

# The Kirk News

February / March 2020



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## CALENDAR OVERVIEW:

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

*(GCH= Gibson Craig Halls)*

<b>February</b>	2	Sunday	10 am—Heriot-Watt Anniversary Service—Currie Kirk
	3	Monday	7 pm—Good Book Group—Lounge, GCH
	4	Tuesday	10 am—The Guild—Experiences of a Paramedic—Neil Proven
	5	Wednesday	11-11.30 am—Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounge
	5	Wednesday	7.30 pm—Session Meeting—GCH
	9	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk, with Prayer Tree service following worship.
	16	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk—Professor John Sawkins
	18	Tuesday	2 pm—The Guild—Confessions of a Moderator’s Wife—Margaret Barr
	23	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk—All Age Service with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship.
26	Wednesday	First Day of Lent	
28	Friday	2.00-3.30 pm—Messy Church—GCH	
<b>March</b>	1	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk followed by Prayer Tree Service
	1	Sunday	12 Noon—Fair Trade Lunch—GCH
	2	Monday	7 pm—Good Book Group—Lounge, GCH
	3	Tuesday	10 am—The Guild—Bach Flower Remedies—Rose Morley
	4	Wednesday	11-11.30 am—Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounge
	8	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	15	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
	19	Wednesday	7.30 pm—Session Meeting—GCH
	21	Saturday	10 am— <b>Daffodil Tea in aid of Crossreach—The Guild’s Project</b>
	22	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk—Mothering Sunday—All Age Service
27	Friday	2.00-3.30 pm—Messy Church—GCH	
29	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship.	
<b>April</b>	1	Wednesday	11-11.30 am—Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounge
	2	Thursday	7 pm—Edinburgh Guilds Spring Rally—Musical Evening—Currie Kirk
	5	Sunday	10 am— <b>Palm Sunday</b> —Worship Currie Kirk followed by Prayer Tree Service
	6	Monday	7 pm—Good Book Group—Lounge, GCH
	8	Wednesday	7 pm—The Stations of the Cross—Our Lady’s Currie
	9	Thursday	7 pm— <b>Maundy Thursday</b> Service—Currie Kirk
	10	Friday	7 pm— <b>Good Friday</b> Worship—TBC
	12	Sunday	10 am— <b>Easter Sunday</b> —Worship—Currie Kirk with Sacrament of Communion
	19	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk
24	Friday	2.00-3.30 pm—Messy Church—GCH	
26	Sunday	10 am—Worship Currie Kirk	

## Kirk News

The April/May issue of Kirk News will be available on Sunday 29 March for distribution



# Message from the Manse

In the week of Christian Unity it was a privilege for us to join with congregations from Balerno and Juniper Green. The Moderator, Right Rev Dr Colin Sinclair and his lovely wife Ruth offered wisdom, warmth and kindness. In his sermon, Colin took us back to the basics of Christian life: What does it mean to follow Jesus?

These day days when we mention following, we think of snapchat, newsfeed, twitter, Facebook. We follow our football teams, the Rugby leagues. In these instances, being a follower only means we are observers, people on the side-lines. We may be supporters or detractors. We are actively watching but not taking part.

These things can bring us ups and downs. WE can enjoy the experience of people liking a post or if our team wins. On the other hand, no one wants to watch their team lose and we know that young people are affected when negative posts hurt them on social media.

Colin Sinclair re-invigorated, restored and re-energised the ideals of Christian life when he explained that to be a follower of Jesus is not to be a spectator or observer. We get to be involved and to follow Jesus means we have to step up and do our bit to take part.

We don't need to worry about what the best or worst of humanity thinks of us. We have a role to play to make the world a more compassionate place in God's eyes.

As Jesus taught, following him means to serve people and the world . . . as part of the family of God . . . to offer serious love and kindness to people we encounter, some whom we know and others whom we entrust to God's care though we might not know them.

Following Jesus takes us on a journey beyond ourselves and our immediate understanding of things into a dimension that is eternal.

Ultimately following Jesus is not some lonely job. We are in this together and we cannot do it without the help of Jesus who sent his Holy Spirit to help us. As we approach Lent and the season of Easter, I look

forward to going on the journey following Jesus with you and I hope we may all grow together as we do.

