

# THE GRAPEVINE

CRAMOND KIRK MAGAZINE

JUNE 2023

Issue 127



[www.cramondkirk.org.uk](http://www.cramondkirk.org.uk)

## Churches Agree to Unite



Following votes by both congregations, Cramond Kirk and The Old Kirk and Muirhouse (TOK+M) have agreed to unite.

The parish of Edinburgh North West Kirk will extend over the combined area of the two current parishes, with 21,000 people living within its boundaries. Cramond and TOK+M have a long-established amicable relationship.

As a result of this agreement, we may begin the process of calling a Minister to the united charge of the Edinburgh North West Kirk.

As Rev Ian Gilmour, our Locum Minister, pointed out in a recent sermon: "The Cramond parish has changed markedly across the centuries, and it will change again.

"Some are concerned this will be a stretch, but to work alongside TOK+M is not like a gardener going into an unploughed field and starting from scratch. Good people, some outstanding Christians, have been

working to build church and community in The Old Kirk and Muirhouse since before WW2, so we will be joining in.

"There is pride and spirit in that large community area. People come together and want what is best for a strong community, and this gives us all hope.

"God will forgive if some have misgivings and others make mistakes, but if we vote to work together, we will have only one chance to start really well with focus and energy."

There will be two places of worship, and our Kirk Halls will remain. A plan for the TOK+M buildings is to be put in place by the end of 2025; a place of worship will still be provided in that community.

One manse will be used for the new Minister and plans must be made for the remaining one within three years. While many details are still to be worked out, Elders from both churches will form one Kirk Session and administer to the extent of the new parish boundaries.

As Jesus said: "Father, keep them safe by the power of your name, so that they may be one, just as you and I are one."



## KIRK SERVICES

### Every Sunday

Morning Prayers – 8.45 am  
Morning Worship – 10 am

### Communion

Sunday, 2 July – 8.45 am  
Sunday, 6 August – 8.45 am  
Sunday, 3 September – 8.45 am

## ONLINE CHURCH

[www.facebook.com/cramondkirk2](https://www.facebook.com/cramondkirk2)  
or [www.cramondkirk.org.uk](http://www.cramondkirk.org.uk)

10 am Morning Worship  
every Sunday

Weekly Devotions

## SUMMER FUN IN CRAMOND KIRK HALLS



If you and your family are needing to burn off some excess energy over the school holidays but can't find enough space, Cramond Kirk Halls are open and available for table tennis, badminton, your own family activities or simply space to run around. The hall can be booked from Monday to Friday for £10 an hour. If you'd like to book a date and time, please contact the Hall Manager at [hallenquiries@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:hallenquiries@cramondkirk.org.uk)

Read more: [www.cramondkirk.org.uk](http://www.cramondkirk.org.uk) Deadline for next issue 23 July 2023 T: 0131 336 2036





## Jumble Sale raises over £4,000

The Jumble Sale in March had another successful year, with new volunteers of all ages joining our team, ensuring we improved on last year's fantastic result by raising £4,014.

Cramond Kirk and The Old Kirk and Muirhouse have a long shared history in supporting local good causes, so we were pleased to distribute £1,350 each to two charities supporting families during this cost of living crisis.

- **Pennywell Pantry** focus on "Ending Food Poverty in Muirhouse and West Pilton", offering low-income families a dignified way to access healthier food.
- **Fresh Start** help people who have been homeless to make a home for themselves, through assistance with decorating, cookery classes and starter packs of household goods.

The success of the day speaks volumes about the quality of the donations received. As always there were fantastic bargains to be had, and large numbers of enthusiastic customers turned up from near and far.

Of course, the sale could not happen without the hard work of over 60 volunteers - in preparation for the event, during the frenetic two hours of sales and in tidying-up.

Our experienced team was augmented with new volunteers including Helen Fisher's team from TOK+M, and Carrie Anne Scougall's team from Fresh Start. Two van loads of unsold donations were gratefully received by Bethany Christian Trust.

