

# THE KIRK NEWS

APRIL 2023



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# Calendar Overview

2	Sunday	<b>Palm Sunday—Currie Kirk—10.30 am—Joint Service with Balerno</b>
4	Tuesday	The Guild—10 am—Gibson Craig Halls—Women in the World Church—Carol Finlay
5	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Our Lady's—Stations of the Cross—7 pm</b>
6	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday—Juniper Green Parish Church—7 pm</b>
7	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Good Friday—Currie Kirk—7 pm</b>
9	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Easter Day—Worship—Currie Kirk—10.30 am with formal communion</b>
9	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Afternoon Worship—Gibson Craig Halls—4-5 pm. Refreshments served from 3.30 pm</b>
15	Saturday	Tricky Ricky—10.30 am—Gibson Craig Halls—see page 5
15	Saturday	Afternoon Tea with entertainment from the Kirk Singers—2—4 pm—GCH—see page 5
16	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Worship—Currie Kirk—10.30 am</b>
18	Tuesday	Guild—AGM—GCH—7 pm
20	Thursday	BB Anchor and Junior Section 6 pm—7.30 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
21	Friday	BB Company Section games night 7.15—9 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
23	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Worship—Currie Kirk—10.30 am</b>
23	Sunday	BB Company night—Gibson Craig Halls—6.30-8.30 pm
24	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Kirk Session meeting in the Session House—2 pm</b>
26	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Reflective Service—Currie Kirk—2 pm</b>
27	Thursday	BB Anchor and Junior Section 6 pm—7.30 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
28	Friday	BB Company Section games night 7.15—9 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
30	Sunday	<b>Worship—Currie Kirk—10.30 am</b>
30	Sunday	BB Company night—Gibson Craig Halls—6.30-8.30 pm

## Easter Services

**2 April—Palm Sunday—Currie Kirk—10.30 am  
Joint service with Balerno**

**5 April—Stations of the Cross—Our Lady's—7 pm**

**6 April—Maundy Thursday—Juniper Green Parish Church—7 pm**

**7 April—Good Friday—Currie Kirk—7 pm**

**9 April—Easter Sunday—Currie Kirk—10.30 am with formal communion**

# A Letter from Easter

Dear Friends,

As we approach Passiontide and re-experience Christ's journey from Palm Sunday through Holy Week to Easter Day, I am reminded that the life of faith is full of ups and downs, and that people can be fickle.

In that fateful, decisive week, the crowds who applauded and cheered when Jesus entered Jerusalem were persuaded to turn their shouts of 'Hosanna, Blessed is He!' to cries of 'Crucify Him!'.

As you journey with Jesus to Jerusalem and the Cross, it is important not to forget that Jesus took that journey knowing there was a higher purpose and a heavenly plan, and so He endured betrayal, persecution, affliction, and even death!

He overcame these dark experiences of inhumanity and pain for us. The fact of the matter is that now Jesus is travelling with us on our own personal journey of life, with its own inevitable ups and downs, joys and sorrows, failures and victories.

He has overcome the darkness and pain. He has proved that nothing can separate us from God's love; not sin, not hardship, persecution, fickleness or fancy. Not even cancer or war.

*Jesus lived, died, was buried and rose again. He lives.*

Now we are free because we are people of the Resurrection. We hold onto this hope into which we were baptised as children of God. So let us keep praying and let us rejoice in all that God has done. The world faces wars, economic downturns, storms and hardships, but we must keep our faith and pray, holding fast to the depth of God's covenant with us, and his love for us which is declared once again, through this, my favourite season in the Christian Year.

Happy Easter when the time comes,

God Bless,  
Easter



## Easter's Ministry

Easter will be holding a "vestry hour" every Friday from 10 am to 11 am from Friday 21 April in her office which is situated in the Gibson Craig Halls.

Please feel free to drop in to see her or you can make an appointment by phoning Mags in the Kirk Office.

## Update from the Kirk office

At the end of February Nina decided that she would not return to her role as Administrator within the Kirk office so we advertised for someone to take over. Fiona has thoroughly enjoyed her role in the office but very happy to be looking forward to being a Nanny again.

Mags O'Connor took up the post on 1 March and is settling in very well. Mags is a very competent Administrator but she won't know everyone in our Kirk so please take the time to introduce yourself to her. The office hours will remain as:

Tuesday to Friday, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm



A very contented Orla with her mummy.

## Mission, Outreach and Fellowship Committee

Following our cheese and wine at the end of February we are delighted to welcome Kathryn Harper and Diane Brown onto our committee.

We held a successful Fairtrade soup lunch on Sunday 12 February which raised £171.50 for Christian Aid.

Lorna Thorburn raised the profile of Fairtrade by having a stall at the lunch selling chocolate Easter eggs and other Fairtrade goodies. Thanks to Lorna and her daughter (Ruth) for coming along.

