

A vibrant garden scene featuring a large wooden barrel on the left, a brick wall in the background, and a variety of plants. In the foreground, there are purple bell-shaped flowers and yellow daffodils. The scene is set against a backdrop of a glass-paned structure, possibly a greenhouse or conservatory, with trees and foliage visible through the panes.

# EASTER 2024

Muckairn Parish Church





## From the Editor....

Welcome to our 2024 Muckairn Easter Magazine. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed articles. I hope you enjoy reading them.

I recently found the following poem from a book of Contemporary Christian Poems given to me by Vanessa Anderson. As a scholar and teacher of dance, and a believer in the hope that Easter brings, I would like to share it with you.

High Hopes  
by Sheila Barclay

I long to go, dancing, to eternity  
to follow the snatched music that I hear  
coming and going through my days.  
But in my dreaming nights I dance -  
I dance, enough to wear my slippers out.

And in that giant dance, the world's involved,  
and wheels within wheels revolve around,  
and hands go clapping,  
hair streams gleaming out  
and all is life and light and praise.

When can I go, feet springing  
up and down, to everlasting joy?

Wishing you a very Happy Easter and here's to dancing a little everyday with renewed hope and joy (which after eating too many chocolates, buns and cake will potentially be an excellent idea).

Katherine Blyth

Dear Ones,

Easter is a time of joy, celebration, and reflection for Christians around the world. It marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, the cornerstone of the Christian faith. As believers gather to commemorate this momentous occasion, they often turn to scripture for guidance, comfort, and inspiration. Even though the resurrection stories in the Gospels are marvellous, one passage that holds particular significance for me during Easter is Psalm 118:19-24.

Psalm 118:19-24 reads:

"Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter. I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes. The Lord has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad."

These verses are rich in symbolism and profound in their message, offering profound insights into the significance of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The passage begins with a plea to "open for me the gates of the righteous." This can be interpreted as a request for God to open the way for the psalmist to enter into His presence. It reflects the desire of believers to draw near to God and experience His goodness and grace. As Christians celebrate Easter, they are reminded that through the death and

resurrection of Jesus Christ, the way to God has been opened for all who believe.

The psalmist acknowledges that it is through God's grace and mercy that they are able to enter the gates of righteousness. This underscores the central message of Easter – that salvation comes not through human effort or merit, but through God's unmerited favor. It is a time for believers to give thanks to the Lord for His abundant blessings and for the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. The imagery of the rejected stone being transformed into the cornerstone is particularly powerful in the context of Easter. Jesus Christ, who was rejected and crucified by the world, has become the cornerstone of the Christian faith. His resurrection is the cornerstone upon which the entire Christian belief system rests. This transformation is described as "marvellous in our eyes," emphasizing the miraculous nature of Christ's victory over death.

The psalmist declares, "The Lord has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad." This proclamation of joy and gladness is a fitting response to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Easter is a time of rejoicing, as believers celebrate the triumph of life over death, hope over despair, and light over darkness. It is a reminder that no matter how bleak the circumstances may seem, God is able to bring about redemption and new life.

As we reflect on Psalm 118:19-24 during Easter, we are reminded of the profound truth that lies at the heart of Christian faith. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is not just a historical event, but a living

reality that continues to transform lives and bring hope to the world. It is a reminder that God's love and power are greater than any obstacle or challenge we may face.

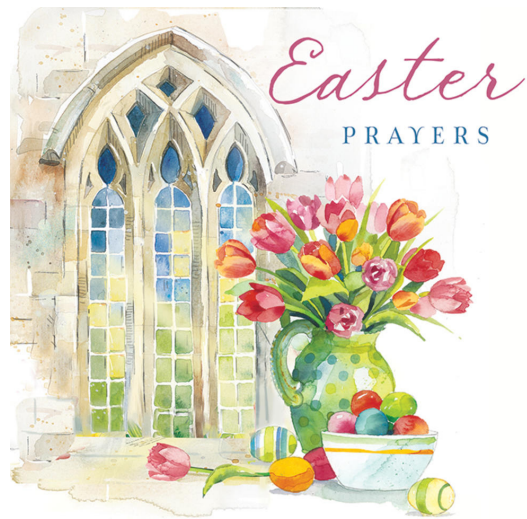
In conclusion, Psalm 118:19-24 serves as a powerful meditation for Christians during Easter, offering a profound reflection on the significance of Christ's resurrection. It reminds believers of the open gates of righteousness through which they can enter into God's presence, the miraculous transformation of the rejected stone into the cornerstone, and the call to rejoice and be glad in the victory of Jesus Christ over sin and death. As we celebrate Easter, may we be filled with gratitude, joy, and hope, knowing that through Christ, we have been made righteous and have access to the abundant life that He offers.

