

The Kirk News

September 2018



The Year of the Young Person



Youth group from California visits Currie

New Sunday Club

(Previously
Kidz@Currie)
Starts 23/9 at
10.00–11.00
(drop off at 9.45)
Gibson Craig Hall
(P1-P7)

Crafts, Songs, Bible
Stories, Fun, Games

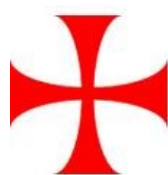


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THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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)

September	2	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk, with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	3	Monday	7.00 pm—The Good Book Group, GCH Lounge
	4	Tuesday	10 am—Guild, SEEMA Project, Avril Duncan—GCH
	5	Wednesday	11-11.30 am—Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounge
	9	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	11	Tuesday	2.30 pm—Tea and Tunes
	14	Friday	2.00-4.30 pm—Messy Church—Creation—GCH
	16	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk and Sacrament of Baptism
	18	Tuesday	10 am—Guild, Rev Dr Alistair Donald, Chaplain, Heriot Watt University
	18	Tuesday	12 Noon—Snack Lunches commence—GCH
	21	Friday	7.00 pm—Silent Auction, GCH—proceeds to Minibus Fund
	23	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	23	Sunday	10 am— SUNDAY CLUB COMMENCES—GCH
	28	Friday	2.00-4.30 pm—Messy Church—Moses in the Bulrushes—GCH
	29	Saturday	2.00-4.30 pm—Doors Open Day, Currie Kirk—see page 19
	30	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk—Harvest Thanksgiving— ALL AGE WORSHIP
	30	Sunday	2.00-4.30 pm—Doors Open Day, Currie Kirk—see page 19
October	1	Monday	7.00 pm—The Good Book Group, GCH Lounge
	2	Tuesday	10 am—The Guild, Médécines sans Frontières, Dennis Kerr, GCH
	3	Wednesday	11-11.30—Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounge
	6	Saturday	7.00 pm—Praise Night—GCH
	7	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with BB Dedication Service with Prayer Tree Service
	11	Thursday	7.30 pm—Session Meeting, Currie Kirk
	12	Friday	2.00-4.30 pm—Messy Church—Samson & Delilah—GCH
	14	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	14	Sunday	2.30 pm—Afternoon Communion, Currie Kirk
	16	Tuesday	7.00 pm—The Guild, The Briggers, Tom Martin—GCH
	20	Saturday	10 am—12 Noon—Coffee Morning in aid of Guild Project—GCH
	21	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	25	Thursday	7.30 pm—Bathgate Brass Band Concert, GCH
November	26	Friday	2.00-4.30 pm—Messy Church—Light—GCH
	28	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with Sacrament of Communion and Baptism
	4	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk, with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	5	Monday	7.00 pm—The Good Book Group, GCH Lounge
	6	Tuesday	10 am—The Guild, Wedding Dresses through the Ages, Winnie Steveson
	7	Wednesday	11-11.30—Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounge
	11	Sunday	10 am—Remembrance Sunday Service, Currie Kirk
	16	Friday	2.00-4.30 pm—Messy Church—Zaccheus—GCH
	18	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with Guild Rededication Service
	20	Tuesday	2.00 pm—The Guild, Golden America, Fred Daniels, GCH
	25	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship
	27	Tuesday	7.30 pm—Session Meeting—GCH
	30	Friday	2.00-4.30 pm—Messy Church—Healing—GCH



Sunday Club

**Gibson Craig Halls—9.45-11.15 am—P1-P7
from 23 September**





A Message from The Manse

Dear Friends



Every year the national church encourages congregations to reflect upon one of three themes; “Treasure”, “Talents” or “Time”. How do we use God’s gifts to our lives in service to the Church and others? And so, as we begin a new session, I’d like to encourage each one of us to think about the theme of “Time”. God has given us the gift of time in hours and days, weeks and seasons.

Scripture reminds us to value our time. Psalm 90 :12 reads: *Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom*; and in Psalm 31:15 the Psalmist prays, *My times are in thy hands*. And the wise author of Ecclesiastes reminds us that: *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven*. (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

Jesus was very conscious of time during his ministry. He also spent many hours of his time in prayer. And not least he recognised the fulfilment of God’s purposes would be according to God’s time. He promises also to be with us until the end of time.

We cannot get time back, but we can make the most of the time we have now. How do you spend your days? Perhaps you are the victim of a greedy employer who demands so much time. Perhaps your time is taken up caring for the needs of another, or many others. Sometimes our time is not our own.

Jesus cares about us. It is important that we take time to look after ourselves, to eat and sleep, to walk or paint, to read or sing, to play or watch sport ... to love and laugh and do those things that refresh our spirits. This autumn season as we approach Harvest, let’s also take time to think about how we use our time to grow in our relationship with God and to seek ever more to use our time to be creatively involved as a disciple of Christ and to pray.



I know how much time many of you give to the life and ministry of Currie Kirk. We are always looking for more folk to share their gifts and time. So if you would like to volunteer in any of our ministries, do get in touch. Sometimes it is amazing how, when we give our time to something or someone, it is surprising how much we get back

In the meantime if you do have spare time, you might feel called to give your time to one of the Kirk’s activities. Perhaps you could be a visitor, a welcomer, or a minibus driver. Perhaps you could help at Messy Church or Sunday Club on a rota.

