



The Kirk News

September 2017

Spanning the Forth



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THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

CURRIE KIRK

WHERE FAITH AND LIFE CROSS PATHS



CALENDAR OVERVIEW:

Why not cut out this handy calendar and put it on your fridge!!

(GCH= Gibson Craig Halls)

2017

September	2 September	7.30 pm—Maasai Warriors—Currie Kirk
	3 September	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	4 September	7 pm—Good Book Group Resume—GCH
	5 September	10 am—Guild First Meeting—GCH
	9 September	10 am—Coffee Morning—GCH—Currie Kirk Mini Bus
	10 September	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk
	17 September	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk
	19 September	12 Noon—Snack Lunches Resume—GCH
	19 September	2.30 pm—Guild—GCH
	24 September	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk, Harvest Thanksgiving with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship
	29 September	2—4 pm—Messy Church—GCH
October	1 October	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	2 October	7 pm—Good Book Group, GCH
	3 October	10 am—Guild—GCH
	4 October	11—11.30 am—Prayers for All, GCH
	8 October	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk
	13 October	7.30 pm—70s Disco—GCH
	15 October	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk
	21 October	10 am—Guild Coffee Morning in aid of Project—GCH
	22 October	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk
	26 October	7.30 pm—Free Brass Band Concert—GCH
	29 October	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk, with Sacrament of Communion
November	1 November	11—11.30 am—Prayers for All, GCH
	5 November	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	6 November	7 pm—Good Book Group, GCH
	7 November	10 am—Guild—GCH
	12 November	10 am—Remembrance Sunday Service, Currie Kirk
	19 November	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk with Guild Rededication Service
	21 November	2.30 pm—Guild—GCH
	26 November	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk, with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship

Success story

Have you, like me, been going along to the 'Pop up café' at the Gibson Craig on Tuesday mornings—organised and run by Viola and her ladies? If not you have missed a real treat. The event has been well attended each week with beautiful home baking and the 'bottomless' cups of tea/coffee on tap to boot! Lovely to hear the 'buzz' on entering the hall with everyone enjoying the chat and goodies. Well done to all involved and it would be great if it could be repeated.

Margaret Innes





A Message from The Manse

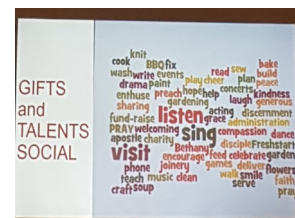


Dearest Friends

I want to express a huge thank you to everyone who came along to the Gifts and Talents Social in the Gibson Craig Hall. Also thanks to the kind people who made it all happen—from the Kirk Singers to the Mission and Outreach, Social & Fellowship and Communication Committee helpers. Many of you have also volunteered to help with our diverse ministries such as crafts, cleaning, collecting clothes, soup-making, story telling or singing! Not to mention the wonderful ladies who Keep Calm and Keep on Knitting! The evening was a lot of fun. Below is a poem by the “Bard of the Kirk Singers”, Sandy Harper—written for the occasion.

What is Talent?

What is talent? Well this is many things
Everybody has it and it shows in lots of ways,
It is a part of every life right throughout your days
It's often classed as hidden when not yet come to light.
But it has a way of finding you whatever you're about
A way to solve a problem or help someone in need,
Or a gift enabling action to produce a masterpiece
Or plan some special event to aid a current cause,
DIY, or run a group, or bake an apple pie
Make folk laugh, or sing a song, the limit is the sky.
Produce a lovely banner or write a verse or two
Guide a troop of youngsters and teach them something new,
Organise an outing and join the walking group
Never be afraid to rally to the call
And use your gift as needed, there's TALENT in us all.



Whilst some of you are just heading off on holiday, many of us with families have hit the ground into school term-time routines and activities. There are many things to celebrate in Currie itself. Please do check out all the activities in the Gibson Craig Hall.

At the Kirk we also have some new things to celebrate. Heather Merriman has started as the Joint Valley Youth and Family worker. Also *Prayers for All* will take place in the lounge of the Gibson Craig Hall on the first Wednesday of the month from 11—11.30 am. This is an invitation to everyone to pray for Currie and for personal and worldly concerns.