Overall, a great day, and we would like to express thanks to the large army of stall holders and supporters who worked so enthusiastically, and to the wider community for donating goods and supporting us on the day.

Helen and Oliver Riches



Helen Fisher (TOK+M) presents cheque to Cara Babineau of Pennywell Pantry



## And Christian Aid Week tops £6,500



Many thanks to all who contributed to Christian Aid Week in May - door-to-door collecting, singing the spirituals, taking part in the Brainteaser and Quiz, running stalls at the Fair, donating and buying goods. It was a great effort for this important charity and so far we have raised over £6,500.

Gillian Hewitt

## Parish Register

### WEDDING

13 May Stephen Wallace to Marquita Van Hove

### DEATHS

14 January James Williamson

16 January Fiona Harris

20 February Beatrice Thornton

1 March Irene Beaumont

6 April Kay Macfarlane

7 April William Scholes

15 April Wilma Gibb

20 April Janet Cameron

22 April Isobel Honeyman (former secretary of the Cramond Association and Bible Class leader)

25 April Margaret Main

### NEW MEMBERS

19 March Douglas & Barbara Eakins



Bill Scholes, former Session Clerk

## FROM THE MANSE



### Learning to be Happier

Archbishop Tutu has co-authored a new book on JOY and lasting happiness. "We create most of our own suffering, so... we also have the ability to create more joy."

He asks, "How did Nelson Mandela leave prison after 27 years, ready to forgive his enemies?" He actually trusted former enemies, worked alongside them, ultimately changing the landscape of his country.

During his prison sentence, as a black man, he received smaller portions than the other prisoners – every single day, less meat and no jam which the others so enjoyed. However, Mandela kept his body and mind active and did not let anything embitter his spirit, which may have happened to some of us. Well, I really like jam!

Tutu suggests to "grow in generosity of spirit" all of us must undergo "a diminishing, a frustration". This is worth pondering, as Tutu, having suffered polio as a child and then the fierce apartheid regime, is a good guide.

He says, "Discovering more joy does not save us from the inevitability of hardship and heartbreak. In fact, we may cry more easily, but we will laugh more easily too. Perhaps we are just more alive. Yet as we discover more joy, we can face suffering in a way that ennobles rather than embitters."

**Ian Gilmour, Locum Minister**

### The Steepness of the Brae

Lord we know You are the way for us:  
But we do not like the steepness of the brae.  
Lord we know You are the truth for us:  
But we do not like the starkness of your word  
Lord we know You are the life for us:  
But we still fear that days would be dull  
or too demanding  
if we gave up ours.

Yea Lord, establish with us Your free spirit:  
The hill is conquered – Calvary is bare,  
The truth has triumphed – the tomb is empty,  
Life is abundant – the Law is dead.

*A Prayer from Dr G.F.MacLeod  
(former pupil, Cargilfield)*



### A Holy Week Pilgrimage

There were four stops on our pilgrimage through Holy Week – Holy Cross, The Old Kirk and Muirhouse (TOK+M), Cramond Kirk and Cramond Foreshore. Each stop increased our understanding of fellow congregations and their associated communities.

Individual pilgrimages were also the subject of three of our talks. Dr Stephen Holmes journeyed from the monastery through academe to priest at Holy Cross. Dr Martin Scott spoke compellingly of Oscar Romero, a socially conservative Catholic priest who was eventually martyred for siding with the poor. Dr Arthur Chapman spoke of walking the Camino. They gave us food for thought about our own lives and the Easter story.

These individual pilgrimages were in the setting of Jesus' journey during Holy Week, celebrated and remembered in a rich range of worship. The scene was set at Holy Cross with the beautiful Passiontide words and music, sung by the fine Cantores Sanctae Crucis - words appropriately reflected by Rev Alex Douglas in his Good Friday service.