Easter

Kirk News

The October issue of Kirk News will be available on Sunday 30 September for distribution



Praise Evening



**Saturday
6 October 2018
At 7 pm
Gibson Craig Halls**

Stuart McGowan will be back in Currie to play for this evening of Praise—we can be assured of lots of hymns we can sing along to. Many of you will recollect the old BB Praise Evenings which were a great success under Stuart's guidance—some new and some old favourites have been included so make a date—**6 October at 7 pm—Gibson Craig.**

A collection will be taken on behalf of Jak's Den—a charity based in Livingston providing practical, social and emotional support to children and young people with cancer and related illnesses, their families, friends and those bereaved.

Edinburgh Direct Aid (EDA)—Winter Clothes Appeal

For each of the past five years Edinburgh Direct Aid (EDA) has shipped containers of clothes to some of the 70,000 Syrian refugees in Aarsal, a town in Lebanon over 5000' above sea level with bitterly cold winters. The congregation of Currie Kirk has played its part in collecting good quality warm used Winter clothes to help this needy and worthwhile cause. Alas, the situation there has recently changed and, completely without warning, Lebanon have introduced a complete ban on the import of used clothes and their attitude to refugees in their country has become more hostile. (See Guild article which welcomes brand new underwear for the ladies of Aarsal).

Fortunately, EDA also supply clothing to other suitable destinations in mainland Europe where there are refugees in dire need, particularly in Greece and, to a lesser extent, Bosnia. Consequently, in consultation with EDA, Currie Kirk is appealing for donations of good and warm used clothing (no summer clothing) for this shipment, especially men's clothing and shoes since the proportion of young men among the migrant refugees is particularly high.

During the month of September we are asking you to put aside clothes that you no longer use and store them in your homes and, in early October, we plan to take your contributions to the EDA warehouse in West Harbour Road, Edinburgh, possibly in convoy from the Gibson Craig Halls.

The items to donate are:

WINTER COATS—PADDED JACKETS—WATERPROOFS—FLEECE—WOOLLIES—THERMALS—MOUNTAIN BOOTS—WELLY BOOTS—PADDED BOOTS—GOOD SHOES (MEN)—SOCKS—GLOVES—WOOLEN JUMPERS and WOOLLY HATS (FOR YOUNG AND OLD, BOYS AND GIRLS, MEN AND WOMEN).

Do **NOT** hand into the office or Gibson Craig Halls as our Fire Regulations prohibit us from storing clothes.

Please give generously.

Gordon Clephane
Mission & Outreach Committee



Messy Church will start again on 14 September when we will be learning about Creation and Adam and Eve. We will continue to meet twice monthly, usually on the second and last Fridays of the month.

Meetings take place in the Gibson Craig Halls from 2-4.30pm. Children of all ages, from babies upwards, are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult who stays with them.

Join us to learn about the Old and New Testaments. There will be crafts, stories, videos, dramas, singing as well as a welcome snack at the end, with time to get to know each other better.

Following on from Creation, our next four meetings will tell the stories of Moses in the bulrushes, Samson and Delilah, and Light.

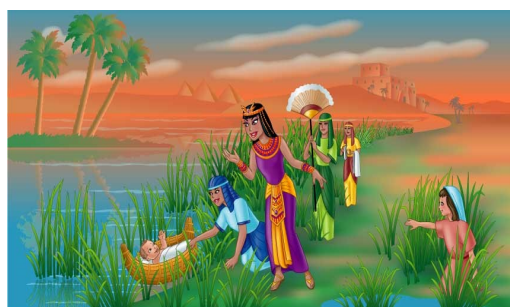
Do come and join us. It is great fun!! If you require further details or would like to help, phone Louise on 466-3472 or e-mail elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk

Louise Lamont

14 September: Creation



28 September: Moses in the Bulrushes



SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSshhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh



Silent Auction on behalf of the Currie Kirk Minibus Fund—Friday 21 September at 7.00 pm— Gibson Craig Hall

We're ready to shout about it!! Have you put the date in your diary? Friday 21 September at 7.00 pm in the Gibson Craig Hall. There are a variety of items for auction and there really is something for everyone. Do you know someone who is perhaps off to University and trying to kit out a bedsit? Anything from televisions to vertical blinds—bookcases to dining room chairs. If that's not for you and you hope to go on a family holiday—how about a family size suitcase? If you like the finer side of life, you will also find Edinburgh Crystal. On the other hand, if you are a home bird and would like to make your own bread, you will find a bread maker too and whilst that is baking, why not admire a painting, painted and donated by a local artist? There really are some fabulous items, so why not join us and browse around whilst having a cup of tea. We even have some brand new ladies clothes (and we can kit out your head for a wedding!)

We hope to see you there.

Ishbel Massie 449 4693

Gift Aid—Do you know you can gift aid your donation—forms for completion along with an envelope addressed to the Minibus Treasurer can be picked up at the door or prior to the sale at the Kirk Office.

Letter from America

Dear Currie Kirk Congregation,

Greetings from Mendocino Presbyterian Church in Northern California. We give great thanks for your hospitality in welcoming our high school students to your community. Your hospitality embodied much of what we had been studying about the Iona Community over the last 9 months. We hope—in return—that we might welcome you to our community at some point in the near future.