The first verse from Psalm 127 offers wise words,

*Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labour in vain.*

The verse reminds us that at the heart of our faith lies a connection to God in prayer and, as a church, all that we do must be firmly grounded in the will of God. We are blessed in Currie for it is an enriching and safe place to live but we are always mindful of places that are not enriched or blessed. In September we are collecting money as a special offering for Christian Aid specifically for Yemen where, despite the Civil War, there is a serious cholera epidemic.

As the Kirk, we feed the homeless from the Bethany Trust Care Van; we collect items for Lebanon, the Food Bank, and Freshstart; we also give resources to Christian Aid. These are prayerful actions that bring light and life. Yet if, as a Kirk we are not deeply united through a communal prayer life then even our prayerful actions are simply good deeds. The Lord is the one, ultimately who shapes and builds the house.

God Bless

Easter



We Welcome Heather Merriman as our new Family Worker

Currie Kirk and Juniper Green Parish Church have joined together to appoint a new Joint Valley Family worker to support and develop ministry and mission with families, children and young people in the local area and encourage their involvement in the life of the Churches.

Heather, who attended Currie High, has felt a calling for some time to work alongside the young people in the local area. Having qualified with a Bachelor in Nursing from Napier University, Heather clearly has a compassionate and pastoral heart for children. She has a great desire to see more children, young people and their families given the opportunity to learn about God and Biblical teachings. Having spent some years in nursing, she has spent the last year employed with Scripture Union, working in the local schools, where she helped teach part of the primary school curriculum. She also ran lunchtime Bible clubs in the High School and Primaries.

The Kirk Sessions of Juniper Green and Currie Kirk, respectively felt there was a need for someone to go out into the community to engage with and support families in the local area.

Easter notes the importance of ministry to families, saying:

"Life has changed since the old days when almost everyone sent their kids to Sunday School. The dimensions and challenges of family life are different yet no less hard for parents and carers to navigate amidst busy lifestyles and the challenges of the internet. Yet when I meet families, and I include my own, we all have the same concerns. We want families to grow to be able to navigate the pressures of the world with character, confidence, integrity and at the least an understanding of the Christian faith."

Heather is looking forward to helping build community and connect with the young. Heather will not only help at Messy Church and the Mother & Toddler Groups but she will continue to be a presence in the schools. She hopes not only to reach out to busy families, listen to parents in the community, and help us all to disciple the young in values of love, kindness and compassion.

You may have met her already, and if not, she looks forward to meeting and getting to know you. You will enjoy meeting her so please give her a warm and friendly welcome.

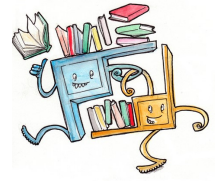
Snack Lunches Re-opens 19 September Tuesday 12 Noon–1.30 pm Gibson Craig Hall



Delicious Soup /
Homebaking



Everyone Welcome



Currie Kirk Mini Bus—Coffee Morning—9 September

10 am—12 Noon

Can you help with any of the undernoted?

Baking

Books

Holiday Gifts

New and Unwanted Gifts

Nearly New Clothes

Bric-a-Brac

There will be a Jewellery Stall run by Shona with all profits to the Minibus

Calendars will be on sale—so get your 2018 calendar early

Also “Dab” Pens—great present for all tablet/phone users

(especially in the winter when you don’t want to take off your gloves!!)

You will be pleased to hear that Peter is baking cakes and for a donation you can enjoy one of his bakes
(catch him on You Tube as he demonstrates his baking)

All donations will be gratefully received —the Minibus needs your help—thank you in advance.

Items can be brought to the Gibson Craig at 7 pm on Friday 9 September or left at the Kirk Office

Please telephone: Isobel Webber, Treasurer, (451 5112) or
Isobel Massie, (451 5141)

Retirement of Ron Dow

After 15 years of loyal service to Currie Kirk as “Offerings and Gift Aid Treasurer” and “Data Protection Officer”, Ron has decided to call it a day and hang up his spreadsheets to enjoy a bit more leisure time.

