeterred, we walked along the Jubilee Path through mixed woodland, with our senses sharpened by the fragrance of wild garlic and bluebells. Wild flower meadows here support the local butterfly population.

Coffee, tea and cake was enjoyed at The Anchor in Kippford, whose customers were treated to our rousing rendition of the Joe Cocker classic "With a little help from my friends", sung with real passion. The Eurovision Song Contest should have been held in Ukraine this May, but the Russian invasion prevented this. Eurovision fans were encouraged to send in videos of themselves singing "With a little help..." I found the whole experience strangely moving.

We returned to Rockcliffe by way of the cockle beach, the Coastguard cottages and the Mote of Mark, passing by Scotland's Tree of the Year 2022, which sometimes features as the background to our Intimations at Max West. **Thanks to all who made the afternoon such a memorable one. The singing was awesome!**



David Johnson



# FAITH IN OUR FOOTSTEPS

David Johnson

As an alternative to the continuation of the “Faith Courses” during the summer months, a series of “Faith Walks” was proposed.

The first of these was held on the evening of Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May at the Crichton estate. About a dozen of us met at the Crichton Church through the good offices of David Matheson. Johannes led a short service in the church, which included two appropriate and resonant hymns for what was to follow: prayers and a Reflection which encouraged us to “Stop, Look and Listen”. This we duly did as we meandered through the Crichton gardens and Arboretum which is home to mature specimens of unusual and rare trees such as the Pocket

Handkerchief Tree (right) [*Davidia involuerata*], the Tulip Tree [*Liliodendron tulipifera*], the Paper Back Maple [*Acer griseum*] and



the Chilean Fire Bush [*Embothrium coccineum*]. We wondered at the sheer variety of the natural world here on our doorstep. Our fellowship was all the more meaningful due to this shared experience as we wandered, stopped, looked and listened.



Our second walk took place in June at the Dalswinton estate. We started at Dalswinton Barony Church, the “Tin Tabernacle”, the last remaining example of a “flat pack” church, a Victorian IKEA, ordered in 1881 from a missionary catalogue. Johannes led our short service and Reflection at the lochside. Thereafter we wandered around the loch, noting the



first steamboat replica, the original castle and the doocot, taking care not to step on hundreds of tiny frogs that were making their way towards the loch and safety. It was a beautifully calm evening which matched our mood perfectly.

Our next “Faith Walk” will

be centred on Ruthwell Church with its 18-foot high stone Anglo-Saxon preaching cross which is thought to date from the 8<sup>th</sup> century and is one of Scotland’s rarest treasures.

All are welcome to join us for these evenings of reflection, conversation and fellowship.





# Brownies

**Jill McEwan**  
*Brownie Leader*  
reports



Many activities were enjoyed by the Brownies during a busy Easter to Summer term, including those associated with our programme requirements of “Skills Builder” and “Unit Activity Cards”.

We had a visit from Philip of the “Golden Eagle Project” who ran a workshop with different activities which helped us learn about golden eagles and the work of the project.



For the **Coronation of King Charles III**, we made crowns to wear at our mini-Royal Tea Party where scones with jam and strawberries were enjoyed. As part of the national “Big Help Out” for the Coronation, the girls decided to make red, white and blue decorations which were used to decorate the Church Hall.

We had a visit to Dumfries Museum and were joined by the families of Axsu, Lucy, Molly and Susie for their Promise Celebrations. Afterwards the girls enjoyed looking around the museum and completing the trails.



On another sunny evening we had a walk around the town centre and saw one of the “Guid Nychburris Rideouts”. We waved at Ellie, this year’s Cornet Lass. She was a Maxwelltown West Brownie a few years ago. We also went to see the recently refurbished fountain on the High Street.

The sunny weather continued for the Max West Family Garden Party and BBQ which the Brownies enjoyed. This followed the Family Service where they were happy to sing “This Little Brownie Light of Mine” to the congregation.