May the good news of Easter hope and joy fill your lives,

Rev Tom Telfer







### Come All The Faithful

Come all the faithful, let us worship God,  
 for through the Cross, joy has come to all the world.  
 Ever blessing the Lord, we sing His Resurrection,  
 for having endured the Cross for us,  
 He has destroyed death by death.”  
 - Oxford Prayer Book.

### Dear Heavenly Father,

On this Easter day, we thank you for the gift of friendship.  
 Bless our friends with the joy and hope of Christ's  
 resurrection. May our relationships reflect your love and  
 grace. Bring comfort to those facing challenges and fill our  
 shared moments with joy. May our friendships be a  
 testament to the transformative power of Easter.  
 In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

### Hearts of Thankfulness

Lord God, You loved this world so much that You gave your  
 one and only Son, that we might be called your children too.  
 Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter  
 Sunday every day. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for  
 your sacrifice.  
 Let us have eyes that look upon your grace and rejoice in our  
 salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell your  
 good news to the world.  
 All for your glory do we pray, Lord, Amen.  
 - Rachel Marie Stone



## A Cracking good egg...

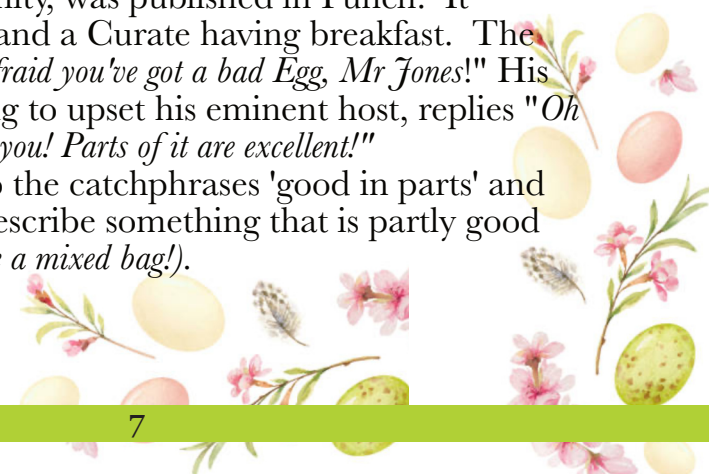
Why do we sometimes refer to someone as a good egg?  
 According to Grammar Monster, the expression  
 originally came from its opposite - *a bad egg*.  
 In British public schools in the 1800's 'a bad egg' was  
 used to describe someone who was not nice.

The idiom 'bad egg' first appeared in print in 1855 in the  
 novel 'The Wonderful Adventures of Captain Priest' by  
 Samuel A Hamett. "*In the language of his class, the Perfect  
 Bird generally turns out to be a bad egg*".

The analogy being, that although on the outside the egg  
 may appear fresh (just as first impressions of people are  
 largely based upon surface details), when the egg shell is  
 broken, the egg inside, may be rotten.

Around 50 years later students began reversing the  
 phrase to describe someone who is reliable and  
 trustworthy as a 'good egg'.

Following on from this, came the phrase, 'A curate's egg'.  
 On November 9th 1895, George du Maurier's cartoon,  
 called True Humanity, was published in Punch. It  
 depicted a Bishop and a Curate having breakfast. The  
 Bishop says, "*I'm afraid you've got a bad Egg, Mr Jones!*" His  
 Curate, not wanting to upset his eminent host, replies "*Oh  
 no, my Lord, I assure you! Parts of it are excellent!*"  
 This cartoon led to the catchphrases 'good in parts' and  
 'Curate's egg' to describe something that is partly good  
 and partly bad (*like a mixed bag!*).





No other flower in the UK heralds spring quite like the daffodil.

The botanical name for the daffodil is narcissus. It comes from Greek mythology named after the beautiful youth who fell in love with his own reflection. The drooping flowers that characterise most daffodils are said to recall Narcissus bending over to catch his image in a pool of water.

It is thought the Romans brought daffodils to Britain from the Iberian Peninsula, predominantly Spain and Portugal, where the largest variety of daffodil species are found. And they planted them in memory of loved ones or those fallen in battle.

The UK is the world's biggest grower of daffodils, despite the fact that every part of the plant is poisonous (or maybe even because of this!). These beautiful yellow flowers are perennials, making them a garden favourite. It can take five years for a daffodil to flower from seed, however, clumps of bulbs have been known to survive in the ground for well over a century, flowering consistently for decades, so they are well worth the 5 year wait.

