

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

CURRIE KIRK

WHERE FAITH AND LIFE CROSS PATHS

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Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness!



John Keats "Ode to Autumn"



CLIPBOARD

The Magazine of Currie Kirk

October 2011



A Letter from The Manse



Dear All,

It's not so hard to think autumn thoughts as I type this letter ... the leaves are blowing off the trees in the manse garden, and the colours are beginning to change around me, and I'm getting ready for the winter that they say might be bad again this year!

I noticed in Dobbies they had their snow shovels on sale already, and Andrew keeps saying we'll need to buy more rock salt, but I just can't bring myself to do so this early in the year! I have however, bought a new warm waterproof coat for all that the Currie weather can throw at me - so I'm ready!

Autumn is actually my favourite season of the year. I love the rich colours, the fresh skies and moving clouds, and the weather suits my Celtic hair and skin – no sun to hide from, and winds that just make me look windswept and interesting!

I remember learning John Keat's poem "Ode to Autumn", when I was at school, a poem that is bursting with the ripe and full imagery of autumn – a time that reminds us of the richness of our lives and the fruitfulness of the land upon which we live.

My hope is that the fullness of this season is reflected in our Christian lives, and in our church life together. The church calendar is certainly full of many opportunities to worship, learn, live and serve together, and to reach out to others with the good news we have to share. We are always called to use our gifts for the benefit of others, so that we might bear fruit.

Galatians 5:22-23 reminds us of the fruit of the Spirit of God in our lives "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

Now, there is an autumn challenge for all of us!

God Bless,
Lezley J. Stewart

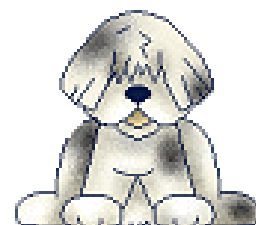
[P.S. The "J" is for Jane.....some of you have asked!]

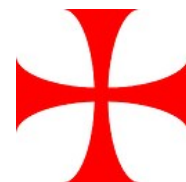
Paws for thought! [by Molly]

Do you ever walk into a room and then wonder what you went in there for? I seem to be doing that a lot recently! Mum says I make her laugh when I get so easily confused ... she says it shouldn't really be so hard to remember things when all I do is eat and sleep, but I can't quite make the connections so quickly in my brain anymore. I still manage to find my way to my food though, my eyesight isn't so good, but my sense of smell is still there – phew!

It's not much fun feeling lost at times really, it's quite unsettling and a wee bit scary. I used to sleep in the back room, but now I find I'm frightened in there, so mum has begun to let me sleep in the dining room where I'm much happier – I think secretly

it's just so she can get a full night's sleep without me yelping! Feeling lost and scared is horrible, but being found is a great feeling ... mum will always come and find me if she's calling me and I can't quite work out where her voice is coming from. I feel a bit silly really, but then she always gives me a big smile and encourages me along, and looks at me lovingly. Mum says that's how God looks upon you humans – with love and encouragement, seeking you out when you are lost, and rejoicing when you are found. Sounds like a good God to know!





Prayer Breakfast

Saturday 5 November @ 8.30 am - 10.00 am—Gibson Craig New Hall

Come along and join our first Prayer Breakfast. Following breakfast Charles Godon, Session Clerk at Juniper Green Church and a member of their Prayer Group will share with us insights into prayer.

For catering purposes please let Margaret Gordon (449 2554) know by Thursday 3rd November if you hope to attend.



The Guild

We are now into Autumn and the Guild meetings recommenced on 6th September with our lively coffee and chat and a very interesting talk from Rev. Dr. George Whyte who spoke of his work as Clerk to the Church of Scotland's Presbytery of Edinburgh. We continue on 20th September with speaker Allan McKinnon from our Project-Terrify No More (Cambodia).

October 4th is the date of our Coffee Morning in aid of the Project. Tickets are on sale at the cost of £2 from committee members and will also be available at the door. We hope you will give your usual support and come along between 10am-11am to enjoy the home baking and hopefully find something to buy at the stalls-baking, books and white elephant.