God Bless

*Easter*



Andre Groenewald, Colin & Ruth Sinclair, Easter, Jim Dewar

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



## Your Chance to own a Beautiful Painting of Currie Kirk



Painted by John Schoonhoven, dated 18 July 1998—this can be yours for as little as £1!!

Please place your bid in a sealed envelope together with your name and address and hand or post it to the Church Office by the end of February. The Church Secretary will open the envelopes on Friday 28 February and notify the lucky bidder.

Proceeds from the sale of the painting will go to the Currie Kirk Benevolent Fund which helps those in the community who need some financial assistance.

## You Are Not Insignificant! You Are Special

In all the world there is nobody, nobody like you.

Since the beginning of time there has never been another person like you. Nobody has your smile, your eyes, your hands, your hair. Nobody owns your handwriting, your voice. **You're special.**

Nobody can paint your brush strokes. Nobody has your taste for food or music or dance or art.

Nobody in the universe sees things as you do. In all the time there has never been anyone who laughs in exactly your way, and what makes you laugh or cry or think, may have a totally different response in another. **So—you're special.**

You're different from any other person who has ever lived in the history of the universe. You are the only one in the whole of creation who has your particular set of abilities. There is always someone who is better at one thing or another. Every person is your superior in at least one way. Nobody in the world can reach the quality or combination of your talents, your feelings. Like a roomful of musical instruments, some might excel in one way or another but nobody can match the symphonic sound when they are all played together. **Your symphony.**

Through all eternity no one will ever walk, talk, think or do it exactly like you. **Because you're special.**

You're rare and in all rarity there is enormous value, and because of your great value the need for you to imitate anyone else is absolutely wrong. **You're special and that's no accident.**

So realise that God made you for a special purpose. He has a job for you to do that nobody else can do as well as you can.

Out of the billions of applicants only one is qualified. Only one has the unique and right combination of what it takes, and that one is you; **because you're special.**

Gordon Clephane  
(By kind permission from a friend in another church.)



**Daffodil Tea**  
**Saturday 21 March 2020**  
**Gibson Craig Hall—10 am—12 Noon**  
**In aid of the Guild project Crossreach**  
**Tickets £3**



On 4 February at 10 am we welcome Neil Proven who is giving us a talk on the experiences of a paramedic, followed on 18 February at 2 pm where we are delighted to welcome Margaret Barr whose subject is Confessions of a Moderator’s Wife. On 3 March Rose Morley is speaking on Bach Flower Remedies. It is quite strange looking so far ahead but now that the Kirk News is published every two months it feels as tho’ the year is slipping away.

Our main fund raiser for Crossreach will take place on Saturday 21 March with the Daffodil Tea. Daffodils will be on sale along with our usual stalls of books, tombola, Cake and Candy and miscellaneous items. Tickets are priced at £3 from any Guild member or the Kirk Office. You can also just pop along and pay at the door—ALL WELCOME.

How well do you know your London Underground Stations? Pick up a quiz sheet from the Kirk Office or after the service on a Sunday—cost £1 with proceeds going to Crossreach. Closing date Friday 20 March. Answers will be published in April/May Kirk News.

In December the Guild along with the community in Currie, Balerno and Juniper Green collected over 70 Christmas Puddings with lots of Custard for Trinity Centre Foodbank at Wester Hailes. Many thanks to all who contributed.

The Currie Guild is playing host this year to the Edinburgh Guilds Together Spring Rally on 2 April—this takes the form of a musical evening in the Kirk at 7 pm. All Welcome—please come along and enjoy this evening followed by refreshments.

Isobel

We were all saddened to learn of the sudden death of Eileen—who had been a member of the Guild for many years. A great poetry writer, the poem which was read at her funeral is set out below.

**Angels** by Eileen Chadwick

Angels are people we meet every day.  
 Angels watch over us, teach us to pray.  
 Angels are friends who hear what we say;  
 They guard us and keep us and show us the way.

