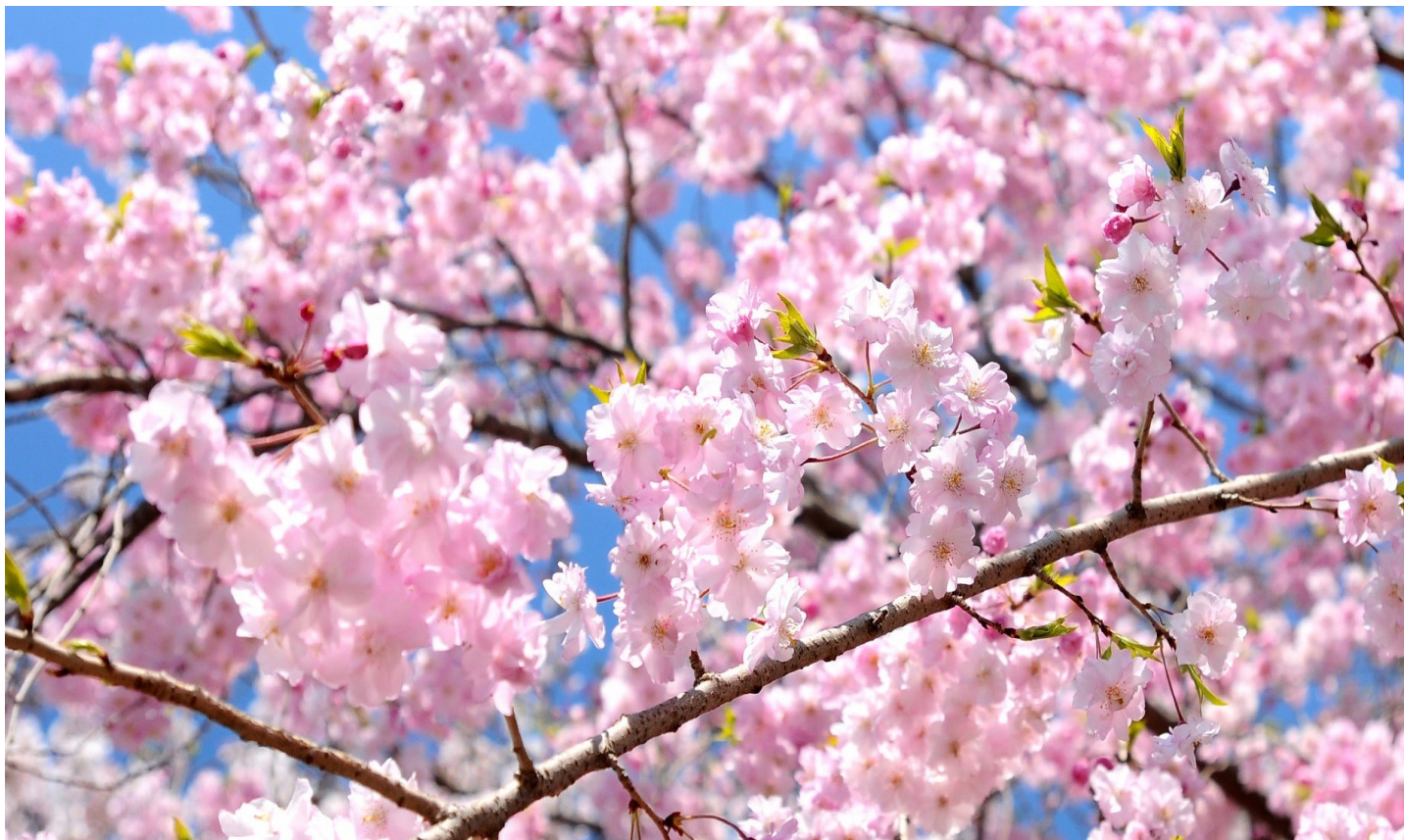


The Kirk News

May 2019

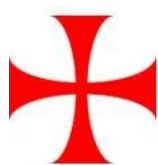


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THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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)