There are more than 27,000 cultivated varieties! Yet despite this intensive breeding, most daffodils are yellow. Some exceptions include the white-petalled 'poeticus' varieties and cultivars that diverge towards orange and salmon.

Until the 19th century, daffodils were either wild species or natural hybrids which had slowly increased over time. The modern daffodil evolved during the 1800s when breeders began to select flowers for different aesthetic qualities. The Rev. George Herbert Engleheart is often credited as the father of the modern daffodil. In 1901 he moved to Little Clarendon in Wiltshire and continued his work producing new daffodil hybrids.

Engleheart registered 720 new daffodil varieties between 1882 and 1923, although only around 30 are still commercially available. His work with the poeticus species (see right) is his enduring legacy.

Daffodils have inspired writers, poets and artists throughout the centuries. A favourite flower among the Romantic poets, they were immortalised by Wordsworth in his poem Daffodils, one of the most famous in the English language.

The poet's line 'A host of golden daffodils' recalls the swathes of wild flowers discovered on a walk with his sister Dorothy along the shore of Ullswater in the Lake District in early April 1802.

Over the centuries, daffodils have been given many common or local names, including the daffodowndilly, yellow maiden and Lent lily, a reference to their flowering season coinciding with the period leading up to Easter.

Daffodowndilly was writer A.A. Milne's choice for his poem about the flower, published in his book of verse for children, *When We Were Very Young* (1924).

Isabel Blyth

*All information picked by hand from The National Trust!*



## Daffodils by William Wordsworth

I wander'd lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host, of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle on the Milky Way,  
They stretch'd in never-ending line  
Along the margin of a bay:  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they  
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:  
A poet could not but be gay,  
In such a jocund company:  
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude;  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
And dances with the daffodils.



## Daffodils by Fiona MacLeod

The daffodils, so bright and fair,  
In the fields and meadows there,  
Are like a smile upon the face,  
Of nature's beauty and its grace.



## Daffodowndilly by A. A. Milne

She wore her yellow sun-bonnet,  
She wore her greenest gown;  
She turned to the south wind  
And curtsied up and down.  
She turned to the sunlight  
And shook her yellow head,  
And whispered to her neighbour:  
"Winter is dead."



## The Daffodils of Great Tew by John Betjeman

The daffodils of Great Tew  
Are wide awake and laughing too,  
Their beaming faces all askew  
With big bouncing glee.  
And every breeze that wanders by  
Takes up their laughter with a sigh  
And whirls it round the April sky  
For all the world to see.



## Easter Giggles...

What do you call an unconventional Easter egg?  
*Egg-centric*

Why does the Easter Bunny have such a good complexion?  
*She eggs-foliates!*

What sport are eggs the best at?  
*Running!*

Did you hear about the most beautifully decorated eggs?  
*They were to dye for!*

Why was the Easter Bunny hired for the job?  
*He had the most eggs-perience!*

Why don't chicks play baseball?  
*Too many fowl balls!*

What did the kids do when their treats were all hidden on Easter morning?  
*They demanded an eggsplanation!*

How does an Easter chick bake a cake?  
*From scratch!*

Why are Easter bunnies more tired when Easter's in April?  
*Because they've just finished a long March.*

What would you get if you crossed the Easter Bunny with a famous French general?  
*Napoleon Bunnyparte!*

What do you call a dancing chick?  
*Poultry in motion!*

Why do people paint eggs for Easter?  
*It's easier than trying to wallpaper them!*

Where's the best place to learn about eggs?  
*The hen-cyclopedia.*

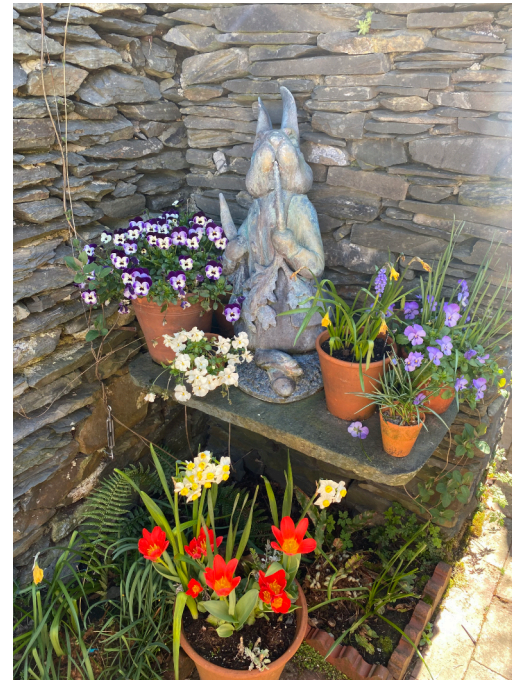
What do you call a rabbit with fleas?  
*Bugs Bunny!*