Angels are old folk who ask for our time.  
 Angels are children who just want a rhyme.  
 Angels are friends who will pour us some wine,  
 When we feel low and just want to pine.



1941-2019

Angels are strangers who give us a smile.  
 Angels will help us climb over the stile.  
 Angels are with us mile after mile.  
 When life throws things at us they’ll help for a while.

God gave us the gift to be angels on earth.  
 God gave us the gift on the day of our birth.  
 God gave us the gift to bring solace and mirth.  
 He wants us to live life for all that we’re worth.

Special thanks to Porteous Funeral Undertakers for emailing the photo of Eileen and the poem.

## Christmas Fayre

The total raised at the Christmas Fayre on 30 November has reached £3,283.15! A fantastic amount for a great day where everyone looked like they were having fun. A huge thanks to everyone who baked, donated, ran a stall, entertained children, served teas or came along. Just in case you missed Santa on his sleigh (kindly donated by FACE):



Is it too early to put 28 November 2020 in your diary for this year's Fayre????!!

Fiona Pigott  
Chair Mission, Outreach and Fellowship (MOF)

## Care Van

Our dates for this year are the 3rd Tuesday of each month from January to November. Our evening starts around 7.30pm, taking the Care Van into the centre of Edinburgh to serve soup, tea and coffee and offering clothing to the homeless. Thanks to the volunteers we have in Currie Kirk, each team would be out 3 or 4 times during the year. If this is something you might be interested in taking part in please contact me for more information.

## Christmas Cakes

Thank you to everyone who bought a Christmas Cake—all the money I receive is used to buy underwear and clothes (usually from charity shops) to offer when we're out in the Care Van. This is in addition to any donations we receive. The homeless always appreciate clean and dry clothes, something we often take for granted.

Fiona Pigott  
07584-678990



### Fair Trade Lunch

Fair Trade fortnight this year is Monday 24 February to Sunday 8 March. To celebrate this the MOF committee will be holding a Soup Lunch on Sunday 1 March.

Please look out for posters and tickets.

More details from Viola Macphail or Fiona Pigott



### Hogmanay Charity Ceilidh—Thanks

Dancing to Iain MacPhail and his Band in a packed Gibson Craig Hall, the 2019 Hogmanay Charity Ceilidh raised the fantastic sum of £1,400 for Bowel Cancer Research SCO40914.

A huge thank you to all those who attended or gave generous donations and raffle prizes.

Special thanks also to those who helped set up the Hall, serve refreshments and clear up at the end of a great night, welcoming in the New Year.

Best wishes to everyone for 2020!

Viola MacPhail



**Friday 28 February and Friday 27 March  
at the Gibson Craig Hall  
from 2.00—3.30 pm.**

An opportunity for families to do church together. We'll have refreshments, games, a story, crafts and songs.  
For more info contact Heather Merriman:  
familyworker\_jvp@outlook.com

**Currie Kirk Minibus Rolls Into 2020—  
Thank you for your support**

The minibus trustees would like to express their thanks for your generous support of our recent competitions and for making use of the Christmas Card delivery service.

Elizabeth Rhynas guessed the Cat's Birthday correctly as 1 December while Rena Milligan was the winner of the 'Name The Bus' competition with her catchy 'Holy Roller'.

All funds raised will keep our 'Holy Roller' running smoothly.

Thanks also to those of you who collect spare change and hand it into the Kirk Office.

Your generosity also ensures we continue to roll in 2020.

Elaine Warren



## “A70 Have Your Say” public meeting—Gibson Craig Halls—24 February



The first public meeting to discuss what we can do about local traffic, parking and congestion will be on Monday 24 February at 8pm in the Gibson Craig Halls.

For the past few months students from Heriot-Watt University have been holding informal group discussions in the three villages to discover what local traffic issues need the most urgent attention. Professor Guy Walker and his students will deliver their initial report, and reveal some ideas before asking which they should investigate further.

Along the A70 we have inherited a road system that evolved from lanes serving local villages and farms a century ago. The latest draft of

the ‘City Plan 2030’ only promises more local development and the promise of even more commuters, cars and congestion.