Pilgrimage is about sharing with other pilgrims along the way. The Maundy Thursday service at The Old Kirk (TOK+M) sensitively led by Rev Elspeth Harley had everything – great interaction over mutual hand washing, eating, and conversing, plus uplifting words and music ably led by Cramond choir, all culminating in shared communion.

The cooking and sharing of fish and bread by the waterside, with powerful evocations of Jesus' ministry enhanced the Dawn Service.

Throughout we were blessed with Ian Gilmour's inspiring leadership. It was a week to remember on our life's pilgrimages.

**John Naylor**



## SCOUTS AT LAPWING LODGE

Cramond Scouts had an excellent Easter Camp at Lapwing Lodge in Renfrewshire. The theme being Scottish Inventors, the patrols were named after Bell, Baird, Fleming and Watt.

During five days of great weather, the Scouts' activities included an Incident Hike, Wide-Game, visit to an Escape Room, high ropes, mountain biking, and a games night featured Sumo wrestling.

Scouts also developed their "skills for life" - cooking, navigation, first aid, knots and pioneering - and enhanced their domestic skills like cleaning and washing up.

They took on Invention Challenges, the winning invention being a "juicer" which dispensed medicinal drinks. On Easter Sunday they had an Easter Egg hunt and a "Scouts Own" about protecting the environment. They also planted 100 trees in the grounds of the centre.

A superb camp: the Scouts were so well behaved, participated so enthusiastically, and got on so well with each other - hopefully lots of good memories were made and skills developed.

A massive thanks to the leader team for giving their time, preparing the activities and being such good colleagues and to our host Ross, the Warden.

The Leader Team - Duncan, Eilidh, Gillian, Hannah, James, Karen, Mike, Paul



## Ecumenical

The early Celtic Church, some say,  
 planed with the grain of pagan woods,  
 oak, alder, apple, ash and yew;  
 today we plant variety,  
 three traveller's trees,  
 we will not lose our way;  
 I'm told two Jewish pedlars,  
 comparing the worry-weight  
 each carried on his back,  
 declined at last to swap their loads,  
 preferring the weel-kent fecht  
 tae that trauchle intae the unbekent,  
 from which nae trebbler returns;  
 we gladly bear our fardels baith,  
 your bachuil/ my pekl;  
 may these three rowans nourished here  
 bring berries mashing up the lights.

David Bleiman

Notes: weel-kent fecht - familiar struggle/ trauchle intae the unbekent - trudge into the unknown/

trebbler - commercial traveller/ fardels - burdens/ bachuil - crosier/ pekl - knapsack

David Bleiman is author of *Gathering Light: A Cramond Causeway* (in support of Cramond Commemorates), available at entrance to the Kirk Hall or from <https://poetrykilt.bigcartel.com/>

## WORD PUZZLE

### PLACES TO VISIT IN & AROUND EDINBURGH

Fill in the missing letters.

1. \_A \_R \_S \_O \_ / C \_S \_L \_
2. \_O \_A \_ / B \_T \_N \_C / \_A \_D \_N
3. \_A \_I \_N \_L / \_U \_E \_M / \_F /  
\_C \_T \_A \_D
4. \_O \_E \_O \_N / \_O \_S \_
5. \_R \_M \_N \_ / I \_L \_N \_
6. \_T / \_I \_E \_ / C \_T \_E \_R \_L

Answers on page 11

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# Runaway Sweethearts Return - 60 Years On



On their Diamond Wedding anniversary, Paul and Lynne Routledge were very welcome return visitors to our Kirk on Easter Sunday.

As teenage sweethearts, Paul and Lynne eloped to Edinburgh from Yorkshire after his father refused to let them be married. In 1963 you had to be 21 to marry without parental consent in England.

Paul was 19, Lynne was 17 and they had a baby girl. And they were determined to wed.

After hitchhiking overnight to Edinburgh, Paul used the gift of the gab that later paved the way for a successful journalistic career. He convinced Rev Campbell Maclean to marry them in Cramond Kirk.