The Iona Project has been a study in evangelism. Whereas most approaches to church growth flow from the “inside-out” with church members teaching those new to the faith about the Good News of Jesus Christ; we were exploring “outside-in” community whereby students (many of whom had no connection to a church community) would study the themes of the Iona Community twice a month and then create community gatherings once every 7 weeks. During our time we explored the themes of hospitality, worship, social justice/human rights, politics & campaigning, gender justice, environmental stewardship, peacemaking & nonviolence, and healing & reconciliation. By studying these themes, we created points of contact for conversation in community. As many in our community have no experience with church life, we created a bridge of friendship. These bridges are a gift for they create community. As we watched our young people try their hand at Scottish dancing in the fields of Blinkbonny, we knew that our young people were being invited into a bigger world. They were connected by the grace of God to a family of faith. As we then sang songs on the Iona island with people from all over the world, we experienced the web of connection that comes from God’s grace. By planting these seeds of love and connection, we hope to empower Christian leadership.

A special word of thanks to Gordon Clephane and the Currie Kirk Mission Committee who activated the youth surrounding us with such energy and love.

A huge thanks to Gordon and Hamish Leal who offered to take us round the country lifting us up to St. Andrew’s. What an adventure! Who knows...some of our students might be applying to Scottish Universities in the near future. Watch out!

Last but not least, our gratitude to Easter and Darren for welcoming us into their home creating such a warm and exciting atmosphere. Two BBQ’s in one week!

We know that Christ is with us as we create a community of connection. As we journey into 2018-2019, let us have our radar scanning as to the ways that we might work together in shared ministry.

In Christ,

Pastor Matthew Davis



Highland Games in Blinkbonny Park with the Haggis, Neeps and Tatties



Holiday Club 2018

TEAMBUILDERS



Teambuilders was the theme for our 2018 holiday club, and I don't think we could have chosen a more apt one! From the very beginning people were coming together to make the club happen. Our team was made up of people of all ages, from both communities and several churches. We may have come from different backgrounds and locations, but we were certainly united in Christ as we served together. The children came not only from the local communities but further afield too, and each one was welcomed with open arms.

Over the week we had 43 children attend holiday club, some only for a day, but each one left happy and knowing more about God and the Bible than when they had come in. Not only that, but through the care of the team they experienced some of what it means to be part of God's family: to be loved, cared for and welcomed in the same way that God loves, cares for and welcomes them.

Each morning was filled with songs, games, stories, snacks, crafts, challenges, dancing, drama, jokes and more! We looked at different Bible characters each day and explored together what it meant for them to be on God's team, and the characteristics we each have and need to be on God's team ourselves.

As we set up on the Sunday before the club began, one lady came to me saying that she was praying we would have double the number of children than had pre-registered to come. At that moment the thought scared me slightly, I was not prepared for that! However, the night before we started we had 19 children pre-registered to come, and our busiest day had 38 children there! Prayers were answered, and God provided what we needed in every moment; not only the people to care for the children, but the energy and resources we needed to cater for that many. Even if we did have to send someone to the shop to buy more craft materials!

Not only did we minister to the children, but their families as well. One parent was so thankful that we had welcomed her child with Additional Support Needs and taken the time to find out ways in which to help them feel safe and happy. She told us at the end of the week that what really spoke to her was that her child kept wanting to come back each day. It was the first time they had been to something by themselves and they came running in the door each morning eager to get started. Another parent wrote saying thank you and that her whole family had been blessed by what we did; and only this week did I meet another parent who told me her daughter had really enjoyed the week and they were looking forward to next year.

We may never know the full impact of what took place at holiday club, but we praise and thank God for what He did, and we pray He will continue to be at work in the lives of those who were there.

Looking forward to next year...

Heather





The Guild

Welcome back ...

The summer has gone so quickly and we are now looking forward to our new 2018/2019 Session. Lots of great speakers have been lined up to entertain us. Most importantly is the friendship and fellowship enjoyed at Guild meetings. Nothing beats a good cup of tea/coffee, a biscuit and a chat!

Our project speaker will be along at the first meeting on 4 September at 10 am to bring us up-to-date with what is happening with the SEEMA project. Our second meeting this month is on 18th, when we welcome the Rev Dr Alistair Donald, Chaplain of Heriot Watt University, who will be giving us an insight into his chaplaincy ministry at the university.

Edinburgh Direct Aid has once again asked for the Guild's help—not with knitting but to collect sanitary products for the women refugees in Aarsal, a town in the Lebanon. Sanitary towels only (no tampons)—also underwear (pants, bras etc)—all must be new. The Lebanese authorities will not allow used clothing into the country. Ann Thanisch of Direct Aid will be along in November to collect our gifts. There will also be a donation box at the door if you are unable to get to the supermarkets and wish to donate money instead Louise and I will shop for you. Please bring your donations to the Guild meetings or hand into the Kirk Office for us to collect.

Looking forward to welcoming new and old friends back to the Guild. Shona and her team have been busy preparing the syllabus and Moira and I had a lovely day out putting the final touches to our outing next year.

Isobel Webber
President



South West Villages Project



A project focusing on the issues of isolation, connectedness and wellbeing amongst older people living in Balerno, Currie and Juniper Green is underway. The first phase of the South West Villages Project took place in 2017 and involved the mapping of existing services and activities along with consultation with local people to identify priorities and improvements for the future.

The second phase of the project is taking place from June to December 2018 and aims to promote existing activities and support available in the area, make connections between organisations, groups and health and social care services, and to help source funding or develop new ideas where gaps have been identified. The project is underpinned by growing evidence on the impact that keeping connected has on your physical and mental wellbeing, whatever your age.