On the 18th October at 7.30pm our speaker is Tim Cocking from Bright Care which is an organisation advising on help for people within their homes. Our re-dedication service is in Currie Kirk on Sunday 23rd October. Our next meeting is on 1st November at 10am when Rosemary and Jim Storm from Feather Finesse will be showing us the art of painting on feathers.

To go back to August; at the Flower Show on the 27th. Currie Kirk Guild came second this year in the Riccarton Trophy competition. Thanks to Joyce Caffrey and her team who worked very hard to put in an entry on our behalf.

On the same day Freda Robertson, Jean Pringle and I enjoyed an inspiring day at the Guild Annual Meeting in Dundee where we were introduced to our newly appointed General Secretary, Iain Whyte. Perhaps with a man at the helm, it will encourage men to join our ranks; there is now a Guild tie!

Gentlemen and ladies will be made very welcome to our meetings as new members or as visitors.

Margaret Ullathorne,
Guild President



We are a Fairtrade Church:

We are a Fairtrade Church, one of an ever-growing number of churches making the connection between trade and poverty and committed to using Fairtrade products, including tea, coffee, sugar and biscuits. We have a monthly Fairtrade Stall held in Kirk House after morning worship, supporting a Christian response to poverty as all profits are sent back to the Third World either through Christian Aid or in response to a Relief Project.

Forth Valley Chorus

The Hospitality Committee is delighted to bring the award winning Forth Valley Chorus to the Gibson Craig Hall on Saturday 29th October at 7.30pm. This choral company sing a cappella, as a large choir or in smaller groups. They perform in many large well known theatres so we are very fortunate to be hosting them in Currie.

Tickets for this event are £8, which includes wine or soft drinks and shortbread, and are available from either Agnes on 0131 449 4168 or Sheena on 0131 449 2737. Members of the Kirk Hospitality Committee will also have tickets. We look forward to welcoming you to this evening.

This committee try to bring you an interesting and varied programme of events but we would welcome ideas from Kirk folks on just what they might like us to organise. We are all quite approachable, love to talk and are willing to listen!

Hope to see you all on 29th.

Agnes Barr



Performing "O Happy Day"

Do You Know? Lest We Forget

Currie Kirk, like all Church of Scotland churches, is community based and responsible for a large number of the people in the parish. Most churches, like Currie Kirk, have a war memorial and a remembrance roll honouring the military personnel who have fallen in wars and conflicts. Currie Kirk wishes to ensure that the inscribed panels in the church naming the dead from both World Wars are currently accurate as there has been no official information of any Currie person having died in HM Service since 1945.

To this end it is requested that any local resident who may be aware of any person who was born or resided in the parish, who should be included in the remembrance roll, having served and died while in the service of the Army, Royal Air Force, the Royal and Merchant Navies, and any of the emergency services since that date please contact me.

To refresh the memories of our readers the conflicts that Great Britain has been involved in since 1945 include Palestine, Korea, Malaya, Suez, Kenya, Cyprus, Aden, Brunei, Falklands, Iraq, Afghanistan and, of course, Northern Ireland.

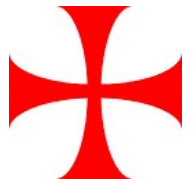
If you have any information please pass this on to me.

Bill Wood
Tel: 538 0363





Walking Group



We walk after Communion on the last Sunday of each month. We now number seventeen walkers in total but an average of about twelve people turn up for most walks. We owe a great debt to our willing car drivers (you know who you are!) without whom further away walks, outings and an annual weekend holiday would be impossible – so many thanks to all of you.

This year our annual weekend away at the end of April was a second visit to Pitlochry. The sun never set for three days! Our outing this year to Bowfield House, Selkirk on the last Friday of July was similarly blessed as we managed to miss the downpours - as Lezley says, it's the power of prayer!

We are not an exclusive group so if you fancy any of the walks mentioned in the Order of Service, just turn up. You will be warmly welcomed. If you have any queries, please contact Rena Milligan on 449 2017.



Do you ever wonder what happens to the donations you make to Fresh Start? I collect them from all the donations boxes, and deliver them to the Fresh Start depot. They are then sorted out, and made up into Starter Packs of various types.