“We’d been told about some specific issues, from improving public transport connectivity to dealing with rat-running and on street parking when we began the study. These certainly exist, but we found a much more complicated picture” explained Engineering student Mark Smith, “Just getting to the shops is becoming more and more difficult for many. So please come along to hear what we’ve discovered and voice your opinion”

Over the next months the students will investigate, study and test the best ideas chosen by the meeting, which is the first of several planned by our three local Community Councils and Heriot-Watt.



**Bethany  
Christian  
Trust**

### A Huge Thank You to all Our Supporters!

Because of your outstanding generosity and support, we raised over £100k for the Bethany Care Shelter, enough for 4,750 bed spaces! You have also donated an additional £12k in Gift Aid which has provided a further 570 bed spaces.

This huge sum raised will contribute significantly to our funding of the Bethany Care Shelter. We never imagined the immense response we would receive from press coverage and social media shares. Together we've provided life-saving shelter and care for people who would otherwise have been forced to sleep outside this winter.

On Christmas Day, one of our volunteers was up at 5:30 am to make bacon rolls for everyone who had spent the night at the Care Shelter and a last minute donation of presents meant everyone was able to open a gift in the morning.

Christmas is a particularly hard time for those who are homeless. We hope the Care Shelter - and the knowledge that there is support from kind people like you—has provided relief for those that are without family, home and community this winter. Rough sleeping is just one but very visible aspect of the complex issue of homelessness. We work not just to meet people at the point of crisis, but we also seek to prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place.

Your future support remains vital in this mission to end homelessness in Scotland.

(50% of all Currie Kirk’s offering went to Bethany this Christmas)

## Pretty Ugly

I'm very ugly  
So don't try to convince me that  
I am a very beautiful person  
Because at the end of the day  
I hate myself in every single way  
And I'm not going to lie to myself by saying  
There is beauty inside of me that matters  
So rest assured I will remind myself  
That I am a worthless, terrible person  
And nothing you say will make me believe  
I still deserve love  
Because no matter what  
I am not good enough to be loved  
And I am in no position to believe that  
Beauty does exist within me  
Because whenever I look in the mirror  
I always think Am I as ugly as people say?

**(NOW READ THIS FROM THE BOTTOM UP)**

**Abdullah Shoaib**

*(Submitted by Margaret Matheson)*

## Tuesday's Tea and Tunes

**A Dementia Friendly community café  
for everyone impacted by Isolation  
and Loneliness**

**Offering practical and emotional  
support**

**"Fun, Singing, Games and  
Refreshments"**

### 2020 DATES

**11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

**12<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

**14<sup>TH</sup> JULY**



**Gibson Craig Memorial Hall**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Monthly**

**2:30 till 4:00**

**£2 per person**

## Good Book Group

**T**he first meeting of 2020 is on Monday 3 February in the Gibson Craig Lounge at 7 for 7.30 pm. It will be good to meet up again and hopefully hear about some interesting books people have read over the festive season—if they've had time!

As usual, there will be tea/coffee and biscuits to help the discussion along and if you've not been before, why not give it a go—we'd love to see you.

The next meeting will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, same time, same place.

Krys Hume



## Christmas Donations

As a result of the donations from the retiral collections at the Christmas services, Harmeny School in Balerno and Bethany Christian Trust each received £369.46.

Thank you for your support.

Eddie Pigott,  
Treasurer

# 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
Antenatal Education Classes	Heather Yuill	537 7116	Wednesday: 2 pm—4 pm
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 <a href="mailto:coordinatorCDC@gmx.com">coordinatorCDC@gmx.com</a>	07562 142885	Friday by referral
Dunedin Dance Academy	Claire Robertson	07731 466147	Wednesday
Highland Dancing	Michelle Marshall	339 4704	Wednesday
Move It or Lose It	Janet Corbett	07769 345845	Wednesday: 2.30 pm—3.30 pm
Nether Currie Baby and Toddler Group	Margaret Milton	07743 067588	Friday: 9.30 am—11.30 am (term time only)
Octagon Club	Claire Maloney <a href="mailto:Clairomaloney12@yahoo.co.uk">Clairomaloney12@yahoo.co.uk</a>	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 <a href="mailto:hello@thesensorysessions.com">hello@thesensorysessions.com</a>	07525 270427	Thursday: 9.30 am—11.30 am
Shoogly Peg Theatre Company	Zoe McRae	07884 133357	Friday: 6.30 pm—7.30 pm
Snack Lunches	Viola MacPhail	449 4664	Tuesday—12 Noon— 1.30 pm
Tea & Tunes	Allister McKillop	449 6394	2nd Tuesday of month
Yoga	Monica Evans	07986 600432	Tuesday: 8 pm—9 pm
Zumba Class	Lynne Langmead	07927 208134	Tuesday: 7 pm—8 pm
Zumba Exercise Class	Tom Lowe	07980 692929	Thursday: 10.15 am—11.15 am