To meet the 14 days' residency qualification, Lynne stayed in the Manse with the Maclean family and helped out with childminding, while Paul took digs in D Mains and laboured on a building site.

For the wedding, Paul recalls they bought Lynne a blue two-piece suit costing eight guineas. "The fluffy hat was 30 bob but I don't recall how much the fashionable white high heels cost. Not a lot, that's for sure. I wore my only suit, a hideous green number, with a brown nylon sweater underneath.

"The wedding was short and simple. Lynne's brother came up to give her away. My friend, the poet John Hartley Williams, was the best man. He never even took his mac off. We were invited to the Manse for sherry and cake, and the Rev Maclean then drove us to the A1.



"We had just enough money for an overnight stay in a B&B in Berwick-upon-Tweed. Next morning, we walked across the river to begin our hitchhike home to parent-hood, marriage and growing up, quick-style.

"All we had in the world was 30 shillings (£1.50) to start our life together. It didn't matter. We had each other. And still have."

After their return visit, Paul reflected: "It was a moving experience to be back in the Kirk where 60 years ago to the day, Lynne and I were married by Rev Campbell Maclean, a wise and empathetic man who gave us our future together.

"As an old CofE-school educated boy, I found the traditional Easter hymns truly uplifting. Thank you, Rev Gilmour, and the ladies to whom we spoke after the service, for an unforgettable visit. Cramond will always be in our hearts."

Lynne added: "You made it a very special day for me. It brought back happy memories of living in the Manse, the beauty of the church and the kindness of people, which I will never forget."



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# The Power of Community

My husband and I are Indian, and our parents came to this country with very little. We were brought up to know the most important people in our communities were the elderly; they had a life lived and wisdom.

Fast forward 30 years. We had just moved house: a busy young family with a couple of kids, a puppy and a big house renovation, juggling full time jobs. Next door lived an elderly lady whom we had never met.

When the bad weather of November 2009 set in, many people were stranded. Whilst my husband was defrosting the car, the elderly lady we now know as Isabel asked for help to get some food from the shops. This was the moment we paused; when did we become those people that forget a wee old lady living next door?

We soon rectified the wrong and started carving out a bit of time for Isabel. We took her hot meals in the winter, my six-year-old son would sit with her, she loved to see our puppy.

Isabel had great chat, she was kind and funny. We learnt she would be spending Christmas alone so we invited her for dinner, and had the most magical day. The next year we were temporarily living in a

rented flat with 99 steps to the front door. Isabel didn't come for Christmas that day, as the steps were too much. We saw her on Boxing Day. She was so sad she'd missed being with us, so what did we do? Christmas Day Take 2! Isabel came and steadily climbed all 99 steps.

From then on, she would come to us for Sunday dinner, enjoying the chaos of our home. The warmth she brought was magical. Our children, now 17 and 15, remember her with great fondness.

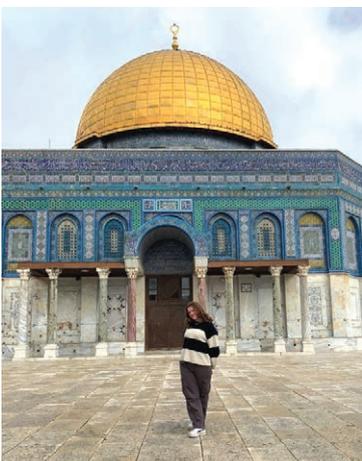
During the pandemic, we saw lots of locals supporting each other and whilst some relationships have continued, many have fallen by the wayside as life returned to 'normal'.

In our community there are hundreds of elderly people, those living with disabilities (both physical and hidden), people experiencing anxiety, loneliness and isolation.

I urge you to please go and see your elderly neighbour, pop in for a cuppa and a blether, take them a hot meal. To you it's as little as an hour a week; to them it means the world.