Bedding Packs

Curtain Packs

Towel Packs

Dishes and Cutlery Packs

Pots and Pans Packs

Cleaning Packs

Where possible, all donations are used. If any item is unsuitable, it is recycled to a charity shop, or other outlet. Last year, Fresh Start made up, and distributed 9,000 starter packs. Year on year the demand for Starter Packs increases.

Thank you for all your support. Let me finish with a quote from one of our clients:

“The packs had all the items that I needed to begin living in my new home”

Please continue to donate.

Elizabeth Wood.



Hospital Transport

In September 2009, a group of volunteers agreed to set up this service to provide transport to hospital appointments, or clinic appointments. We have at present six drivers. Since September 2009 we have successfully completed 27 journeys, and have so far managed to assist everyone who sought our help.

If you would like to volunteer to be a driver please contact me at the number below—you will be made most welcome.

If you require transport to a hospital in our area, please contact: Elizabeth Wood, Tel: 538 0363



Care Van

The Care Van continues to be an essential need to the homeless in Edinburgh. There are now over 39 churches involved so we have seen the rota change over the past few years – Currie Kirk is now only out 10 nights of the year. There is also the Night Shelter which is open to all throughout the winter months in one of the city's church halls. During the winter past it was very much appreciated by everyone who used it. Many people think it's mostly eastern Europeans who frequent the van for soup and rolls – this is not always the case. Alcohol, family break-ups, death and even ex-servicemen are among those who are sadly on the streets of Edinburgh. There have been up to 80 clients some evenings. We continue to take out warm clothes – jeans, jackets, underwear, hats, scarves and gloves, as well as blankets are gratefully received. We are lucky that we have an excellent team in Currie who either go out in the Care Van on our designated night or provide soup and rolls – a big thanks to you all!

If you'd like more information or would like to be involved please contact me – Fiona Pigott, 466 1459; email: f.pigott@blueyonder.co.uk



Snack Lunches are back at the Gibson Craig Hall

Snack Lunches restarted on Tuesday 20 September 2011 for its season from mid-September to mid-May. Snack Lunches are open every Tuesday from 12 noon to 1.30pm in the Gibson Craig Hall when teams of volunteers serve a range of delicious soups and home-baking at very reasonable prices.

All the money raised goes to Charity, retaining a small portion for replacing equipment, training etc. In the 2010-2011 season we raised over £2,600. At the AGM in May 2011 the volunteers decided to make the following donations:

Royal National Institute of Blind People	£400
Children's Heart Unit, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospital	£400
Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland	£400
Multiple Sclerosis Society Scotland	£400
Royal National Lifeboat Institution Scotland	£400
The Scottish Bible Society	£200
Gibson Craig Hall	£200

Snack Lunches remain very popular, serving about 30 to 40 people every Tuesday with some regular customers travelling out from Town. Originally set up over 30 years ago as Interdenominational Snack Lunches, in latter years most volunteers have come from Currie Kirk but we would very much welcome other churches, groups or individuals to join in.

So if you think you'd like to help out in any way please contact either
Viola MacPhail 449 4664 or Meg Watson 449 4874.

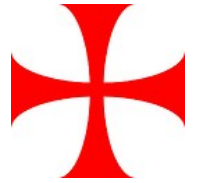


Kirk House—New opening times

Please note that Kirk House is now open on Thursdays from 11.00 am—3.00 pm for tea, coffee and home baking.



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



1961 - 2011 celebrating 50 Years in Currie

The Company has resumed with all three Sections. The Senior Section has had a weekend away to Craggan where the boys enjoyed canoeing and white water rafting on the River Tummel.

The Dedication Service is being held on 11 December and the Company would be pleased if members of the Congregation could get in touch with as many ex-BB Boys to inform of this special date. A Ceilidh is being held on Saturday 26 November, dancing to Iain MacPhail and his Band—more news about this next month.

Kidz @ Currie

Kidz@Currie is a group that meets to share a story from the Bible and then enjoy related craft activities. The group is open to any child from the age of three upwards. We start in church and at an appointed time in the service we move to Kirk House which is the small cottage to the left at the bottom of the stone steps. In the month of September we shared stories about 'men of the Bible'.