The 'three villages' are rich in community activities and support for older residents but face particular challenges due to their location and ageing population. The project is being led by the Eric Liddell Centre with funding from the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership. The Eric Liddell Centre provides services and resources for community groups including older people, people with dementia and carers across Edinburgh.

Caroline Clark, Development Officer for the South West Villages Project said: *"I am delighted to be working with the Eric Liddell Centre and South West Villages on this important issue. I look forward to working with local groups and services and hope to contribute to supporting people to be as happy and healthy as possible as they get older."*

Caroline is keen to hear from anyone who is interested in the project, has ideas for how to connect with isolated individuals, or suggestions for the future. Please contact Caroline on 0131 357 1277 clarkc@ericliddell.org

Gibson Craig Halls



At the start of the New Year the Church of Scotland proclaimed 2018 as the Year of the Young Person. Easter had the vision of bringing forward ways in which we could properly be in touch with young people, who have grown up entirely accustomed to the unobtrusive technology that enables access to virtually the whole of the world's knowledge at a keystroke.

The Gibson Craig Halls have a new Wi-Fi capacity throughout, password-protected, to provide the connection to the Web and, after training, we will be able to watch in real time or download in advance all sorts of good things to people's laptops and other devices. It will be easy to project images and reproduce or enhance sound, plugging in to AV equipment in place, rather than a kit that has to be taken out of a cupboard, set up in a tangle of cables on the day.

The Gibson-Craig Halls Fabric Committee, convened by Tim Shepherd assisted by Graeme Coventry, Bill Hume, Iain Proudfoot and Jim Webber have made this happen, with welcome assistance from people in the know. Both regular and special maintenance and development of the building has continued, especially over the summer holiday period when less disruption is caused to users of the Halls. Below is a list of what else has been happening this year:

- ◆ Outside paintwork renewed, with repairs and renewal of damaged mastic
- ◆ Damaged tarmac at vehicle entrance properly dug out and replaced
- ◆ Replacement boiler completion
- ◆ Intermediate corridor doors being re-hung to push open more easily, now in both directions, while retaining their vital smoke control function by not being hooked open.
- ◆ Dishwasher now available in kitchen, from Snack Lunches donation.
- ◆ Extra fridge formerly in Kirk House re-installed in rear office for Currie Day Care, freeing space in the kitchen fridge for others use.
- ◆ Re-location of coat hooks and hangers into halls (rather than in the main corridor, which has to be kept free from any obstructions including chairs to meet Scottish Fire Service recommendations) - also further lessening the risk of casual theft, though the corridor is already under 24 hour surveillance by the video system
- ◆ New signage being installed where necessary
- ◆ Regular programme of buffing for timber hall floors being instigated
- ◆ Additional path light being installed on west path
- ◆ Replacement of failing timber fascia on mini-bus garage by PVC type not requiring painting
- ◆ Re-fireproofing of main stage curtains, treatment wears off over time.

However, the work still is ongoing to keep our halls in great shape for the future.

Bill Hume

Iona Retreat: 26—30 April 2019

This enchanting and powerfully spiritual island beckons the pilgrims from Currie. There are three vacancies for the Iona Retreat in 2019 and if you would like to come and enjoy the tranquillity that this island has to offer please get in touch with Moira on 466 1115 who will give you costs etc.

Coach departs the Gibson Craig on the 26th, and travels to catch the ferry at Oban to Mull. Travelling across Mull by public transport (please bring your entitlement card if you have one!!) we catch the ferry at Fionnphort to Iona. Staying at the Bishops House on a full board basis. We arrive back in Currie at the Gibson Craig on 30 April.



Year of the Young Person in the BB

When asked to put together an article on the BB's adventure through the Year of the Young Person, it is safe to say I totally underestimated what a year we have gone through as an organisation. From Anchor Boys, through Juniors and up to Company Section, the past 12 months have been incredibly eventful, and something I am sure the boys and staff have enjoyed throughout! With so much going on both within the Company nights in the Gibson Craig and Battalion and National events outside Currie, I think it's only appropriate for us to take a trip through the year to give you a taster of what the Year of Young Person has meant to the 65th Currie BB.

Activities

Commencing with the Anchor Boys and Juniors, they had the pleasure of hosting their Christmas parties in the Gibson Craig which also included the annual trip to the Lyceum Theatre in December, something which I'm sure the staff always regard as a 'must attend'!

For the Company Section, the last year has seen us competing in Battalion competitions and national events. A whirlwind tour of these included:

- Curling in the winter (organised in line with the Winter Olympics)
- Laser Quest (chance to get even with the staff members)
- Bowling and Pizza
- Football trip to Hampden to watch World Cup qualifiers
- National and Battalion Football competitions (Jason Wang claiming 1st Place in Battalion badminton event, Company progressed to Semi Finals of the National event)
- National and Battalion Badminton (Team progressed to the 2nd round of the Nationals)
- Battalion swimming event
- Musician of the Year (Dougie Barton claiming 1st place in Junior and Open competition)

Somebody's turned the big 1-0-0!

In October we took the opportunity to celebrate a special birthday, the 100th year of the Junior Section, formerly known as the 'Boy Reserves' and later the 'Life Boys'. We couldn't turn down the opportunity to celebrate the occasion at Currie Kirk with some cake, however we still think the Queen's card must be lost in the post!!