Rickie Tank

## Home from Israel and Palestine



*Sophie Chapman one of our members, has been volunteering for several months in Israel and Palestine. Sophie is Cramond Kirk's Youth Representative to this year's General Assembly.*

Upon returning abroad in January, I did freelance volunteering which also allowed me to travel and explore. I worked at Sadaka-Reut which supports young people

affected by the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, showing them it is ok to be friends with 'the other side,' and Tent of Nations, a Palestinian-Christian family-run farm which encourages community building and respect for the land and other people. I met some incredible people. My travels took me to memorable places: the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem, Aida refugee camp and the Golan Heights.

Thank you for your support, Sophie.

## Cammo Estate Forest Church

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# FreshStart

helping people make a home for themselves



With the cost of living crisis affecting everyone, Fresh Start has been dealing with more starter pack and white goods referrals than ever!

To help process the increased number of essential starter packs, we have had corporate helpers from Emma Lennox Property Stylists, a team from Clark Contracts, pupils from Edinburgh Academy, along with some generous donations from The Fraser Suites Edinburgh, The George Hotel and Cramond Primary School. Thank you to all who have given their time to help us, we really appreciate it.

Our Growing Spaces are enjoying the better weather, hosting some fun (and at times rather muddy) workshops with local families, planting tomatoes and wildflowers. In the coming months, we will open our Tool Lending Library, offering garden tools to local people to spruce up their gardens in time for summer.

To mark the Coronation, we took part in The Big Help Out, asking people to collect starter pack 'forgotten essentials' such as toiletries and cleaning products.

If you have passed our warehouse recently, you will see we've had our own makeover, with a team of artists from North Edinburgh Arts, funded by the National Galleries of Scotland, painting a mural on our exterior warehouse wall, representing the services that Fresh Start offers. It certainly brightens up the street!

The Fresh Start Team

[www.freshstartweb.org.uk](http://www.freshstartweb.org.uk)

## From The Old Kirk and Muirhouse – Boys' Brigade Leader

The road to Union between Cramond Kirk and The Old Kirk & Muirhouse has been longer and more twisty than expected, but we at TOK+M are looking forward to uniting and moving on to the next stage of our journey together.

Meanwhile the Boys' Brigade has lost an experienced leader and is urgently looking for help. Our captain Andrew Hay is unable to attend meetings but continues to run the company in a more limited way.

We have temporary help (including from Rev Ian Gilmour who is a reserve officer) until June.

However are there any former BB members in Cramond, or anyone at all who'd like to do something for young people?

The Anchor Section is for P1 – 3, Juniors for P4 – 6, Company Section for S1 – S3, and Seniors are S4 upwards. If you're interested in coming along after the summer to help with any section, please contact [IGilmour@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:IGilmour@churchofscotland.org.uk)



## Visit the Kirkyard

Our beautiful Kirkyard is tended by a team of dedicated volunteers. It's a peaceful refuge where you can sit and contemplate, or wander in the graveyard between historic headstones offering fascinating insights into our cultural past.



## BANANAS AND CHOCOLATE

The Fair Trade Fortnight event in March involved free chocolate tasting provided by our local Scotmid, delicious home baking from the Fair Trade team, a short film about cocoa farmers, and even an inflatable banana!

We are very grateful to everyone who bought Fair Trade goods from the stall.

And we look forward to seeing you at our stall in the Kirk Hall on the second Sunday of every month.

Sandra and Judy (pictured) and the Fair Trade Team



# YOUNG CRAMOND

## Summer suns are glowing ...



### Things to see and do in Cramond

R M B I I Y G N N M P  
 B B D R R S A H V G I  
 T I U A U W L C I T C  
 B M C N R A L A R R E  
 O U K Y C N E D N H C  
 A S S C C S R X C D R  
 T E M N U L I A R A E  
 S U O C A F E S A R A  
 R M A R T B S S I Z M  
 S M K I R K Y A R D S  
 R I V E R A L M O N D



### CRAMOND KIRKYARD TRAIL

Have you ever stopped to wonder about some of the monuments in the Kirkyard or the people they commemorate?