Also in Kirk House we have a very well equipped creche room where children under three are welcome to play, with or without their accompanying parent. There is a team of volunteers who oversee these children. All volunteers have been through the disclosure process.



“Rags to Riches” at St Mary’s Dalmahoy

Mary's Meals feeds over 557,000 children in school every day in 16 countries throughout the world. As a result of providing these simple meals in school, children not only get the food they need but also the chance of an education. Mary's Meals also sends out backpacks to these children, a little gift of love.

It only costs £6.15 to feed a child in Malawi at school for a year. Mary's Meals is a very efficient charity. Last year 95.5p in every pound donated went on their projects. St Mary's Church at Dalmahoy has supported Mary's Meals for four years. Mary's Meals relies on volunteers like us. Can you help too?

Last year St Mary's started in a very small way to invite supporters in other local churches and communities to collect textiles for the “Rags to Riches” project, ending up with over 70 bags of textiles, enough to raise the funds to feed 35 children for a year. The support received was appreciated.

Wanted for Rags to Riches

Clothes in any condition, towels (if not good enough for backpacks), curtains, all bedding, blankets and any other textiles, bags, shoes and belts.

St Mary's plans to have the church hall at Dalmahoy open to receive donations on the mornings of Saturday 8th and 15th October between 10 and 12. There will also be an opportunity to drink a cup of coffee and eat an oat biscuit or two as a reminder of World Porridge Day on 10th October, which makes the link between porridge-eating Scots and Malawi where the food served is fortified maize porridge (Likuni Phala). There will be Mary's Meals literature too, the chance to see the new Mary's Meals DVD for anyone interested, and the chance to get to know each other a little better. Visitors and old friends will be welcome to come along, with or without donations!

So You Think You Know

My name is John Laurie and I was born on 30 September 1960 in the Western General in Edinburgh and brought up in the Polwarth area where I attended Craiglockhart Primary and Boroughmuir Secondary Schools.

I was a member of the 50th Boys Brigade based at St Michaels Church in Slateford Road and particularly enjoyed the annual Summer Camp usually to a remote field in Perthshire, I remember it was the task of the older boys to load the camping equipment into the back of a removal lorry and then once complete to clamour on top of the kit and enjoy the journey while perched looking out of the rear of the open backed lorry- no health and safety restrictions then!

I went on to study Chemistry at Heriot-Watt and it was during this time that I realised what a pleasant place Currie is and would subsequently move to Riccarton Mains Road in 1994. I am married to Susan who works at Currie Primary as a learning assistant and we have two children, David and Fiona who are students at Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt University respectively. They both have been very fortunate to have been selected in recent years through Currie and Balerno Rotary to attend the Georgia Rotary scholarship program in the USA which involved studying for one year at a University in Georgia, a truly marvellous experience!

Not long after moving to Currie I joined the local Round Table where I have met many good friends over the years. The Round Table is responsible for the annual Guy Fawkes fireworks display in George V Park and bringing Santa Claus round the community to meet the children. These events raise quite substantial funds for good causes. However, due to health and safety restrictions there is no longer a bonfire on the 5th November but on the other hand we employ a professional fireworks display team who put on a far better show and means we no longer have to draw straws in the Pentland View at lunch time to see who will be setting off the mortars!

Work wise, I have been employed in the semiconductor industry (silicon chip manufacturing) where the work environment has to be ultra clean, so much so that you have to dress up in something akin to a spacesuit, not too comfortable after several hours. Due to factory closures I now work in Greenock and stay "doon the watter" at Wemyss Bay during the week and travel home at the weekends which has been very pleasant during the summer, almost like being on holiday. For leisure I enjoy playing golf at Gogarburn where I am a member, unfortunately my handicap is increasing in tandem with my waist line.

I enjoy worshipping at Currie Kirk and find Lezley's services uplifting and thought provoking.