Community

Aside from enjoying multiple activities and events within our Company and the Battalion, we also recognise the importance of pitching in ourselves to help serve the local community. This year we have helped with sorting books for the Morningside United Church at Holy Corner, and doing our bit by collecting Easter eggs for local

Any space left in @TeamGB curling team?





foodbanks to help other youths enjoy Easter as every child should be able to do year upon year.

One popular chance to volunteer, which is always in demand, is helping at the annual Royal Highland Show. This often involves our young helpers parading livestock, assisting visitors, as well as taking the odd 'coffee break' to go enjoy the free samples on offer! A great opportunity for our young people which provides valuable work experience for today's youth and which will take our helpers far in years to come.



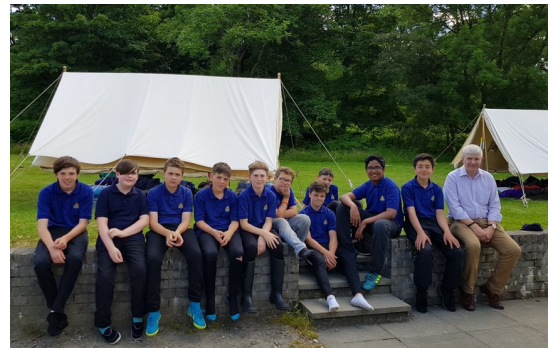
Highland Games with an American twist?

In June an event at Blinkbonny Park saw young members of the Kirk participate in Currie's own Highland Games, which also included a youth group from America—who were welcomed with open arms—and a few midgies!

The evening saw all boys and girls compete in events such as the caber toss, hammer throw, sack race and highland dancing, which took our staff members by surprise when they saw our Boys take joy in showing off their moves. After the fun and games concluded, it was back to the Manse for a BBQ and refreshments, and a chance to build new friendships with our American counterparts. A great event which really captured the Year of the Young Person!

Company Section Camp

In July, our staff and Boys took five days away from bathing in the glorious Currie heat for a change of scenery at Craggan, Loch Tay. The camp is always a nice opportunity to get away from our hectic lives in Edinburgh for some time to ourselves in the countryside, where the week is spent participating in games and challenges, enjoyable for all it has to be said. This year was special for the 65th as we had the pleasure of meeting the CEO, Bill Stevenson, a great chance for us all to share experience and highlights from our time in the BB.



Celebrations

We must also pass on congratulations to our newest Queen's Men who recently attained their Queen's Badge in June:



Greg Hamilton,
Jason Wang,
Stuart Murray

Two of our officers have also taken on new roles and responsibilities outside the company, further congratulations should also go to:

Duncan Cameron—Elected to serve on the Scotland Committee

David Kong – Elected to represent The Boys' Brigade as a Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament

A great honour to have our ex-members and current staff represent the Company, Battalion and country at such a high level. We can only wish them a great next 12 months!

To conclude, it's been an incredible year for our Boys, so much so it's been impossible to cram all our great news and achievements into this small space. I hope the community has enjoyed the Year of the Young Person as much as we have, and we look forward to the future initiatives the Kirk wish to promote!

Kirk Walking Group Annual Day Trip to Culross

The walking group this year enjoyed a lovely June day in the beautiful village of Culross. A conservation village and former royal burgh, it is beautifully maintained and a very popular location for many film sets. (Outlander being one of the most recent to be filmed there).

Our walk began with a short climb from the car park to the well trodden Coachmans Road, which leads to the ruin of the former parish church. From there our route took us to 13th Century Culross Abbey, the birthplace of St Mungo and patron saint of Glasgow. In 1633 this became the new parish church and is still used today, but sadly with a congregation of only six. After a most interesting tour of the intact part of the abbey, we had a delicious lunch at the adjoining cafe at an amazing price of £10.00.

Our tour, under the guidance of Bill Wood, continued back down the cobbled stone hill to our final stop at Culross Palace and the gardens, both beautifully maintained by the Scottish National Trust. Thank you Bill for the planning and execution of a most perfect day. Everyone without exception enjoyed it.

The poem below from Sandy Harper, encapsulates beautifully the outing of our day in Culross.



Sheena MacPhie

Kirk Walking Group

On June the 22nd we set off on our way
Heading out to Culross to spend a special day.
Seventeen hopeful walkers looking for a change
A day trip our Bill Wood was happy to arrange.
Over the bridge and into Fife and soon we reach our goal
Everyone ready, cars parked, and now we're on a roll.
To reach the ruined West End Church gave us quite a climb
It used to be the parish church way back in another time.
Next stop was the Abbey, another special place
But now we're heading down hill at a faster pace.
I sat and enjoyed the feeling of time long past
From the time of the monks, through many years, until the di'e was cast.
It eventually became the parish church, much easier to reach
But sadly only a few now come to hear the minister preach.
So now we're off to the abbey café for sandwiches and soup
All ready to relax right now and feeling cock-a-hoop.
A time to share together some banter and a laugh
Before heading for the palace, having thanked the friendly staff.
We're now heading for the townhouse down a narrow hill
With cottages on either side, some with offers on their windowsill.
Tickets are bought at the National trust, so now we're on our way
With a visit to the palace to complete a busy day.
A guide was available to provide a palace tour
And mentioned again the special name, of the legendary John Muir.
Now in the palace garden relaxing in the sun
Having a chat and enjoying the scene before making the homeward run.
YES CULROSS WAS A WONDERFUL DAY OUT FOR US
AND SPENDING IT TOGETHER REALLY WAS AN ADDED PLUS.