Our last meeting in the hall was a celebration of Mrs Irene Johnstone's 50 years' Long Service Award from Girlguiding. Mrs Johnstone invited some of her Girlguiding friends. Rev Johannes gave a great summary of her Girlguiding career and then everyone had fun at our Beltie Drive – our version of a Beetle Drive, using our Beltie County Badge emblem. After that there were songs and refreshments, followed by the presentation of end of term awards:



The final meeting of term was held in Dock Park. We enjoyed eating our picnic tea together before playing parachute games and walking around the park. The Brownies are currently enjoying their holidays. We resume on 29<sup>th</sup> August when some new girls will be joining us.

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### PARISH VISITORS' GROUP

If you would like a home visit from a member of our Parish Visitors' Group, please speak to your Elder or contact me, Eileen Riddick (Tel 01387 263019). It would lovely to call in to see you and have a wee chat.

### GOOD COMPANIONS

We have been meeting on a monthly basis to enjoy tea/coffee, some cake and lots of chatter. Our new session will start in September and dates of meetings will be available soon.

We would welcome new members, so if you would like to join us, please speak to me, Eileen Riddick (Tel 01387 263019) for more information.

### SERVICES AT LOCHDUHAR CARE HOME

Lochduhar Care Home lies within the parish of Maxwelltown West. There has been a long-standing tradition of a Church of Scotland religious service being held at Lochduhar since it opened, and when Johannes became our minister the services continued, but not without several interruptions because of Covid-19 restrictions.

The service is held on the last Thursday of every month, except for December when Max West's carol singers entertain. The service begins at 2:30 p.m., and around 20 of Lochduhar's residents accompanied by staff attend. The service includes three hymns, prayers, a Bible reading and a short Reflection from Johannes, and lasts about 25 minutes. Our good friend and accompanist *par excellence* Alistair McEwan – (no sheet music required!) plays a keyboard donated by one of our church members, which complements the hearty community singing which follows the service. There is an emphasis on Scottish songs- "*Donald where's your troosers?*" anyone? - although "*Somewhere over the rainbow*" has become somewhat of a favourite with the residents. Max West members and friends will be very welcome to join us for the service and the singing, and swell the voices at this most enjoyable afternoon of friendship.

# MATHIA NEWS

from Anne Dunbar - World Church Team

John Njeru writes: "Greetings to all our friends  
in Max. West town".

He sends grateful thanks for the donation towards their fund to buy musical instruments for the young people at church.

They held a gift day with an auction - one item being a heifer calf! No other items were mentioned.

At a special afternoon Communion, a gift from our Guild was presented to the chairperson of Mathia Guild. They regularly send us programmes of their National Guild Rallies which last for one week and are rarely in English, although we can understand the Bible titles.

John has noted how they value our "Great concern for them" and closes with "May the almighty God continue to bless you with good health"



We asked members of our congregation: "Where in Dumfries & Galloway, Great Britain and the Rest of the World are your favourite places?"

LOCATION No. 2



The path from KIPPFORD to Rockcliffe. The views, both landward and out to sea, are stunning.

LOCATION



PITLOCHRY: A pretty town amidst spectacular scenery. Ideal for gentle strolls and long hikes. A superb theatre.

LOCATION



IBIZA: Sun shining from an azure sky onto a turquoise sea where you can float in warm water, nudged by gentle waves. Quaint little towns with whitewashed, red-roofed buildings.

## FOOD, FUN AND FILM

### THE SILVER SCREEN IS BACK!

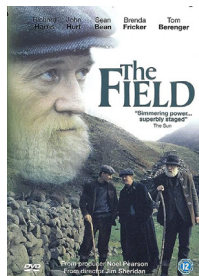
Well - didn't the summer break pass all too quickly! Nevertheless it gave us time to think about what films you would like to see during this autumn and further on into 2024. **On Saturday, September 23rd at 7pm** we're kicking off with the help of MaxWest's Social Group. We can assure you of a great night – they will be preparing a **HOT ITALIAN-STYLE SUPPER!** There'll be lots of fun with food on film too: (custard pie fights all included for free!) as are little quizzes to amuse; foodie music, and a peep at how some of our best Scottish dishes are created.