Why not take our **Kirkyard Trail hunt** and see how many of the answers you can find.

The trail is available on the **Young Cramond page** at <https://www.cramondkirk.org.uk>



BEACH ♦ BICYCLES ♦ BOATS ♦ CAFES ♦ DUCKS  
GALLERIES ♦ ICE CREAMS ♦ ISLAND ♦ KIRKYARD  
MUSEUM ♦ RIVER ALMOND ♦ SWANS

### Did you know...

Cramond Kirk's tower is over 500 years old? The parapet was added in 1811.



### ICE CREAM FLAVOURS

Fill in the consonants.

\_ A \_ I \_ \_ A

\_ \_ O \_ O \_ A \_ E

\_ \_ \_ A \_ \_ E \_ \_



Can you find 10 suns on this page?



### YC DIARY

11th June  
18th June  
21st June  
23rd July

Sunday Club Service 10 am  
Father's Day  
Summer Solstice  
Grapevine Deadline



Thank you Darcey and Cara for your jokes!  
We'll publish more in the next issue so please keep sending them to the Kirk Office!



What is a cat's favourite colour?

Purrurple!

DARCEY



What's a cow's favourite place in town?

The Moouseum!

CARA



### Can you help?

Cramond Kirk is helping charities. If you have any

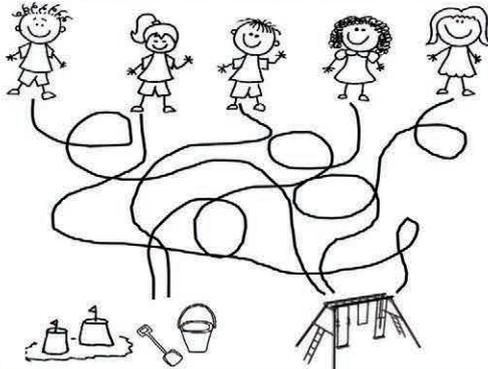
- used stamps
- used batteries
- empty ink cartridges
- old spectacles



please drop them off at the Kirk Office.

Thank you!

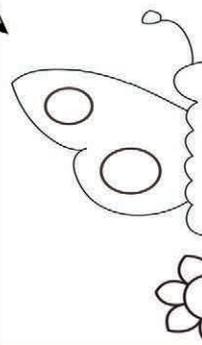
Which friends are playing on Cramond Beach and which friends are playing in the Walled Garden?



### Easter Card Competition

Well done to everyone who took part! See the results in this magazine.

Complete the mirror image.



# “Just a way of life”



Next month, Mavis Little and husband John will set off for an Investiture at the Palace of Holyroodhouse where Mavis will receive an MBE.

Mavis was awarded the accolade in the 2023 New Year’s Honours List, for services to charity and vulnerable people in Edinburgh, over a period of 50 years.

When approached to find out whether she’d accept an award, Mavis was sceptical.

“I thought it was a scam at first!” she admits.

Mavis started volunteering in 1973, not long after the family moved to Edinburgh. For a few days a week, she managed the WRVS shop at the former Gogarburn Hospital and also the Royal Victoria Hospital, for around 20 years.

But as the shop businesses became increasingly regulated, Mavis’ enjoyment of the role diminished. “When Gogarburn went, so did I,” she says.

She continued to volunteer, however - with Meals on Wheels and other services for housebound elderly people, then fundraising for the Trefoil Centre... and with St Columba’s Hospice where she still works in their cafes. Since starting as a Hospice receptionist, Mavis has

witnessed many changes: to buildings, resources, and voluntary input. “Most volunteers are there for a reason,” she observes. “They want to give back.”

Mavis organised the annual house-to-house collection for several years, then managed the packing and dispatch of gifts and cards from the Hospice’s Christmas catalogue. “From October to December it was hectic!”