What do you get when you cross a rabbit with shellfish?  
*An oyster bunny!*

Why did the Easter egg hide?  
*He was a little chicken!*

Why don't rabbits get hot in the summer?  
*They have hare conditioning.*

What do rabbits say before they eat?  
*"Lettuce pray."*



This poem by Seamus Heaney radiates “sheer joy”.  
I think we can all appreciate  
a little “sheer joy” right now - rain, costs, wars etc.

M.G.K.

### ST. FRANCIS AND THE BIRDS.

When Francis preached love to the birds  
They listened, fluttered, throttled up  
Into the blue like a flock of words

Released for fun from his holy lips.  
Then wheeled back, whirred about his head,  
Pirouetted on brothers’ capes,

Danced on the wing, for sheer joy played  
And sang, like images took flight.  
Which was the best poem Francis made,

His argument true, his tone light.

Seamus Heaney.



## Music for a Summer’s Evening Part Two Saturday, 29 June at Kilchrenan Church & Village Hall

6.00 pm - Pre-concert drinks    6:30 pm – Concert  
7:30 pm - Dinner

Last year we were delighted with the performance of Claire  
Innes-Hopkins and this year we have another opportunity in  
welcoming  
Terri Koch.

Terri was the organist and Music Director in Walla Walla,  
WA where Rev Tom served as minister prior to coming to  
Scotland. The Kochs and Telfers became friends and she and  
her husband, Terry (Mr. Terry) have visited us in Scotland  
each year and have fallen in love with our villages.

Terri Koch began piano lessons at age 6 and at the age of 16  
began taking organ lessons. She graduated with a Bachelor  
of Music degree in music education and organ and went on  
to earn a Master of Music in Music Education and organ  
performance.

She has taught piano, organ and flute lessons in Virginia,  
Massachusetts, Maryland, Hawaii, and Washington  
State...students from pre-school through high school level.  
Terri has served as church organist since age 16 in several  
faith communities...Presbyterian, Disciples of Christ,  
Seventh-day Adventist, United Methodist, United Church of  
Christ, Catholic and is currently the Director of Music and  
organist at Pioneer United Methodist Church in Walla Walla,  
Washington as well as College Place Village Seventh-day  
Adventist Church in College Place, Washington.

Her programme at Kilchrenan will include music by  
Boellmann, Bach, Paul Manz, Mendelssohn, Buxtehude,  
Gordon Young, and Percy Fletcher.

TICKETS WILL GO ON SALE IN MAY 2024







1. Judy Garland stars alongside which classic movie star in Hollywood musical Easter Parade?
2. Who wrote the music for rock opera Jesus Christ Superstar?
3. Which comedy group created for the 1979 film Life of Brian?
4. Who wrote The Tale of Peter Rabbit?
5. Which classical composer wrote St. Matthew Passion?
6. Which 3 Actors have played Willy Wonka in the 3 films based on Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory?
7. What item does the rabbit in Lewis Carroll's Alice In Wonderland always carry with him?
8. Which Disney film features a rabbit called Thumper?
9. Which chocolate treat has the slogan "the lighter way to enjoy chocolate"?

10. What is the name of the workers village southwest of Birmingham, which gave its name to a brand of dark chocolate?
11. Which chocolate bar has a coconut flavoured filling?
12. Which famous mountain is the logo of Toblerone?
13. Complete this selection box slogan: "And all because the lady loves...?"
14. How many different colour Smarties are there?
15. How tall was the tallest chocolate Easter egg ever created?
16. How many eggs were used in the largest Easter egg hunt in the world?
17. In 2012, the record was broken for the most expensive non-jewelled chocolate egg sold at auction. How much was it?
18. The world record for the largest hot cross bun was set in Bolton in 2012. How much did it weigh?
19. Australia doesn't have the Easter bunny as a mascot... what do they have instead?
20. In Switzerland, what creature traditionally brings Easter eggs for children?
21. What do children in Finland dress up as for Easter?
22. A town in which country serves up a giant omelette from over 15,000 eggs on Easter Monday?