Sandy Harper July 2018

AIDS Project in Thailand—Dodo's Ministry

Many of you have followed the AIDS Ministry of Dodo over the past 20 years. The article below brings you up to date on some of the trials and tribulations that her missionary work has undergone. Mission & Outreach still keep in touch with Jane Fucella who used to be our Mission Partner in Thailand for over 20 years and helped to set up the AIDS Project. Jane keeps in regular contact with Dodo.

Currie Kirk continues to give £3,000 to Dodo for the AIDS Project.

Gordon Clephane
M&O Committee

Article

The main news is in relation to their having to move out of their home. When they were first told they were being evicted a while ago, Dodo looked for suitable property and couldn't find anything. She was then told that she would be given land big enough to accommodate her family and the children she cares for. However, in the end, the presbytery reneged on that promise and she had to go house hunting again, knowing they were to be out by the end of April.

Well, God has, as usual, provided in the most amazing way—far more than she could have ever imagined. With the financial support of a church in America, they have been able to buy a house, and the land it sits on (this is fantastic). Quite a lot of work was needed to be done on the house and some of you have kindly helped pay for that work. The house is about 5km from the town. The school bus will pick the kids up from the end of the lane. It's on the route patients from the border take to the hospital and so will be perfect for their monthly support groups and meals together. What is quite amazing is the size; the main communal room is huge—easily big enough for a large group of patients to gather.

We move on to August 2018 with the following update from Jane:
I have been waiting to write to you all for a while but wanted to include photos of Dodo's new house. The house is spacious, light and cool. Dodo's husband and son have done a huge amount of work to renovate the house. There is enough space for the AIDS support groups to meet there and be under cover comfortably. You will see a photo of 4 kids in school uniform. The smallest girl is a relative of Dodo's who visits often. The taller girl is Popo and the boy next to her Gumpa—both kids whom Dodo has fostered for several years now and the taller boy is Tadah—the care giver's son who also lives with them. Dodo's son Suwit, who is a nursing assistant at the hospital in Sangklaburi lives at home too and shares with the two little boys. The children get the school bus each day the 5km to the town—£10 a month each. Much safer than the motorbike especially in the rainy season—although school buses are not what you might expect—pick up trucks crammed full of kids. Please pray for safety and protection.

So the main event of the last few weeks has been finishing the house and moving in, getting unpacked and sorted out. As well as that Dodo remains busy with the project. Over the last few days, she has helped the majority of the patients to buy their annual health cards. Quite a bureaucratic feat but great as it means they then get free treatment. She is looking after one family for whom she particularly asks for prayer. I will copy their story below.

Thuzer's story.

Thuzer is a 34 year old woman from Burma. She first joined the project three years ago when she was found to be HIV+ve during her 5th pregnancy. Her husband died in April 2016. At the time the family were living in a small one room house. Thuzer was selling vegetables in the market. The oldest daughter, who was 9 at the time, stayed at home to look after the baby and the boys were supported to go to school by the project. Fast forward three years and the family's situation has become much more difficult. Thuzer is



Thuzer family

not responding well to ARV's. She is an inpatient at the provincial hospital. The children are now aged between 3 and 12. The 12 year old girl looks after the 3 year old and the 9, 7 and 5 year old go to school. Whilst Thuzer is in hospital, the project is paying for food for the family and 2 project volunteers are looking after all the children. Thuzer has no living relatives and is afraid for her children when she dies. She and Dodo have been talking about possible solutions.

Dodo's most exciting news is that she is a granny. Her son Suchard and his wife, who live in Chiang Mai, have had a baby—picture opposite.

Thank you for your prayers and gifts. they are much appreciated as this work to care for the most vulnerable continues.

Love Jane on behalf of Dodo



FoodBank—Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Sunday 30 September



Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be on Sunday 30 September in the Kirk. Our chosen charity is the Trinity Centre in Wester Hailes. The number of families relying on Foodbank donations is increasing month on month and your donation will be very much appreciated.

If you wish to make a Food Bank donation, please bring your items to the Church on any Sunday up to and including 30 September. Alternatively, please hand in to Ishbel in the Church Office, during office hours. Members of the M&O committee will deliver your donations that day.

The list of items that can be donated are:

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| ◆ Soup | ◆ Coffee |
| ◆ Cold meat/Corned beef | ◆ Jam |
| ◆ Tinned meal: eg Stew, mince, meatballs | ◆ Cornflakes |
| ◆ Tuna | ◆ Biscuits |
| ◆ Tinned fruit | ◆ Toothpaste |
| ◆ Tinned rice | ◆ Shampoo |
| ◆ Beans | ◆ Soap |
| ◆ UHT milk | ◆ Nappies |

Matthew 25: 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink?'

THANK YOU!

Gordon Clephane
M&O Committee



Snack Lunches

Restart on Tuesday 18 September in the Gibson Craig Back Hall at 12 noon
All Welcome

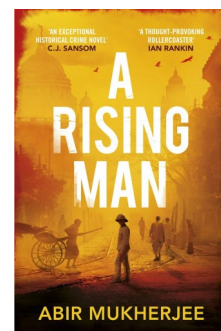


The Good Book Group

The Good Book Group restarts after the summer on Monday 3 September at 7 pm 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

A Rising Man
By
Abir Mukherjee



A Rising Man, which won him 'The Telegraph Harvill Secker Crime Writing Prize', was the debut novel of Abir Mukherjee. He also featured in this year's Edinburgh International Book Festival. Born in London, the son of Indian immigrants, Abir Mukherjee was raised in the West of Scotland. The novel was motivated by his interest in Anglo-Indian history.