May	1	Wednesday	11.11.30 am—Prayer Meeting—GCH Lounge
	3	Friday	2 pm—Messy Church—GCH
	5	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	6	Monday	7.30 pm—Good Book Group—GCH Lounge
	9	Thursday	9.30 am—Meet GCH—Guild Outing
	12	Sunday	10 am—Kirkin of the Currie Community Council—Currie Kirk
	17	Friday	7—10 pm—Quiz Night with Ron Grigor—GCH
	19	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk—Christian Aid Sunday
	19	Sunday	2.30 pm—Afternoon Communion in the Kirk
	20	Monday	9—12 Noon—Monday Madness—Primaries 1-7—GCH
	26	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship
	28	Tuesday	7.30 pm—Session Meeting—Currie Kirk
	30	Thursday	7.00 pm—Stated Annual Meeting in the Kirk
	31	Friday	2 pm—Messy Church
June	2	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	3	Monday	7.30 pm—Good Book Group—GCH Lounge
	5	Wednesday	11-11.30 am—Prayer Meeting—GCH Lounge
	6	Thursday	1—4 pm—Celebrating Communities—GCH
	9	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	15	Saturday	11 am—3 pm—Summer Fete—GCH
	16	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	23	Sunday	10 am—All Age Service, Currie Kirk followed by BBQ/Picnic
	25	Tuesday	7 pm—Minibus AGM—Gibson Craig Lounge
July	30	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with Sacrament of Communion
	3	Wednesday	11-11.30 am—Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounge
	7	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	14	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	21	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	28	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship

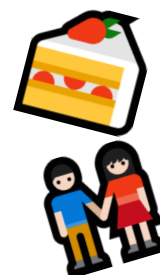
Christian Aid Week—12—18 May



Don't Forget

Sunday Fun Club

Gibson Craig Halls—9.45-11.20 am—4 years +



Kirk News

The June issue of Kirk News will be available on Sunday 2 June for distribution



A Message from the Manse



Dear Friends

When I found out that I was headed to Rome, I had few expectations! Wow, the place is somewhere to put on your list if you have not 'done' Rome already.



Darren and I arrived at the hotel and popped up to the roof terrace with views over the rooftops of Rome on our first day. That evening we walked into the Basilica of Santa Maria Magiore, then wound our way to the famous Piazza del Popolo and back to the hotel via the beautiful Spanish Steps below the church of the Trinita Dei Monti. . . where we strangely arrived at the top to walk down the steps to the floodlit water fountain in the Piazza de Spagna below. The next day we saw the Michelangelo's statue of Moses and then the architectural phenomenon of the Colosseum, and the ancient Palatino hill with all the very real ruins of ancient Roman temples!



It was so lovely to walk in this beautiful city and in the footsteps of history. Our tour guides helped us to imagine the times of before Christ when Roman Emperors considered themselves to be gods. We were able to sense how Emperors like Caligula and Nero lived and also looked down upon the Circo Massimo (Circus Maximus) where they persecuted the early Christians who did not worship their egos in the first and second centuries.

We saw the Arch of the Emperor Constantine. Unlike the brutal emperors before him, Constantine thought that Christians were decent. Christians were often good public servants who were loyal and faithful. (They did not steal or cheat, were kind to slaves and not after their own gain.) Emperor Constantine legalised Christianity in 312 AD and the Christians were no longer fodder for the lions, nor the victims of more crucifixions!



I could fill a year's worth of Kirk News with our three-day trip. Rome has so much extravagant art and beauty. Every building, church, statue, piazza, tells a story of its time or period. Dotted around the city are many obelisks from ancient Egypt too. So as well as having a sense of life (long long before) Jesus came into the world, there is also so much to learn from the buildings and art from the times after he had come to be part of our life in the world.

The greatest surprise was the Vatican. The Pope at some point seemed to assume the power of an Emperor, deeming him someone who was to be worshipped as divine. There was often conflict between Emperor and Pope. If you go into the Vatican, you will not only see the gorgeous art from the Christian Catholic faith. Many ancient treasures, priceless artefacts from all over the ancient Roman Empire now belong to the 'nation state' called the Vatican. You will see statues of the gods Apollo, Zeus, Bacchus, Diana, etc. You see busts of Caesar and Hadrian as well as tapestries and maps of the Empire as it was known then. My favourite of the treasures was Emperor Nero's giant bath made out of very expensive marble from Egypt. In those days that marble was worth more than gold!



Whilst I do not understand how all these riches ended up in the Vatican, I am glad they are being kept, curated and cared for. And of course, we threw our coins into the Trevi Fountain one evening. (Picture top right) So I hope to go back one day and see a little more.

God bless, meantime,

Easter



The last Messy Church before the summer holidays will take place on Friday 31 May with topic still to be decided. This will be the last Messy Church until September.