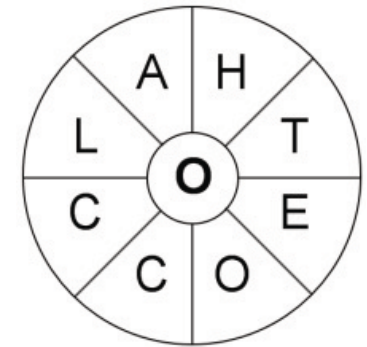
## Easter Gardens

*Remember creating these? Perhaps you still do? These lovely examples have inspired me to make one again this year.*

*Editor*



How many words can you make from?



Can you unscramble the following Easter related words?

1. rucch
2. nelt
3. bomt
4. eccoohta
5. tbksea
6. reetas
7. elibb
8. dgoo yirdfa
9. nnyub
10. cciiionxufr
11. undyas
12. llhuaaje
13. nsecritoreur





## Easter & Spring Quotations

"If spring came but once a century, instead of once a year, or burst forth with the sound of an earthquake, and not in silence, what wonder and expectation there would be in all hearts to behold the miraculous change." (Henry W. Longfellow)

"Spring is God's way of saying, 'One more time!'" (Robert Orben)

"I wish each of us Easter eyes, able to perceive in death, life; in guilt, forgiveness; in separation, unity; in wounds, glory; in the human, God; in God, the human; and in the I, the you." (Bishop Klaus Hemmerle of Aachen)

On Easter Day the veil between time and eternity thins to gossamer." (Douglas Horton)

"The Resurrection is God's "Amen!" to Christ's statement, "It is finished." (S. Lewis Johnson)

"The story of Easter is the story of God's wonderful window of divine surprise." (Carl Knudsen)

"Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." (Pope John Paul II)

"Christ the Lord is risen today, sons of men and angels say. Raise your joys and triumphs high; sing, ye heavens and earth reply." (Charles Wesley)

"Even the smallest one can change the world." (Beatrix Potter)

"Think of all the beauty still left around you and be happy." (Anne Frank)

"If you want to be reminded of the love of the Lord, just watch the sunrise." (Jeannette Walls)

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29)

"The very first Easter taught us this: that life never ends and love never dies." (Kate McGahan)

"The great gift of Easter is hope." (Basil Hume)

"Spring shows what God can do with a drab and dirty world". (Victor Kraft)

"The deep roots never doubt spring will come". (Marty Rubin)

"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime". (Martin Luther)

"I believe in Christ, like I believe in the sun — not because I can see it, but by it I can see everything else". (C.S. Lewis)





1. Fred Astaire
2. Sir Andrew Lloyd Weber
3. Monty Python
4. Beatrix Potter
5. Bach
6. Gene Wilder, Johnny Depp & Timothée Chalamet
7. A pocket watch
8. Bambi
9. Maltesers
10. Bourneville
11. Bounty
12. Matterhorn
13. Milk Tray
14. Eight
15. 10.37m tall in Italy in 2011
16. 501,000 eggs. 9,753 children searched for them in Cypress Gardens Adventure Park in Florida back in 2007.
17. £7,000. It weighed over 50kg and was made with Amedei Chocolate, edible Gold leaf and included truffles, smaller chocolate eggs, chocolate bars and white flowers.
18. 168 kg (370 lb 6 oz)
19. Easter Bilby (a type of long-eared marsupial)
20. A cuckoo
21. Witches
22. France (the town of Haux)

**Easter Puzzles Scrambled Answers:**

- |              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1. church    | 8. good friday   |
| 2. lent      | 9. bunny         |
| 3. tomb      | 10. crucifixion  |
| 4. chocolate | 11. sunday       |
| 5. basket    | 12. allelujah    |
| 6. easter    | 13. resurrection |
| 7. bible     |                  |



Future Muckairn Service Dates  
for Your Diary

A Mid-Summer Reflection - June 13th 4.00pm

Harvest Festival - October 6th 11.30am  
Followed by a bring and share lunch

Remembrance Sunday - 10th November 11.30am at  
Muckairn Church followed by a Memorial Service at Taynuilt  
War Memorial  
12.30pm

Sunday 1st December  
Reflective Service - 4.00pm  
A time for thanksgiving and remembering our loved ones

Sunday 8th December  
Carols by Candlelight at Muckairn - 4.00pm  
followed by Mince Pies and Refreshments

Wednesday 25th December  
Christmas Day Service - 11.00am





Holy Week Schedule at Muckairn  
Parish Church

Palm Sunday Service- 4th March  
11.30am

Good Friday Tenebrae Service -  
29th March 7.00pm

Easter Sunday Service - 31st  
March 11.30am

With the Oban and Lorne  
Strathspey and Reel Society  
players

(don't forget the clocks change  
by going forward one hour)