She’s turned her hand to most tasks - “not flowers, I’m no good with them”. She also finds time to run the Gift stall at the Kirk’s Christmas Fair, as well as being involved with other charities.

Mavis describes her volunteering career as very satisfying and enjoyable. “It’s become a way of life,” she reflects.

All the best for your big day at the Palace, Mavis!

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## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023



First Minister Humza Yousaf, Moderator Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton and Lord High Commissioner Lord Hodge, at the General Assembly (Picture: Andy O’Brien)

- Pain of past year acknowledged, but Church urged to imagine an exciting future
- ‘No quota’ for church closures
- Kirk to ‘initiate a conversation’ with other churches on joint working
- Slave trade apology
- Chief Rabbi praises Church as Jewish-Christian Glossary welcomed
- Assisted dying debate

Read more! “Life and Work” has once again published a free four page General Assembly Special Supplement summarising some of the key decisions, debates and speeches: [www.lifeandwork.org/resources/general-assembly-2023-special-supplement](http://www.lifeandwork.org/resources/general-assembly-2023-special-supplement)

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# Easter Card Competition Winners Announced!

Well done to the 111 people who entered. The creativity and talent was incredible!

Visitors greatly enjoyed seeing the display in the Gathering Space.

The winners are: left to right: Ellie Boughton, age 3; Isabelle Byrne, age 8; Oliver Beesley, age 10; Alex Lyell, age 11; Kathleen Malone, age 18+



The judges, Anne Mather and Gill Massie, highly commended 16 other entrants -

Diana Brebner, Lochy Bruce, Isla Cannon, Bea Douglas-Home, Malin Graham, Mason Graham, Gabriella Hetherington, Hugo, Isaac, Jed, Little Monkeys, Izzie Lyell, Isla Morris, Hannah R, Isobel R-D and Ezra Tebbutt.

Look out for our next 'Open to all ages' challenge!

## WANTED! Grapevine Editor

Do you have writing and editing skills?

Can you spare a few hours to volunteer these skills and benefit the local community and churches?

The Grapevine Team would welcome a new Editor to commission articles and photography, sub copy, and liaise with the printer over layouts.

Lots of assistance will be provided: contributions / proof-checking / advertising support.

The Grapevine is published four times a year, and delivered to every home in the area.

For an informal chat and further info, please contact [office@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:office@cramondkirk.org.uk) / 0131 336 2036

## Come and Curl!

Did the Scottish Rink's success at the World Championship in Canada in April whet your appetite to curl?



Curling can be enjoyed by people of all ages, and skill/fitness levels.

Cramond Curling Club is always looking for new members, from beginners to experienced players.

We play at Murrayfield Rink on various weekday evenings, and some Saturdays and Sundays, from September through to March. Members are divided into teams (rinks) that play against each other for a variety of trophies. We finish our season with a fun bonspiel and supper.

To find out more, contact [crichtonmouat@btinternet.com](mailto:crichtonmouat@btinternet.com) or call him on 0131 334 6583.



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# My Name Is Chahira

Chahira is my first name,  
the name my mother gave me, when I was born.  
It means famous.  
I was her second child. She took care of me,  
and I grew little by little.

I was her daughter, her sister,  
her friend, her confidant.  
From a young age she considered me old.  
She believed in me and always told me that I was  
"beautiful, smart, strong, and best of all".

I was going to succeed in my life.

Sometimes we did not agree,  
we argued and she explained  
that I was young and later I would understand.  
She told me that I was  
"beautiful, smart, strong, and best of all".

Even when I had a child with special needs  
and I was distraught, sad,  
she kept repeating to me that  
"the good God gave you this child" because  
"you are strong, courageous and you will be able to help  
him".

She told me that I was  
"beautiful, smart, strong and best of all".

by Chahira Sahnoun, Project Esperanza 2023, 525 Ferry  
Road, Edinburgh - [www.projectesperanza.org.uk](http://www.projectesperanza.org.uk)



## ESPERANZA AT MODERN ONE

This quilt was made  
by the ladies of  
Esperanza, exhibiting  
fabrics from their  
countries of origin.