If you haven't been before, please think about joining us for two hours of crafts, games, stories and songs all set around a Bible story. Children of any age are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult who stays with them to join in the fun.

Alternatively you may wish to become one of the helpers. We are always looking for new people to join our team.

Meetings start at 2 pm in the Gibson Craig Halls and finish between 3.30 pm and 4 pm.

Do come and join us. For any further information, please e-mail Heather on familyworker_jvp@outlook.com



Good Book Group

The book that we read for April was 'One Enchanted Evening' by Anton du Beke. As a much loved ballroom dancer on Strictly Come Dancing we did wonder how good he was going to be at writing but he didn't disappoint.

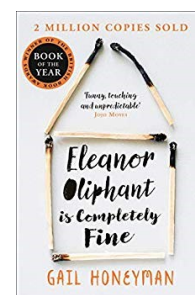
Just like its name, it was an enchanting story, one that made you look forward to curling up on your sofa with a glass of wine or a cup of tea to read it. It is set over a six month period in 1936 and it follows the fortunes of a ballroom star, Raymond de Guise, who rules the dance floor at London's Buckingham Hotel and also the new chambermaid, Nancy Nettleton. As preparations for the grand New Year's Masquerade Ball take place, there is alongside it a swell of anti-Semitic and fascist sympathisers who collide with devastating consequences for Raymond de Guise.

You can picture Anton as the main character, as he charms his way around the dance floor. It's not just about the dancing though. It is also about the guests and those who work in the hotel. There are many secrets. Anton invites you into his world of dancing and you can imagine yourself there. We did have one doubt about the story and that was if it would have snowed that badly in 1936.

Good first novel—hope there are more. We all liked it and gave it a score of 7.6 out of 10.

The book for June is 'Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine' by Gail Honeyman.

Carolyn Steven



Walking with the Moderator

On Easter Saturday members of the Currie Guild joined other Guild members, BB and GB on a walk from Polwarth Parish Church to the viaduct at Longstone with refreshments on return.



The Guild

At the Guild's AGM on Tuesday 16 April, the Project Treasurer reported that £1200 had been raised for the "Free to Live Trust"—this sum had been sent off to the Guild offices at 121 George Street. Thank you to all who had contributed to this total by supporting our Coffee Morning and Daffodil Tea.

Also at the AGM, the members were asked to vote on the project which we will support for 2019/20—an overwhelming vote was for CrossReach—Join Up the Dots—which will tackle loneliness and isolation and encourage each of their services, from care homes to youth projects, to support mental wellbeing. Please help us to raise as much as we can for this worthy project.



Isobel Webber

The summer outing takes place on Thursday 10 May—leaving from the Gibson Craig—we travel to Bridge of Alan for morning coffee and a bit of sightseeing. Then to Callander for some retail therapy—there is an excellent shoe shop which is frequented!! You can grab a bit of lunch before we make our way to catch the cruise ship on Loch Katrine. After our Loch cruise, we make our way to Aberfoyle to Bell's Kitchen—Bell serves the most delicious home made food. If you would like to come along to this outing—there are a few places on the coach—please get in touch with Moira on 466 1115—we will be delighted if you can join us.

Easter Egg Collection—Thank you



On Palm Sunday, the church was not only decorated with lovely floral displays, but the grand total of 256 Easter Eggs were also displayed for all to see. An enormous thank you to the Boys' Brigade, Nether Currie Primary School and to you, the congregation of Currie Kirk, for the generosity of your collection.

After the Service, we took the eggs down to the Holy Trinity Food Bank in Wester Hailes, where a delighted Angela Thomson, Food Bank Manager, was there to welcome us. Angela was bowled over by the response and it means that families, who take delivery of their Food Bank collections every Tuesday, would have received a very nice surprise in time for Easter Sunday.



Angela and all at the Food Bank send their heartfelt thanks and prayers to everyone in Currie Kirk for their kindness—you made a lot of children very happy.

Gordon Clephane
M&O committee.

Kirk News

We hope you have enjoyed receiving this magazine as a paper copy. Your distributor will be calling next month to ask for a contribution towards printing. A suggested minimum donation is £2.

If you wish to receive it by email please get in touch with Nina at the office.

Kirk Walking Group

On Sunday 14 April, the walking group set out on an outing to Dalkeith Country Park. Those of you who are familiar with the park will be aware that it was part of the estate of the Earl of Dalkeith, where you will find Dalkeith Palace, which has been leased to the University of Wisconsin and is not open to the public, though the rest of the park is.