Our next event will be on 15 April. Tricky Ricky will be returning for another year – he's an excellent magician and entertainer for all the family so get your tickets quickly!



On the same afternoon we are organising an afternoon tea with entertainment from the Currie Kirk singers. Hopefully this time we won't have a power cut to contend with! At our Christmas Carol singing afternoon we suffered a power cut, along with a whole area of Currie, and resorted to singing by torches! Again, tickets are on sale at £5 and will be available from any committee member or the Kirk office.

Committee members: Fiona Pigott, June Deuchars, Christine Wilson, Heather Merriman, John Macaulay, Shona Moyes, Kathryn Harper, Diane Brown.

## Coffee and Tea after Sunday worship

I'm sure we all enjoy the fellowship after the Sunday service—if you are able to help set up beforehand or do some dishes afterwards please add your name to the rota in the Session house or contact Fiona Pigott (466-1459, [fpigott19@gmail.com](mailto:fpigott19@gmail.com)).

**Join us for**  
**Afternoon Tea with**  
**entertainment from**  
**The Currie Kirk Singers**



**Saturday 15 April 2023**  
**2pm—4pm**  
**Gibson Craig Hall**  
**Tickets £5**

**Tickets available from Currie Kirk Office or any member of MOF.**



**Tricky Ricky – Back in 2023**



**Gibson Craig Hall, Saturday**  
**15 April @ 10.30am.**  
**Tickets £5. Available from Currie**  
**Kirk office (0131 451 5141)**  
**[currie\\_kirk@btconnect.com](mailto:currie_kirk@btconnect.com)**





## The Guild

**W**e are nearing the end of our Guild session for 2022/23 and it has been an extremely successful year. Finally managing to get to Alnwick for our summer outing last year and we had our Christmas party in person. This year our chosen charity is “Starchild”. Thank you to those who attended the Daffodil Tea on Saturday 25 March—the sum of £533 was raised for the charity.

We have one remaining speaker on 4 April at 10 am when Carol Finlay will be telling us about “Women in the World Church”. Our AGM and Cheese and Wine is on Tuesday 18 April at 7 pm followed by our outing to New Lanark on Thursday 11 May. Depending on numbers this is open to non-Guild members so, if you are interested, please get in touch and we will add you to our waiting list. Cost is £44 which covers coach, morning coffee and lunch.

If you are not a Guild member, do consider joining us or come along to one of our meetings just as a taster. Women and men are very welcome. If you require any further information, you can phone me on 0131-466-3472 or email at [elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk)

Louise Lamont Currie Kirk Guild President

### From the Treasurer

The annual accounts will be available to view on the Currie Kirk website. If you'd like a printed copy please contact the Kirk office (451-5141)

**Please note Currie Kirk will not be collecting hats etc but please keep knitting as these can now be handed in at Edinburgh Direct Aid at Granton—open Wednesdays and Sundays from 11am-3pm. Check out their Website as they are happy to receive a wide variety of goods**

## Cookers for Christmas Campaign 2022

This amazing campaign in 2022 raised a record £30,470—thanks to your support. With the cost of living increasing and everyone feeling the associated pressures, help has never been more vital to people moving on from homelessness or for those living in poverty.





The Boys have now completed their photography course with Peter Tuffy. The last two sessions involved portraiture at the Gibson Craig Hall which included a few horror pics of the Captain! These will be available for those with small children. If placed on the mantelpiece they will keep the children away from the fire. LOL

Last Sunday the Boys met Mr Tuffy at the Colinton tunnel where movement and abstract design were covered. It has been another great course delivered by Peter Tuffy and a huge vote of thanks is due to him. Hopefully we will have some of the boys efforts on show near the end of the session.

This week the boys are heading to the World of Bowling before breaking for the Easter holidays.

The Company will be heading to Craggan Outdoor Centre, Loch Tay for the September weekend. Two programmes will be running as all Junior and Company Boys will attend.

The Captain and Joanne Ormiston recently met with Simon McNeil the Battalion Outreach officer and top of the discussion was recruitment. Hopefully we will carry out many of his ideas over the next few months and into the new session to try and increase numbers.

Bill Brown  
Captain

## Transport Fund



Please note if you wish transport to Church your taxi fare will be refunded from the Transport Fund. Please ask for a receipt and hand to an Elder on duty.

Central Taxis 0131 229 2468

City Cabs 0131 228 1211

To apply for funds please get in touch with the Kirk Office who will send you an application form.



Community Befriending Project

Valley Friends is a community befriending project run by St Mungo's Episcopal Church, Balerno. The project is designed to reach isolated older people living in Balerno, Currie and Juniper Green who are experiencing loneliness and bring hope and connection to them.