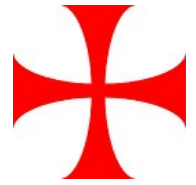


John, Fiona and David



It is once again the time to think about those shoeboxes for Romania. Leaflets for this can be picked up at the Church Office, the Link Building and Kirk House. It really is a worthwhile task and brightens up the lives of the people who receive them. If you have any queries or indeed if you want a filled box picked up then please feel free to contact either Lynn Lymer on 478 1904 or Norma Beattie on 449 2792.

October Flower List



2nd October

Mrs J Blair, 17 Currievale Drive
Mrs A Wood, 24 Barnton Park Gardens
Mr & Mrs G Forbes, 14 Cherry Tree Park
Mr R Crichton, 11 Newmills Crescent

9th October

Wedding—Fiona Jane Abbot & Stuart James Ralph
George and Alan Forsyth, 71 Forthview Crescent

16th October

Mrs S Gordon, 105 Lanark Road West
Mr I Massie, Erskine House, Gilmerton Road
Mrs M Muirhead, Barbaraville, Inverness
Mrs B Stewart, 35 Dolphin Road

23rd October

Mrs C Inglis, 14 Riccarton Crescent
Mrs M McDonald, 1 Featherhall Crescent South
Mrs I Blyth, 1 Bryce Place

30th October

Mrs J Smith, 8 Thomson Road
Mrs M Thomson, 34 Forthview Crescent
Mrs I Young, 9 Rowantree Grove



Donations for flowers may be sent to Mrs Erica Porteous, 2 Pentland View, Currie, or left at the Church Office or in the Elder's Box of Bill Porteous in the Link Building, and any cheques made payable to Currie Kirk Flower Fund. Erica can be contacted on 449 6894 for any further information regarding donations.



Tai Chi

The practice of Tai Chi Chuan may change your life – if you let it. The potential benefits are enormous and varied:

- ◆ If you suffer from tension and stress, you will find, with practice, Tai Chi will help you to relax and be able to do so, whenever you wish.
- ◆ If you are shy and timid, you will find in time, your posture and breathing will improve, making you feel more balanced, confident and in control of yourself.
- ◆ If you suffer from anger and frustration, you will soon remember the natural beauty, harmony and rhythm in life and thus relax.
- ◆ If you suffer from ill-health, you will find Tai Chi will help improve your general health and wellbeing, increase energy, tone muscles, improve balance and posture, improve your immune system and breathing, your circulation, strength and flexibility.

The benefits are indeed endless – with practice. And if you are perfectly healthy and happy, you will find that Tai Chi is a beautiful thing to watch and do.

Beginners are always welcome at Lee Style T'ai Chi Classes

Call, email, or text: - Denise Cunningham, Registered & Insured Teacher
0131 449 3468 or 07850 097697
Email: ddenise140@o2.co.uk

Community Activities

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

	Contact name	Tel No:	Day
Baby Ballet	Claire Robertson	336 5982	Wednesday
Balerno Bridge Club	Ron Dow	538 2313	Monday
Blue Sky Pilates	Claire McDonald		Thursday
Children's Dance	Carol Campbell	339 2315	Friday
Currie and District Local History Society	Peter Cowlshaw	449-2520	Monday Evenings twice monthly October to March
Day Care Centre	Elspeth Frame	449 3603	Friday by referral
Judo	Jo Imrie	01506 884633	Tuesday 4-6 pm
Octagon Club	Alastair Hardie Iain Grant	453 3556 332 3413	Wednesday
Parents & Toddlers	Patricia Lumsden Suzie Handyside	466 9130 07977 921298	Friday
Sequence Dance	Tom Masson	449 2561	Thursday
Senior Citizens	Jean Smith	449 5596	Monday
Snack Lunches	Viola MacPhail	449 4664	Tuesday
Tai Chi	Denise Cunningham	449 3468	Tuesday
Zumba Exercise Class	Tom Lowe	07980 692929	Thursday



Balerno Bridge Club

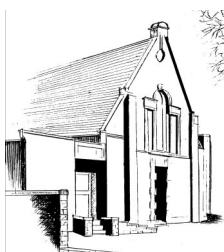
The Bridge Club started in Balerno 20 years ago, hence its name. Its aim is to enable players who are beyond the beginner stage to enjoy a friendly game of Duplicate/Board Bridge. Most members live locally. The club moved from Balerno High School to Currie High and for a few years now has enjoyed the facilities in the Gibson Craig Hall. The Club has over 30 members spread over a range of abilities and seeks to promote a friendly atmosphere while still taking the Bridge moderately seriously.