A Rising Man is a crime novel set in Calcutta, 1919. The main protagonist and narrator is the former Scotland Yard detective, Sam Wyndham. Having survived the horrors of the First World War, tragedy strikes for Wyndham as his young wife dies from Influenza. In desperation and hopelessness, he alleviates his suffering with opium. Wyndham is then offered a prestigious post with the police force in Calcutta. On his arrival he finds he is heading a 'politically charged murder investigation'.

The novel created much discussion within the book group. *A Rising Man* not only draws parallels with today's society but Mukherjee's attention to historical detail and the political ramifications of that time, are both informative and shocking. The crime and the characters are complex, intriguing, yet Abir Mukherjee successfully balances these components.

A Rising Man is a fascinating read, an amazing insight into Colonial India, power, greed and resistance—a real page turner.

Dot Rutherford
Average Score 6.5



The Junior Bake Off at the Currie Community Centre with Easter who was one of the judges

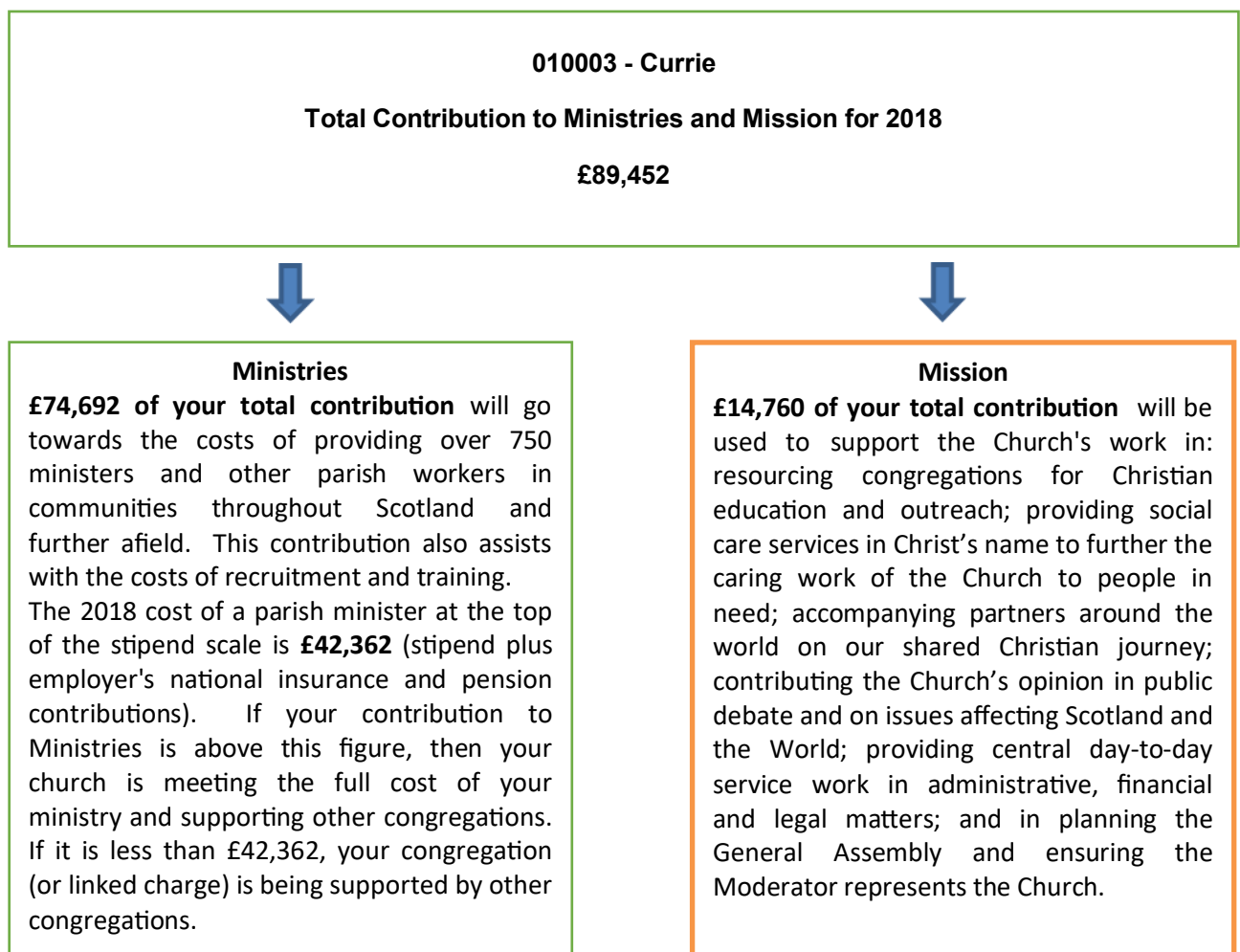
Currie Kirk's Contribution to Ministries and Mission for 2018

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 (along with the enclosed Ministries and Mission leaflet) intends to explain how your congregation's Ministries and Mission Contribution will be used to enable the work of the Church in 2018.