Ron will be a hard act to follow, but fortunately for us, he has decided to stay on until the end of the year to allow us to find replacements. Ron has performed both jobs with a degree of professionalism and diligence second to none. There will be time for more formal thanks later, but in the interim, on behalf of Currie Kirk I would like to express my deep appreciation and thanks for all that Ron has done over this period.

Gordon Clephane



The Guild



The start of a new Session is upon us. We are pleased to welcome Hassan Rabbani to our first meeting on 5 September at 10 am who will be speaking on his experiences and travels of being an Imam. This takes the form of a Welcome Coffee Morning and Molly's Scones will be served along with tea and coffee. Visitors £3.

An invitation is extended to all to come along to this and any of the Guild meetings. You do not have to join the Guild and can attend as a visitor at any of the meetings. Details of all Guild meetings are set out in the Calendar of Events at the front of The Kirk News.

The second meeting on Tuesday 19 September will be our first afternoon meeting at 2.30 where we will be hearing about our project "Prospects in Scotland"—this project helps people with disabilities in the community.

Our knitters are still knitting and this has been a tremendous effort and has turned into a real community spirit with knitters from all corners of Currie and beyond joining in and collecting wool from the Kirk Office and returning the completed hats. Our first target was 100 but this has been surpassed many times and we will reveal all on Tuesday 7 November when Ann Thanisch from Edinburgh Direct Aid comes to the meeting.

I look forward to welcoming all to our first meeting on 5 September.

Isobel Webber
President



Messy Church is returning to its original timeslot of the last Friday of the month between 2 pm and 4 pm in the Gibson Craig Halls. Our first meeting is scheduled for Friday 29 September when our theme will be "Joseph and his coat of many colours".

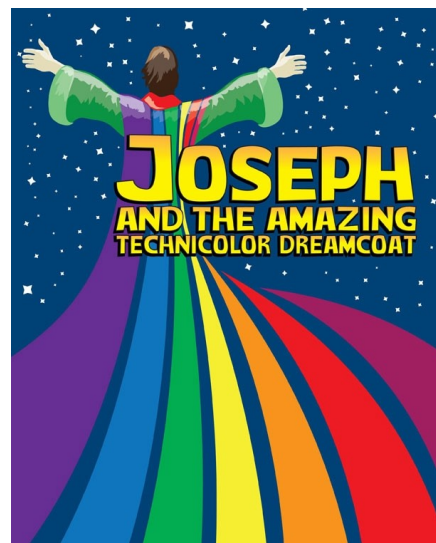
Messy Church is open to children of all ages who must be accompanied by an adult who remains with them. Whatever age of child or adult you are, there will be something for you.

Come along and enjoy a couple of hours of learning about the Bible in a fun way. There will be crafts, puzzles, music and singing, story telling and we round off the time with a snack and an opportunity to get to know the other people there.

Everybody is welcome.

If you require more information, please contact Easter on 449-4719, Louise on 466-3472 or the Church Office on 451-5141.

Louise Lamont





The Good Book Group

The Good Book Group restarts after the summer on **Monday 4 September at 7pm** in the Gibson Craig Hall Lounge. We meet on the first Monday of most months (not January, July or August) and enjoy tea/coffee and biscuits (sometimes even chocolate!) alongside discussion of a book or books we've been reading. We'll have read a variety of books over the summer but usually choose a book per month during the rest of the year. The books vary widely, through ghost stories, crime, classics, ethical, short stories, factual as well as fiction of all kinds; there's something for everyone! Come along with ideas for books to read over the next few months and share with us any good books you've read over the summer. If you've not been before, why not give it a try—everyone is most welcome. If you can't make it for 7 pm, don't worry; the discussion usually starts around 7.30.

Look forward to seeing you there!

Krys Hume 449 4036



Summer Pop-Up Café in the Gibson Craig raises over £1,300 for Christian Aid

At the end of the Tuesday Snack Lunches season in May, some of our senior customers said they would miss this regular meeting point until Lunches reopen in September. I thought we could try a charity coffee morning for a few weeks in the summer months with any proceeds going to Christian Aid (but really, I thought maybe half a dozen folk would come and if it wasn't a success it would quietly close up!).