So if you can play Duplicate Bridge and would like to join us please contact our Secretary, Sandra Renton at 449 3527.

Ron Dow, Chairman

Currie and District Local History Society

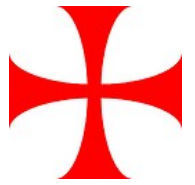
The first meeting of the Currie and District History Society was held at the home of John Tweedie at 30 Palmer Road, Currie on 16th June 1970. Its purpose "to provide a focal point for those with a similar interest in the district around us, and as an organisation where information can be gathered, exchanged, stored and discussed in an atmosphere of friendly cooperation". There were twenty "founder" members but now the membership is about 70.



We meet in the Gibson Craig Hall every other Monday from October (at 7.30 pm) onwards until the end of March. Visitors are welcome for one night at the cost of £2 but the annual subscription is £15. Details of the society can be found on our website at www.curriehistory.com where the syllabus for 2011-2012 is now on display.

If you would like further information contact Peter Cowlshaw at 449 2520 or by email on pdcowlishaw@hotmail.com.

Family News



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



Jean Roy, 20 Forthview Crescent

Diamond Wedding—October

John and Margaret Fraser

Golden Wedding—July

Ian and Cath Heatley



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

11th Sep Sophia Loraine Clair Pratt

18th Sep Kirsten Elizabeth Gent



Clipboard

Would you like to receive your copy of Clipboard by email? If so, please send your email address to:
Isobelwebber@btinternet.com

Articles for the November issue with the theme being Remembrance, using a Word attachment, should be sent by email to isobelwebber@btinternet.com by Wednesday 19 October 2011.



WHO'S WHO



NAME	CONTACT	MEETING DAY	TELEPHONE NO
Minister	Rev Lezley J Stewart, The Manse 43 Lanark Road West lezleystewart@btinternet.com		449 4719
Pastoral Associate	Margaret Gordon		449 2554
Currie Kirk Church Office (Scottish Charity No. SC001554)	Gibson Craig Hall, Lanark Road West, Currie, EH14 5NY Secretary: Mary Thomson e-mail currie_kirk@btconnect.com	Monday 2.00-4.30 pm Thursday 9.30-12 noon Friday 9.30-11.45 am	451 5141
Session Clerk	Grant Gordon email: gggordon@btinternet.com		449 2554
Treasurer	Neil Beattie 38 Newmills Crescent e-mail N31LBT@blueyonder.co.uk		449 2792
Gift Aid Treasurer	Ron Dow 48 Thomson Drive ronedow@blueyonder.co.uk		538 2313
Weddings/Funeral Officer	Sandy Harper 16 Pentland View		449 4258
Organist	Contact Church Office		451 5141
Gibson Craig Hall Caretakers & Bookings	May and Bill Sutherland 56 Thomson Crescent		449 7747
Hospital Transport Coordinator	Elizabeth Wood		538 0363
Kirk House Bookings	Catherine Crawford		449 4312
Life and Work	Alastair Hardie		453 3556
Magazine Distributor	Jean Dick		449 6374
Boys' Brigade Captain	Jim Webber Anchors/Juniors Company/Seniors	Thursday 6.00/7.00 pm Friday 7.00-9.15/10.00 pm	451 5112
Mini Bus Sunday lift organiser	Jean Pringle		449 7716
Mini Bus Bookings	Isobel Webber		451 5112
Banner Group	Janet Robertson	Thursday	441 1499
Care Van	Fiona Pigott	Once a month	466 1459
Pastoral Visitors	Sandra Cranford		449 4639
Currie Kirk Singers	Tom Masson	Various	449 2561
Festival Choir	Margaret Douglas	As Arranged	449 2092
Guild	Margaret Ullathorne	Tuesday	449 3665
Kidz@Currie	Norma Beattie	Sunday	449 2792
Walking Group	Rena Milligan	Last Sunday of each month	449 2017

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