The project is aimed at people who are aged 65 and over living in the postcode areas of EH14, 5, 6 or 7, and who are at risk of social isolation due to poor health, living alone or at a distance from family and friends. People can be referred by social workers, GPs and community agencies, friends and family members, or refer themselves. Upon assessment, people are matched to the most appropriate volunteer. We aim to make the best match to enable a relationship of friendship and trust to grow.

**Our volunteers:** We recruit befrienders from across the community who have a genuine interest and desire to make a difference in the lives of the people that we seek to serve.

All our befrienders undergo a selection process including an interview, training, and references, and are members of the PVG scheme for working with vulnerable adults.

**To make a referral or become a befriender** please contact Helen Yewdall, Project Lead at [helen.yewdall@stmungos.org](mailto:helen.yewdall@stmungos.org)



## Easter in a Box – The Movie!

This term we welcomed the P5 and P7 classes from Nether Currie Primary to take part in a workshop exploring the Christian Easter story. We used a resource called Easter in a Box—the Movie. The premise for this is we invite the children to imagine they are on a movie set, watching the filming of “Easter—the Movie”. The plot of the movie is revealed as we unpack six boxes together.

Each box contains a cast list, a set map, and props from a scene in the movie. For each box we pass round the props and wonder about their meaning; listen to or act out the script from the scene; track emotions; pause to reflect and respond; consolidate learning with a fun activity; and collect items in their very own takeaway mini-Easter-in-a-Box. All the children seemed to enjoy the workshop



and fully entered into every aspect of the programme. We had a wonderful time exploring the story with the pupils and want to thank them and the members of staff for joining us and brightening up our Wednesday mornings! We look forward to welcoming the whole school to Currie Kirk for their Easter assembly on Friday 31 March. Thanks too to Fiona, June and Catherine who helped to run the workshop, it couldn't have happened without them.



# May Madness!



**Suggested donation £1 per child**

**Snacks! Bible stories! Games! Songs! Crafts!**

**Tuesday 2nd May 2023  
9.30am-12 noon, P1-7  
Juniper Green Parish  
Church Hall 1**

For more information contact Heather Merriman familyworker\_jvp@outlook.com To book: <https://tinyurl.com/MayMadness2023>



## Presbytery Plan Update

In the December-January issue of Kirk News we informed everyone that Currie Kirk had agreed to form a Deferred Union with Balerno Parish Church in the Presbytery Plan as all churches were being discouraged from our preferred option of Linkage. We were informed that a Deferred Union means that when one of our ministers moves on, a vacancy committee from both churches calls a new minister to that church. Only when the other minister moves on do the churches unite under the existing minister, who, of course, was called by both churches.

The Presbytery Plan was due to be signed off on 7 February 2023 when it was anticipated that advice and guidance would be forthcoming from Presbytery on how we would be expected to work together on implementing the Plan.

However, Presbytery had to cancel the sign-off on 7 February as there was a problem with one particular area of the City unable to give its agreement to what is to happen to church properties in its Mission District; consent from all Districts is essential before the Plan can be signed off. We received no advice or guidance meantime.

Rev Dr Stewart Weaver, Convener of the Deployment Group, has now written to all Presbytery churches stating that although conversations are still ongoing with those in dispute above, the hope is for the Presbytery Plan to be tabled for signoff on 25 April 2023. The Presbytery Mission Plan Implementation Group would approve the Presbytery Mission Plan of Edinburgh and West Lothian subject to the following conditions:

***by the date of first annual review, the Presbytery will set out, in as much detail as possible, when and how it proposes to effect the unions of (i) Balerno and Currie; (ii) Canongate and High St Giles; (iii) Greyfriars and St Cuthbert's; and, (iv) St Andrews' & St George's West and the united charges of Broughton St Mary's and Greenside;***

Dr Weaver has informed us that “over the course of the next year, it will be important for the Deployment Group to work with congregations” in a Deferred Union to provide information on how we will form the actual union—which seems to differ from the advice we were given in paragraph one above.

We will keep you updated on what seems to be an increasingly complex process.

## Kirk Walking Group

Walkers meet after Church service or coffee. We meet on 3rd Sunday of the month and generally walk locally eg. Reservoirs, Water of Leith etc. When the weather improves we sometimes take the bus and go further afield or do car sharing, depending on where we are going. We take a picnic and flask to enjoy the countryside and the chat along the way.

Anyone interested in joining the group would be made most welcome. It's a very friendly group and I can guarantee you will go home with a good feeling and smile on your face. You don't need to come to every walk just whatever suits you.

Any enquiries please phone me or speak to me in Church.