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 McDowell

Hope you found this of interest.
Gordon Clephane
Session Clerk

A Walk Down Memory Lane



The above photos were sent in by Margaret Matheson—do you have any photos that can be sent to the Editor?
Quite happy to scan them for publication if they are not on your memory stick!!

Volunteers Needed

Sunday Club

Gibson Craig Halls—9.45-11.15 am—P1-P7
from 23 September



**The New Sunday Club is looking for volunteers to go on a rota to help at the Club.
This will hopefully be only once every two months.
If you are able to help please speak to Easter or Heather.**

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
Balerno Bridge Club	Sandra Renton	449 3527	Monday
Currie and District Local History Society	Douglas Lowe	449 4349	Monday Evenings twice monthly October to March
Currie Community Council	Allister McKillop	449 6394	2nd Monday of each Month —not July & December
Currie Day Centre	Dorothy Simpson coordinatorCDC@gmx.com	07562 142885	Friday by referral
Dunedin Dance Academy	Claire Robertson	07731 466147	Wednesday
Fitness Class	Laura Westwater-Crown	07841 917035	Tuesday 7.30—8.30 pm
Highland Dancing	Michelle Marshall	339 4704	Wednesday
Move It or Lose It	Janet Corbett	07769 345845	Wednesday: 2.30—3.30
Nether Currie Baby and Toddler Group	Margaret Milton	07743 067588	Friday: 9.30—11.30 am (term time only)
Octagon Club	Claire Maloney Clairemaloney12@yahoo.co.uk	07999 410721	Wednesday
Pilates Class (Fuschia)	Steph Bain	07773 270780	Wednesday: Noon—1 pm
Senior Citizens	Jean Smith	449 5596	Monday
Sensory Session	Lorna Carr hello@thesensorysessions.com	07525 270427	Thursday: 10.15—11.30 am
Summer Pop Up Café	Viola MacPhail	449 4664	Tuesday: 10.30—12 Noon
Tea & Tunes	Allister McKillop	449 6394	2nd Tuesday of month
Yoga	Anne Marie Crozier annemariacrozier@blueyonder.co.uk	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's Tea and Tunes

A café for those living with dementia.

Second Tuesday of each month—

2.30-4.00—Gibson Craig Hall—

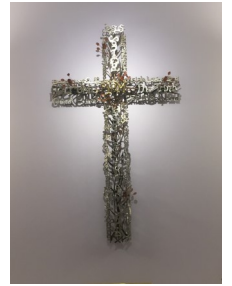
Cost £2 per person which includes refreshments and snacks.

Good food, good company, good times provided as well as entertainment from a diverse group of friends and volunteers including pupils from Currie Community High School.

Family News

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

Mrs Betty Brown, Mossvale Care Home, Glasgow
Mrs Isobel Carmichael, 9 Riccarton Drive
Mr John Glass, 1 Forthview Crescent
Mrs Alison Thomson, Inchview Care Home, 233 Gilmerton Road



Please pray for the families

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

Natalia Levinson Frost, Daughter of Katie and Cameron
Thea Giselle Gilritchie, Daughter of Miya and Jason
Jamie Daniel Silver, Son of Jennifer and Mark



Currie Kirk to be part of Doors Open Days

After a lapse of more than five years, Currie Kirk is to take part in the Cockburn Association's Doors Open Days in September. The church will be open to visitors between 2.00—4.30pm on Saturday and Sunday, 29 and 30 September. Louise Lamont will be offering guided tours of the building and is also preparing material to be shown on the screens in the church.

Pupils from Currie High School and Currie Primary School will be singing or providing short musical interludes.

Tea, coffee, juice and biscuits will be on sale. Currently a few more volunteers to help serve would be welcome. There is a sheet for names under the Sunday Refreshments rota on the noticeboard outside Easter's room.

Hamish Leal
449 3288



September Flower List

2 Mrs J Robertson
Mrs J Thomson

9 Mrs H Heggie
Mrs S Heron

16 Mrs M Gray



23 Mrs M Anderson
Mr D Jordan

30 Mrs C Lindsay
Mrs S Ramsay

Should anyone wish to donate to the Flower Fund or dedicate flowers on a specific Sunday please leave cash or a cheque, made payable to Currie Kirk Flower Fund, at the Church Office or contact Erica Porteous at 2 Pentland View, Currie or telephone 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
Offerings & Gift Aid Treasurer	Eunice Stewart eunicestewart48@gmail.com		449 6832
Data Protection Officer	Ron Dow Email: ronedow@blueyonder.co.uk		538 2313
Weddings/Funeral Officer	Sandy Harper		449 4258
Organist	Contact Church Office		451 5141
Gibson Craig Halls bookings	Ann Proudfoot	ckgchbooking@gmail.com	449 7739
Gibson Craig Halls Caretaker	Jim Ness		07504 420671
Hospital Transport Coordinator	Elizabeth Wood		538 0363
Deputy Coordinator	Jim Ure		449 6498
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	531 0416
Guild	Isobel Webber	Tuesday	451 5112
Sunday Club	Heather Merriman	Sunday	07986 002195
Messy Church	Contact Louise	Second and last Friday of each month Gibson Craig Halls from 2.00—4.00 pm (term time only)	466 3472
Walking Group	Moira McDonald	Third Sunday of each month	466 1115



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 21 September 2018. Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject.**