Yvonne and I would like to thank friends and family who once again came out to support us host 2019's Macmillan Coffee Morning, especially after a years hiatus.

Carrying on Mum's legacy has been very important to us and we both know that we couldn't do it without the support of her amazing friends, who were so important to her.

We are pleased to announce that we raised an amazing £451.70. A huge thank you to each and every person who came along to join us and to those who couldn't make it on the day but handed in donations.

# Family News

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

Margaret Black, 13 Forthview Road, Currie  
Eileen Chadwick, 16 Stewart Crescent, Currie  
Jessie Cowan, 8 Nether Currie Crescent, Currie  
Jean Elms, 6 Riccarton Mains Road, Currie  
Dorothy McKenzie, Riccarton Mains Road, Currie  
Benjamin Mclean, 32 Rowantree Avenue. Currie  
John Stirling, 11 Muir Wood Drive, Currie



Please pray for the families

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

Lyra Katharine Nowicka, daughter of Aurelia and Michal Nowicki



**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/](mailto:dementiafriendlypentlands@gmail.com/)

## February/March Flower List

### February 2020

- 2 Alan and George Forsyth  
Mr and Mrs I Matheson
- 9 Mrs B Chambers
- 16 Mr and Mrs D Collins
- 23 Flower Fund Donations



### March 2020

- 1 Mrs M Sutherland
- 8 Mrs S Ramsay
- 15 Mrs M Douglas  
Mrs M Fraser
- 22 The Guild—Mothering Sunday
- 29 Mrs L Airs  
Mrs A Williamson

Should anyone wish information regarding donations to the Flower Fund please contact Margaret Matheson: [m.matheson@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:m.matheson@blueyonder.co.uk); or telephone 075190 45866



# 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 to Friday 9.30 am—12.30 pm	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	Vanessa Martins	<a href="mailto:vanessa.martins93@yahoo.com">vanessa.martins93@yahoo.com</a>	07847 274395
Weddings/Funeral Officer	Sandy Harper		449 4258
Organist	Contact Church Office		451 5141
Gibson Craig Halls bookings	Ann Proudfoot	<a href="mailto:ckgchbooking@gmail.com">ckgchbooking@gmail.com</a>	449 7739
Gibson Craig Halls Caretaker	Contact Church Office		451 5141
Hospital Transport Coordinator	Elizabeth Wood		538 0363
Deputy Coordinator	Jim Ure		449 6498
Kirk Flowers	Margaret Matheson	<a href="mailto:m.matheson@blueyonder.co.uk">m.matheson@blueyonder.co.uk</a>	075190 45866
Life and Work	Shona Moyes		449 2845
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	451 5141
Mini Bus Sunday lift organiser	Margaret Russell		449 5917
Mini Bus Bookings	Ishbel Massie		449 4693
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: <a href="mailto:familyworker_jvp@outlook.com">familyworker_jvp@outlook.com</a>	Sunday—10 am—11 am	
Messy Church	Contact Heather Email: <a href="mailto:familyworker_jvp@outlook.com">familyworker_jvp@outlook.com</a>	Last Friday of the month Gibson Craig Halls from 2.00—4.00 pm (term time only)	
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 April/May issue should be sent—using a Word attachment—by email to [isobelwebber@btinternet.com](mailto:isobelwebber@btinternet.com) before or by Friday 20 March.**  
**Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject.**