The walk we undertook was about three miles alongside the North Esk, beyond the "Meeting of the Waters" where it joins the South Esk on its way to Musselburgh, where it enters the Forth. Some of the trees in the surrounding woodland are up to 700 years old and are, in their ancient way, majestic.

The walk finished at the old stable block, now called the Restoration Yard, where there was time for a last group photo at the Orangerie, and a welcome beverage—it was a long time since we stopped for our picnic!

A grand afternoon outing with the Group. If you fancy joining us get in touch with Moira McDonald, the Group Convener; our walks are varied and of a modest length. Good fun and fellowship.

Bill Wood



A big "Thank You" to Bill Wood.

A little paint, a brush, imagination and lots of artistic skill transformed the Prayer Tree.
A wonderful improvement. Thanks, Bill.



Please join us for a Celebration of Volunteering

An event to recognise the amazing work of volunteers who support the health and wellbeing of older people in Balerno, Currie and Juniper Green

Entertainment, tea, cake and much more!

Everyone is welcome

Thursday 6 June 2019 Gibson Craig Halls Currie 1-4pm



The event is delivered by Dementia Friendly Pentlands (registered charity SC048360) and South West Villages Project (delivered by the Eric Liddell Centre, registered charity SC003147), with support from the Edinburgh Health and Social Care Partnership



Annual Accounts for the Year ended 31 December 2018 and Budget for 2019

The following pages show the General Fund income and expenditure of Currie Kirk for the past year and the budget for the current year.

Before commenting on the Accounts and Budget I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued financial support.

Accounts 2018

Income

The overall income in 2018 was £3776 (2%) lower than in 2017.

The key factors to this were:

- Donation income showed a reduction of £3963 (3.3%).
- Income from Charitable Activities (ie weddings, funerals, hall lets) showed an increase of £303 (0.9%).
- Gift Aid Tax Refunds showed a reduction of £1900 (7%).
- Other income of £7334 (including a small legacy, Christmas Fayre monies and a gift donation) were 158% greater than in 2017.

Expenditure

The overall expenditure was £6876 higher than in 2017 (3.6%). The major factor in this were the salaries, with 2018 being the first full year with the Youth & Families Worker and the new Gibson Craig Halls Caretaker.

In 2018, after the usual two instalments of the Church of Scotland Loan were paid, it was decided to pay off the remainder of this loan in full. This was done using what was left in the Kirk Development Fund and a further £3655 from the General Fund. This action saved interest charges of £2282.

The outcome of all of the above left a balance, as at 31st December 2018, in the General Fund of £44720, with all creditors accounted for.

Budget 2019

The budget for 2019 forecasts a 2.8% reduction in donation income from 2018. This significantly lower reduction is a response to the lesser decline of the regular giving in 2018, which was only 1.1% lower than in 2017.

The budgeted expenditure for 2019 forecasts a reduction of 4.7%, which is mostly due to the Church of Scotland Loan having been paid off in full in November 2018.

Areas of increased spending in 2019 will be:

- The Ministries & Mission payments to the Church of Scotland (+3.1%).
- Salaries—apart from the usual increases due to rises in the national living wage and the relevant salary scales the new church administrator is now in place.

The above means that 2019 is likely to end with another shortfall.

It is hoped that the budgeted income will be exceeded and that the actual expenditure may work out at a lower level than forecast to minimise the effect this will have in reducing the financial reserves.

Eddie Pigott
Treasurer

CURRIE KIRK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

General Fund (Unrestricted Fund)

INCOME

	BUDGET - 2019		ACTUAL - 2018	
	£	£	£	£
1. Voluntary Income				
FWO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	852		1,303	
Gift Aid Donations	89,785		91,458	
Other Offerings (non Gift Aid)	14,692		15,224	
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	6,367	111,696	6,871	114,856
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid				
Tax recovered on Gift Aid Donations & GASD Scheme		24,495		25,254
Contributions from Congregational Organisations				
Use of Premises – Church Organisations		-		1,350
		136,191		141,460
2. Activities for Generating Income				
Use of Premises				
Use of premises – Community		20,000		18,585
3. Investment Income				
Bank & Deposit Interest	-	-	-	4
4. Income Resources from Charitable Activities				
Weddings and Funerals		1,000		1,160
Miscellaneous Income		3,804		7,084
Total Ordinary General Income		160,995		168,293
EXPENDITURE				
Total Resources Expended (total from page 29)		(177,435)		(173,044)
Other losses recognised		-		-
		(177,435)		(173,044)
(Deficit)/Surplus		(16,440)		(4,751)
Funds Transfer		-		14,630
General Fund Balance brought forward		44,720		34,841
General Fund Balance at 31 December		28,280		44,720