Moira McDonald—07853 228751 or 0131 466 1115

# Community Activities

The Gibson Craig Hall is available to hire. The Booking Co-ordinator is Viola MacPhail

Contact Details: gibsoncraigbooking@gmail.com

Tel: 07806 806920

	Contact name	Tel/email	Day
Art Class	Katie Hunter	07815 506520 katiehunter85@hotmail.com	Wednesday 5.45—7.15 pm Thursday 9.45—11.15 am
Currie and District Local History Society	Douglas Lowe	douglaslowe51@btinternet.com	Monday 7.30—9 pm twice monthly from October to March
Currie Community Council		curriecouncil@gmail.com	2nd Monday of each month 7.30-9.00 pm—not July or December
EH Fitness Classes	Emma	emma@eh-fitness.co.uk 0771 333 5900	Monday 10.30—11.30 am Monday 5.50—6.50 pm Tuesday 6.45—8.15 pm Friday 5.30-6.30 pm Saturday 8.00—9.30 am
Nether Currie Baby and Toddler Group	Margaret Milton	07743 067588	Friday: 9.30 am—11.30 am (term time only)
Octagon Club	Claire Maloney	07999 410721	Wednesday 7—9 pm from 7 September to 19 April
Pentland Ladies Probus	Barbara Hannaford	0131 453 3012	4th Tuesday of Month from September to May
Pilates	Ellen Foster	07983 863143	Saturday 10.30—11.30 am
Zumba Exercise Class	Tom Lowe	tomlowe69@hotmail.co.uk	Thursday: 10.15 am—11.15 am

## The Meeting Place

The meeting place is held every Monday for the over 65's and their carers, in the Scout Hall Forth View Crescent, Currie, from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Lunch is served for a modest £4.00.

Our main focus is offering a place to all our residents looking for companionship in a safe friendly environment where they can enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

For more information phone 07711 046041 or just call in.

Allan Murray.

# Family News

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

Tom Blair, Currie  
William Donaldson, Crossgates  
James Johnstone, Balerno  
James Marshall, Grantown on Spey  
Betty Smith, Currie



*Please pray for the families*

## Flower Arrangers (or "budding" ones)

Can you help—we are desperately in need of your talents.

If you would like to join "The Team" it would be great to hear from you.

Please get in touch with Isobel or Fiona

## April Flower List

2 Mrs J Caffrey  
Mrs H Clayton  
Mrs J Dick  
Mrs M Phillip

9 Mrs M Ritchie



16 Mrs M Malcolm

23 Mrs F Pigott  
Mrs J Robertson  
Mr A Murray

30 The Wight Family  
Mrs J Wright

The flowers are enjoyed and appreciated by so many. Thank you to those who have donated. If you wish to dedicate flowers on a particular Sunday please get in touch with Isobel Webber or the office.



# WHO'S WHO



NAME	CONTACT	EMAIL CONTACT/TIMES	TELEPHONE NO
Minister	Rev Dr Easter Smart	ESmart@churchofscotland.org.uk	449 4719
Currie Kirk Church Office (Scottish Charity No. SC001554)	Gibson Craig Halls, Lanark Road West, Currie, EH14 5NY Email currie_kirk@btconnect.com	Tuesday to Friday 9.30 am—12.30 pm	451 5141
Joint Session Clerks	Louise Lamont Isobel Webber	elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk Isobelwebber@btinternet.com	466-3472 451 5112
Treasurer	Eddie Pigott Email: pigottsef@icloud.com	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>	
Weddings/Funerals	Contact Church Office		451 5141
Organist	Contact Church Office		451 5141
Gibson Craig Halls Bookings	Viola MacPhail	<a href="mailto:gibsoncraigbooking@gmail.com">gibsoncraigbooking@gmail.com</a>	07806 806920
Hospital Transport Coordinator	Liz Potter	<a href="mailto:lizpotter66@virginmedia.com">lizpotter66@virginmedia.com</a>	07769 684029
Kirk Flowers	Isobel Webber	<a href="mailto:isobelwebber@btinternet.com">isobelwebber@btinternet.com</a>	07702 784186
Life and Work	Shona Moyes	<a href="mailto:shona.moyes@btopenworld.com">shona.moyes@btopenworld.com</a>	
Magazine Distributor	Jean Dick		451 5141
Boys' Brigade Captain	Bill Brown      Anchors Juniors Company/Seniors	Thursday 6.00-7.30 pm Thursday 6.00-7.30 pm Friday 7.00—8.30 pm Sunday 6.30-8.30 pm	449 4905 07878377897
Care Van	Fiona Pigott	Third Tuesday of the month	07874-282480
Fresh Start	Christine Wilson		538 2567
Pastoral Visitors			451 5141
Currie Kirk Singers	Gordon Cranford	Various	
Guild	Louise Lamont	Tuesday/elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk	466 3472
Family Worker	Heather Merriman	<a href="mailto:familyworker_jvp@outlook.com">familyworker_jvp@outlook.com</a>	
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 May/June issue should be sent—using  
a Word attachment—by email to [isobelwebber@btinternet.com](mailto:isobelwebber@btinternet.com) before or by Friday 21 April 2023**

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