How wrong could I be? Who would have dreamt that we'd regularly have over 40 customers coming along to meet up with friends old and new, joining in the cheerful atmosphere and enjoying the wide array of lovely home baking?

Many, many thanks to all those people who turned up with donations of baking or homemade jam for the Summer Pop-Up Café on Tuesdays from 23 May to 29 August. And a huge thank you to all those customers who came throughout the summer months, rain or shine, spreading the word to come and enjoy a weekly social event, all the while raising the fantastic sum of over £1,300 for Christian Aid. Wonderful!

Thanks also to Bill Porteous and Gordon Clephane (and others) for helping to clear away tables and chairs after the café, sweeping up and leaving the hall in pristine condition.

My special thanks go to Margaret Palmer and Erica Porteous who volunteered(!) to turn up every week to butter tea loaves and pancakes, lay out cakes and pour teas and coffees before washing up every cup and plate at the end! Thanks also to the many others who lent a hand with clearing up. And I couldn't forget the smiling help from my favourite Trolley Dolly, Meg's 7-year old granddaughter, Lucie, who loved pushing the little trolley between tables to gather up cups and plates—awesome, as Lucie would say!

It was a real pleasure to meet up with each and every one of you who supported this surprise venture so well.

The Summer Pop-Up Café may be over now but Snack Lunches restart on Tuesday 19th September at 12 noon offering the same gorgeous home baking plus delicious home-made soup with bread and cheese. Come along and enjoy it, while raising funds for charity in the same convivial atmosphere. Looking forward to seeing you there and if you'd like to help in any way, just let me know!

Viola MacPhail
0131 449 4664

Currie Kirk's Contribution to Ministries and Mission for 2017

Thought you might like to know where part of our financial contributions are allocated within the Church of Scotland. Below is a letter received from Archie McDowell, Deputy Treasurer, Congregational Finance of the Church of Scotland. It reads:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write to thank you most sincerely for supporting the worship, mission and service of the Church through the money you give in your offerings. It is important that you should know what happens to this money and this letter intends to explain how your congregation's Ministries and Mission Contribution will be used to enable the work of the church in 2017.

010003—Currie

Total Contribution to Ministries and Mission for 2017

£89,524



Ministries (84%)

£75,200 of your total contribution will go towards the costs of providing over 1,000 ministers and other parish workers in communities throughout Scotland and in the Presbytery of England. This contribution also assists with the costs of recruitment and training.

The 2017 cost of a parish minister at the top of the stipend scale is **£41,866** (stipend plus employer's national insurance and pension contributions). If your contribution to Ministries is above this figure, then your church is meeting the full cost of your ministry and supporting other congregations. If it is less than £41,866, your congregation (or linked charge) is being supported by other congregations.



Mission (16%)

£14,324 of your total contribution will be used to support the Church's work in: resourcing congregations for Christian education and outreach; providing social care services in Christ's name to further the caring work of the Church to people in need; accompanying partners around the world on our shared Christian journey; contributing the Church's opinion in public debate and on issues affecting Scotland and the World; providing central day-to-day service work in administrative, financial and legal matters; and in planning the General Assembly and ensuring the Moderator represents the Church.

As you will see, the contributions your church makes ensure a very diverse ministry is maintained and that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is shared in many ways and in many places. Many churches have made additional Ministries and Mission contributions throughout the past year and these have also been gratefully received.

Yours in Christ,

Archie McDowal

Hope you found this of interest.

Gordon Clephane
Session Clerk

FREE Brass Band Concert on 26 October

After their hugely successful concert in the Gibson Craig Halls last October, the highly acclaimed Bathgate Band are returning to Currie to perform for our local community. And yes, once again, the band will perform **FREE!** This award winning Brass Band will perform a free concert in the Gibson Craig Halls, Lanark Road West at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 26 October. Put the date in your diary now—this wonderfully entertaining band is not to be missed. Look out for more details in next month's Kirk News.