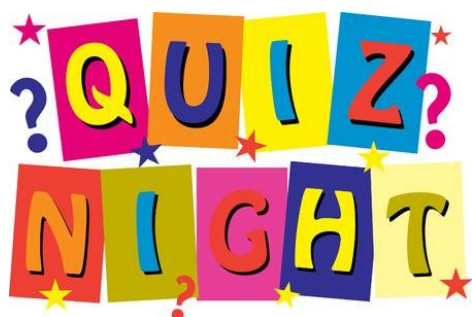
CURRIE KIRK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

General Fund (Unrestricted Fund)

	BUDGET – 2019		ACTUAL – 2018	
	£	£	£	£
5. Analysis of Resources Expended				
Ministries and Mission Allocation	90,883		88,090	
Presbytery Dues	2,700		2,596	
		93,583		90,686
Minister's Travel Expenses	1,300		1,277	
Ministerial Support	14,780		9,885	
Pulpit Supply	490		125	
Other Salaries	14,272		13,781	
		30,842		25,068
Fabric Repairs and Maintenance				
Fabric Maintenance Church	11,230		10,722	
Building running costs	10,550		12,830	
Insurance	4,500		4,204	
Manse Council Tax	3,200		3,137	
Loan Interest	-		2,128	
		29,480		33,021
Office Expenditure	9,300		8,952	
Committee Budgets	9,000		6,988	
Music Licensing	1,650		1,953	
Professional fees and Other	3,580		6,376	
		23,530		24,269
Total Resources Expended		177,435		173,044



Friday 17 May at 7 pm–10 pm
Gibson Craig Hall

All profits to Christian Aid.

Tickets £5 include supper, BYOB and glass

Tickets from Kirk Office, Viola MacPhail, Gordon Clephane and other members of the Mission and Outreach team



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: 10.00—12 Noon
Shoogly Peg Theatre Company	Zoe McRae	07884 133357	Friday: 6.30—7.30 pm
Snack Lunches	Viola MacPhail	449 4664	Tuesday
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.

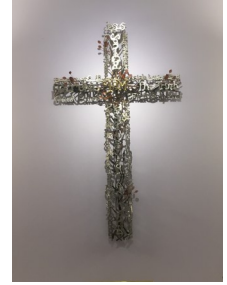
Good food, good company, good times provided as well as entertainment from a diverse group of friends and volunteers including pupils from Currie Community High School.

Family News

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

Georgina Simpson, 27 Riccarton Avenue
F.J.M. v.H "Ineke" Smaill, Broxburn Nursing Home

Please pray for the families



New Member

Caroline Reid, 15 Crosswood Avenue, Balerno

Prayer Meeting in Currie Community Church Tuesday 14 May at 7.30pm

Our Family Worker, Heather, is holding a Prayer meeting on Tuesday 14 May at 7.30pm in the Community Church, adjacent to Currie Kirk. All are welcome to attend. Juniper Green Parish Church have also been invited. This is an opportunity to pray for Heather and her outreach to families in the community.

Gordon Clephane
Session Clerk

Dementia Friendly Pentlands are running monthly "**Drop-in Sessions**" in **Currie Library** on the last Saturday of every month when two of the DFP Team will provide an opportunity for anyone who would like to learn more about dementia, and support available locally, to come along and have a chat. For more information contact: dementiafriendlypentlands@gmail.com/

May Flower List

2019

5 Mrs J Bannister
Mrs I Greig
Mrs F Thomson

12 Mrs S Ramsay



19 Mr D Gatenby
Mrs D Nixon
Mrs A Smith

26 Mrs A Haston
Mrs V MacPhail

Should anyone wish information regarding donations to the Flower Fund please contact Erica Porteous at 2 Pentland View or on 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 Administrator: Nina Valvona 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	Contact church office		451 5141
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 Fun Club	Heather Merriman—Email: familyworker_jvp@outlook.com	Sunday—9.45– 11.20 am	
Messy Church	Contact Louise	Last Friday of the 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 June issue should be sent—using a
Word attachment—by email to isobelwebber@btinternet.com before or by Friday 24 May.
Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject.**