**WE'LL BE TAKING BOOKINGS - SO MAKE A DATE IN YOUR DIARY AND RESERVE YOUR SEATS!**



#### Fri 13 Oct: FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS - ONE AND ALL (UK 2022)

A sequel to the debut movie which we screened a year ago about this Cornish folk group. Following the unexpected success of the band's first album, we rejoin them as they struggle with the pressures, pitfalls and temptations of their newfound fame, and performing on the pyramid stage at Glastonbury.



#### Fri 27 Oct: THE FIELD (IRELAND 1990)

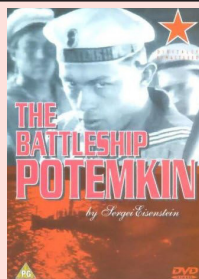
Bull McCabe has single-handedly nurtured a field of rock into a verdant pasture. It is his life. But when an American bids for his land at auction, he gets more than he bargains for. Bull's obsession with the land threatens to destroy everything he holds dear. Richard Harris received an Oscar nomination for his performance in one of the most powerful and critically acclaimed films of the 90s.

#### Fri 10 Nov: CLASSICS NIGHT



#### EASY STREET – CHARLIE CHAPLIN (USA 1917)

One of Chaplin's best loved silent films, with musical accompaniment. Playing a reformed tramp, he becomes a policeman and is assigned to rough-and-tumble Easy Street.



**BATTLESHIP POTEMKIN (USSR 1925)** One of the greatest classic films – filmed in the Crimea and Ukraine. Based on historical events it's the story of a riot on the battleship Potemkin that began as a protest strike when the crew was given rotten meat for dinner. The sailors raised the red flag and tried to ignite the revolution in their home port of Odesa. Directed by Sergei Eisenstein it's regarded as a masterpiece of the cinema.

With a music soundtrack specially composed in 2004 by The Pet Shop Boys.



#### Fri 24 Nov: A YAK IN THE CLASSROOM (BHUTAN 2019)

A young teacher in modern Bhutan shirks his duties while planning to go to Australia to become a singer. As a reprimand, his superiors send him to the most remote school in the world, a Himalayan village called Lunana, to complete his service. He finds himself exiled from his Westernized comforts after an arduous 8-day trek just to get there. With no electricity, no textbooks, not even a blackboard, the villagers extend a warm welcome to their new teacher, but he faces the daunting task of teaching their youngsters without any supplies. He wants to quit and go home, but he begins to learn of the hardship in the lives of the beautiful children he teaches, and begins to be transformed through the amazing spiritual strength of the villagers. **Oscar Nominee 2022**



#### Fri 8 Dec: SAVE THE CINEMA (UK 2022)

A drama based on the true story of Liz Evans, a hairdresser and leader of a youth theatre in Carmarthen, Wales, who began a campaign in 1993 to save the town's Lyric cinema from closure. As part of the battle, she and a local councillor enlist the help of Steven Spielberg, hoping to secure a special premiere for Jurassic Park.

#### ALL EVENTS START AT 7pm

Thank you to all our filmgoers  
There is no admission charge to our screenings – but you are always free to make your own donation. This helps us offset the cost of film licensing through the CCLI scheme.



# AND THE SUN SHONE!



It was a great occasion for Maxwelltown West Church! A Church Family Barbecue with a heavy hint of Garden Party. Not only did the sun shine, but we had a fabulous array of food from very tasty burgers and sausages to super salads, delicious sandwiches and dainty ice cream nibbles. A feast indeed!

It was just great seeing so many - young and less young - having fun in the Manse garden. It was particularly lovely to have the Brownies and their families as part of our church family share this occasion with us. Under the cool of the gazebos and on picnic rugs we all sat and chatted or mingled and chatted in the garden. There was a lot of joy and laughter around. It was a very happy occasion - a great success for everyone.

Big thanks to all who contributed to making this such a success, Käthe and Johannes, the Social Committee and particularly David and Hamish - barbecue chefs extraordinaire!

*Julie Smith*