Gordon Cranford,
Convener—Social and Fellowship Committee



Friday 13 October—70s Disco!!

7.30—11 pm

In Aid of Fight Against Cancer Edinburgh



Tickets on sale soon priced £5 from Mission and Outreach Committee, Kirk Office or
Fiona Pigott (466-1459).



65th Edinburgh (Currie) Company
(Registered Charity No. SCO34640)

During the summer the Company Section Boys went on their annual camp to Craggan, Loch Tay. The weather wasn't particularly kind, however everybody still got involved and had a great time anyway.

As we move into September, The Boys' Brigade enters recruitment mode. Most of our new recruits join Anchor Boys which is for boys in P2 and P3. The Anchors programme is based around fun and having lots of it! They play games, make crafts and new friends.

For boys in P4—P6 they join the Junior Section. The programme provides challenges, adventure and opportunities to learn and grow. The fun and engaging programme enables the children to work in a team and take more responsibility. Juniors also get the opportunity to go on camp and for some this will be their first night away from home. Throughout their time in the Juniors and Anchors, children can gain badges in recognition of their participation.

If there are any boys in your family interested in joining, please get in touch for more details.

Michael Knott
Captain
440 3216

Community Activities

The Gibson Craig Halls are used by various groups during the week and, if anyone is interested in joining a group, please telephone the contact noted below.

	Contact name	Tel No:	Day
Baby Ballet	Claire Robertson	07731 466147	Wednesday
Balerno Bridge Club	Brian Rose	449 5335	Monday
Currie and District Local History Society	Douglas Lowe	449 4349	Monday Evenings twice monthly October to March
Currie Community Council	Madge Barker	449 3450	2nd Monday of each Month —not July & December
Currie Day Centre	Dorothy Simpson coordinatorCDC@gmx.com	07562 142885	Friday by referral
Highland Dancing	Michelle Marshall	339 4704	Wednesday
Octagon Club	Terry Maloney	07514 664292	Wednesday
Nether Currie Baby and Toddler Group	Jennifer Nicol	449 4481	Fridays of the month 9.30 am to 11.30 am (term time only)
Pilates Class (Fuschia)	Steph Bain	445 3690	Wednesday: Noon—1 pm
Pentland Gymnastics	Alison McLean	07731 429625	Tuesday
Senior Citizens	Jean Smith	449 5596	Monday
Snack Lunches	Viola MacPhail	449 4664	Tuesday
Yoga	Anne Marie Crozier	07887 526116	Monday 10.30-11.30 am
Yoga	Monica Evans	07986 600432	Tuesday: 8-9 pm
Zumba Exercise Class Thighs, Bums & Tums	Tom Lowe	07980 692929	Thursday: 10.15-11.15 am Tuesday: 10—11 am

Care Van

As it gets a bit colder, we are always in need of men's jumpers, jeans (size 28"-36" waist) and jackets to take with us on the Care Van. Blankets and sleeping bags will also be in demand. If you're having a clear out, put on weight (or lost it!!) we'd be very grateful for your cast-offs!! The Care van is out 364 nights of the year, serving soup and rolls, tea and coffee to the homeless in Edinburgh. Currie Kirk takes its turn on the 3rd Tuesday every month Jan—Nov. If you'd like more information please contact Fiona Pigott(466-1459) or Gordon Clephane (449-2313).

Night Shelter

Following previous years' successes and funding, the Night shelter will run again this winter for almost six months. The Night Shelter means that any homeless person can have dinner, bed and breakfast in the safe environment of a dry church hall/community centre in the centre of Edinburgh. Many churches offer to cook and serve a two-course dinner for the users (up to 50 each night) and then the Bethany team take over in keeping a watchful eye on the sleepers before providing breakfast the next morning. Currie Kirk has offered to cook and serve dinner for two nights over the winter—if you are interested in joining one of these nights please get in touch with me for more information. Fiona Pigott (466-1459 or fpigott19@googlemail.com)