Esperanza supports  
vulnerable families,  
refugees and migrants  
around Muirhouse.

As part of our outreach  
chaplaincy work, Dr Sureshini Sanders (pictured) helped  
show the Esperanza ladies how to create the quilt.

The quilt is currently on display as part of the Alberta  
Whittle collection in the Scottish National Gallery of  
Modern Art (One) until autumn 2023.

## WORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

1. LAURISTON CASTLE
2. ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN
3. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
4. HOPETOUN HOUSE
5. CRAMOND ISLAND
6. ST GILES' CATHEDRAL



Project Esperanza stall at the Harvest Festival (credit: Dumis Visuals)

## Lauriston Farm Community Kitchen

The Lauriston Farm team was absolutely delighted to be  
awarded funding from The Community Climate Fund by  
public vote. Thank you to everyone who voted for our  
proposal.

It means we can create a simple-but-beautiful earthen  
shelter with kitchen facilities in the community garden,  
so we can process more of our harvest on site and share  
the food with the community. The dream! The shelter  
will be hand-built in free skill-sharing workshops over  
the summer - keep an eye on our website if you'd like to  
join in.

This lovely idea came from the current community  
allotment holders after their first growing season at the  
farm. If you'd like to join them this season, we have  
new plots available for groups. You could be a  
constituted organisation working with the local  
community, or a group of local people who would like to  
look after a plot together (minimum 3 households).  
Please email Lisa to arrange an initial visit and chat on:  
[communityallotments@lauristonfarm.org](mailto:communityallotments@lauristonfarm.org)

You can also get involved as an individual by dropping in  
to the open volunteering sessions on Tuesdays 3-5pm  
or Thursdays 1-3pm. No need to book - just come along  
when you can to meet friendly folk in the fresh air. Hope  
to see you at the farm soon.

Thank you again - from all at Edinburgh Agroecology  
Co-op

[www.lauristonfarm.scot](http://www.lauristonfarm.scot)



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# TEN QUESTIONS WITH... RAYMOND

*celebrating 56 years of working in our community as manager of Raymond Edinburgh, the Barnton hairdressers*

**1. Tell us a little bit about yourself, your work and how long you've been in Cramond.....**

I first came to the area in 1967 as a 17-year-old assistant in the salon, when it was called Maison Michelle. I had never considered a career in hairdressing, but soon found my passion and began my apprenticeship.

**2. What is the best piece of advice you've ever been given?**

The 3 As, which I stick to: Ability, Amiability and Availability

**3. If I had one wish for Cramond it would be...**

For all residents to have a pay rise!

**4. If you could have any superpower, what would it be?**

To be in charge of all politicians

**5. What would you have been if you hadn't become a hairdresser?**

Before going into hairdressing, I had begun training as a dental technician, but I would have chosen to be a brain surgeon.

**6. What's the funniest thing that has happened in your salon?**

I was going to shampoo an elderly lady, and if someone's mobility is an issue you can wash their hair with them facing forward (a front wash). I asked this lady,



"would you like a front wash or a back wash?" She replied, "I want it all washed."

**7. How has the community changed for the better over the years?**

It's great to see how the community has and continues to expand.

**8. When I'm not in the salon you'll find me...**

Out walking at Harlaw and Threipmuir Reservoirs or gardening

**9. What is the one thing you couldn't live without?**

Good health.

**10. What is your favourite spot or place to go in Cramond?**

185 Whitehouse Road, of course.



## Cramond Walkers

Check out our Facebook page for more photos and reports of recent walks. For details of upcoming expeditions (usually five to eight miles) email [walkers@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:walkers@yahoo.co.uk), or see [www.cramondkirk.org.uk](http://www.cramondkirk.org.uk)