Family News

Obituaries: *Jesus said "I am the Resurrection and the Life"
(John 11:25)*

Betty Farquhar, 7 Riccarton Grove, Currie

Please pray for the family



Baptism: *Jesus said "Let the children come to me"
(Luke 18:16)*

Ross Gavin Brown Munn, son of Gillian and Gavin



Wedding

At St Mary's Catholic Cathedral on 22 July 2017, David Murray married Katie Nagle from North Carolina. David joined the BB as an Anchor Boy and after 12 years' service gained his Queen's Badge—his highlight of his time in the 65th were his weeks at camp. He became an officer and joined Currie Kirk. After David graduated from university he found employment in Aberdeen and is presently working in the States where he met Katie.



Golden Wedding

Colin and Isabel Sharp (late of Currie Kirk and now residing in Rothesay) celebrated 50 years' together on Saturday 26 August at The Kingarth Hotel, Rothesay.



September Flower List

September

3 Mrs J Robertson
Mr & Mrs I Thomson

10 Mrs M Gray
Mrs H Heggie



17 Mr & Mrs W Brown
Mrs S Heron

24 Mrs M Anderson
Mr D Jordan
Mrs C Lindsay

For further information regarding donations to Currie Kirk Flower Fund please contact Erica Porteous,
2 Pentland View, Currie or call 449 6894



WHO'S WHO



NAME	CONTACT	MEETING DAY	TELEPHONE NO
Minister	Rev Dr Easter Smart		449 4719
Currie Kirk Church Office (Scottish Charity No. SC001554)	Gibson Craig Halls, Lanark Road West, Currie, EH14 5NY Secretary: Ishbel Massie Email currie_kirk@btconnect.com	Tuesday—9.30am—12noon Wednesday—9.30am—12noon Thursday—9.30am—12noon Friday—9.30am—11.45am.	451 5141
Session Clerk	Gordon Clephane Email: gordon.clephane@blueyonder.co.uk		449 2313
Treasurer	Eddie Pigott Email: pigottsef@icloud.com		466 1459
Gift Aid & Offerings Treasurer & Data Protection Officer	Ron Dow 48 Thomson Drive Email: ronedow@blueyonder.co.uk		538 2313
Weddings/Funeral Officer	Sandy Harper 16 Pentland View		449 4258
Organist	Contact Church Office		451 5141
Gibson Craig Halls bookings	Ann Proudfoot	ckgchbooking@gmail.com	449 7739
Gibson Craig Halls Caretaker	Vacant		
Hospital Transport Coordinator	Elizabeth Wood		538 0363
Deputy Coordinator	Jim Ure		449 6498
Kirk House Bookings	Isobel Paterson		449 6182
Life and Work	Eileen Chadwick		449 2559
Magazine Distributor	Jean Dick		451 5141
Boys' Brigade Captain	Michael Knott Anchors Juniors Company/Seniors	Thursday 6.00-7.00 pm Thursday 7.00-8.30 pm Sunday 6.30-8.30	440 3216
Mini Bus Sunday lift organiser	Margaret Russell		449 5917
Mini Bus Bookings	Isobel Webber		451 5112
Banner Group	Janet Robertson	Tuesday	441 1499
Care Van	Fiona Pigott	Once a month	466 1459
Pastoral Visitors	Rev Dr Easter Smart		449 4719
Currie Kirk Singers	Gordon Cranford	Various	449 4639
Guild	Isobel Webber	Tuesday	451 5112
Kidz@Currie	Elaine Rae	Sunday	451 5384
Messy Church	Contact Church Office	Last Friday of each month commencing September—Gibson Craig Halls from 3.00pm—5.00 pm	451 5141
Walking Group	Moira McDonald	Third Sunday of each month	467 0682



The Kirk News

Can now be found on the Currie Kirk Website with one click to <http://www.curriekirk.org/>
Kirknews—why not mark it as a favourite. **Articles for the October issue should be sent—using
a Word attachment—by email to isobelwebber@btinternet.com before or by Friday
22 September 2017. Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject.**



Currie Kirk is a registered Charity (Scottish Charity No. SC001554)